

# U. S. HIGH COURT UPHOLDS STATE'S ALIEN LAND LAW

Forty Acres Belonging to S. Katsuno, Japanese, in White River Gardens Case, Is Ordered Forfeited

The Washington alien land law, denying an alien the right to own land in the state, today had been upheld by the United States Supreme Court after a six years' contest that had run the gamut of state courts.

The court, through Chief Justice William Taft, found that S. Katsuno, Japanese, had attempted to own forty acres of White River Valley garden lands through subterfuge, and informed Ewing D. Colvin, King County prosecutor, that it was unnecessary for him to reply to arguments made in behalf of Katsuno by Frederic E. Fuller, counsel for the White River Gardens, Inc.

## Company "Dummy."

Katsuno had purchased land owned by the corporation and transferred his stock to his daughter, who was an American citizen, having been born in this country. The state contended that the corporation was merely a dummy designed to mask Katsuno's ownership.

The state's claims were upheld in the lower courts and in the State Supreme Court, where it had gone six times on various phases of the litigation.

## Property to State.

As a result of the decision the disputed property will revert to the state.

Mr. Colvin wired today from Washington that he had filed a brief against the application of Wallace C. (Bob) Gaines to obtain a review of the evidence on which he was convicted in the Superior Court here of the murder of his daughter, Sylvia, Smith College girl.