



California Voters Repudiate Alien Land Law

People's Mandate Has Upset 50 Years of Anti-Orientalism In California, Says Masaoka

LOS ANGELES—The people's mandate against Proposition 15 has upset more than 50 years of anti-Orientalism in California, Mike M. Masaoka, executive secretary of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee, declared this week.

"The unprecedented action of California voters in rejecting Proposition 15 may well presage a new era which will be free of discriminatory legislation for persons of Japanese ancestry, not only in California, but throughout the nation," Masaoka said.

Plan Conference On Civil Rights In California

Masaoka, Wirin Will Confer With JACL, CRDU Officials

LOS ANGELES—Mike Masaoka, national executive JACL secretary, and A. L. Wirin, legal counsel for the JACL, will confer with leaders of the Northern California JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee and the Civil Rights Defense Union in San Francisco over the weekend of Nov. 8-10 on the possibilities of developing a coordinated program of action for the entire state.

They will discuss the effect of the election returns on Japanese Americans in California and the course to be followed in the Oyama case, which was recently decided by the state supreme court.

With James Purcell, attorney for the Civil Rights Defense Union of northern California, Masaoka and Wirin will discuss the possibilities of requesting a rehearing by the California courts of the Oyama case or of appealing the case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

On Monday, November 11, Masaoka will report to Nisei and Issei leaders in southern California on the deliberations in the bay area.

Sixteen California Nisei Ask Reinstatement to State Posts

Japanese Americans Were Suspended on "Disloyalty" Charge

SACRAMENTO — Sixteen California state employees of Japanese ancestry, suspended from civil service positions because of their ancestry at the outset of the war, will submit their cases to the State Personnel Board this week.

Members of the group were included among approximately ninety Japanese Americans who were suspended in March, 1942, when they refused to resign from their positions for the duration of the war. Some 400 other Japanese Americans in the state's employ accepted wartime leaves of absence.

Dismissal proceedings were filed against members of the group and were based on blanket charges of "disloyalty." The group subsequently waived their claims for interim salaries and asked that their hearings be continued until after the war.

Reinstatement of the Nisei was recommended by Deputy Attorney General Wilmer Morse who declared that in view of the WRA and Army clearance given the suspended employees, charges against them are legally insufficient and are unsupported factually.

Canada Opens New Relocation Hostel In South Ontario

FINGAL, Ont.—A former air force station at Fingal in southern Ontario has been converted into a new relocation center for Japanese Canadian evacuees arriving from British Columbia centers for permanent relocation in eastern Canada.

PARENTS LEARN OF ARMY SON'S DEATH IN KOREA

LOS ANGELES—The death of Pfc. Takeshi Inouye, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Mitsuo Inouye, was reported to his parents last week by Col. W. G. Jones, commanding officer of the 32nd Infantry in Korea.

Col. Jones said that the Nisei soldier had died by drowning on Oct. 13 in the Imjin river near Korangpori, Korea. A funeral service was held on Oct. 21.

Nisei Unhurt In Collapse of Bridge in Utah

TREMONTON, Utah—Two Japanese Americans, riding in a passenger car over the 190-foot Tremonton-Deweyville bridge across the Bear river on Highway 102, were plunged into the river when the bridge collapsed on Nov. 8.

The two Nisei are Mich Sekigawa, 18, and Kano Sekigawa, 24. Neither was injured, however, managing to climb successfully out of the car and out of the shallow river.

The Nisei were in the car which was following a tandem trailer loaded with a tractor across the bridge. The passenger car was unable to stop and plunged into the river.

The falling steel girders of the bridge crushed in the top of the car containing the Japanese Americans and broke some windows. The Bear river at this point is very shallow and they were able to get out of their car and wade ashore.

Jedd Abbott, driver of the truck and trailer, also was uninjured.

William Kent of AVC To Speak to Nisei On Status of Veterans

LOS ANGELES—William Kent, chairman of the Los Angeles AVC committee on intercultural relations, will be the main speaker at the second of the "College of Life" programs to be held at the Los Angeles Union church on Sunday, Nov. 10, at 3:30 p. m.

Mr. Kent's subject will be "Nisei: Analyzing his Present Status."

Dr. Stewart G. Cole, director of the West Coast Bureau of Intercultural Education, spoke at the first session of the Union church series on Nov. 3.

Other speakers listed for future dates are Dr. Allan Hunter, minister of the Mount Hollywood Congregational church; Mary Oyama Mittler, Nisei writer; and Dr. O. D. Richardson, professor of English at City college, Los Angeles.

The series is under the direction of the Rev. Arnold Nakajima, assisted by Ernest Uno.

District Council Schedules Meeting In Boise, Weiser

ONTARIO, Ore. — A tentative three-day program for the December meeting of the JACL Intermountain District Council was released this week by Beulah Shigeno, convention secretary.

The convention, co-sponsored by the Snake River and Boise chapters of the JACL, will be held in Weiser, Idaho, on December 14, and in Boise on December 15 and 16.

Special events will include a handicap bowling tournament, oratorical contest and a convention ball.

The convention banquet will be held in the Crystal room of the Hotel Boise, official headquarters for the convention in Boise.

Convention headquarters in Weiser will be in the Washington hotel.

Report Proposition 15 Beaten By 250 Thousand Plurality As FEPC Initiative Defeated

By LARRY TAJIRI

The people of California defeated Proposition 15, the proposed validation of legislative amendments to the Alien Land Law, at the polls last Tuesday by a smashing majority which is expected to total more than 250,000 when all returns are counted.

With 11,714 of California's 15,296 precincts reporting, the vote on Proposition 15 was: Yes, 597,653; No, 820,833.

The result of the voting on Proposition 15 was a bright spot in an otherwise drab election day for progressive Californians. Proposition 11, the initiative proposal to create a Fair Employment Practices Commission in California, was crushed by a 3 to 1 margin. Liberal Congressmen who had fought for the right of minority groups to equal treatment were swept out of office.

The defeat of Proposition 15 is considered significant because the supporters of the proposal, including the Joint Immigration Committee, California Preservation Association, State Chamber of Commerce and the Native Sons of the Golden West, had made it a race issue directed against returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry. State Senators Jack B. Tenney and Hugh Burns, sponsors of the legislative initiative, had stressed that the issue involved persons of Japanese ancestry.

Proposition 15 was presented by its supporters as "anti-Japanese" legislation.

It has been defeated by a better than 4 to 3 margin.

In 1920 the Alien Land Law itself was passed at the general elections by a vote of 660,000 to 22,000 a margin of 30 to 1. The vote last week in California is considered a repudiation of the Alien Land Law itself.

The vote against Proposition 15, which sought the validation of the 1923 and 1943 amendments to the Alien Land Law, passed by the legislature in an effort to strengthen the restrictive act, (Continued on page 2)

CALIFORNIA				
COUNTIES	Total Precincts	Precincts Reporting	YES	NO
Alameda	1,512	1,234	56,233	86,039
Alpine*	5	5	14	22
Amador	25			
Butte	132	110	3,553	3,741
Calaveras*	34	34	701	1,090
Colusa	27	3	33	43
Contra Costa	289	267	13,764	18,563
Del Norte	21			
El Dorado	44	37	1,438	944
Fresno	264	239	17,130	11,520
Glenn*	34	34	1,292	1,067
Humboldt	124	122	4,253	4,447
Imperial*	85	85	2,643	2,848
Inyo	31	30	610	863
Kern*	320	320	11,247	11,308
Kings*	65	65	2,661	2,767
Lake	32			
Lassen	46	29	595	572
Los Angeles	5,816	4,034	189,523	364,574
Madera*	46	46	2,117	1,638
Marin*	145	145	6,064	8,903
Mariposa*	20	20	451	394
Mendocino	87	7	172	169
Merced	83	4	62	32
Modoc	23	6	266	293
Mono*	7	7	106	118
Monterey*	133	133	7,205	8,478
Napa	62			
Nevada	42	37	1,632	2,012
Orange	276	259	14,369	22,580
Placer	65			
Plumas	30			
Riverside	177	174	9,695	14,419
Sacramento	330	326	30,430	15,183
San Benito*	29	29	911	1,545
San Bernardino	360	315	18,069	20,132
San Diego	780	711	48,269	37,977
San Francisco*	1,197	1,197	71,744	107,526
San Joaquin*	268	268	10,103	20,152
San Luis Obispo*	90	90	4,015	4,337
San Mateo	331	81	313	627
Santa Barbara*	132	132	6,835	9,167
Santa Clara*	396	396	25,029	24,434
Santa Cruz	110	34	1,235	2,006
Shasta	63	51	2,070	2,191
Sierra	13	4	110	93
Siskiyou	76			
Solano	143			
Sonoma	181	9	182	349
Stanislaus*	146	146	10,247	6,746
Sutter*	39	39	1,787	1,562
Tehama*	55	55	1,580	1,235
Trinity*	22	22	524	430
Tuolumne*	47	47	1,155	586
Tulare	154	151	9,663	8,081
Ventura	142			
Yolo*	52	52	3,065	2,677
Yuba*	38	38	1,624	1,617
	15,296	11,714	597,653	820,833

*Complete returns

Election Significance: Defeat of Proposition 15 Shows Opposition of Voters To Race-Baiting Legislation

By SABURO KIDO

The election returns from California indicate that Proposition 15 which was intended to write the Alien Land Law amendments into the State Constitution has been defeated overwhelmingly. It had been conceded by all parties that the passage or defeat of the constitutional amendment would not have changed the laws as they stand upon the statute books today. Consequently, the significance of the defeat of the measure lies in the implications to be read into the results as the mandate of the voters of California.

Of paramount importance is the opposition of the people of California to such race legislation which singles out one group of residents for discriminatory treatment based upon their being "ineligible to citizenship." The election results definitely point to the fact that the attitude of the voters has progressed from the anti-Orientalism of the 1920s to that of according equal and fair treatment to all.

This in itself is a promising sign for the future of race relations in California. When the Alien Land Law of 1920 was submitted to the vote of the people as an initiative measure, it was passed by the margin of 668,438 to 22,086. The arguments which swayed the voters were that the Japanese population was increasing by leaps and bounds; that the best lands were being controlled by the alien Japanese; and that "once a Jap, always a Jap." The continual propaganda in all the newspapers made the "Japanese menace" seem real.

World War II gave the decisive answer. The loyalty of the Japanese Americans together with the contributions of the alien Japanese towards the war effort of this country established the fact that Americanism is not a matter of race or blood ties, but of the heart and mind. The Exclusion Law of 1924 had stopped further immigration and the Japanese American birth rate had followed the trend of every immigrant group, a gradual decrease with the passage of years.

Thus, in many respects the Alien Land Law had become a dead letter. The alien Japanese who had been active in agriculture were retiring and giving their place to the younger generation who were American citizens. The lack of interest in the enforcement of the law was the tacit acknowledgement of this fact.

It was only the hysteria of the war with Japan and the fomenting of race feeling that forced a new drive to use the Alien Land Law against persons of Japanese ancestry.

The second important implication of the decisive defeat of Proposition 15 is the mandate from the people to the public officials to exercise judicial prudence in their investigations and filing of escheat proceedings. In other words, the Alien Land Law is not to be used as a means of legal persecution.

There was little doubt that pressure had been exerted upon the Attorney General's office and upon the district attorneys of the various counties. The voting of the \$200,000 by the State Legislature in 1945 for investigative purposes, and the passage of a law to divide the income from the sales of escheated land equally between the state and the county wherein the real property was located, had to be respected by the law enforcement agencies. Until the people of California spoke at the polls, the legislature's actions had to be accepted as the mandate of the people.

The third point of significance in the overwhelming defeat of Proposition 15 will be the mandate of the people to respect the property rights of American citizens. The Supreme Court of California in the past has held in two cases, the Yano guardianship case decided in 1922 and the Fujita escheat case in 1932, that "alien ineligible to citizenship" parents may give money to their citizen minor children to purchase real property and that the purchase of such property in the name of the minor children was not illegal even though the parents "confessedly" had bought the land in the minor's name because they themselves could not do so. Furthermore, the Supreme Court had held that even a minor of tender years can accept a gift of real property from his parents who may be "aliens ineligible to citizenship;" that the law presum-

ed an acceptance if the gift was beneficial to the minor; and that the recordation of the deed constituted sufficient delivery.

In the more than 60 escheat proceedings filed by the State of California during the past year, in the large majority of cases, the title is in the name of the children of the alien Japanese.

The mandate of the people can be construed to mean that the same right should be accorded to citizens of Japanese ancestry as any other citizen; and the same principle of law, that the benefit of doubt should be for the defendant, should be applied in these escheat proceedings.

Most of the suspicion upon which the escheat proceedings have been filed has been based upon the fact that the parents remained on the land and cultivated and managed the operations. In the Yano case, the Supreme Court held that once the title was vested in the minor citizen, the parents could not effect the ownership without the approval of the court since the minor was a ward of the state. In the Harada escheat case, one of the first proceedings in California, the judge stated that what was more natural than the fact that the parents would make the real property their domicile together with their children. And in a recent superior court proceeding, the judge stated that as long as the parents were going to work on the land, he was confident that the management would be in good hands.

The public policy of any state is to encourage gifts from the parents to their children. And the California laws provide for the legal responsibility of the children for the support and maintenance of the aged parents. If so then gifts from "aliens ineligible to citizenship" to their children should be placed on the same plane as that of any other group.

The legal implications of the "No" votes in connection with Proposition 15 mean that the people of California desire its public officials to extend fair and equal treatment to citizens of Japanese ancestry.

Of far greater significance is the desire of the voters to discourage the use of existing laws for racebaiting purposes.

There is no doubt that the defeat of Proposition 15 heralds a new chapter in the attitude towards the persons of Japanese ancestry in California.

And since California has been the standard bearer for anti-Oriental legislation it will have its repercussions in the neighboring states and throughout the nation.

Stranded Nisei Refused to Give Up U. S. Citizenship

SACRAMENTO — George Tanbara, who was stranded in Japan by the outbreak of war in 1941, returned to his home in Sacramento recently.

Believed to be the first stranded Nisei to return to Sacramento from Japan, Tanbara reported he had been forced to suffer "indignities" during the war because he refused to renounce his American citizenship.

Following the landing of American occupation troops, he was employed as a translator and interpreter in General MacArthur's headquarters. He may return to Japan shortly as a U. S. government civil service worker.

Hirose Captures Egypt Swim Crown

CAIRO, Egypt.—Takashi Hirose, member of the Ohio State university's swimming team, won the 100-meter free-style event in Egypt's international championships on Nov. 3.

Hirose's time was 59.3s.

New York Group Gives Fund for Relief to Japan

Money Donated by
Community Group to
Friends Society

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The New York Japanese American Committee for Japan Relief, Inc., has donated \$25,000 to the American Friends Service Committee to aid its relief program in Japan, the AFSC announced this week.

The sum was collected through a six-week campaign of individual solicitation among the 3,000 to 4,000 Japanese Americans in New York.

Mr. Sekiji Yasui, president of the New York committee, presented the donation to Edward Peacock of the Friends.

Clothing, Shoes Sent By Canada Evacuees For Relief in Japan

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — The Tashme relocation center, Japanese Canadian internment camp in British Columbia, collected 31 bales of clothing and six boxes of shoes for the American Friends Service Committee relief program in Japan, the AFSC announced this week in Philadelphia.

The clothing and shoes, valued at \$2,855, were collected by the high school students of the center. The clothing was baled by a Vancouver firm and is awaiting authorization for shipment to Japan.

The collection was made, at considerable sacrifice on the part of the internees, shortly before the camp was closed, the AFSC said.

JACL Representative To Participate in Panel Discussion

LOS ANGELES — Eiji Tanabe, JACL representative in Los Angeles, will participate in a panel discussion on minority problems at the regional conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation Nov. 9 at Chapman college.

Tanabe will discuss the results of the November election in relation to persons of Japanese ancestry and will also speak on problems concerning Nisei in southern California.

California Voters Repudiate Alien Land Law Proposal

(Continued from page 1)

was heaviest in the urban areas where the JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee, Inc., had led the fight. Los Angeles county, with a third of the state's population, defeated it nearly 2 to 1 with a vote of 364,574 to 189,523 on incomplete returns. In San Francisco and Alameda counties, both mainly urban and industrial, the story was the same.

San Joaquin county, which includes the city of Stockton, defeated it 2 to 1, by a vote of 20,152 to 10,103. The Stockton Record, the city's only daily paper, had urged strongly that the measure be defeated but elsewhere in the central California valleys, particularly in the orbits of the three McClatchy newspapers, the Sacramento Bee, Fresno Bee and Modesto Bee, which had supported Proposition 15, the story was a different one. Sacramento, Fresno and Stanislaus counties, where the Bee papers wield a strong influence, all recorded heavy majorities in favor of the "anti-Japanese" proposal.

In the major urban areas Proposition 15 had the opposition of the CIO-PAC, AFL and Railway Brotherhood groups, the American Veterans Committee and Amvets, and various church and civil liberty groups.

With the exception of the McClatchy papers and the Sacramento Union and the Oakland Tribune, the majority of California's press opposed the measure, the first time in the state's political history that there has been so much opposition to an "anti-Japanese" proposal.

In the final weeks of the campaign, the JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee distributed more than 250,000 pieces of literature against Proposition 15 and utilized radio and newspaper advertising.

The fight against Proposition 15 also was conducted on a state-wide basis by the Citizens Committee Against Proposition 15, composed of leading educators, religious leaders and business and professional men.

The result was the resounding repudiation of legislative racism in California.

Counties in which the majority of the voters opposed Proposition 15 included Alameda, Alpine, Butte, Calaveras, Humboldt, Imperial, Kings, Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Modoc, Mono, Monterey, Nevada, Orange, Riverside, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Shasta.

Strongest support of the Alien Land Law amendments was recorded in El Dorado, Fresno, Madera, Sacramento, San Diego, Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Yolo counties.

Washington News-Letter Ingrid Bergman Denounces Jim Crow in Washington

By JOHN KITASAKO

Jim Crowism has existed in the nation's capital since its early days, but many of its residents, while deploring the policies which bar Negroes from theaters and restaurants, sit back and gradually begin to accept it as a matter of course.

Occasionally, however, some forthright individual comes along and lashes out at Jim Crow, and Washingtonians are jolted into a state of embarrassment. Some time ago, Clare Boothe Luce, the hard-hitting representative from Connecticut, took a healthy sock

at Washington's discriminatory regulations. Her take-off on Jim Crow was inspired by the refusal of the Daughters of the American Revolution to permit pianist Hazel Scott, colored exponent of boogie woogie, to perform in DAR-owned Constitution Hall.

Last week, another noted figure, none other than the incomparable Swedish actress, Ingrid Bergman, let loose with an assault on Washington Jim Crow. When Miss Bergman arrived last week to open the pre-Broadway run of "Joan of Lorraine" at the Lisner Auditorium at George Washington University, she learned for the first time that Negroes were to be barred from her performance.

Miss Bergman was furious. But there was nothing she could do about it; her contract called for a 3-week stay and she was stuck with it. But she did manage to let the school and the public know how she felt about it. To the gentry of the press, she declared that had she known beforehand that Negroes were not to be allowed in the school auditorium, she would have refused to open the play in Washington.

The theater, entertainment, and the arts should be for all people, she said, and it was incredible to her that Washington, the great capital of the world, was so small in the ways of human relationships. Obviously Miss Bergman still has a lot to learn about America.

The play, a sell-out weeks in advance of its opening, is a tremendous hit, but George Washington University finds little solace in that. The red-faced school authorities are squirming in their academic chairs, wishing they had never even heard of Miss Bergman.

Miss Bergman's outspoken blast at the school's action has produced some immediate benefits to the whole cause of racial equality. The

entire cast of the play has backed its star and has vowed never to appear again before an audience from which Negroes are barred.

The public and the press censured the school for conforming to Washington's no-Negro theatrical pattern and for debasing the very principles of American democracy it professes to teach.

Of greater significance are the proposals by two of America's leading playwrights. Maxwell, author of the play, said he will seek a ruling from the Dramatists Guild to prevent the presentation of plays by any member of the guild in any theater where discrimination exists on "either side of the footlights."

Playwright Robert Sherwood, in a widely circulated letter to the press, urged all actors, playwrights, and producers to keep productions out of Washington theaters until Negroes are able to view them on an equal footing.

Billy Rose is already one jump ahead of his fellow-producers. He recently cancelled his production of "Carmen Jones" at Uline Arena, Washington's equivalent to Madison Square Garden, when he learned no tickets were to be sold to Negroes.

Thus it appears that if this policy gains momentum among theatrical people and develops into a tight-bound boycott, inroads may be made into Washington's scandalous Jim Crow. In a sense, the theater would be the logical starting point through which a wedge could be driven into the capital's color restrictions. Its people are dedicated to the freedom of the arts, and they more than any other group can be counted on to remain steadfast in their course of action.

The success of this campaign may not be immediate. Changes in race relations do not come overnight. It is unfortunate that silly racial restrictions are made, yet on the other hand because they are the product of man's adolescent notions on color distinctions, there is hope that changes can be effected.

Recently when Nibonu Ojike, famous colored speaker of Pearl Buck's East and West Association, came to Washington to deliver a talk on Africa, he had a pretty good sampling of Washington's discrimination against the Negro. Ben Kuroki, who was executive secretary of Washington's East and West, took Ojike around to the various newspaper offices for interviews.

Not a single newspaper, however, carried the announcement that Ojike was to speak. Consequently when Ojike appeared at the Department of the Interior auditorium, only about 150 people, who had learned of the program by word of mouth, comprised the audience. Had the press not sat on the story, probably 500 to 700 persons would have attended to hear the outstanding Negro speaker.

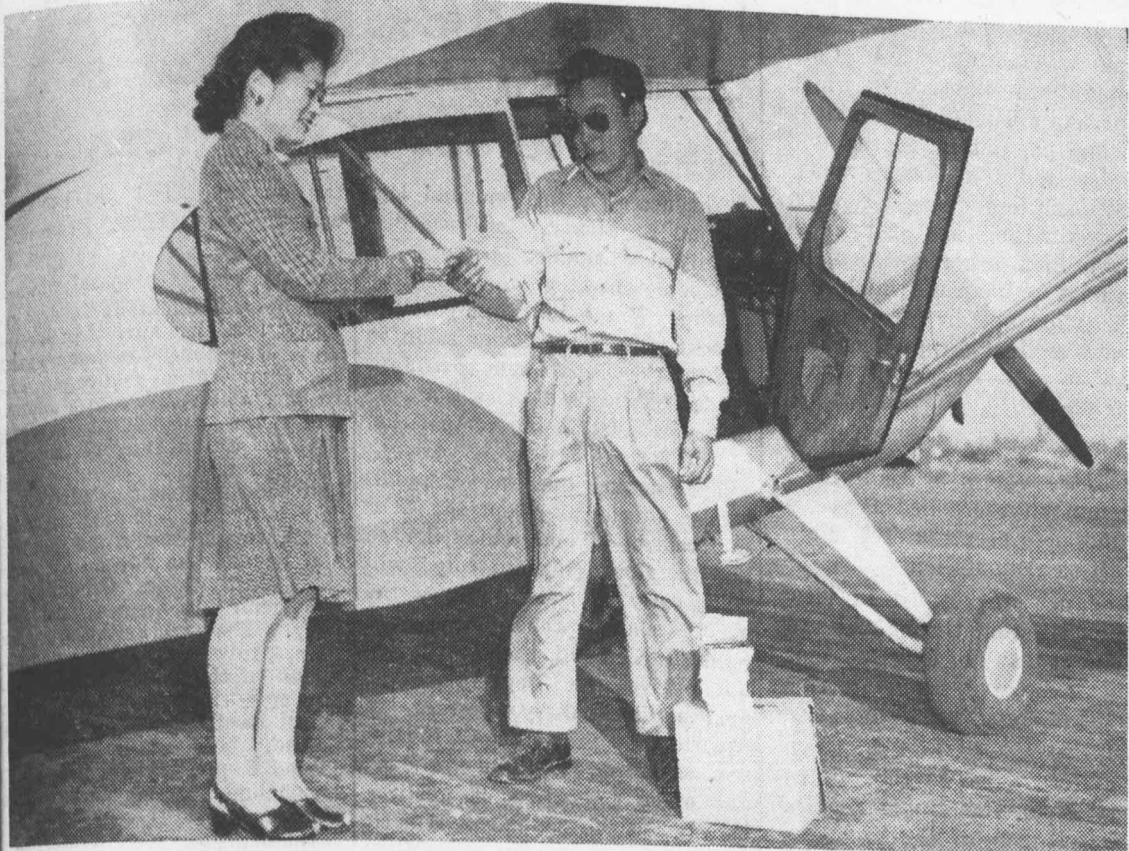
During his stay in Washington, Ojike once sat down with Ben at a counter in People's Drugstore, Washington's biggest drug chain. The clerk refused to serve Ojike, whereupon Ojike impishly asked the clerk that if it was a people's drug store why couldn't he be served. The clerk shrugged his shoulders and walked off.

That was not the first brush Ojike had with Jim Crow in Washington. Some years ago he was invited to a White House tea along with youths of 50 other nations. Ojike shook hands with President Roosevelt, chatted with him, and sipped tea with him.

Later, on his way home, Ojike stopped in at a drugstore and ordered a milkshake. The clerk put it in a paper container. Ojike paid the clerk and sat down, opened the container and proceeded to drink. The clerk stopped him immediately. "You can't drink it here," he said. "You have to take it outside." Ojike walked out leaving the milkshake standing on the counter.

It was just a bit too much for him. He could drink tea with the Chief Executive of the nation, but he couldn't drink a milkshake in a drugstore with ordinary folk.

Pamphlets Flown to Voters by Nisei



LOS ANGELES—In the final days of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee campaign to defeat Proposition No. 15, every means was used to deliver the committee's information leaflet urging a "NO" vote on the proposition. Here

Mrs. Mike Masaoka, volunteer worker, is delivering the leaflets to pilot Tom Enomoto, who flew from Santa Ana to have the leaflets in time for a last minute election rally.

—Photo by Toyo Miyatake.

Coercion Charged in Test Case Filed to Cancel Renunciation Of Citizenship by Three Nisei

Petitioners Were Below Legal Age at Time They Rejected Rights

LOS ANGELES — Three Japanese Americans who claimed they were acting under coercion in renouncing their citizenship while still below the legal age of 18, filed suit in the Federal District court at Los Angeles this week to regain their American citizenship. One of the plaintiffs, Albert Inouye, is in the U. S. Army and has reported for overseas duty. He volunteered for service.

The suit in their behalf was filed by A. L. Wirin and Fred Okada for the national office of the American Civil Liberties Union and is countersigned by Arthur Hays and Osmond K. Frankel of New York City, national counsel for the ACLU.

Albert Inouye, according to the complaint filed this week, was born in California and was active in the YMCA, the Christian church and school athletics prior to the evacuation. His participation in drives for infantile paralysis and tuberculosis funds was noted, as well as his savings in war bonds. While at the Manzanar relocation center he was active in the American Red Cross project and the USO.

After his renunciation at the age of 17 he was given a hearing before the Department of Justice and was released after proof of loyalty, the complaint states. Following his release he volunteered for service with the U. S. Army.

The other plaintiffs were named as Rose Tsuneko and Martha Takako Katayama, sisters. In charge they were under 18 when they announced their citizenship.

All the plaintiffs claim that they acted under coercion and that their renunciation of American citizenship was not voluntary.

Results of the suit will affect approximately 4000 American-born renunciants formerly at the Lake, Calif., center, 400 of whom are still in detention at Crystal City, Texas.

JACL Members Attend Civic Unity Meet Held in Portland

PORTLAND, Ore. — Ten members of the JACL attended sessions of the Civic Unity conference held Oct. 25 and 26 at the Mason high school auditorium.

Mike Masaoka, national executive secretary of the JACL, was the guest speaker with Dr. Melville on the Saturday evening session. Masaoka's subject was "Civic Unity in Our Time."

Large Crowd Attends Hallowe'en Carnival Of Denver JACL

DENVER, Colo. — Hundreds of Denverites attended the JACL Hallowe'en carnival held here on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at the People's Tabernacle hall.

Feature of the carnival was a queen contest, with the public purchasing votes for one cent each. Winner in the JACL division was Mrs. Merijane Yokoe, followed by True Shibata and Atsu Ito. Other contestants were Amy Watanabe and Rosa Higashi.

Queen of the Nisei Women's Athletic Association section was Masako Murata. Sets Maeda was second and Nobu Umekubo third. Others participating were Himi Mayemura, Jean Orita and Chiz Okuno.

The queens were crowned during the prize drawings the night of Nov. 1.

Cakes donated by members of the Corneliens' club, a group of Nisei matrons, brought as much as \$14 each in an auction sale.

Women's Club Holds Hallowe'en Social

CHICAGO — A Hallowe'en party was given by the Japanese American Women's club of Chicago for members and their guests at the Westside YWCA on Oct. 26.

Sumi Kawasaki, Ruth Saika, Yoshiko Oshita, Mrs. T. Mukoyama and Mrs. J. Mukoyama were in charge of the evening's entertainment, which included games, refreshments and dancing.

Nisei Crew Receives Record Price for Fish from Cannery

MONTEREY, Calif. — Captain Frank Manaka of the seiner Western Sky, one of the first Nisei fishermen to return to his occupation as a commercial fisherman, reported last week that he and his Nisei crew had received \$60 a ton, an all-time high, for their catch of 160 to 200 tons, which was sold to the Enterprise Canning company.

Manaka said that his crew had taken the fish in Southern California waters.

Manaka's seiner is one of the largest and most modern craft operating out of Monterey harbor. It carries a crew of 11 and has a capacity of 300 tons of fish.

Members of Manaka's crew include Nisei veterans of the famous 442nd Combat Team.

Nisei Fellowship Sets New Policy

CLEVELAND, O. — The Nisei Christian Fellowship of Cleveland, Ohio, in a move to erase racial barriers, last week took action to meet and work jointly with the Youth Fellowship of the First Methodist church.

Dr. Knickrehm, minister to the First church group, began a series of discussions on Oct. 24 on the theme, "Making Religion Work in Everyday Life."

The evening worship, held in the sanctuary, is to be conducted alternately by ministers of both groups, the Rev. Victor Fujii, minister to the Nisei Fellowship, delivered the initial devotional Oct. 24.

A supper at 6 with a social to end the evening will be part of the new program.

Stranded Nisei Persecuted By Japanese, Says Returnee

A six-year war-enforced absence ended this week for Clara Iwamoto, 25, who rejoined her family in Ogden on Oct. 30, after returning from Japan on the Marine Falcon.

Thirty other Nisei who were stranded in that country by the war were on the ship with Miss Iwamoto when it arrived in Seattle October 28. Many of them were headed for homes in San Francisco and Los Angeles, but debarked at Seattle because of the shipping strike in San Francisco.

The daughter of Mrs. Take Iwamoto, 2951 Pingree street, Ogden, Miss Iwamoto went to Japan in June, 1940, to continue her studies. Up to the time of the war she worked as a telephone operator for the U. S. Embassy in Tokyo.

War conditions in Tokyo were described as "extremely difficult" by the Nisei girl. Persons known to be Nisei were discriminated

against by the Japanese, she said. She described incidents in which she and other Nisei girls were kept out of air raid shelters during bombing raids because they were American citizens.

Several Nisei succumbed to typhoid and tuberculosis during the war because of poor sanitation and health facilities, she said.

Following the war Miss Iwamoto worked for the U. S. Army as a typist and office worker at the army's 42nd General hospital in Tokyo.

Her happiest moment in Tokyo came when, in the spring of this year, she met her brother, Nobe, 22, warrant officer junior grade with the U. S. Army.

Other members of the family are a brother, Hideo Iwamoto of Salt Lake City, and a sister, Ruth, 19, cadet nurse at Dee hospital in Ogden.

Mayor Bowron of Los Angeles Admits Wartime Prejudice Against Japanese Americans

LOS ANGELES—Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles, who was an outspoken advocate of the mass evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific coast during the war, declared at the Veterans testimonial dinner on Nov. 3 that he had been convinced "beyond all peradventure of doubt" that Americans of Japanese ancestry have been loyal to the United States.

"As some of you know, during the early part of the war, I was outspoken not only against Japan, but I now freely confess,

Nisei Returns From Role In Tokyo Trials

Language Difficulties Cited by Itami as "Stumbling Block"

DENVER, COLO. — A former American Army sergeant of Japanese ancestry, Akira Itami of Los Angeles, declared here last week that language handicaps, together with the inability of Japanese lawyers and defendants to comprehend Anglo-Saxon law, appear to be the two primary stumbling blocks in the present Tokyo war crimes trials.

He was interviewed here by Roy Takeno of the Denver Post.

Itami is now the chief civilian interpreter at the trials and arrived back in the United States recently on a two months leave of absence to arrange for his wife and child to join him in Japan.

Itami recently received the U. S. Army's Legion of Merit for his work in assembling a reference library of more than 4,000 Japanese Army orders and manuals.

He was in newspaper work in Los Angeles before the war and was evacuated to the Manzanar relocation center. He later taught at the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage before his induction into the army.

Itami expects to fly back to Tokyo on Dec. 1 while his family will proceed by ship from Los Angeles harbor.

New York JACL Announces Plans For Winter Ball

NEW YORK—The Winter Ball of the New York chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League will be held in the East ballroom of the Hotel Commodore in New York on Dec. 13.

Jeno Bartal's orchestra from the Hawaiian room of the Rotel Lexington will furnish the music for the occasion.

Members of the JACL's dance committee are Harry Kuwada, Mitsuo Matsuo, Mitsuko Takami, Hoshie Yamada, Betty Morita, Alice Yoshida, Mary Fujioka, Masaji Murai and Eiko Kishi.

Admission will be \$4.80 per couple.

Three Nisei Amputees Honored At Farewell Fete in Capital

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Three Nisei amputees were honored at a farewell dinner by the Washington Nisei USO Junior Hostesses on Oct. 31 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William White in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Corp. Tad Ono and Corp. Terry Kato of Honolulu, and Pfc. Wilson Makabe of Loomis, Calif., were the honorees. Another Nisei patient at Walter Reed Hospital, Sgt. Frank Fujino, who underwent another operation recently, was unable to attend.

Following the dinner, Ono left for Hawaii. Kato is scheduled to

too, to a great extent against Japanese in general," Mayor Bowron said. "I feared that blood would tell in some cases and that it would be extremely difficult to separate those, even though in the vast majority, who could be relied upon as loyal to this, the land of their birth, and those who in their hearts retained the pride of their ancestry to the extent that when there was opportunity, they would act to give aid and comfort to the government of the land of their forefathers."

"I am glad indeed to make the public declaration that I have been convinced beyond all peradventure of doubt, the Nisei have been true."

More than 1200 persons attended the testimonial fete at the Rodger Young auditorium, including 100 civic leaders and military officials, to pay tribute to the wartime record of Americans of Japanese ancestry from Los Angeles.

Five hundred Nisei veterans and 30 Gold Star mothers were among the guests.

Col. Elliot R. Thorpe, commanding officer of the military language school at the Presidio of Monterey, was the main speaker at the dinner and declared that Japanese American soldiers "have done much to shorten the war and contribute victory to the United States."

"We must carry on the work," Col. Thorpe said. "We were glorious in war. Now we must work harder to rebuild Japan into a democratic nation. The Nisei are the 'eyes and ears' of tomorrow between the two nations. We must demonstrate patiently to the people in Japan that to live in the world of peace, Japan herself must be at peace."

"There is opportunity for the Nisei and much more vital work to be done."

Ralph G. Martin, author of the "Boy from Nebraska," also spoke at the dinner. John Maeno was toastmaster.

Double-Ring Service Unites John Aoki And Lillian Fujihira

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—A double-ring candlelight ceremony held Oct. 26 at the First Methodist church of Milwaukee united Miss Lillian Fujihira, daughter of Mrs. Yuki Fujihira, and Mr. John Shigeru Aoki, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Aoki.

The bride, wearing traditional white, was attended by her sister, Mrs. Frank Okada, and given away in marriage by her brother, Mr. Julius Fujihira. Frank Okada served as best man, while Franklin Fujihira was the usher.

be discharged next week, while Makabe and Fujino expect to be released sometime next year. Ono, Kato and Makabe lost their right legs in Italy, while Fujino lost his left limb.

Each of the boys was given a handsome necktie. The presentation was made by Miss Gretchen Feiker, director of the YWCA USO division. Among the 26 attendants were Misses Helene Johnson and Alice Mazuza, associate USO directors. The dinner was arranged by Yuki Tanaka, Kenko Nogaki, Misawo Uyeoka and Fuki Seki.

California Court to Rule on Stockton Theatre Test Case

SAN FRANCISCO — The State Supreme Court last week decided to hear the appeals of Emil Palermo, owner of a Stockton theater building, on the lower court ruling that his lease of the structure to Japanese operators remains binding.

Palermo will ask the court to reverse the decision of the District Court of Appeals, which recently held that the lease was still in effect.

The theater owner will ask the Supreme Court to hold to a decision in his favor by the San Joaquin county superior court.

Palermo has contended that the lease, which was extended for a 10-year period in 1940, is illegal under the alien land act and that the abrogation of U. S.-Japan treaties in 1940 left no international agreements under which the Issei could lease commercial property.

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Proposition 15

The defeat of Proposition 15 at last Tuesday's elections in California is an event of major significance in the political history of the state and marks the end of four decades of political scapegoatism directed against the state's residents of Japanese ancestry.

Proposition 15 sought to write legislative amendments to the 1920 land law, amendments passed by the legislature to tighten its provisions, into the state's constitution. Although the proposal has been rejected by a majority of the state's voters at a general election, the amendments still are the law of the state. It was because State Senator Jack B. Tenney was dubious about the constitutionality of the legislature's action in amending a law which had been passed as an initiative measure by the vote of the people, that the legislature was asked in 1945 to authorize the placing of Constitutional Amendment No. 17, which appeared on the ballot as Proposition 15, before the people of the state.

The amendments, and the Alien Land Law itself, are still the law of the state, but the rejection of Proposition 15 by a plurality of more than 250,000 proves that these racist statutes no longer represent public policy. The Alien Land Law was considered a "dead letter" and little effort was made to enforce it until the outbreak of war in the Pacific. In 1943, however, amendments sponsored by Senator Tenney, Clair Engle, now a member of Congress; Lloyd Lowrey and others, were passed to tighten the law's provisions and to facilitate its enforceability. These amendments now have been repudiated by the people's refusal to write them into the state constitution. If the state legislature is sensitive to the people's will, the amendments should be repealed at the next session.

Under the 1943 amendments more than 50 cases have been initiated in the California courts by the state in an effort to confiscate the property of Japanese Americans for alleged violation of the Alien Land Law. The result of the balloting questions the integrity of continued prosecutions under the Alien Land Law.

The people of California are to be congratulated for their vote against Proposition 15, which constitutes the repudiation of the principles involved in the Alien Land Law and similar legislation of a discriminatory nature.

Bowron's Admission

It is an exceptional public official who will admit that he has been wrong. One such exception was New York's former mayor, Fiorello LaGuardia, who once said: "When I make a mistake, it's a beaut!" Last week another mayor admitted he had been wrong. He is Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles and the mistake he made concerned his attitude toward Japanese Americans at the outset of the war.

Mayor Bowron was one of the earliest advocates of mass evacuation and sponsored delegations to Washington to demand the removal of Japanese Americans from the Los Angeles area. As he admitted in his speech on Nov. 3 at the testimonial dinner for Japanese American war veterans in Los Angeles, Mayor Bowron thought that race and ancestry would be powerful factors in determining the loyalty of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States. His appeal for mass evacuation was based on a fear of sabotage and treachery.

In his talk before 1200 persons at the

Los Angeles dinner last Sunday evening, Mayor Bowron said that Japanese Americans had proved their loyalty in the war "beyond all peradventure of doubt."

Mayor Bowron was not the only Californian who thought in the weeks which followed the outbreak of war that the state's Japanese American population represented a threat to security and that mass evacuation would provide a solution. Mayor Bowron has admitted he was wrong and last Tuesday more than a million other Californians repudiated the racist principles which are symbolized by evacuation and by racist legislation by their vote against Proposition 15.

Defeat of FEPC

On November 5 the voters of California, by overwhelming majority, crushed Proposition No. 11, a proposal to create a state Fair Employment Practices Commission.

The defeat was not unexpected in view of the rising tide of reaction throughout the state and nation, but it was not expected that the people would so completely repudiate this proposal to guarantee equal work and employment opportunities for all people.

When the FEPC died, due to the failure of the 79th Congress to vote funds for its continued existence, it fell to the states to continue the functions of this agency. In California, following the refusal of the state legislature to create an FEPC, its proponents by initiative measure took the bill to the people.

The FEPC was interpreted by its opponents as a compulsory method of forcing employers to hire persons against their will. It was pictured as a means of heightening race tensions and of aggravating California's minority problems.

The successful operation of the FEPC during the war and its excellent record in the state of New York were not touched upon by the opponents of this bill, which would only guarantee to all persons, regardless of their religion or race, equal opportunities in employment.

It was claimed that the FEPC would favor persons of the minority races. It was pictured as a device to take jobs from persons of Anglo-American ancestry in order to give them to persons of other descent.

All of the tension-creating words of prejudice were used to persuade California voters to reject the proposal. Thinly-veiled arguments of race were used.

It was defeated on November 5 by a vote of more than 2 to 1.

The many persons and organizations which fought to pass this guarantee of civil rights must not be disheartened by the defeat. The bill must be presented again and again to the people of California until the lies and fabrications and confused thinking which defeated the proposal this November 5 have been cleared away. Then the voters, upon the merits of the proposal and in the belief that all men should be guaranteed the right to make a living, can make the Fair Employment Practices Act a part of the constitution of the state of California.

Campaign in Canada

While legislative racism was getting a sound spanking from the voters of California, a campaign was being initiated in Canada's province of British Columbia to maintain the present status of "second class citizenship" for Canadians of Japanese and Chinese ancestry.

British Columbia's racist politicians already have succeeded in forcing the Dominion government to carry out a program of dispersal to areas other than the West Coast of the 24,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who formerly resided in the province. This program of forced relocation is now under way and no Canadian of Japanese ancestry is being permitted to return to his pre-evacuation home.

The New Canadian, the Japanese Canadian newspaper published in Winnipeg, points out that a revival of anti-Chinese agitation is the next step of the British Columbia white supremacists and that this campaign already has been initiated. "The same basic reasons—which are economic—which led to discrimination against the Japanese Canadians exist in the case of Chinese Canadians. The same arguments employed by the racists against the Japanese can be employed with few changes against the Chinese," the New Canadian said in an editorial last summer. That campaign is now under way.

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

Nisei Interest in Congress

The necessity for remedial legislation to correct statutory discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry and for the passage of the bill to create an Evacuation Claims Commission in the Interior Department give Japanese Americans a more than ordinary interest in the composition of the 80th Congress.

The running tide of Republicanism which has swept the GOP into control of both the Senate and the House undoubtedly will delay early consideration of the evacuee claims proposal, the Issei naturalization bill, the Eberhart bill to give the Department of Justice discretionary powers in deportation proceedings involving so-called "ineligible aliens" and other legislation of particular interest to Japanese Americans. Aside from the probability that the conservative majority in Congress will be less interested in legislation of a remedial nature for a minority group, the reasons for a probable delay are manifold. The shift in control will necessitate complete reorganization of the legislative body and Congressional committees will be consolidated under a bi-partisan proposal adopted at the last session for streamlining the functions of both houses. In addition, a number of Congressmen who were interested in the proposed remedial legislation have been defeated.

There is urgent necessity for the speedy passage of the evacuee claims bill, which will create an Interior Department commission to authorize the payment of the accountable property and business losses suffered by evacuees of Japanese ancestry as a result of the mass evacuation in 1942. Most of the financial resources of the evacuees were totally depleted or sorely strained as a result of evacuation and internment in relocation camps and the payment of legitimate business losses and accountable property damages suffered as a direct result of the evacuation is a matter of simple justice as President Truman has pointed out.

There was every indication that the evacuee claims bill would have been passed in the last Congress had the bill been presented in a regular session. Consideration of the bill, which was sponsored by the War Relocation Authority, now no longer in existence, and endorsed by President Truman, was held up last summer because of a legislative log-jam by the debate on OPA, the British loan and other pieces of major legislation. With the aid of a message from President Truman the bill finally was rushed through Congressional processes and reached the Senate and House floor in the final week of the 79th Congress, when unanimous consent was necessary for its passage under the rule invoked to permit Congress to wind up its affairs. It was passed unanimously in the Senate and would have passed in the House except for an objection from Rep. Clair Engle of California, who was supported in this action by Rep. B. W. Gearhart, also of California.

The majority of the California delegation, however, was in favor of the evacuee claims bill and had supported the War Relocation Authority's program for Japanese American evacuees. Out of this delegation, however, Reps. Ellis Patterson, George Outland, Ned Healy, Clyde Doyle, Jerry Voorhis and Ed Izac, all progressive Democrats, were defeated in last Tuesday's elections, while Rep. Tolan did not run for reelection.

Since the California delegation long has had a major voice in any legislation affecting Japanese Americans, the attitude of the new Golden State group in Congress will be of considerable interest. The defeat of the Alien Land Law proposal, Proposition 15, by California voters has proved that "anti-Japanese" politics no longer are popular in the state and this fact may lead to a statesmanlike stand on the part of the new delegation when the evacuee claims bill is presented again in Congress.

An interesting development, as

far as the Nisei are concerned, was the pre-election promise by Rep. Gearhart to support the evacuee claims proposal which he had helped defeat in the last session. Mr. Gearhart then involved in a ding-dong campaign against his Democratic challenger, Prof. Hubert Phillips, wrote a Japanese American constituent in Fresno that he would support the claims bill if reelected. Prof. Phillips had been a leading advocate of fair play for Japanese Americans in California during the war years and headed the Fresno chapter of the West Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. The election returns, however, proved that this activity on behalf of the democratic treatment of a minority group was not a political liability, as some may have feared. Mr. Phillips nearly unseated Rep. Gearhart in a district which had been considered Republican.

Incidentally, it is interesting to note that two of the handful of Democrats to survive the GOP landslide in Pennsylvania were Rep. Herman Eberhart of Pittsburgh, author of a bill under which Japanese and other "ineligible aliens" will be treated on the same basis as all other aliens in deportation proceedings, and Rep. Francis Walters who helped expedite Congressional consideration of the evacuation claims bill. Of course, the interest taken by these two Pennsylvanians in matters affecting the Nisei reflected only their generally progressive attitude and had nothing to do with their reelection. Both ran in industrial areas which are normally Democratic. Rep. Eberhart will be remembered for his courageous action in 1943, when he exposed the race-baiting tactics of the Dies Committee and then filed a minority report challenging the investigative group's conclusions on Japanese Americans and war relocation.

During the last session of Congress approximately 40 private bills were introduced to prevent the deportation of Japanese alien residents, several of whom were political refugees, while others were international traders whose eligibility to residence in the United States had been changed by the abrogation of the commercial treaty with Japan shortly before the outbreak of war. Most of these persons, against whom deportation proceedings had been filed, had played an important role in the war against Japan as members of the staffs of OSS, OWI, FBIS, Army Map Service and as teachers in the Army and Navy language program. These private bills must be reintroduced at the next session, unless the Eberhart bill or some similar blanket legislation is passed. A number of cases, however, of congressmen who were interested in these private bills will not return to Washington. An example is that of Rep. Joseph Clark Baldwin of New York City, a liberal Republican who was defeated for renomination by his party because of his progressive record. Rep. Baldwin had sponsored a bill for Taro Yashima and his wife, Mrs. Yashima, who had worked for OSS and OWI during the war.

One of the bills which is expected to be reintroduced at the next session of Congress is the proposal which will eliminate racial restrictions as a condition for naturalization. The practical effect of this legislation would be to permit 75,000 Japanese and Korean aliens, most of whom have been legal residents of the United States for more than 10 years, to apply for citizenship on the same basis as all other aliens. It has been pointed out that many of the persons involved have children who have served or are serving in the armed forces of the United States.

The bill was submitted in the last session by Delegate Joseph R. Farrington of Hawaii. It is expected to have bi-partisan support in the next Congress. Farrington, incidentally, was elected by the people of Hawaii who also elected a number of Japanese American candidates mostly for county offices, for the first time since public officials of Japanese ancestry withdrew from politics in 1942.

Vagaries

Hawaii Trip . . .

NEW YORK: It's reported Earl Finch is rounding up a group of U. S. entertainers, including Cab Calloway and the Ink Spots, to make a special trip to Hawaii next spring to help raise money for the 442nd Club in Hawaii. Finch is planning another trip to Hawaii in the near future. The cultural section of the War Relocation Authority has purchased a collection of paintings by other famous American artists.

Dancers . . .

Two Nisei dancers have appeared in recent productions of the Chicago Civic Opera. Yasuko Shimoda has been seen in "Lucia," while the other, Naohiro Sasaki, who is now a successful restaurant operator in New York, formerly was the partner of the late Alfred E. Smith, when the latter was governor of New York.

Film Story .

ARKO's "This Is America" series on Hawaii, now in production, is expected to tell the story of wartime loyalty of the territory's large Japanese American population. . . . Richard Asato, Hawaiian lightweight champion, has been challenged by Yasu Yasutake, who has an impressive string of knockouts.

One of the surprises of the election in California was the announced opposition of the Los Angeles Times to Proposition 15, the Alien Land Law amendments. The Times announced its opposition on Sunday before the election. . . . accidentally, the opposition to proposition 15 spilled over into Arizona, where John Tadanu informed the JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee in Los Angeles that a number of leading Democrats and Republicans had condemned Proposition 15 as "racist and undemocratic."

The Mitsukoshi department store building, erected shortly before the outbreak of the war in Honolulu, is now being occupied by the Veterans Administration. During the war the building was used by the USO. . . . Two Nisei were arrested in San Diego during the last week of the California election campaign for allegedly distributing pamphlets against Proposition 15 in violation of city ordinance. They were released. . . . John Fujii, former West Coast newsman who received wide publicity in wartime books by Cecil Brown and Mark Payne, is now in Tokyo. When war broke out in 1941, Fujii was in Singapore where he was the managing editor of the Herald. He was interned by the British and was taken to India where he acted as a liaison capacity between Japanese internees and British authorities. After V-J Day, Fujii became liaison official for the Australian forces reoccupying Singapore. He was recently repatriated to Japan. This week the International News Service in the United States carried a by-lined dispatch from Fujii in Tokyo on the British use of Japanese Army forces in Malaya in clean-up operations. . . . Fujii, a Japanese national, was brought to the United States by his parents when he was less than a year old. He went to the Far East in 1939, purportedly because he was an alien "ineligible to citizenship" and therefore unable to obtain the citizenship rights enjoyed by the Nisei.

Mrs. Chiyeiko Ohata Sought by Relative

Mary Ohata Lombard of New York City this week asked for aid in locating the whereabouts of Mrs. Chiyeiko Ohata, for whom an urgent message is being held. Mrs. Ohata is the adopted daughter of Mrs. Lombard's uncle. Any information as to Mrs. Ohata's present address should be sent to Mrs. Lombard, director of administration and finance, East and West Association, 40 East 40th St., New York City.

"A Brother Is a Stranger:" Toru Matsumoto's New Book Is a Story of Conflict

A BROTHER IS A STRANGER, by Toru Matsumoto and Marion O. Lerrigo. An Asia Press book published by John Day Company, New York. \$3.75. 318 pp.

"A Brother is a Stranger" was born at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, in 1942, where the author was an internee following his arrest at the time of Pearl Harbor. Toru Matsumoto had just made one of the most important decisions of his life. Against the urging of his fellow Japanese internees, he had decided to stay in this country and to refuse the offer of repatriation made to all of them. Feeling against him on the part of many of the internees was high, and Matsumoto felt that some attempt might be made to take his life. He wanted to explain to his own satisfaction his reason for sticking out his future here, and in the event of his death he wanted his son, Teddy, then an infant, to know at some later date what manner of man his father had been.

Thus, in the fashion of many other men who have written the story of their lives while in prison, Toru Matsumoto began the manuscript which later became "A Brother is a Stranger."

It is a good book, strong, revealing, touching. It affords the reader an accurate look into the period during which Japan armed for war. It affords, more important, a study of the composite picture of Japan—a nation made up not only of persons fanatically eager for war, but also of men and women who fought against it and who will in the future be the men and women with whom we can secure an enduring peace.

Essentially "A Brother Is a Stranger" is a story of conflict. From boyhood Toru Matsumoto was in conflict against his family, against regimentation, against formal education, against custom. But the story goes beyond this personal conflict of one man against other men. It shows the conflicting viewpoints of the American vs. the Japanese way of life, of labor and Japan's system of "benevolent" paternalism, of individual thought and regimentation as expressed in that nation's overall system of "thought control." And the book relates, too, that greatest of conflicts, World War II, and the way it touched the lives of little people both here and in Japan.

Toru Matsumoto, however, was born in a family of strong individual conviction. His grandfather and grandmother, in defiance of the customs of their times, had eloped, and their marriage for love instead of convenience invoked considerable censure. Toru's father was a doctor, a man of considerable charm and some weakness, but also a man with a feeling of responsibility for his fellow men. Toru's earliest memories are of moving from one isolated spot to another, his father starting a new clinic or hospital in each place.

It was, however, his Christian mother who by example gave Toru his best lessons in courage. His mother discarded many of the customs which have bound Japanese women to their homes and families. She refused to serve her husband first at mealtimes, insisting upon the family's eating together. She refused also to carry her children upon her back, saying that it was a habit detrimental to both mother and child. She insisted, too, upon recognition of the individual, making each child feel a person in his own right.

His mother's religion brought conflict not only with outsiders but even within the family. Toru's grandmother, a Buddhist, bitterly resented the Christianizing of her grandchildren. With both sides working constantly upon the children, it was no wonder that upon the death of this grandmother Toru, then but a child, made this prayer: "Dear God, please make her a Buddha; she wanted to become one very much."

Though he was only a child at the time, the Exclusion Law of 1924 had great impact upon Toru Matsumoto. It occurred only a year after the great earthquake of 1923, which nearly levelled Tokyo and caused thousands of deaths. Packages of food, medicine and clothing from the United States had a tremendous effect upon the people of Japan, who learned to love the people of America.

But only a year later the Exclusion law, restricting the immigration of Japanese to the United States, caused intense reactions in Japan. The law damaged the cause of Christianity in Japan, says Matsumoto, for there Christianity was the first source of the new teaching that all men are created equal.

It was many years later when Matsumoto came to the United States that he realized that the Exclusion Law, the citizenship laws which barred the naturalization of Japanese nationals, and other such discriminatory laws were hardly known to millions of Americans. As a Japanese, Matsumoto had felt for many years that the American people had all wanted the early discriminatory laws. It was a shock to learn so few people here even knew about them.

From 1924 on the beginnings of militarism were evidenced in Japan, even in the grade school which Toru attended. Discipline was made more strict, physical exercises were emphasized.

"All of our belongings," Matsumoto writes, "such as textbooks, notebooks, pencils, erasers, had to be in perfect order. It was an offense to bring a pencil with a dull point. Pencil marks in textbooks were strictly forbidden. To forget to bring a textbook was a serious misdemeanor, punished by whipping or staying after school. The extreme rules about textbooks arose from the fact that the government recognized their importance as a source of national unity and nationalism itself in Japan. This was true especially of history, geography and Japanese texts."

The most important change, however, was in respect to worship of the emperor. Matsumoto describes it thus:

"In 1925, when I was 12 and in the sixth year of elementary school, an important new custom was introduced at school—the daily worship of the emperor. I did what the teachers and other children did. To me it was just another thing to worship. I did not understand the theological difference between the Christian God and the emperor, but I differentiated between the two because God was worshipped only in the church and home, while I bowed to the emperor only at school."

The learning of the English language by Toru Matsumoto was apparently one of the most fascinating projects ever undertaken by a Japanese schoolboy. The reader will delight in reading of his efforts to speak, to think, and finally to dream in the English language. He was not satisfied until even his Japanese friends and relatives (in his dreams) spoke in English. The process took two years.

In the early '30s Toru began to observe the unrest in the country, as demonstrated by strikes, in the arrest of all Japanese who attempted to speak against militarism, in demonstrations of protest against the authorities, and in strikes in the munitions factories.

Communism was strong in many of the government schools, where there was the greatest amount of criticism against the Japanese government. Many persons opposed the conquest of Manchuria, but restrictions upon the press, upon education and upon the people increased. In 1934 Matsumoto himself was arrested for having connections with certain of the liberals in his school.

This, of course, is Matsumoto's major point—that war did not come to Japan without protest from the people. The churches, the schools, labor and the people were repressed, were forced to move underground in some cases, and were completely obliterated in others. The relentless program of the military in preparing a people for war is made strongly evident.

The Buddhist church, says Matsumoto, as early as 1930 joined with Christian churches in asking the government to remove all restrictions upon religious freedom and issued a manifesto declaring that their religion demanded that they choose peace as a way of life. Rotary clubs, the Salvation Army

From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Denver Digs Out from a Blizzard

DENVER, COLO.—'Tis a pleasure to live in Colorado, they said. So our first winter here we run into the worst snowstorm since 1913.

It started as a wet, driving snowfall before dawn Saturday. It was after midnight Monday when it stopped, and there was almost 30 inches on the ground.

The city was paralyzed as if by a general strike. Streetcars and busses crawled along or quit altogether. Hundreds of automobiles stalled and were abandoned. Virtually no shipments of food entered the city. Bakeries and dairies were unable to deliver their products to retailers. Department stores closed their doors.

In developing his civilization man has created such a closely geared economy that even a snowstorm may throw it completely out of timing. Still, there aren't many persons who would go back to the old system in which each family was prepared to go through the winter without stepping more than a few feet outside the door.

Politics

Denver Nisei voters belatedly have been recognized by politicians as an important election factor. At a recent JACL meeting Charles A. Graham, attorney, Democrat and chairman of the Denver Unity Council debated against State Senator Arthur A. Brooks Jr., a Republican. Both have been recognized as friends of the Nisei from far back.

On election eve, Gene Cervi, state Democratic chairman, sought to address a Nisei audience.

"Frankly," he confided to a Nisei, "we've overlooked you fellows. We've worked with the Negroes, the Spanish Americans and other minorities, but we never realized the potential voting power of your group."

Denver's Japanese American population has grown almost ten-fold since the evacuation. The Nisei are concentrated so heavily in several districts that it is believed they potentially hold the balance of voting power in these areas so far as city elections are concerned.

However, no one knows off hand what percentage of eligible Nisei voters is registered. The JACL has been campaigning for 100 per cent registration.

In addition, there is no indication that the Nisei will vote en bloc on any issue except perhaps those that affect them directly as members of a minority group.

It was too late for Cervi to line up a Nisei group, but he showed up at the JACL carnival where he did some hand-shaking on a modest scale.

Milk Line

This week following the Denver snowstorm we stood for 45 minutes on a chilly street corner waiting for a chance to buy three quarts of milk.

There were a score of other persons waiting too. Everyone was warmly dressed and had all the appearances of being well-fed. We were waiting for the milk truck to arrive and set up business on the corner because it couldn't negotiate the sidestreets for home delivery.

It wasn't comfortable and it wasn't pleasant. We tried to escape all that by a flight of fancy. We were in Warsaw, or Nanking, or Stalingrad, or Tokyo.

We were in a soup lineup, or waiting for a government handout

and liberal societies in the schools all had to disband or comply with government orders.

After Matsumoto's arrest, he felt it would be wise to leave the country, foreseeing that he would be in trouble again with the police should he remain. He obtained a scholarship at Union Theological seminary in New York and left on his first trip to the United States.

The second phase of his life, including his marriage to Emma, despite strong family objections, begins here.

It is unfortunate that Toru's wife, who figures so importantly in the book, can only be touched upon at this time. Suffice it to say that the story of Toru and Emma constitutes a wholly romantic and eminently satisfactory love story, complete with the avenging family, physical battles and hairbreadth escapes.

Also fascinating is the story of his internment after Pearl Harbor. The Japanese internees showed themselves to be a varied group, in temperament, in political outlook, in their acceptance or defiance of imprisonment. Prominently mentioned in this respect is

(Continued on Page 6)

Tomorrow's Heirs

By Sachi L. Wada

POST-WAR VERSION . . .

This educational system of '46 is really something streamlined. You go to college with all kinds of ideas and dream about the kind of stuff you read in mags and saw in movies. There are a lot of young kids fresh out of high school, but the overwhelming majority are vets. Girls may complain, as they always will, but these men aren't here for a social spree. You talk to them, and you know that they aren't fooled on anything; they aren't here to lay blueprints for World War III. . . . they don't want the kind of America their parents dreamed up for them. It gives you strength when you feel their sincerity and faith in the country for which they went through the bloodiest of nightmares.

SOCIAL CHANNELS . . .

There's nothing quite like our housing situation. Even Grand Central Station couldn't compete. After awhile, you become accustomed to it. Four walls with a smoke-blackened ceiling. You manage to camouflage some of the cracks with Petty gam-gals; but even then, you have to have a large stock on hand, for they have the uncanniest way of disappearing, then reappearing in someone else's room. For convenience, you have delapidated pieces of furniture shoved here and there, upon which you load everything, from clothes to books. That leaves plenty of space in your drawers for the mice which come with the room free of charge. From the time the alarms ring, people stalk into your room waving cigs and sleepily balancing mugs of black java. For a sideshow to your bull or hen sessions, you put on the radio full-blast to insure a huge electricity bill. Then the U of M also sends down its band to furnish music. It practices "Minnesota, Hats Off to Thee" until you begin to wonder if that's the only tune it can carry. . . . and even that tune doesn't seem to carry our varsity through this year. Of course, things aren't complicated enough as they are, so you speak anything but English if you can help it.

COLOR BLIND . . .

Occasionally, you pull your limbs and joints together to attend one of the convocations. They're held on every foggy Thursday morning, and as you approach Northrup Auditorium, even underneath that prided armor of college cynicism, something hits you hard. You stand there and watch the stream of students filing in. There are many who are armless, legless, and their hair is streaked with gray, not because of age. . . . And something chokes inside you, when the band strikes up the national anthem. You become a human being, instead of a carbon copy. You also become color blind, and you want to sing, when you see the yellow, the white, the black climbing the steps together. These are things you don't write about, because words don't communicate these thoughts. This '46 version of higher education is a mass production process; but it's the only way to insure less wars on our own main streets. It's a nightmare, but you wouldn't trade it for the castles of Spain.

Nisei Action Aided Interracial Amity in Seattle, Says Smith

The courage and cooperation of Japanese Americans in Seattle and other areas of the Pacific northwest were of great help in attaining the present situation of amity and interactivity among persons of Chinese, Japanese, Negro and Anglo-American parentage, in that region, Elmer R. Smith, assistant professor in anthropology, told the Salt Lake City chapter of the JACL at a meeting held Nov. 1 at Spaulding hall.

Professor Smith, who was with the WRA at Hunt, Idaho, and later in Seattle with evacuee work groups, told his audience of organizations working for interracial activity in the northwest.

The situation of Canadian Nisei was also discussed by Professor Smith, who made a visit to British Columbia to lecture and to study the situation in Canada.

Professor Smith commended most Japanese Americans for their fairness in dealing with other

groups, but stated that a small percentage of the Nisei hold prejudices against persons of other minority groups.

Glen E. Thompson, commander of the Atomic post of the VFW of Salt Lake City, also addressed the meeting.

Mr. Thompson extended a personal invitation to Nisei who have served overseas to join the Atomic post. He stated that the Atomic post had recently passed by unanimous vote a special resolution inviting Americans of Japanese ancestry to become members.

"If the Nisei have a problem to fight against an un-American practice, we want to help him fight it," Mr. Thompson said.

Over seventy-five persons attended the meeting, which was presided over by Mrs. Henry Kasai, president.

University of Utah students were special guests of the evening.

Yurino Takayoshi Marries Everett J. Starr in New York



NEW YORK CITY—The wedding of Miss Yurino Takayoshi of the New York office of the JACL and T/5 Everett James Starr was held Saturday afternoon, November 2, at the Madison Avenue Presbyterian church in New York City. A reception was held immediately after the ceremony at the Anthony Home, 119 East 29th street, where the above photo was taken.

—Photo by Henry Yamada.

Joy Takeshita, UNRRA Employee, Discloses Troth

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mrs. T. K. Takeshita of Washington, D. C., formally announced engagement of their daughter Joy, to Dennis K. Teraoka, Honolulu. Miss Takeshita, who located to Washington with her parents in 1944, is employed the secretariat at UNRRA. She is a graduate of the National School. Her pre-war home was Los Angeles; she was the soloist with the camp orchestra at Heart Mountain Relocation Center.

Mr. Teraoka, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Seiji Teraoka, Paauhau, Hawaii, was a captain in the medical corps of the original 442nd Combat Team.

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"A Brother is a Stranger"

(Continued from Page 5)

the Rev. Alfred Akamatsu, pastor at the Japanese Methodist church in New York, who was one of the first to be paroled after arrest. He, along with Matsumoto, were among the leaders who tried to organize the internees and provide recreation and stimulation for their hours of imprisonment.

It is difficult to understand how it occurred, but one great error of fact is found in "A Brother is a Stranger." In describing the Tule Lake riots of 1943 he states that "one American doctor was killed by the Japanese and two Japanese were killed by American soldiers." To our knowledge no deaths occurred during this Tule Lake disturbance.

The book was co-authored by Matsumoto and Marion Olive Lorigo, close family friend of the Matsumotos, who along with her husband urged the writing of this book.

Matsumoto's work, of course, is

only begun, to his way of thinking. As a Christian, his most important work is in the interests of peace. His opinions on whether or not Japan can become a democratic force is important:

"Now the violence has been halted by superior force. But superior force cannot cure it permanently. Neither can appeasement. The only way to cure it permanently is for the Japanese people to cure it themselves. The approach of the West to Japan should be through teaching by demonstration the best in the spiritual civilization of the West, such as respect for personal dignity and freedom of thought. The Japanese will be conformists for some time to come. In a defeated Japan they will conform to what appears to be the dominant pattern, the pattern which seems to hold the greatest promises of acceptance by the West. Thus, they will strenuously strive to conform to a democratic form of government.

"But democracy is not something one conforms to, nor is it a gift from one people to another. It is something which a people earns through struggle. The Western powers will help democracy in Japan more effectively by helping the struggle of the Japanese people to gain democracy for themselves, than by leaving the task of democratizing Japan to a picked few at the top in Japanese life. Counting on the example of the emperor and those in authority is the old Confucian approach."

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Chicago JACL Plans Dance to Launch Drive for Funds

CHICAGO — A semi-formal in-
ter-
national ball, first in a series of
fund-raising projects to be spon-
sored by the Chicago chapter of
the Japanese American Citizens
League, will be held on December
10, at the Crystal ballroom of the
Shoreland hotel.

The fund drive has been called
upon a self-supporting basis
in accordance with plans laid at

the Denver national convention,
according to Dr. T. T. Yatabe, for-
mer head of the Chicago office.

A major personality of the en-
tertainment world will be the spe-
cial guest of the JACL at the
dance, Dr. Yatabe announced.

Bill Rohter and his all-campus
orchestra from Northwestern uni-
versity will supply the music.

Ticket sales have already started
under the direction of Jiro Ya-
maguchi, chairman. Assisting Ya-
maguchi on his committee are
Mike Hagiwara, far south; George
Kita, intermediate south; Rose Ko-
kubu, near south; Mrs. Yo Furuta,
intermediate north; Iku Toda, near
north; and Ken Yoshihara, far
north.

Engagement

CHICAGO—A delightful after-
noon tea on Oct. 27 revealed the
engagement of Miss Edna Ito, for-
merly of Portland, to Mr. Shig
Kimura. Present were the Misses
Mary Inouye, Martha Takemura,
Thelma Tanaka, Grace Hagiya,
Ruby Tashima, Fumi Onishi, Mar-
garet and Marge Ito and the Mes-
dames Elmer Shirrell and Tom
Oye.

Wedding

MONTEREY, Calif.—The Pre-
sidio of Monterey chapel was the
setting for the recent nuptials of
Miss Fumi Nakagama, daughter
of Mr. K. Nakagama of Sanger,
Calif., and Pvt. Joe T. Kato, son
of Mr. and Mrs. I. Kato of Nyssa,
Oregon.

The bride was attended by Miss
Jane Kodama of Sanger. The best
man was Pvt. Kinya Sakamoto.
Chaplain Robie officiated. S/Sgt.
Matsumoto played the organ.

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Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Tad Sato, 932
Rio Grande St., Salt Lake City, a
boy on Nov. 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masayoshi
Nonaka a boy on Oct. 24 in San
Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sam S. Ogi a
girl on Oct. 21 in San Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kane-
gaa a boy on Oct. 25 in Santa Ana.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio Ishi-
moto of Sacramento a boy on
Oct. 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jack M. Izuka
a boy on Oct. 19.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Aka-
saka a girl on Oct. 27 in Los An-
geles.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shigekazu B.
Ito a girl on Oct. 16.

To Mr. and Mrs. Roy Y. Hata-
naka a girl on Oct. 20 in Rumsey,
Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sadao Sakai,
22 North First West St., Salt Lake
City, a boy on Nov. 5.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Ka-
taoka, Route 2, Box 175, Kings-
burg, Calif., a son, Gerald Allen,
on Oct. 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Isamu Naka-
mura a girl on Oct. 23 in Sacra-
mento.

To Mr. and Mrs. Saburo Oka-
mura a boy on Oct. 23 in Sacra-
mento.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kunio Matsu-
mura, Magna, Utah, a boy on
Nov. 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Ko-
saka a boy in Denver, Colo.

To Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Mori-
kawa of Guadalupe, Calif., a girl.

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Fu-
jii of Walnut Grove, Calif., a girl
on Oct. 26.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Ueda
of Walnut Grove, Calif., a son on
Oct. 27.

DEATHS

Hisayo Okino on Oct. 29 in Vi-
salia, Calif.

Bill Takeshi Niino on Sept. 13
in Madera, Calif.

Pfc. Takeshi Inouye, 18, on Oct.
13 in Korea.

Sajiro Kawaguchi on Oct. 28 in
Long Beach.

J. Kunitaro Ogawa, 72, on Oct.
28 in Los Angeles.

Toshio Fukuchi on Nov. 2 in
Los Angeles.

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Spokane Memorial

SPOKANE, Wash.—The second
annual candlelight memorial ser-
vice for Spokane soldiers of Japa-
nese ancestry who died in World
War II will be held Sunday, Nov.
10, at 7:30 p. m. at the Grant
Community Methodist church.

The Spokane chapter of the
JACL, the Military Order of the
Purple Heart and other organiza-
tions will participate.

Memorial candles will be light-
ed by representatives of the be-
reaved families of the gold star
soldiers.

Spady Koyama will read the
Nisei Creed. A memorial prayer
will be given by Chaplain Mayo of
Geiger Field.

MARRIAGES

Miss Gene Hashimoto to Mich-
ael J. Doi on Sept. 8 in Chicago.

Ayako Morita to Henry Ishizuka
on Sept. 1 in Chicago.

Yurino Takayoshi to Everett
James Starr on Nov. 2 in New
York City.

Yoshiko Yoshino to Tatsuo
Hanamura on Oct. 27 in Alameda,
Calif.

Mitsu Shimotsuka to Dr. Kiy-
shi Sonoda on Oct. 19 in St. Paul,
Minn.

Kiyo Shimizu to Tad Kuranishi
in Baltimore, Md.

Yoshiko Tsuji to Paul F. Minato
on Nov. 3 in Seattle, Wash.

Kiyoko Kamei to Tatsumi Naka-
mura on Nov. 3 in Los Angeles.

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Seattle Rites

SEATTLE, Wash.—In a double
ring ceremony performed by Emery
E. Andrews at the Japanese Bap-
tist church Sunday afternoon, No-
vember 3, Miss Yoshiko Tsuji,
daughter of Mr. Iwajiro Tsuji, and
Mr. Paul Minato, son of Mr. and
Mrs. Frank Koichi Minato, were
married. Miss Fusako Tsuji was
maid of honor, Margaret Minato
and Amy Tsuji were brides-
maids. Elaine Minato was the
flower girl. Mr. Howard Minato
served as best man for his brother.
The ushers were Mas Fukuhara
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Report Given on Tensions Affecting San Jose Evacuees

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Tensions are not sharp between racial and religious groups in the San Jose area, but discrimination exists against some groups in housing and employment, according to the findings of a group of some 70 prominent and representative citizens of San Jose on Nov. 1 at the Santa Clara County Institute on Human Relations, the Mercury-Herald reported.

Greatest existing tension in the San Jose area is in feeling toward returned Japanese Americans, according to a report of the

seminar on race tensions, which was led by Mrs. H. C. Schlosser.

"The situation is due to the fact that more Japanese Americans are returning to the area than were here before the war," the report declared.

Lack of housing and an economic opportunity for both the returned Japanese Americans and Negroes were noted in the discussions. Housing and health problems which faced the Mexican Americans in the San Jose area were said to be the most severe of those affecting minority groups.

The seminar recommended federal and state aid in meeting the problems.

Restrictive covenants were deplored by the seminar delegates to consider the question, "Are the Rights of All Secure in the Community?" under the leadership of Claude Settles. It recommended continued action to prevent such covenants similar to a recent mass meeting against them in Willow Glen.

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Will Send Packages To Japanese

SAN FRANCISCO — Persons wishing to send gift packages to Japan may avail themselves of the services of "Caritate Dei," San Francisco organization under the auspices of Catholic workers, according to Sylvester Andriano.

Packages costing \$3.00 or \$5.00 can be sent by remittance with name and address of receiver to "Caritate Dei" at 1817 Powell street, San Francisco (11), Calif.

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Livingston Notes

LIVINGSTON, Calif.—The Livingston YPOF held a Halloween party on Oct. 27 under the direction of Mamoru Masuda and Stanley Yoshino. Frank Shoji and Alice Kawana were proclaimed winners in pie-eating contests. The traditional apple cider and doughnuts were served by Mrs. J. Fujimori and Mrs. V. Masuda.

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Illustrated left: Bracelet with hand-engraved heart: \$8.95, plus tax. The perfect gift for any girl 8 days to 8 years old. Jeweler-crafted by Speidel. Also available in a variety of other designs and in bracelet-locket sets.

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