

Miss Furukawa, Hilo Girl, Phonograph Songstress in Tokyo, Is Back as Evacuee

NOV 21 1941

By JAMES T. HAMADA

One of the evacuees from Japan arriving aboard the Taiyo Maru Saturday was Miss Chiyomi Furukawa, a Hilo girl who had become a phonograph songstress in Tokyo.

Miss Furukawa won the grand prize of the Matsuo Brothers' amateur song contest in 1939 at the Park Theater, the prize consisting of a free trip to Japan, a vocal test at the Columbia Recording Company in Tokyo, and letters of introduction to Miss Takiko Mizunoe and Miss Fumiko Kawahata. She sailed for Japan on May 9, 1940, planning to stay for three years to study music.

She made good! For she made her first phonograph record for the Columbia company on July 11 of this year, a little over a year after her arrival. The title of the record is "Hawaii Nadeshiko," whose verses were written by Yaso Saijo, one of the outstanding Japanese poets who visited here a few years ago.

She would have made more records had she remained in Japan. She would also have gone on the

stage with Hamako Watanabe, well-known singer and phonograph artiste. But her parents in Hilo were worried. They thought the Taiyo Maru probably would be the last boat from Japan. So, in response to their wishes, Miss Furukawa returned to the Islands.

While in Japan she studied music at the Ueno Music School in Tokyo under the guidance of Matsuki Hayashi, one of the leading vocal teachers.

Meanwhile she had presented her letters of recommendation to Takiko Mizunoe and Fumiko Kawahata, and she had also become friends with Hamako Watanabe, one of the Columbia contract singers. And Miss Watanabe recommended her to Yoshizo Maruya, director of recording for the company. That's how Miss Furukawa made "Hawaii Nadeshiko."

Clad in "Furisode"

She was brought to our editorial offices yesterday by Fred Matsuo, director of public relations for the Kokusai Theater, on a courtesy call. She was clad in Japanese kimono, the kind that is known as "furisode." And she seemed slightly fatter—just a teeny weeny bit fatter—than when we saw her just before she sailed for Japan a year and a half ago. And this, in spite of the fact that in Japan food is rationed nowadays.

One of our local friends who returned from Japan on the same boat told us that, because of the ration which includes rice, one couldn't have a square meal.

Perhaps, we thought, Miss Furukawa has a good digestive system which assimilates everything she eats. But she has a different version. "Maybe it was the climate," she said.

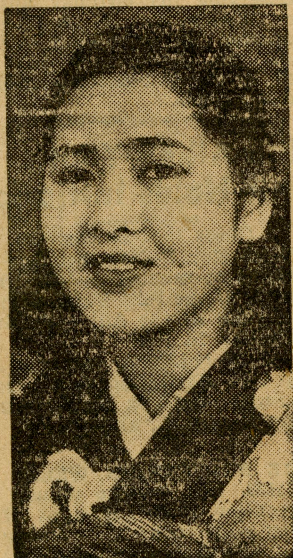
Conspicuous about her is that she doesn't have curls any more. Her hair is dangling on both sides as before but it's plain. The reason is that permanent waves are not allowed in Japan due to wartime restrictions.

Personal Appearance at Kokusai

Before returning to Hilo, Miss Furukawa will make a personal appearance at the Kokusai, for one week starting November 13. She will sing her recorded piece, "Hawaii Nadeshiko," and "Yume wa Soshun," the song with which she won the grand prize of the Brethren Matsuo's amateur song contest in 1939.

Fred Matsuo is proud of Miss Furukawa's achievement. "Our dream has come true," he said. "The main purpose of our amateur contest is to have at least one of the winners make good in the musical field in Japan. And we've done it."

Meanwhile, Miss Furukawa is in need of a good permanent wave



CHIYOMI FURUKAWA

panu will sponsor a benefit nuna and tableaux Saturday evening at 7:45 at the August Ahrens school auditorium. Members of the Kuulei studio will be featured.

Oki, Sports Patron, Entertains Friends

Observing his birthday anniversary, Kanichi Oki, an ardent sports supporter, last night entertained his haole and Japanese friends at a party at the Shunchoro teahouse on Alewa heights.

Hilo Allied Youth Unit Holds Initiation

[Nippu Jiji Correspondence]

HILO, Nov. 3—New members were initiated at ceremonies held Friday evening at the First Foreign church social hall by the Allied Youth organization in Hilo.

General chairman was Miss Jean Miyatake. Martha Shinoda, program chairman, and Yok Me Ho, refreshments chairman, assisted.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

HILO, Nov. 3—The annual Fire Prevention week in Hilo got off to a flying start today, and during the week collection of rubbish and appropriate programs at all local will be featured in observation week.

conscious of her condition. It was a hateful word, "condition," shameful-sounding word. The very saying of it had made Rike stiff and embarrassed and red-faced. She had never seen Rike ill at ease before. His embarrassment made everything wrong and distorted. He couldn't listen to her, wouldn't listen. He wanted to get away, he was standing up now, looking about. He didn't love her. How could he? A pregnant woman, a woman who had married to suit her own selfish convenience! She had no right in the world to try to hold him here, but she was going to try. If he left her now that she knew he was alive, she would die, she'd die when the baby came because she would have no wish to live. None at all. She tried to tell him that, pulling her cloak protectingly about her unwieldy figure.

"I need you, Rike. I've never needed you so much. Oh, Rike, I thought you were dead so long. You must go out to Skye with me today. All of us thought you were dead, Rike. Pa thought so."

He reasoned with her patiently and his patience terrified her. He was restless, controlled, waiting for a chance to get away, with some gallantry and grace. She sensed it in his manner, in his wary pitying eyes. The force of knowing this made her sick, through and through. A pain caught at her tearing, forcing its way out of her. She caught her breath hard and quick.

"Don't you're ill?" How white of the commission. Governor Poir dexter, however, declared this morning that the delegate to Congress cannot be a member of the equal rights commission because of a legal technicality.

He based this contention on a ruling from the attorney general which said that the territorial legislature cannot legally create additional duties for the delegate to Congress who is actually a federal official.

Consequently the governor believes that the commission will have to function with only six members under this measure.

The bill also provides for the appointment of a secretary, which position was previously held by John Snell. This position is under the rules and regulations of the territorial civil service commission.

The joint resolution affecting the county of Hawaii was signed this morning by the governor. It authorizes and directs the personnel classification board of the Hawaii county civil service commission and the board of supervisors, as the case may be, to use the compensation paid to the county employes on June 30, 1941, as the base for making salary adjustments under the provisions of Act 55 of the 1941 special session, the Hawaii county classification law.

All measures passed by the special session are now before the governor, awaiting his signature or pocket veto. They include three house bills, five senate measures and two senate joint resolutions.

Five Truck Drivers, Helpers Are Arrested

Five truck drivers and helpers, all Americans of Japanese ancestry, were booked for investigation by the federal bureau of investigation last night at 10. All were arrested while allegedly trespassing on a U. S. government reservation at Pearl Harbor. Report of the federal offense was made by John Polkinhorn of the FBI.

It was reliably reported that these men were working on a hauling contract at Pearl Harbor.

Peace Move Brisk

SHANGHAI, Nov. 4 (Domei)—Peace movement within Chungking circles reportedly has become brisk again with the young army officer of Gen. Ho Ying-chin's clique and the veteran Chinese statesmen advocating peace with Japan.