

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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## Government Conducts Survey of Readjustment Problems of Japanese American Group

**WRA Liquidation Unit Under Robert Cullum Continues Study of Evacuees; Spot Checks Now Being Made in Major Resettlement Areas**

WASHINGTON—The War Relocation Authority was liquidated in June but the government is still interested in the 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from the West Coast in 1942 and resettled in various parts of the country.

Under the direction of Robert M. Cullum, head of the WRA liquidation unit in the Department of Interior, a survey is now being made of the readjustment problems faced by the Japanese Americans in the areas in which they have relocated.

Cullum returned to Washington last week after a tour which took him to Denver, Salt Lake, San Francisco and the Pacific Northwest. He indicated that he was especially interested in "areas of discrimination" affecting Japanese Americans in housing and employment.

Cullum told an Associated Press reporter that the study should be concluded some time next spring.

Spot checks of how Japanese Americans are making their peace-time readjustments presently are being made in Chicago, Los Angeles and Denver. Later, the survey will be broadened to other cities.

Cullum and Boyd N. Larson, head of the WRA liquidation unit, said the study should provide more definite information on what sections of the country drew the evacuees after the closing of the camps last winter.

They indicated that present information of the relocation has become outdated.

A report of the WRA last June showed that when the camps were closed, about 50 per cent settled at least temporarily in the Rocky Mountain states, the Midwest and the East.

The officials were not sure how many were still in those areas and how many had returned to former home areas on the West Coast.

Cullum estimated that at least 100,000 who at first stayed away from the West Coast since have returned to that area.

"There undoubtedly has been some movement since the closing of the camps, and I believe it is still going on," he said.

Illinois was one state which attracted Japanese Americans when they resettled. Reports indicated that more than 15,000 have gone to that state, the great number resettling in Chicago.

Larson said it is not clear why so many of the evacuees went to Chicago. He expressed belief, however, that the answer might lie in the city's position as a railroad center.

The WRA report also disclosed that 5,300 of the evacuees also settled in Colorado and 5,000 in Utah. Cullum predicted that future movements of Japanese Americans as they seek to become settled will be more in the direction of the Pacific Coast. Eventually more than half of the Japanese Americans will live on the West Coast, he surmised.

## Oshima Appointed to Faculty of American University

NEW YORK—Harry Oshima, a graduate of the University of Hawaii who has been working for his Ph.D. at Columbia, recently was assigned as assistant professor in economics at American University in Washington, D. C.

Oshima is a member of the editorial board of the Nisei Weekender.

## Larges "No" Vote in Proposition 15

WEST LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The Westwood unit of the League of Women Voters will present for a southern conference a "No" vote on Proposition 15, which would invalidate legislative amendments to the California Anti-alien Land act. The Westwood league endorsed the same time Proposition 11, which creates a state FEPC.

## Japanese Americans Reenter Hawaii Political Campaigns

### Run for Territorial Offices For First Time Since 1942 Mass Withdrawal from Politics

HONOLULU—With primary balloting set for Oct. 5, Hawaii's first post-war election is marked by the return of Americans of Japanese ancestry to territorial politics.

Japanese Americans have not campaigned for elective offices since the 1942 election when all candidates of Japanese ancestry withdrew from the final elections.

In Hawaii, where racial designations are of little importance, candidates representing all of the territory's major racial groups are entered in contests for territorial and county offices. Japanese American candidates are entered on both the GOP and Democratic tickets for offices ranging from county treasurer to territorial senator.

Noboru Miyake, veteran Kauai supervisor and veteran of World War I, has been selected by the Republican party as its Senate candidate from Kauai. He is the oldest in point of service of Japanese American political figures in Hawaii and led the withdrawal of candidates of Japanese ancestry from the territory's political life in 1942. He will not face any GOP opposition at the primaries and will run against William Fernandes, Democratic incumbent, in November.

Wilfred Tsukiyama, former city and county attorney of Honolulu, also is returning to public life as a GOP candidate for the senate in the Third District, Oahu.

Thomas Sakakihara, Big Island attorney and former member of the territorial assembly, is a candidate for his former Republican seat from the First District, East Hawaii. Charles K. Sakaguchi is one of the four Democratic candidates for the four East Hawaii seats in the house of representatives.

Calvin Ueki, who served with military intelligence during the war, is campaigning for election on the GOP ticket for the house of representative from the Fourth District, Oahu.

Mitsuyuki Kido, former Farrington high school teacher and executive secretary of the Emergency Service Committee in Honolulu during the war, has announced his candidacy for the house of repre-

sentatives from the Fifth District, Oahu. Kido and James K. Murakami are two of the Democratic candidates in the district.

Joe Itagaki, veteran of the 442nd Combat Team, is one of the six GOP candidates for the six Fifth District seats. Itagaki, a prominent restaurant operator, delivered the keynote address at a recent GOP convention on Oahu.

Matsuki Arashiro and Tom Ouye are Democratic candidates from the Sixth District, Kauai. T. Yama is a Republican candidate from this district.

Richard M. Kageyama, veteran of Army service, and Steere G. Noda are among the 18 candidates for seven seats on the Oahu Board of Supervisors. Both are Democrats.

Kazuhisa Abe and Yasuji Nagamoto, Democrats, and Juichi Doi, Republican, are among the ten candidates for three places on the Hawaii County Board of Supervisors for East Hawaii. Sakuichi Sakai, Democrat, and Shunzo Ushiroda and Yoshio Yoshida, Republicans, are three of five candidates for three seats on the Hawaii County Board of Supervisors from West Hawaii.

Tom Okino, Democrat, incumbent county attorney, has no opposition and is assured of reelection.

Takashi Morimoto is the Democratic candidate against the incumbent Republican, Antone P. Bento, for Hawaii County treasurer.

Ichiro Maehara, Republican, is a candidate for the Maui County Board of Supervisors.

George K. Watase, veteran Democratic politician, and Yutake Hamamoto, Republican, are among twelve candidates for four places on the Kauai County Board of Supervisors.

### Monument Erected To Three Nisei War Dead on Oahu

HONOLULU—A monument constructed in memory of three American soldiers of Japanese ancestry who were killed in action in Europe was unveiled at a ceremony on Sept. 15 at Waianae, Oahu.

The ceremony was sponsored by the Waianae Young Men's Association and was attended by leading public officials.

The monument honors three Nisei from Waianae, Shinei Nakamine, Masakatsu Ota and Masato Teramoto.

### Firebug Who Killed Children Denied Parole

SACRAMENTO—The California Adult Authority this week again denied an application of parole by Fortuna Padilla of Sacramento, who in 1924 set fire to a Japanese Buddhist School dormitory in Sacramento, causing the deaths of ten Japanese American children.

Padilla is serving a life term for first degree murder.

### Masaoka Plans Radio Broadcast Over Station KREO

INDIO, Calif.—Mike Masaoka, national secretary of the JACL, will highlight his visit to Indio and Coachella valley on Oct. 4 with a 30-minute broadcast over Station KREO on the subject of Proposition 15.

The broadcast is scheduled for 7:15 p. m.

At 8 p. m. Masaoka will speak at a mass meeting sponsored by the Coachella Friends of Jesus Christ. Tom Sasaki will be the chairman.

### Nisei GI Awarded Masaoka Scholarship

NEW YORK—Harry Abe, co-recipient of the memorial scholarship given by Mrs. Haruye Masaoka in memory of her son, Pvt. Ben Masaoka, was awarded a check for \$125 at the New York JACL meeting on Sept. 19 at the Japanese Methodist church.

### 150 Members Of Nisei Unit Left in Italy

**Chaplain George Aki Returns from Service With Combat Team**

NEW YORK — Approximately 150 men of the famous 442nd (Japanese American) Combat Team are still left in Italy, Chaplain George Aki reported here recently upon arrival from service with the Nisei regiment.

Chaplain Aki noted that 250 men of the 442nd had returned on two troopships in recent weeks. More than 1300 442nd Regiment veterans were left in Italy when a group of 500 returned to the United States in July with the regimental colors.

Chaplain Aki left for the West Coast last week after visiting his wife in Boston. He was at the Rohwer relocation center in Arkansas before receiving his assignment to go overseas to join the 442nd Combat Team.

### STRANDED NISEI SEND LETTERS TO U. S. HOMES

TOKYO—Hundreds of Americans of Japanese ancestry who were stranded in Japan by the outbreak of war in 1941 while visiting or studying in Japan took advantage of the opening of international postal service between Japan and other nations to reestablish contact with families and friends in the United States.

Among the many who crowded postoffices on Sept. 10, the first day of the opening of mail service, were Miss Gene Ogawa and Virginia Taeko Toda who sent their first message to friends in the United States from Tokyo since Dec. 7, 1941.

### Masaoka Hails Santa Barbara Attitude Toward Returnees

SANTA BARBARA, Calif.—Santa Barbara has been an outstanding spot in California in fair play to those of Japanese ancestry, in the opinion of Mike Masaoka, national JACL secretary. He expressed this conclusion in an address to a group of 35 representatives of civic groups at a luncheon meeting in the California hotel on Sept. 19.

Masaoka said that Americans could not afford to let discrimination against any minority group go unchallenged, declaring that all religious and racial minorities must be free from attack in order that liberty be protected.

Himself a veteran of the 442nd Infantry Combat Team, the most decorated American unit, Masaoka asserted that to those who saw battle overseas, the cries of pain and the color of blood were the same regardless of race.

Masaoka directed specific attention to the November elections, citing two propositions on which he said the outcome is vital. One is Proposition 11, dealing with the FEPC bill, and the other is Proposition 15. In behalf of the Anti-

discrimination Committee, Masaoka stated that if Proposition 15 is passed, it will actually keep from Americans of Japanese ancestry the right to buy and sell land in California.

A meeting of the local JACL was held in the evening at the United Nations House, at which time Masaoka discussed various steps taken in Congress to aid those of Japanese ancestry.

Masaoka also gave a general survey of conditions of Japanese Americans throughout the nation. The meeting was chaired by Tom Hirashima, temporary chairman of the JACL chapter. Ken Dyo was chairman of arrangements.

An Issei mass meeting was held at the same time at the Neighborhood House, at which Eiji Tanabe, Southern California JACL regional director appealed to the Issei for their support of the JACL and explained to them the various legislative activities of the league. To the more than one hundred Issei present, Tanabe stated that the invaluable experience of the Issei in organization work should be given to the Nisei.

### Victim of Police Shooting Files Claim Against Nevada City

#### Tsukamoto Shot By Policeman in Elko Last April

ELKO, Nev.—A claim against the city of Elko for \$23,628 was filed this week by attorneys representing Frank Tsukamoto, a resident of Elko, who was shot and injured by Officer Jack Bunderle of the Elko police department on April 6.

The claim paves the way for filing of suit against the city, according to Attorney Taylor H. Wines who is associated with D. A. Castle in representing Tsukamoto.

In the event the city refuses to pay the claim, suit will be filed to collect the damages, the attorneys declared.

Since Officer Bunderle at the time of the shooting was employed as a so-called "combination man," and was paid jointly by the city and county, possibility of the county being involved in any legal action was seen.

Tsukamoto's claim against the city asks for \$431 in payment of the hospital bill, \$227 in doctor's bills, \$5000 for "pain and suffering as a result of the injury," and \$18,000 for "disability for 10 years."

In a letter to the city accom-

panying his claim, Tsukamoto set forth the following circumstances:

"You are hereby notified that I, Frank Tsukamoto, residing in the city of Elko, State of Nevada, sustained injuries to my person by being injured at or near 4th and River streets on April 6, 1946.

"The manner in which said injury occurred was generally as follows:

"An altercation occurred at 319 Douglas Street in said city of Elko with myself and others involved, as a result of which the officers were called. By the time the officers had arrived the altercation had ceased and I was moving up the street in company with another person at a walk when accosted by city officers. Without exhibition of warrant or other authority, an arrest was made by the officers and I was taken into custody by Jack Albert Bunderle. During the arrest, for reasons for which I am unable to account, Officer Bunderle discharged his firearm and the bullet struck me in the leg at about the thigh.

"The character and extent of the injuries to me were the shattering of my thigh bone and considerable flesh wounds for which I was hospitalized from April 6, 1946 to July 3, 1946."

## Interracial Solidarity of Sugar Workers in Hawaii Remains Unbroken as Strike Continues

CIO Official Indicates Failure of "Some Efforts" To Incite Imported Filipino Workers Against Japanese American Leadership of Unions

HONOLULU—The interracial solidarity of Hawaii's sugar industry workers remained unbroken this week as the territory-wide strike of 25,000 CIO-ILWU members ended its fourth week.

A CIO source reported that there was "complete solidarity" among the strikers despite the fact that "some efforts" had been made to turn the 4,000 Filipino workers who arrived here from the Philippines earlier this year against the union leadership which on many plantations is of Japanese American ancestry.

It was recalled that in the 1920 strike in the sugar industry, there was no such evidence of interracial harmony, particularly between Japanese and Filipino workers.

Although a large percentage of the striking workers are of Japanese ancestry, the two largest Japanese bi-lingual newspapers in Hawaii, the Hawaii Times and Hawaii Herald, are maintaining a "handsoff" attitude on the strike. The Herald, however, broke its "neutral" stand in an article during the first week of the strike to charge the CIO union with responsibility for the sugar industry tieup.

A union official stressed that every effort is being made to see that the strike issues are explained in each language spoken in the territory and that every major racial group is represented in the leadership.

Cultivation and mill activity are reported to be at an absolute standstill on the 33 struck plantations on all of Hawaii's major islands.

(The Daily People's World, San Francisco labor paper, carried the following report from Honolulu on Sept. 22:

"Twenty-five thousand strikers, together with their families quietly maintain residence in the company-owned houses and use the company-owned halls and other facilities for carrying on their strike activities. In the carefully organized strike strategy committees, natives, Filipino immigrants, Japanese, whites and others harmoniously work together in 'pidgin English.'

"Because the turnout of strikers approaches 100 per cent and because the organization of the strike by the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union has been remarkably thorough, there has not been a single instance of violence. Order is enforced by the union's own police.

"Most sugar workers know this is a showdown fight to determine the immediate future of unionism in Hawaii. And they realize their battle is with the 'Big Five' monopoly—Alexander and Baldwin, C. Brewer and Company, Castle and Cook, American Factors and T. H. Davies and Company—and not with the management of their individual plantations. The management for its part, hopes to keep relations as nearly normal as possible during the strike. Confidence on the part of the strikers—perhaps on the part of the management as well—leads to good humor.

"On Koloa plantation, of a membership of 519 sugar workers, 509 are on strike. Thirteen of these are permitted to do regular office work for the time being, and 39 are on utility work, with their wages going into the strike fund. Four hundred and fifty-seven are on regular picket duty.

"(At Waipahu, a town of 8,000 near Honolulu, the writer was es-

corted about the plantation by the chairman of the strategy committee, who is a Spaniard, and the ILWU unit president, a second generation Japanese. Filipino, Japanese and Portuguese were busy about the strike headquarters. An elderly Japanese with an abacus before him, kept account of the supplies being issued to Filipino housewives and Japanese 'mamasans' by a Portuguese clerk. Waiting his turn was a white workman from the mainland United States who had walked three miles to give the daily order for the 'camp' for which he acts as steward. Overhead hung a bronze bell, loaned by a Buddhist temple, for calling the strikers together in case of emergency.

"Several weeks before the strike was called, the union declared its members' determination to remain in the company houses. The planters' association hastened to say it had never had any intention of evicting workers should they strike. During the sugar strikes of 1909, 1920, 1924 and 1937, however, strikers had been ruthlessly evicted, and in 1920 several hundred evictees living in tents or crowded with friends in Honolulu slums, died of influenza.

"The union also offered to provide workers to carry on the public services performed by the plantations—supplying electricity and domestic water, removal of garbage, transportation of school children, dispensary and hospital service, care of dairy cattle—and in some cases operate company stores. Workers, however, were to be dispatched by the union as part of their picket duty and were to turn over all wages to the strike fund. The industry at first refused this offer unless all workers should be picked by the management and regarded as non-strikers. But as the strike got underway, the plantations quietly gave in to the union's plan.

"... There is very little prospect that agreement on any important issue will be reached for several weeks. In view of the two-cent rise in the retail price of sugar granted by the Federal government, the industry is willing to compromise on the wage issue, somewhere between the union's demand for a 65-cent an hour minimum and the sugar planters' former offer of about 50 cents. But the ILWU's other three chief demands—a 40-hour work week, joint union-management control of money deducted from workers' wages during the war for housing that could not be erected at that time, and especially the union shop—still meet with a flat 'no.' The industry is equally adamant on many minor issues, such as application of the seniority principle in promotions. Both sides evidently are digging in for a prolonged strike, with the odds, for the first time in Hawaiian history, on the side of the workers."

## Probation Hearings for Draft Violators Set for Phoenix Court

LOS ANGELES—A motion for probation for 100 evacuees of Japanese ancestry who refused to comply with selective service orders while at the Colorado River relocation center at Poston, Ariz., will be heard by Federal Judge Dave Ling in Phoenix, Ariz. on Oct. 7 at 10 a. m.

A. L. Wirin, legal representative of the 100 Poston evacuees who are now free on bond, urged this week that all defendants appear in court for the hearings. Wirin said that members of the group had relocated in various parts of the country.

"It is absolutely necessary that all defendants be in court or else their bonds will be forfeited and

they will be arrested and brought to Phoenix, no matter in what part of the United States they may now be," Wirin said.

Wirin asked that all defendants meet him in the Federal courthouse in Phoenix on Oct. 6 at 4 p. m.

The 100 evacuees were convicted of violation of the draft orders by the Federal district court and their conviction was upheld by the Ninth District Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge William Denman of the appellate court recommended "executive clemency" for the group, however, on the ground that the attitude of members of the convicted group had resulted from the effect of the mass evacuation.

## Japanese Americans Set Example in Human Dignity In Evacuation, Says Ickes

By HAROLD L. ICKES

I hope that those who are disposed to be indifferent about our treatment of alien strains will read "Citizen 13660" written by Mine Okubo, and published by the Columbia University Press. Both the illustrations and the short text tell, without the rancor that would be understandable, of the treatment of the Japanese who were living in this "land of the brave and home of the free" at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

As a member of President Roosevelt's administration, I saw the United States Army give away to mass hysteria over the Japanese. The investigation of Pearl Harbor disclosed that the Army in Hawaii was more intent upon acts of anticipated sabotage that never occurred than in being alert against a possible surprise attack by the Japanese.

On the mainland, the Army had taken no precautionary measures. Then suddenly, it lost its self-control and, egged on by public clamor, some of it from greedy Americans who sought an opportunity to possess themselves of Japanese rights and property, it began to round up indiscriminately, the Japanese who had been born in Japan as well as those born here.

Crowded into cars like cattle, these hapless people were hurried away to hastily constructed and thoroughly inadequate concentration camps, with soldiers with nervous muskets on guard, in the great American desert. We gave the fancy name of "relocation centers" to these dust bowls, but they were concentration camps nonetheless, although not as bad as Dachau or Buchenwald.

War-excited imaginations, raw race-prejudice and crass greed kept hateful public opinion along the Pacific Coast at fever heat. Fortunately, the President had put at the head of the War Relocation Authority a strong and able man who was not afraid to fight back. Later the President transferred the agency to the Department of the Interior. I claim no credit for the result that was finally attained except that I stood shoulder to shoulder with Dillon Myer and let my own fists fly on occasion. Mr. Myer fully deserved the Medal of Merit with which he was later awarded.

It was to be expected that some native-born Japanese would have to be watched closely. Some wanted to go back to Japan and help has been given them. But generally speaking, the Japanese, particularly those who had been born in this country and were therefore American citizens, have settled back into American communities and there is no reason to believe that they will not continue to be loyal Americans.

If we Americans, with the Army in the lead, made fools of ourselves for which we ought properly to be ashamed, it must be said that the American Japanese, with very few exceptions, gave an example of human dignity by which all of us might profit. However, they have not had returned to them the property that was rifled from them, or its equivalent. A bill was introduced in the recent session of Congress setting up a commission to pass upon the claims of these dispossessed American Japanese for property of which they were despoiled. This bill ought to pass and no time should be lost in making restitution for property that was lost or misappropriated.

If the Japanese had been permitted to continue their normal lives they would have occasioned slight concern. They did not in Hawaii where the proportion of Japanese is much larger than in any state on the mainland and where the temptation to favor Japan was necessarily much greater. No soldiers wearing the American uniform gave better account of themselves than did the American-born Japanese. Japanese troops, both from Hawaii and the mainland, as the Army records will show, were outstanding for bravery, intelligence, endurance and daring. Their loyalty was not only unimpeachable, but remarkable, considering the affronts and injustices that had been put upon them and their people.

This whole episode was one in which we can take no pride. To understand just what we did to many thousands of our fellow Americans we should read "Citizen 13660."

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## Legality of Housing Restriction In Los Angeles Challenged By Japanese American Veteran

Seek Dismissal of Injunction Against Occupancy of Home

LOS ANGELES — Challenging the legality of a residential restrictive covenant which prohibits the family of Shinobu Saito, an American war veteran of Japanese ancestry, from occupying a home at 2947 Dalton Ave., a motion was filed this week in the Superior Court of Judge Alfred Paonessa to dismiss a court injunction against the Saito family.

The motion, entered by A. L. Wirin and John Maeno, attorneys for the Saitos, is based on the ground that race discrimination is unconstitutional.

Shortly after the Saitos had purchased the home for \$8500, two residents of the tract, Bertha R. Kenyon and Clara McCormick, filed a complaint for an injunction to prevent the Saitos from occupying the house on the basis that a

restrictive covenant prohibited any person not of the white race from occupying homes in the tract, except in the capacity of domestic servants.

A preliminary injunction was issued on May 17 against the Saitos by Superior Court Judge Henry M. Willis. A request by the Saitos for a writ of prohibition preventing further jurisdiction by the Superior Court was denied by the State Supreme Court on June 20.

The new motion for dismissal will be heard by Judge Paonessa on Oct. 4.

Wirin noted this week that Attorney General Robert W. Kenny had urged in Los Angeles that the California Supreme Court declare restrictive covenants unconstitutional.

The Saito family consists of Takeshi Saito, 62; his wife, Sakuyo, 47; two sons, Shinobu, 23, a veteran of combat in Italy, and Jiro, 17, and a daughter-in-law, Emiye, 19.

## New York CL Plans Forum On Issei Issue

Panel Will Discuss Citizenship Bill for Japanese Aliens

NEW YORK CITY — A forum on Issei naturalization will be held at the Rutgers Presbyterian church, 236 West 73rd st., on Thursday, Oct. 3, at 8:15 p. m. It was announced this week by the New York chapter of the JACL sponsors.

Clifford Forster of the American Civil Liberties Union will serve as chairman of the forum.

Panel speakers will be Mrs. Edith Terry Bremer, executive director and founder of the American Federation of International Institutes and authority on immigration and naturalization laws; Ioji B. Sekine, vice chairman of the Greater New York Committee for Japanese Americans, Inc.; Bill Kochiyama, veteran of the 442nd and student at Long Island university; Henry Iijima, supervisor of business machine equipment for Ohrbach's department store; and Masao Satow, regional representative of the Japanese American Citizens League.

All Nisei and Issei and their friends are urged to attend the meeting, which will discuss in particular recent changes allowing Issei to apply for first naturalization papers.

Copies of a JACL bulletin on application procedures are available at the JACL office, 299 Madison avenue, it was announced. All Issei are urged to apply for copies.

## Graduation Rites Held for 168 Nisei At Monterey MISLS

MONTEREY, Calif.—One hundred and sixty-eight Nisei soldiers, members of the first graduating class from the Military Intelligence Language school since it was moved to Monterey, were honored at exercises held recently at the Presidio.

Brig-General Frank D. Merrill, chief of staff of the 6th army, was the guest speaker.

Two Nisei graduates, Pvt. Daiichi Miyagawa and S-Sgt. Kinji Kubota, appeared on the program.

Special awards offered by Earl Finch of Hattiesburg, Miss., were presented by Col. Frank A. Hollingshead, assistant commandant, to S-Sgt. Makoto Matsukata, named best all-around student; T-4 James Y. Horikawa, named the student who made the most progress in the class; and 1st-Sgt. Albert K. Kariya, named best soldier in the class.

Honorable mention awards were presented to T-4 Toshio Umeki and T-4 David T. Terada.

## Nisei WAC Sergeant Returns Home from Germany Duty

Staff-sergeant Priscilla Yasuda returned home to Orem, Utah, early this week after a year and a half duty in Germany with the Women's Army Corps.

She returned to this country on September 7 and was accompanied on her trip across the country by her brother, George.

Miss Yasuda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Yasuda of Orem, Utah.

## Ex-UCLANs To Hold Reunion Banquet In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—A reunion banquet for all former students and graduates of the University of California at Los Angeles has been tentatively set for Saturday, October 19, at the Cabrillo hotel in Los Angeles.

Detailed plans for the dinner were mapped out at a committee meeting held recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Miki Miyamoto. Committee members present were Mr. and Mrs. Akira Izumo, Mrs. Edna Shigekawa, Mary O. Nakamura, Kiyoshi Kagawa, George Nakamura, Tek Sakurai, Takarick Shimo, and Mrs. Miyamoto Yata and Mr. and Mrs. Miyamoto.

Over 75 UCLANs have already been contacted, and all former students and graduates in the Los Angeles area are urged to contact a member of the committee. Mrs. Miyamoto at RE 2-2982, 1216 36th Place, Los Angeles. Wives and husbands of former UCLANs are also invited.

# L. A. Mayor Discusses Resettlement



LOS ANGELES — Mayor Fletcher Bowron greets Mike Masaoka, National JACL secretary, at City Hall as Eiji Tanabe and Scotty Tsuchiya (right) of the Southern California regional office

of the JACL look on. Mayor Bowron discussed resettlement problems of returned evacuees in Los Angeles with the JACL representatives.

—Photo from Los Angeles Daily News.

## Los Angeles' Mayor Bowron, Once Advocate of Evacuation, Hails War Record of Nisei

### Attitude, Conduct of Japanese Americans Who Have Returned to Southern California Praised By City Official in Meeting With Mike Masaoka

LOS ANGELES—Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles, one of the first West Coast officials to publicly advocate the mass evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry in 1942, hailed the wartime record established by American soldiers and civilians of Japanese descent during the war at a meeting with Mike M. Masaoka, national secretary of the JACL, on Sept. 23.

Mayor Bowron praised the attitude and conduct of returning evacuees of Japanese ancestry to the Los Angeles area.

"No disturbances involving persons of Japanese ancestry have come to my attention and I know this is due to the good conduct of the Japanese Americans who have returned to their former homes in Los Angeles," Mayor Bowron said. "We give them due credit for what they have done and what they have gone through."

The Los Angeles mayor noted that the efforts of interested civic organizations had assisted in the readjustment of Japanese Americans returning to the area.

Stressing that Nisei soldiers had made an excellent record in combat, Mayor Bowron added:

"Not only Nisei soldiers but also your group of civilians did well in proving their loyalty. We not only consider you as Americans but also our fellow citizens. We accept you as fellow citizens."

Others at the City Hall with Masaoka were G. Raymond Booth, head of the Council for Civic Unity, Eiji Tanabe and Scotty Tsuchiya of the Southern California regional office of the JACL and Henry Mori, English editor of the Rafu Shimpo.

Masaoka told Mayor Bowron that the relocation of 19,000 returned evacuees in the Los Angeles area had been smoother than on any other section of the Pacific Coast.

"There are some remaining difficulties," Masaoka said. "For instance, some of us can't seem to get jobs in line with our qualifications, and we have acute housing problems."

Masaoka said that there had been no incident of any consequence to mar the return of the evacuees to Los Angeles County.

In discussing the housing problem, Masaoka added that it was "difficult to tell where discrimination ends and the housing shortage begins."

## Nisei GIs Trounce Los Angeles Team

LOS ANGELES — Behind the six-hit pitching of Harry (Wonder Boy) Kitamura, the Presidio All-Stars crushed the Los Angeles Nisei All-Stars, 14 to 1, before 2000 fans at Evergreen playground on Sept. 22.

## Fourth Suit Filed In Los Angeles to Recover Property

LOS ANGELES — The fourth suit in recent weeks against the Alien Property Custodian to recover property seized in 1942 from persons of Japanese ancestry was filed in Federal court at Los Angeles this week by attorneys for Robert Tadashi Ishii of Santa Barbara county.

The litigation involves real property in Santa Barbara county.

The suit was filed by A. L. Wirin, John Maeno, Fred Okrand and Elmer Yamamoto, attorneys for Mr. Ishii.

## San Fernando JACL Changes Date For Issei-Nisei Meet

SAN FERNANDO, Calif.—The San Fernando JACL this week announced change of the date of its mass Issei-Nisei meeting to Saturday, Sept. 28, from Sept. 24.

Mike Masaoka, national secretary, will be the main speaker for the newly-organized chapter's reactivation meeting.

The meeting will start at 7:30 p. m. at the Fernangeles Play-ground hall, 8851 Laurel Canyon boulevard, Roscoe.

## Robert Hosokawa Will Teach English At Minnesota College

WINONA, Minn.—Robert Hosokawa of Seattle, Wash., is a new instructor in English and journalism at Winona State Teachers college.

Hosokawa, former student body president at Whitman college in Washington, recently received his master's degree at the University of Wisconsin.

Evacuated to the Minidoka relocation center in 1942, he was a member of the staff of the Minidoka Irrigator and later relocated in 1943 to Missouri where he took a job on a weekly newspaper.

## Rockefeller Gives \$1000 to Aid Evacuee Relocation

NEW YORK — A gift of \$1,000 from John D. Rockefeller III to the Greater New York Committee for Japanese Americans was announced this week by I. B. Sekine, co-chairman of the finance committee of the evacuee relocation group.

"I am very glad to be helpful in connection with the New York Committee's work, especially in view of the problems and needs of Japanese Americans," Mr. Rockefeller said in a note accompanying his donation.

## Garman to Join California Fight On Land Law

### Played Important Role In Defeat of Law In Colorado Election

DENVER, Colo.—The Rev. Clark P. Garman, initiator and executive secretary of the Colorado Committee for Fair Play which played an important role in the defeat of Colorado's Alien Land Law initiative in 1944, left here recently for California to participate in the campaign against Proposition 15, the proposed validation of amendments to the California Alien Land Law.

Before his departure Rev. Garman characterized the California initiative as a "vicious attempt" to strengthen the State's present anti-Japanese property ownership restriction.

Rev. Garman will work with the Congressional Committee on Christian Democracy, 1052 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles 14.

Since the evacuation Rev. Garman has been active in assisting evacuee resettlement in the Denver area.

## Nisei Folk Artist Named on Committee For People's Songs

CHICAGO—Suzanne Tory, Nisei folk artist, has been chosen to serve on the steering committee of the Chicago division of People's Songs, Inc.

Others named to the committee at the Sept. 21 meetings were Studs Terkel, radio commentator; Jack Conroy, author and columnist; Raeburn Flerlage, authority on folk music, and Charles Griffin, author.

The committee will seek to establish a center for all Chicagoans interested in building people's music and will set up a library of people's songs, records, film strips and music books which will be available to unions, civic organizations and political groups.

## California's Native Sons Vote Support for Amendments to State's Alien Land Statutes

SAN FRANCISCO—The Native Sons of the Golden West, a state-wide organization whose membership is restricted to persons born in California of white parentage, announced this week that its board of grand officers has voted to support Proposition No. 15 on the California ballot in November.

Proposition 15 is a legislative initiative which will validate amendments to the California Alien Land Law.

"The Native Sons organization played a major role in fomenting antagonism toward Americans of Japanese ancestry and this latest action indicates that the group has not changed its racist attitude," Joe Grant Masaoka, regional representative of the JACL, declared in San Francisco.

## Radio Debate Scheduled on Proposition 15

### Masaoka, Wirin Will Uphold Negative In KMPC Broadcast

LOS ANGELES—A. L. Wirin of the American Civil Liberties Union and Mike M. Masaoka, executive secretary of the National JACL, will uphold the negative in a radio debate on the question, "Should the voters ratify the amendment to the Alien Land Law?", to be broadcast on KMPC at 9 p. m. on Sept. 29.

The affirmative will be presented by Walter Odemar, vice-chairman of the Native Sons of the Golden West, and Hector Vaida, Santa Monica attorney. Edward Shattuck will act as moderator. Questions from the studio audience will be answered.

Urging support for the passage of Proposition 15, Raymond Williamson, chairman of the legislative committee of the Native Sons, declared:

"If adopted in November, the initiative will prevent fraudulent acquisition of California farm land by alien Japanese and other aliens ineligible to citizenship. The measure specifically validates amendments to the original Alien Land Act adopted in 1920 by a majority of more than three to one."

"The act was passed by the people," Williamson said, "the amendments which Proposition 15 would validate were passed by the legislature in 1923 and 1943 for the purpose of strengthening and more efficiently carrying out the people's purpose. Various constitutional questions as to their legality have been raised."

## Evacuation Held Responsible for Unsettled Civil Liberties Issues

The problem of race discrimination gave the American Civil Liberties Union "one of the busiest years of its 12-year history," says the Northern California ACLU in its report on the 12-month period ending July, 1946.

Most of the issues were an outgrowth of "our worst wartime mistake,"—the exclusion of Japanese from the Pacific Coast and their subsequent return, the report continues. Many of these issues, it adds, will not be finally settled for a couple of years.

The ACLU's report highlighted the following as major Japanese American problems handled by the organization during the year:

**Renunciants:** Mass suit was filed by attorney Wayne M. Collins with the support of the Northern California ACLU in behalf of 1500 American citizens of Japanese ancestry who renounced their U. S. citizenship under duress. Their suit asked for release from detention and reestablishment of their citizenship. Most of these persons were released from detention after "mitigation hearings," but citizenship has not been restored.

**Complications caused by the renunciations include charging of non-resident fees of \$150 by the University of California of these renunciants attending the school; uncertainty regarding their status under the Anti-alien Land act; and differences of opinion in Selective Service and the U. S. Army in inducting them into the army.**

**Peruvian-Japanese:** Ten cases have been filed on behalf of 125 Peruvian Japanese who were brought to this country by the United States and who now face deportation as "illegal immigrants." The Peruvian government, which first arrested them and then turned them over to the United States Military Police in Peru, has refused to accept their return to Peru. Many of the Peruvian Japanese have wives and children in Peru, including some who served in the Peruvian army.

**Deportation Cases:** The Northern California office ACLU has intervened in over 125 deportation cases concerning treaty-trader merchants and hardship cases. An agreement has been reached where by the Justice Department will stay deportation pending final determination of legal issues raised in test cases filed May 29, 1946.

**Discriminatory State Agencies:** Evacuees returning to California met opposition not only from terrorists but also from "State officials, who, in some cases were enforcing discriminatory legislation adopted during the absence of the evacuees," the ACLU report stated.

The State Board of Equaliza-

tion, although it holds no discretionary power, withheld permits to collect the State Sales Tax from 15 Japanese shopkeepers. The permits were issued after protests and filing of a suit in Southern California.

The Real Estate commission delayed issuing brokers licenses to alien Japanese until September 15, 1945, when a law went into effect denying such licenses to aliens ineligible to citizenship unless they held such licenses prior to 1942.

The State Personnel Board required Nisei applicants for jobs to present identification cards. Following revocation of individual exclusion orders, the Board asked instead for birth certificates, a procedure not demanded of other applicants.

The 1945 session of the state legislature enacted laws denying both sports and commercial hunting and fishing licenses to persons "ineligible to citizenship," laws aimed specifically at persons of Japanese ancestry. The law was held to be unconstitutional upon that point, but an appeal has been filed by the state.

Japanese cleaning and pressing shops have had difficulty in making a comeback because a law was enacted during the exclusion period requiring "new" owners to pass examinations before procuring licenses. Language barriers have kept many Japanese from securing these licenses.

Outside of racial issues, the ACLU report declared, most of the other cases handled by the union during the past year were also the result of the impact of war.

During the year the ACLU handled cases concerning the civil rights of Negro Americans, conscientious objectors, and labor.

## Mac Kaneko Leaves Presidency of Milwaukee JACL

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Mac Kaneko, president of the Milwaukee chapter of the JACL, last week announced his resignation from office because of plans to move to Seattle, Wash.

He will be succeeded by Lynn Wells, vice president, who will fill the office until December 31.

"It has been a privilege and an honor to have served as president of the Milwaukee chapter," Kaneko stated. "I regret that circumstances presses me to change my residence."

Kaneko is a member of the International Typographical Union, AF of L, and plans to continue working in the same field.

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### The American Legion

The American Legion which opens its first postwar national convention in San Francisco next week has suffered in prestige because of the activities of certain individual posts on the Pacific Coast which have been guilty of outright acts of discrimination against American soldiers and veterans of Japanese ancestry. The storm of criticism which was directed against the Hood River, Ore., post of the Legion for its wartime action in erasing the names of 16 Japanese American servicemen from its honor roll has reflected on the national organization, although the Legion leadership denounced the Hood River post for its action.

A more recent development in the relationship of the American Legion to World War II veterans of minority race groups has been the pursuance of a policy through which segregated local posts have been chartered by the Legion on a racial basis. In many West Coast cities Chinese, Filipino, Negro and Mexican veterans already are isolated in segregated posts.

The American Legion in its national convention next week could do much to allay the fears of discrimination felt by minority group veterans by passing a resolution opposing the organization of racially segregated posts. The adoption of such an attitude will probably depend, however, on whether the reactionary leadership which has dominated the Legion in the period between the two World Wars is sustained or whether the Legion will elect new leadership which will be more consistent with the needs of democratic progress.

### Politics in Hawaii

Hawaiian politics will return to normalcy next week as Japanese American candidates run for political offices for the first time since 1942. The four-year absence of Americans of Japanese ancestry from elective offices in the territory was a condition imposed by the military government which ruled Hawaii during the war, although most of the Japanese American leaders of the territory are believed to have concurred with the policy and none tried to challenge after 1942.

The participation of Japanese Americans in territorial policies is a necessary factor in Hawaii since persons of Japanese ancestry constitute approximately one-third of the population and are expected to provide their share of the executive and legislative leadership for the administration of Hawaiian affairs. Such participation is both a privilege and an obligation for Hawaii's 125,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

There may have been a time when the report of such political action on the part of the territory's Japanese Americans may have resulted in a feeling of uneasiness on the part of some sections of the mainland population but Hawaii's Japanese Americans have proved their loyalty so effectively and irrefutably during the war that the question of their participation in territorial affairs is no longer a matter for serious controversy.

Japanese Americans in Hawaii are expected to play an integral role in the future progress of Hawaii, just as they played an important role in the defense of the territory against enemy aggression on Dec. 7, 1941 as soldiers and as civilians. Moreover, Hawaii's population of Japanese ancestry is providing its share of leadership in business, education, athletics and in the trade unions of the territory.

Hawaii, which one day will be the newest of the States of America, already has advanced farther toward the realization of the

American dream of democracy than any of the forty-eight States. Race is not a condition for political or economic success. Although Japanese Americans, to cite the group as an example, constitute one-third of the territorial population, there is no record of racial bloc voting or of racial stratification along political lines. Only approximately ten per cent of the candidates in the 1946 elections in Hawaii are of Japanese ancestry and these are evenly divided between the two major parties.

### The Deportation Issue

The Board of Immigration Appeals in a test case involving the deportation of a Japanese alien, one Yasutaro Ikuta, has taken the position that it cannot pass upon the constitutionality of the immigration law, which does not allow the attorney general of the county discretionary power to stay deportation in cases involving persons ineligible to citizenship.

The board has ruled that the constitutionality of the law must be left to the decision of the courts.

But in a revealing and important opinion, one of the board members, Jack Wasserman, has stated implicitly his belief that the summary deportation of Japanese aliens is not only racial discrimination but also an "unreasonable and arbitrary" discrimination with the same racial group in that Chinese and Hindus are not deportable upon a showing of hardship.

"Born of hysteria, the summary deportation of those of Japanese ancestry, regardless of their loyalty and American family ties, may be popular in some quarters," his opinion states. "A proceeding such as this, in the words of Judge Hutcheson, 'puts our adherence to the American constitutional principles not only of tolerance but of justice to the test lest, done mere lip service to, they become a byword and a hissing.'"

"In my opinion," states Wasserman, "the requirement for suspension of deportation, based upon racial origin or skin pigmentation, is an arbitrary classification, contrary to the fundamental principles of democracy and contrary to the constitutional safeguards afforded by the Fifth Amendment."

We are the only country in the world prescribing racial disqualifications for citizenship, Wasserman says. Such racial discrimination, he noted, is not based upon any accepted scientific theory. Instead, he says, it is in harmony with the racial theories of Nazi Germany.

"If Congress can limit suspension of deportation to certain races, and discriminate between people because of their skin color, then it may be the same token discrimination between individuals because of the color of their hair," Wasserman continues. "Such distinctions are not only improper, they are arbitrary and violative of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment."

Wasserman also stated his belief that in view of pending legislation brought in behalf of Japanese facing deportation, the Immigration Service should halt deportation cases until Congress has acted.

Speaking of Ikuta, the plaintiff, Wasserman said:

"This alien entered the United States legally as a treaty merchant and has at all times complied with the law to the best of his ability. Through no fault of his, the status of treaty merchant which he occupied terminated because of the abrogation of the treaty with Japan. And because of the abrogation of the treaty, it is now proposed to deport this loyal, law-abiding alien, a father of citizen children and husband of a native-born American. He is offered the non-appealing choice of leaving his loved ones here without support or the comfort of his society, or taking his American family with him to alien shores and war-torn areas where they will live in exile as displaced persons.

"This tragedy is to be visited upon this family—not for any crime—but simply because of the racial origin of the father. We are attempting to bring democracy to Japan. Can we hope to do so when we do not practice it at home? With each deportation based upon racial discrimination, with each deportation of a self-respecting, law-abiding father who has an established home and occupation here, we send abroad a propaganda factory to broadcast how arbitrarily and unequally we deal with human liberty . . .

"We have discretion to defer deportation here pending Congressional action. By directing deportation without such deferment, the Department will not believe human misery, it will create it!"

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## California's Second Chance

The skeleton in California's closet is rattling this week. The Alien Land Law, one of the few pieces of unadulterated race legislation on the statutes of a State outside the Deep South, is in the political limelight. Proposition No. 15 on the California November ballot, an initiative which seeks to validate the legislative amendments of 1923 and 1943 to the 1920 Alien Land Law, has brought the State's racist treatment of persons of Japanese ancestry again into sharp focus.

Advocates of the Alien Land Law, has brought the State's racist little effort to disguise the fact that it is race legislation designed to eliminate one particular group of California residents from the agricultural industry. In 1920 when the present Alien Land Law was passed the proponents of the initiative conducted a vicious campaign of race hatred against persons of Japanese ancestry. Race myths were circulated and the cry was that "once a Jap always a Jap." According to the report of a Congressional committee, "opponents of the law were denounced by local posts of the American Legion."

One of the features of the 1920 campaign which, in point of virulence far exceeded any similar demonstration in California," according to Carey McWilliams, was the showing of a motion picture, "Shadows of the West," in which actors played the roles of California Japanese and were shown abducting two white girls, spying and dumping vegetables into the ocean to maintain high prices. Meetings called to protest the exhibition of the film were broken up by vigilante gangs. The Alien Law was passed in an atmosphere filled with the racist lies circulated by its proponents. The final vote was decisive—668,000 to 22,000.

State Senators Jack B. Tenney (now conducting a "Little Dies" Committee witchhunt on some faculty members of the University of California) and Hugh M. Burns who are the sponsors of the legislative initiative which is on the California ballot as Proposition 15 believe that their proposal will "close loopholes based on constitutional grounds" in the present Alien Land law. Tenney and Burns, in their argument in favor of Proposition 15 as presented in the state voters pamphlet issued by the same race-baiting anti-Secretary of State Jordan, are using Japanese approach which characterized the 1920 campaign. They state flatly that the purpose of the bill is to keep Japanese aliens from the ownership and operation of farm property in California.

The background of the Alien Land Bill, in a few words, is that Japanese farm workers were welcomed to California in the early 1900's and were duly exploited on the farms of the state. It was when the Japanese began acquiring their own farms that opposition appeared. The white supremacist theory which is at the core of the Alien Land Law is the same which permeates the restrictive residential covenants which are now in effect in most of the State's urban areas. In these covenants the provision is made that non-Caucasians may occupy restricted property as long as their is the menial status of servants or caretakers. If the people of Japanese ancestry who came to the United States had been content to remain as farm workers or domestic servants, it is to be doubted that they would have been made the scapegoats for two generations of vicious racist activity.

Japanese farmers in California created large land values by their sweat and diligence and these were coveted by the greedy. These Japanese farmers entered into competition and this competition was resented. They were not of European stock and thus offended the white supremacists.

The object of Proposition 15, as outlined by Tenney and Burns, is to tighten any loopholes which may exist in the Alien Land Law. There had been but little effort to enforce its provisions for two decades until the outbreak of war in 1941. California racists reaped a harvest of hate in the months after Pearl Harbor. The mass evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry, which

the racists had demanded, became an actuality. In the 1943 session of the California legislature a bill was passed to amend and further tighten the Alien Land Law. The land law, although designed specifically to restrict Japanese aliens, is written as a bill affecting all "aliens not eligible to citizenship." It was at this session that the legislature carelessly passed a similar law to prohibit Japanese resident aliens from working as commercial fishermen and referred specifically to "Japanese aliens" as the restricted group. At the next session the legislature hastened to amend this anti-Japanese fishing law to include all "ineligible aliens" but the racist intent was so obvious that Judge Henry Willis in Los Angeles recently declared the fishing ban "unconstitutional."

With the impetus of wartime hatred against persons of Japanese ancestry, the California legislature passed a bill appropriating \$200,000 to the State Justice Department for enforcement of the Alien Land Law. Attorney General Robert Kenny, who has called for the repeal of the law, nevertheless has initiated more than 50 suits charging violation of the law's provisions against persons of Japanese ancestry. The State's objective in the litigation is the confiscation of farm property owned by Americans of Japanese ancestry which the State contends is actually controlled by parents of the Nisei. The law, of course, discriminates against the citizen rights of the Nisei since they are actually the only group of Americans who cannot inherit property from their parents in California.

The remnants of California racism are now being rallied to fight for the passage of Proposition 15. The Native Sons of the Golden West and the Joint Immigration Committee have recommended its passage. Other groups supporting it include the Farm Bureau Federation and the State Chamber of Commerce.

Presence of Proposition 15 on the ballot will give the people of California an opportunity to repudiate a shameful section of their political past. But it is to be doubted whether any more than a small percentage of the people of the state are aware of the implications of the bill. The JACL's political action arm, the Anti-Discrimination Committee, is spearheading the opposition to Proposition 15 but that opposition must be widened to include all of the decent, progressive forces in the State if the Alien Land Law amendment is to be defeated.

If the issue at stake can be taken to the voters of the State, there is a good chance that racism and economic greed will suffer an important defeat in California in November.

## Book Review: Mystery Book Written by Chicago Nisei

THE CUCKOO CLOCK by Milton K. Ozaki, Ziff-Davis Publishing Co., Chicago.

While it's always good to read a book by a Nisei writer, it's especially rewarding to find a book by a Nisei on subjects outside the strictly Nisei field. Thus the advent of Milton K. Ozaki into the field of mystery fiction is to be cheered.

In "The Cuckoo Clock," Ozaki has spun a good yarn around the mysterious death of Justice, a philandering, ladies' man of a beautician. (A beautician by profession, Ozaki's choice for a murderer is startling, but perhaps logical.)

The "sleuths," if they can be called that, are one Professor Caldwell, psychology professor, and his brash, bright secretary and co-worker, "Bendy" Brinks.

The tale is narrated by Brinks, who is especially fascinated by the fact that, in the course of acting as legman for Professor Caldwell, he investigates half a dozen loves who at one time or another were enamoured of the murdered man.

"The Cuckoo Clock" makes good reading and is better-than-average mystery writing.—M.O.T.

Vagaries

Observers believe Mayor Fletcher... of Los Angeles is anxious... evacuation and restrictive... of Japanese Americans...

Investigation... Michiro Watanabe, deputy attorney... general of Hawaii, has been... to conduct an investigation...

Market Line... The little Nisei girl on the CIO... newspaper Guild picket line... of the Hearst Herald-Express...

Sculptor... Yama Noguchi who designed the... for Ruth Page's new ballet... 'The Bells' which the Ballet...

First Aid... Mr. Isamu Niede is assistant to... medical director of the three... hospitals operated by the Hud-... Motor Company in Detroit...

Marathon... Although he placed ninth in the... Dipsea marathon at Mill... ey, Calif., on Sept. 9, Takeo...

Player... Robert Kinoshita appears as a... Japanese butler in a revival of... the mystery thriller, 'The Bat,'...

Washington News-Letter
Dillon Myer Commends JACL
For Activities During Wartime

By JOHN KITASAKO
When Dillon S. Myer stood up to speak at the inaugural... banquet of the Washington chapter of the Japanese American... Citizens League last Sunday, he confessed that he had not...

But speaking to a JACL audience posed no problem to the... stalwart warrior of the days of the WRA. He is thoroughly... familiar with the work of the JA-... CL during the war years and after...

Mr. Myer recalled the hardships... which the JACL faced during the... war when its prestige was at a... low ebb, when it was the popular...

He was referring specifically to... the JACL decision to cooperate... with the government in the evacu-... ation after all efforts to prevent...

Mr. Myer praised the JACL... for the support it accorded him... as director of the WRA. 'We... didn't see eye to eye on every...

Mr. Myer then turned to the... present. 'Those who are in the... JACL movement may feel at times...

He declared that the most sig-... nificant development in the past... four years to the Nisei and to... America was the fact that the JA-... CL went on record urging the res-... toration of selective service for...

Mr. Myer praised the JACL... for the support it accorded him... as director of the WRA. 'We... didn't see eye to eye on every...

Mr. Myer then turned to the... present. 'Those who are in the... JACL movement may feel at times...

'The JACL has a definite con-... tribution to make, internationally... nationally, and locally. I want...

'Since all of you have known... at first hand what discrimina-... tion really is and since you know...

Army during the war, the majority... now have received their discharges... on the basis of the point system...

that his own personal fight for... the Nisei was not over. 'It is not... my business as a government offi-... cial to push legislation. But as...

Concluding, Mr. Myer said, 'I... wish I could suggest what you can... do in your program. But I won't...

As a climax to the banquet, Jun... Okazaki, president of the local... chapter, presented Mr. Myer with...

of appreciation for the services he... rendered as director of the WRA.

One Nisei's Plaint:
'I'M TIRED OF BEING
A GUINEA PIG'

I'm an average Nisei.
Time was, before the war, when I'd wake up in the morning... and look into the mirror to see if my eyes were bloodshot or...

Time was, again before the war, when I went my happy and... unconscious way to school, to work, to the movies and the bowl-... ing alleys.

For four years I've been—not... myself, an individual with God-... given traits and man-made sur-... roundings—but a Nisei, and as...

I've been probed and dissected... and discussed and directed till I... am but a shell of flesh surround-... ing a well-nurtured inferiority...

I know all the questions now, and their answers, too:
What am I? A Nisei.
Where do I live? In Little To-kyo.

Personality? Stoic. With an in-... feriority complex.
Special tendencies? To congre-... gate in segregated groups.

Special needs? Assimilation.
Special hates? Race-baiters.
Complexes? Of inferiority.

Strongest influences: family... domination.
Corrective measures? Dispersal... throughout the country.

Greatest barrier? Language.
Strongest ties? To parents. (Or... filial piety.)
Service connections? Sixteen... relatives in the 442nd.

Yes, that language barrier sure... was tough in my childhood. But... Mama and Papa came through... nobly. They learned to speak...

The trouble with Mama, of... course, was that she never could... become thoroughly Americanized. She did, of course, have a passion...

From the Frying Pan
By BILL HOSOKAWA

Mike Becomes a Full-Fledged Schoolboy
Denver, Colo.

'School,' said our 6-year-old, 'wasn't hard. It wasn't hard... at all.'

Somewhere along the little boy grapevine he got the idea... it was a terrifically big jump from kindergartener to being a... first-grader. And he was relieved that it wasn't such a leap...

The 6-year-old became a full-fledged schoolboy this week... after a year as a despised kindergartener. There was a three-... week delay due to the polio epi-... demic and some of the edge was...

He isn't quite so excited about... the prospect of school now as... when he was a 4-year-old waiting... to turn 5. But perhaps it is just...

First it was the rest periods... he didn't like. They made every-... one relax for 10 or 15 minutes... during the morning. That meant...

No, he was too eager to be up... and drinking in all the wonders... of the kindergartener's world. There was too much to be done...

It was the beginning of a social... and self consciousness. Some of... the other children could lace and... tie their own shoes. He could lace...

'What did you do on your first... day in the first grade,' we asked... him, trying to act fatherly.

'Well,' he replied, 'we drew... pictures. But we mostly, sat, and... I didn't like that. We had recess.'

'Do you have your own desks?'

'We sit at tables. Two of us at... each table.'

We sit here trying to recall our... first day of school. It was so long, long ago that the events of the... day itself have been forgotten. But...

We spoke scarcely a half dozen... words of English when we first... entered school. We had been reared...

And our parents, who were... acutely aware of the shortcomings... in their English pronunciation, had...

We have vague recollections of... sitting blankly in class and reacting... to instructions partly by intui-... tion, partly by copying the reac-... tions of the other pupils.

Any child, unless he is a brash, cocky youngster, is sure to feel shy when he is thrust suddenly among 30 or 40 strange young children.

But at least our youngsters has a working knowledge of his native tongue, and that, it seems, symbolizes the progress that Japanese Americans have made in the space of a single generation.

Right now, I'm awfully tired of being a guinea pig.—By A. A. N.

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(Ed. Note: Selden Menefee during the war devoted some of his columns in the Washington Post to the problems of the Nisei and was responsible for some of the outstanding editorials in the Post on the Nisei. He is associate director of the NBC University of the Air, Washington correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor, columnist for a chain of New England newspapers, and a feature writer for the Overseas News Agency. On the East coast he is considered one of the outstanding authorities on the Far East. He is chairman of the Washington council of the East and West Association.)

By SELDEN MENEFEE
(Copyright 1946, Overseas News Agency, Inc.)
While General MacArthur is attacking Communism and claiming to be the defender of democracy in Japan, American prestige in Japan and the Far East is being undermined by the shabby treatment accorded Japanese in the United States.

The complete evacuation of all Japanese from the West Coast during the early part of the war, which was later declared unconstitutional, resulted in many families losing everything they had through forced sales. Yet the Interior Department's measure to create an Evacuation Claims Commission, which passed the Senate unanimously, was killed in the House by the objection of one Congressman—Clair Engle of California. No indemnities for hardship cases are in sight.

As a result, hundreds of Japanese, many of them American citizens, are now on relief, unable to get their property back, or to get jobs because of racial discrimination. In prewar days the Japanese were proud of their record in staying off relief; they were able to take care of their own.

Young Japanese-Americans are especially bitter because they feel their war record should entitle them to better treatment. These Nisei, many of them survivors of the famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team which distinguished itself repeatedly in Italy and on the Western front, came back expecting to get a break on the home front. Their loyalty and bravery were applauded by high American officials from President Truman on down; but they are not getting the breaks they deserve.

Ex-Sergeant George Otsuka of the 442nd, who earned four battle stars in Europe, recently tried to buy a farm in Texas. In a letter to the Houston Press he said,

"In looking for a farm I located one near Tomball, Texas. I had everything arranged and was about to move in when I was told to keep away or there would be trouble... The neighbors... don't want us around..."
"Is this our answer for rescuing the 'Lost Battalion' of your proud 36th (Texas) Division in the Vosges Mountains of France? Is this your answer for the terrific casualties we suffered to rescue those men of the 36th? Is this your answer to my buddies who will never come back?"

The situation is worst in California, where land held by Japanese-Americans is being taken away from them by the State, under the provisions of the California anti-Alien land law. About a million dollars' worth of land is involved in some 50 escheat cases.

Persons now operating this land have every incentive to bring cases against returning Japanese, since they get the first opportunity to buy the land if it is escheated. All they have to do is allege that the real owners of the land are the Japanese-born parents of the legal owner and that the law is thereby being evaded, and the land is theirs.

Not satisfied with this, anti-Japanese forces have placed on the California ballot for next November a measure to tighten the anti-alien land law. And the State legislature has appropriated \$200,000 to investigate Japanese land ownership in California.

The land law itself is now directed mainly against Japanese, since during the war Chinese, Fili-

pinos and Indians were specifically excluded from the ban on immigration and naturalization. Japanese-born persons are thus the only sizeable group which remains excluded on a racial basis. This fact is well known in Japan.

Another discriminatory law is the California anti-alien fishing law, passed during wartime, under which approximately 250 Japanese-born fishermen have been unable to return to their pre-evacuation jobs. Again, the law applies only to "aliens ineligible for citizenship," which, in effect, means Japanese.

Such hangovers from wartime intolerance stem not only from economic interests which stand to gain by the continued exclusion of the Japanese, but from public ignorance. A recent poll by the National Opinion Research Center in Denver showed that full two-thirds of the American people still believe that Japanese committed sabotage during the war. The figure rises to 74 percent on the West Coast, where rumors were particularly rampant during wartime. The fact is, not one such case was discovered either in Hawaii or on the mainland.

Despite this lack of knowledge, however, two-thirds of those Americans with opinions thought that the average Japanese in America was loyal to the government, and that he should be allowed to become a citizen if he was not born here.

Outstanding among the Nisei war heroes is Ben Kuroki, the Nebraska boy who survived 58 missions over Europe and Japan as

Washington Newsletter
Dillon Myer's Talk

(Continued from page 5)
YWCA USO division, and the Nelsen Schlegel, chairman Washington Citizens Committee Yurino Takayoshi, eastern representative in New York, stalled the following officers: Okazaki, president; Kenko Nagaoka, 1st vice president; Mrs. G. Shimasaki, 2nd vice president; Susie Tsuda, rec. secty.; Mrs. Y. Hino, corr. secty.; Harold Hachi, treasurer; John Kitano, board delegate.

CAPITAL NOTES

Supreme Court Justice Harlan Burton and Mrs. Burton were visitors at the Nisei-USO last week. Justice Burton was the speaker at the banquet celebrating the anniversary of the YWCA... Leland Barrows, at one time chief of administrative services WRA, has transferred from the office of Dillon Myer... Philip Glick, former WRA solicitor, is also with former boss as solicitor of FPPA.

The Washington Council of East and West Association Ben Kuroki as the speaker at the Nov. 26 Nisei Night, and Matsumoto as the speaker for pan Night sometime in January... Barry Tsuda recently won grand prize in the Glover district home gardens contest, well as winning prizes in other visions.

a gunner in flying fortresses is now in Washington on what calls his "59th mission"—the fight against racial intolerance. He taken a post as local executive secretary of the East and West Association, which was founded Pearl Buck to promote international understanding.

"The record we made in combat during the war helped a lot," the young Nisei told me. "On the West Coast, my people are still worse off than before the war."

"One thing we have learned: attack on one minority group is attack on all minority groups, that means an attack on the American people. So some of us are going to do our best to end discrimination wherever it arises."

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### Early Ruling Seen in New Escheat Case

LOS ANGELES—Judge Alfred S. Messa has indicated that he will give an early ruling on the appeal of California's escheat case against Yonemasa Muramatsu of Los Angeles county. The State is seeking to confiscate property allegedly controlled by Muramatsu in violation of the Alien Land law. L. Wirin, attorney for Muramatsu, last week entered a plea that the Alien Land law be declared unconstitutional and submitted the briefs which have been filed with the California Supreme Court in the Oyama test case to Judge Paonessa.

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### New York Bussei Hold Autumn Ball

NEW YORK CITY—Over 400 persons attended the Annual Autumn ball of the New York YBA on Sept. 14. Committee chairman Kenny Yasuda was in charge of the affair, which was a benefit to raise funds for the EYBL magazine, "Nirvana," which is scheduled for November publication.

Patrons and patronesses for the evening were the Rev. and Mrs. Hozen Seki, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Okada and Mr. and Mrs. B. K. Takenaka.

Hanko Kusaba was the emcee.

### Women's Group Plans To Participate in New York Exposition

NEW YORK CITY—The Fujin Kai of the New York Buddhist church has received an invitation to participate in the 23rd Women's International Exposition to be held during the first week of November.

The Fujin Kai, under committee chairman Mrs. John M. Hanatani, plans an exhibit on ikebana, handicraft and literature.

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### Vital Statistics

#### BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Kazuo Taniguchi a boy on Sept. 12 in San Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kikuo Hiroshima a boy, Guy Kazuo, on Sept. 17 in San Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Kawano of Loomis, Calif., a boy on Sept. 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jim Fujioka a girl, Patricia Ann, on Aug. 16 in Loomis, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sansaku Sugiyama, 216 West Third North St., Salt Lake City, on Sept. 23.

To Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Sasaki of Walnut Grove, Calif., a girl on Sept. 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gunji Asahina, 435 East 7th South St., Salt Lake City, a boy on Sept. 26.

#### DEATHS

Kenosuke Inouye, 79, on Sept. 18 in San Jose, Calif.

Takeshi Shinno, 20, of Madera, Calif., on Sept. 13.

Wajiro Sumida, 64, 805 No. 6th Ave., Pocatello, Idaho, on September 20.

Jutaro Watanabe, 59, on Sept. 22 in Montebello, Calif.

Eitaro Hamasaki on Sept. 20 in Guadalupe, Calif.

Shirley Ann Matsumoto, infant, on Sept. 18 in Chicago.

King James Morino, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Kinji Morino, 1806 Sutter St., San Francisco, on September 16.

Tom Takaki, 37, 2529 Fulton St., Berkeley, on Sept. 18.

#### MARRIAGES

Aiko Tomiye to Mitsuo Usui on Sept. 8 in Los Angeles.

Shizuko Kawanami to Teruhide Naito on Sept. 15 in Los Angeles.

Hiroye Terasawa to Don Kaya, formerly of Los Angeles, on Sept. 7 in Chicago.

Yoshiye Kuramoto to Takashi Baba on Sept. 8 in Chicago.

Chieko Ihara, Whittier, Calif., to Susumi Yagi, Redondo Beach, Calif., on Sept. 7 in Chicago.

Tazuko Koyama to Yoshimitsu Nishimura, Brighton, Colo., on Sept. 17 in Denver.

Michiko Yamashita to Noboru Hino on Sept. 22 in Los Angeles.

Yoshiko Kuge to Morris Kutsu-ma on Sept. 14 in Denver.

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### Name Chairman for Winter League

CHICAGO — Fourteen bowling team captains recently elected Dr. Mas Sakada and George Yamasaki as co-chairmen for the winter league, believed to be the largest Nisei bowling league in the country.

Frank Kasuyama was elected treasurer.

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### Intermountain JACL Parley Plans Made

PARMA, Ida.—Tentative dates for the Intermountain District JACL convention, to be co-sponsored by the Snake River and the Boise Valley chapters, have been set for December 14, 15 and 16, it was announced this week.

Joe Saito of the Snake River JACL and Tom Takatori of the Boise Valley chapter have been named co-chairmen for the event.

Mrs. Etsu Nishioka was named chairman of the registration committee. The reception committee will be handled by Mrs. Alice Nishitani and Bette Arima.

Mamuro Wakasugi was appointed chairman of the general arrangements committee.

Other committee chairmen were named as follows:

Jimmy Watanabe, souvenirs; Mas Yano and George Hara, finance; Mary Ban, oratorical contest; Mun Iseri, official program; Mrs. Masako Sugai, Tom Nishitani and Tio Kiyokawa, social committee.

Henry Suyehira entertainment; Manabu Yamada, pictures; George Hashitani, transportation; Dan Sugai, housing; and Ted Takeshita, publicity.

### Snake River JACL

ONTARIO, Ore. — The Snake River chapter of the JACL held a general business meeting on Sept. 13 at the Women's club hall in Ontario.

Smith Morimoto was appointed chairman of the naturalization committee to secure information on application for first papers for Issei Japanese.

### SALT LAKE JACL HOLDS CARNIVAL, QUEEN CONTEST

A coronation ball honoring "Miss Nisei of Utah" will be the kick-off event in a three-day carnival to be held Oct. 4, 5 and 6 by the Salt Lake JACL, according to Tom Hoshiyama, general chairman.

The ball has been scheduled for the night of Oct. 4 and will be held at Spaulding hall, St Mark's church, 231 East 1st South street.

Several candidates for the title have been announced by club and business firms in the city.

Other features of the 3-day event will be a baby contest, a Japanese language movie and a talent show. Events will be held at the Christian Center and the Salt Lake Buddhist church. Seventeen booths for food and concessions will be constructed, it was announced.

### Returned Evacuees Operate Sixty Portland Hotels

PORTLAND, Ore.—The Oregon Journal reported this week that a survey it had conducted had disclosed that returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry are now operating approximately 60 hotels in the Portland area.

Before the evacuation 90 Portland hotels were operated by persons of Japanese ancestry.

### Nisei Woman

LOS ANGELES — Mrs. Celia Takemoto was featured recently at the meeting of a Bay Area women's group, speaking on the subject, "The Status of the Japanese American Women."

### Twin Cities Nisei to form JACL Chapter

#### Action Follows Talk By Masao Satow, Regional Representative

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Masao Satow, eastern representative of the JACL, addressed a group of 125 St. Paul and Minneapolis residents on Sept. 20 at the St. Paul International Institute on the subject "The Unfinished Job for Japanese Americans."

The gathering proposed and passed a motion to establish a chapter of the JACL in the Twin Cities area.

The meeting was sponsored by the Minneapolis Japanese American Service Committee, the Resettlement Committee of St. Paul, the St. Paul Council of Human Relations, the Twin Cities Buddhist group and the YWCA Fellowship group of Minneapolis.

### Masaoka, Tanabe Speak at Joint Meet in Guadalupe

GUADALUPE, Calif. — With Mike Masaoka and Eiji Tanabe of the National JACL as main speakers, the San Luis Obispo JACL and Nisei of Guadalupe on Sept. 20 sponsored a joint Issei-Nisei meeting at the Guadalupe Buddhist church.

Harold Shimizu presided at the meeting, which was attended by over 50 Issei and Nisei. Masaoka spoke on the legislative activities of the JACL and Eiji Tanabe discussed the same subject in Japanese.

Following the speeches, the Nisei present moved to add Santa Maria Valley to the ever-growing number of chapters in the Southern California area. Tanabe explained the steps by which chapters are reactivated.

Harold Shimizu was chosen temporary chairman of the organizing committee, which will petition the National JACL for chapter reactivation.

Others on the committee are Haru Sakaji, Ann Teraji, Takami Shigenaka, Mrs. Hina Shigenaka, Bill Kashiwagi, Masao Koshino, Hughes Maenaga, Masao Oyabu, Jun Miyoshi and Toki Tamaki.

Toki Tamaki was chosen temporary secretary.

### Housing Described as Main Problem of New York Resettlers

NEW YORK CITY—The first fall meeting of the executive committee of the Greater New York Committee for Japanese Americans, Inc., was called by Robert M. Benjamin, co-chairman, on Tuesday, September 17, at the Miyako restaurant.

Reporting on the work of the committee during the summer, Peter S. Aoki, executive director, announced that the greatest demands made on the committee in past months have been in regard to housing.

Increasing shortages have made it difficult to obtain housing even for single persons, Aoki said, and unless some relief is forthcoming persons will be forced to accept domestic employment to find housing.

Aoki also reported that in employment women have had no difficulty finding positions, whereas men have had a more difficult time. In addition to the fact there is a surplus of labor, Japanese American men are faced with additional handicaps such as the lack of adequate skills, employment background and language handicaps in some instances, Aoki said.

Finance co-chairmen Michael M. Nisselson and I. B. Sekine reported that the committee had received two substantial contributions, one for \$1400 from a benefit dance sponsored by a group of American artists headed by Yasuo Kuniyoshi, and another for \$1000 from John D. Rockefeller III.

Edward J. Ennis, former chief of the Enemy Alien Control unit of the Department of Justice, was elected a member to the executive committee to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. Edwin Igelhart, who left recently for Japan.

Others elected to the membership of the committee are Arthur Miritani, Nelson Englehard, John Dewey, Dr. Douglas Spence, Lucile Kohn, Walter Kruesi, Charles King, Robert Gwathmey, Merrill Jules, H. V. Kaltenborn, A. Philip Randolph, Edith M. Alexander and A. F. Thomas.

### Troth of Couple Told in Washington

WASHINGTON. — The engagement of Miss Hanako Tamura and Toro Hirose was announced Saturday. Miss Tamura, who is the daughter of Mr. S. Tamura of San Francisco, is employed as a teletypist in the War Department Pentagon Building, while Mr. Hirose, the son of Mrs. Yoshi Hirose of Washington, is with the Bryn Mawr S. Adams Printing Company. Hirose, whose pre-war home was in Los Angeles, is a veteran of the 44th Regimental Combat Team. The wedding is tentatively set for the latter part of October.

### Masaoka Speaks To Salinas Audience

SALINAS, Calif.—The Salinas chapter of the JACL sponsored a meeting to hear Mike Masaoka, national secretary of the JACL, Sept. 16 at the Salinas Japanese Presbyterian church.

Half of the audience were men for whom Masaoka's talk was interpreted by Duncan Ikezo, instructor at MISLS at the Presidio of Monterey.

### Okada Insurance, Orem Farmers Lead Salt Lake Bowling

Okada Insurance, champions of the Salt Lake summer league and the recent Denver tournament, was rated the favorite this week in the new Salt Lake JACL bowling league as they hit 2618 to defeat the Zephyrs, 4 to 0, in first round play at the Temple alleys.

The Orem Farmers, one of the new entries in the twelve-team league, made an auspicious debut by defeating Main Jewelry, 4 to 0. Yuki Dote's 245 for Orem was high game of the night.

Maki Kaizumi of Okada Insurance scored 212-183-222-617 for high series.

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