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Thirteen Japanese Americans Win Election to Territorial, County Offices in Hawaii

Members of Group Return to Hawaiian Politics After Wartime Absence; Tsukiyama Elected to Senate; Many Win With CIO-PAC Backing

HONOLULU, T. H.—Thirteen candidates of Japanese ancestry were elected to the territorial legislature and to county supervisory posts in the elections on Nov. 5.

The election results marked the return of Japanese Americans to elective posts in the territory for the first time since 1942 when all Americans of Japanese ancestry withdrew from the 1942 elections.

Wilfred Tsukiyama, veteran Republican leader and former city and county attorney in Honolulu, was elected to the territorial senate from the city of Honolulu, polling more than 23,000 votes.

Eight of the successful Japanese American candidates are Democrats, while five ran on the Republican slate.

Five Japanese Americans were elected to the territorial assembly, including three Democrats who ran with CIO-PAC support. One of them, Matsuki Arashiro, D., Kauai, is a member of the CIO International Longshoremen's Union which has been involved in a two-months old industry-wide sugar strike in Hawaii. Tom Ouye, Kauai, and Mitsuyuki Kido, Oahu 5th district, were the two other Democrats elected to the legislature.

Thomas Sakakihara, R., veteran legislator, staged a comeback to win a seat in the assembly from the Island of Hawaii, leading all candidates in total votes cast, while Joe (Kemoo) Itagaki, R., was elected to the assembly from the Oahu 5th. Itagaki placed fourth among the six successful candidates in his district, in which Kido had the highest total of votes.

For the first time in Honolulu political history an American of Japanese ancestry was elected to the board of supervisors. He is Richard Kageyama, a Democrat who waged an aggressive campaign with CIO-PAC support, and received 21,000 votes. Kageyama, was one of several Nisei war veterans among the successful candidates.

Kazuhiya Abe, D., and Dr. Yoshio Yoshida, R., were chosen county supervisors from East Hawaii, while Yutaka Hamamoto, R., was elected to the Kauai post.

Three Japanese Americans were elected outright at the October primaries. They are Tom Okino, unopposed for election as county attorney of Hawaii; George Watase, D., county supervisor of Kauai, and Sakuichi Sakai, D., county supervisor of Hawaii.

Joseph R. Farrington, sponsor of a bill in the last session of Congress to eliminate race restrictions from the immigration and naturalization laws, was reelected on the Republican ticket. Farrington received widespread liberal support, including the endorsement of CIO-PAC.

Attorney Files Memorandum in Takahashi Case

Charges Discriminatory Purpose of California Alien Fishing Law

LOS ANGELES—A further memorandum in the Torao Takahashi test case, which questions the legality of the amendments to the California fish and game code barring Japanese aliens from fishing, was filed this week in the California Supreme Court by A. L. Wirin, attorney.

The memorandum charges that the California law barring Issei fishermen was not passed for "conservation purposes," as has been claimed, but was aimed exclusively against persons of Japanese descent and is therefore unconstitutional because of race discrimination.

The memorandum furnishes statistics disclosing that fishermen of Japanese descent have always been a small minority of those who have applied in California for a commercial fishing license and that the only aliens ineligible to citizenship who applied for such licenses are aliens of Japanese descent.

The test case, sponsored by the Japanese Fishermen's Association, will affect the rights of hundreds of Issei fishermen in California. It is being backed by the Japanese American Citizens League and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Nisei Ex-GIs Learn Furniture Business Under VA Program

SEATTLE — Two Japanese American veterans of the 442nd Combat Team now are learning the furniture-building business through the Veterans' Administration on-the-job training program, it was reported here.

The two Seattle veterans are Taiji Takayoshi and Richard Set-suda.

California Personnel Board Reinstates Nisei Employees

Ten Former Nisei Workers Win Right To Return to Jobs

LOS ANGELES—Reinstatement of ten Americans of Japanese ancestry who were discharged from California state civil service jobs in March and April of 1942 was ordered by the State Personnel Board at a hearing in the State building.

Most of the group were employed in Los Angeles and Sacramento. The board also ordered that payments of salary from the date of discharge until the date of evacuation, totaling approximately \$1150, be paid the employees.

A number of other Japanese Americans already have been reinstated and hearings on additional applications are pending.

Those reinstated are Ann H. Kodama, Sadame Nomi, Kenneth Nishimura, Haruko Nakamura,

California Personnel Board Discusses Nisei Petitions

SACRAMENTO — The State Personnel Board met here on Nov. 8 and 9 to discuss the petitions of 16 Japanese Americans for reinstatement to their jobs in the California civil service, from which they were suspended under a blanket order in March, 1942.

The announcement of a decision to reinstate the group was expected following the recommendations of the attorney general's office for such action on the ground that the Nisei employees had been cleared by the War Department and the War Relocation Authority.

Mariko Komatsuka, Chizue Sally Kawamoto, Satoye Kayakita, Mary Ishikawa, Mariya Fukuda and Alice Abe.

Petition for Rehearing Filed In Oyama Land Law Case

AVC Post Named For Nisei Hero Parades in L. A.

LOS ANGELES—The Sadao Munemori chapter of the American Veterans Committee marched in the Armistice Day parade here.

The Munemori chapter of the AVC formerly was Metropolitan chapter No. 1. It was renamed in honor of the first American soldier of Japanese ancestry to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Members of the Munemori chapter honored Mrs. Nawa Munemori, mother of the Nisei hero who was killed in Italy while serving with the 442nd Combat Team, during the testimonial dinner for Japanese American veterans and Gold Star mothers on Nov. 3.

Coast JACL Meet Set For December

Week's Postponement Made to Accommodate Northwest Chapters

SAN FRANCISCO — Postponement of the scheduled conference of the JACL chapters on the Pacific Coast from the weekend of November 20 to the weekend of December 7 was announced by Mike Masaoka, national JACL secretary, during his two-day stop-over in San Francisco.

This postponement will permit the Pacific Northwest District Council which has scheduled a reactivation meeting for the weekend originally set for this area conference to send delegates, it was announced.

The local San Francisco chapter will act as hosts for the first Pacific Coast conclave of JACL chapters since the evacuation with Joe Grant Masaoka, Northern California regional representative, in charge of the general arrangements.

Delegates from Arizona, California, Oregon and Washington are expected to discuss the general situation and the mutual problems confronting persons of Japanese ancestry in their respective sections and to develop a coordinated program of action for 1947.

National president Hito Okada of Salt Lake City, Utah, is expected to attend as well as national first vice president George J. Inagaki of Venice, California.

OREGON REPEALS RESTRICTIONS ON CHINESE ALIENS

PORTLAND, Ore.—The people of Oregon at the elections on Nov. 5 repealed a 50-year-old law under which Chinese aliens are prohibited from ownership of agricultural and mining property.

The vote for the removal of the restrictions on Chinese aliens was 156,355 to 131,569.

Nisei Quits Post in Protest Against "Jim Crow" Policy

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The resignation of a Nisei playground supervisor and a co-worker in Lincoln, Neb., recently in protest against a discriminatory policy against Negroes has resulted in the abandoning of the discriminatory practice, according to a report in the Fisk university's monthly summary on "race relations."

The Nisei, Joe Ishikawa, and John Parker resigned from their jobs at a playground operated

Argument Declares Rejection Of Proposition 15 by Voters Void Amendments to Law

LOS ANGELES—To obtain a rehearing on the constitutionality of the Alien Land Law and its amendments, the Japanese American Citizens League, in cooperation with the Civil Rights Defense Union of Northern California, filed a petition for rehearing of the Oyama case on Nov. 14 in the California Supreme Court.

Filed by A. L. Wirin, legal counsel for the National JACL, the petition is countersigned by the Japanese American Citizens League through their attorneys Wirin and Saburo Kido.

Proposition 15 Defeated by 400 Thousand

Masaoka Believes Two Million Votes Cast on Proposal

LOS ANGELES — Although official tabulations on the Nov. 5 election will not be made public until December 10, it is now apparent that Proposition 15, which proposed to validate amendments to the Alien Land law, was defeated by approximately 400,000 votes, the southern California office of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee announced this week.

With 13,746 of California's 15,296 precincts reporting, the vote on Proposition 15 was: Yes, 709,038; No, 1,028,651.

(The Associated Press described rejection of Proposition 15 by California voters as giving "a friendly nod to Japanese American servicemen in refusing to approve amendments to the Alien Land law." The A. P. said the proposition "was opposed on the ground it would cheat American-born servicemen of Japanese ancestry of their lands.")

Almost two million votes were cast on Proposition 15, it was reported.

Mike Masaoka, executive secretary, extended the thanks of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee to the many persons and organizations who aided in the defeat of the proposition.

He cited the aid of the Japanese American press as well as the many California newspapers which supported a "NO" vote on the proposition.

Baby Girl Killed By Truck in Driveway Of Sacramento Home

SACRAMENTO—Sanaya Carol Matsuo, 2 years of age, was killed in the driveway of her home on Nov. 9, when she was run over by a truck driven by her father, Kenichi M. Matsuo.

He told highway patrol officers he did not know she was playing in the driveway, but felt a bump after backing the truck for a few feet. He investigated and found her body.

The Supreme Court of California is asked in this petition to reconsider its decision of October 31 upholding the constitutionality of the Alien Land Law in the Oyama case and to set it aside.

A majority of the seven justices on the California Supreme Court must vote to grant the rehearing before the Oyama case can be reargued. If a rehearing is granted, then the high tribunal may, after hearing the arguments, either affirm its previous decision of October 31 or withdraw it in favor of a new opinion.

Three major contentions are listed in the petition for rehearing as reasons for the court to grant the request of the JACL.

The first is that the Oyama decision ignores the rights of Fred Oyama, the American citizen son of K. Oyama, an Issei. The facts in the case disclose that the father made a gift of the property to his son and the argument is that title having been vested in the citizen son cannot be affected by any subsequent acts of the Issei.

The second argument is that the rejection of Proposition 15 by the voters of California has the legal effect of voiding the 1923 and later amendments to the Alien Land Law made by the state legislature. These amendments undertook to make transactions between "ineligible to citizenship" aliens and American citizens illegal as to the date of the original transaction.

According to the petition for rehearing, the purpose of Proposition 15, as stated by its sponsor, Senator Jack B. Tenney, was to validate the legislative amendments to the Alien Land Law. Since the voters refused to validate them, it follows that they must be invalid, null and void.

The third reason advanced was the California Supreme Court ruling that the Statute of Limitations is not available as a defense to escheat proceedings constitutes a denial of the "equal protection of the laws" guarantees of the federal constitution in that the only persons in this state to whom the statute of limitations is not available as a defense to a lawsuit are persons of Japanese ancestry.

The petition for rehearing says in part: "That the Supreme Court of California, by its decision, has made a special law against a particular racial group—and has announced that California has one law for Japanese and another for 'Whites'."

The petition concludes: "This Court has, in effect, by its decision, accentuated the racist features of the Alien Land Law; and did so at a time when the people of California by the rejection of Proposition No. 15 have indicated that they do not approve the shabby practice of racial intolerance."

"It is respectfully suggested that the decision of this Court is written in the shifting sands of time. Hence, it should be recalled; and for it substituted an opinion rooted deep in the solid foundations of the Constitution."

Mike Masaoka, national JACL secretary, in commenting upon this latest action in the Oyama case, declared that the filing of the petition for rehearing lays the groundwork for an eventual appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

Mother Held In Death of Young Daughter

Slaying Admitted By Mrs. Homma in Signed Statement

FAIRFIELD, Calif. — Mrs. Masu Homma, 49, wife of a ranch worker, was in custody in the Solano county jail this week after she had signed a statement admitting the knife slaying of her two-year-old daughter, Keiko.

Deputy Sheriff Jules O. Pritchard said a charge of murder would be filed.

Meanwhile, Deputy District Attorney Kenneth I. Jones said a thorough investigation would be conducted before the filing of the charge.

"There is every reason to believe the mother is not normal," Jones said.

Pritchard said the woman's statement ascribed the act to a fear the baby would go "bad," as in the case of another daughter. Pritchard added this was apparently a reference to Mrs. Homma's eldest daughter, who is a patient in the state hospital for the insane.

Mrs. Homma said she intended to kill herself also, but after seeing what death was like she could not go through with her intention.

The baby's body was found by her brother on his return from school.

Pritchard said that Mrs. Homma had been an inmate of the Patton state hospital until about a year ago for treatment for a persecution complex. He said she previously had threatened to kill the child and herself.

Documentary Film On Evacuation Made By Church Group

SAN FRANCISCO — A documentary film story of the wartime evacuation and relocation of West Coast residents of Japanese ancestry has been produced by the Presbyterian Board of National Missions and has been shown recently in the San Francisco area. The picture, "Barrier and Passes," originally was filmed to tell the evacuation story, but has been brought up to date with new shots on relocation. The new shots on post-war relocation are now being edited into the film. The completed picture will be shown to church groups in all parts of the country.

Nisei Soprano To be Presented in Benefit Concert

FRESNO, Calif.—Miss Masako Ono, young Fresno soprano, will be presented in a benefit concert of classical, semi-classical and Japanese songs on December 29 in the Fresno state college auditorium under the sponsorship of the Central California Young Buddhist Association.

She will be assisted by Miss Misao Kanagawa, violinist of Sangre de Cristo.

Miss Ono, who is at the present time on the faculty of the Bowling Green state university in Ohio as voice instructor, received her training at the Conservatory of Music at Drake university and the University of Michigan, where she received her Bachelor of Music degree.

Committee chairmen for the concert as announced by Tomiko Okuda, chairman are finance, Lilian Shimizu; tickets, Mike Iwatani; correspondence, Robert Kishida; program, Fumi Tachino; sponsors, Sakae Ogawa; stage, Tom

Vote Against Proposition 15 Interpreted as Repudiation of Anti-Orientalism in California

Anti-Discrimination Committee of JACL Active in Fight Against Alien Land Law Measure; Widespread Support Given to Campaign Noted

By JOE GRANT MASAOKA
SAN FRANCISCO—In the election day rejection of California's Proposition 15, a stinging rebuke was administered to the proponents who are sponsoring the legal persecution of Japanese American property owners in the revival of the Alien Land Law. By a plurality of over 300,000 ballots, California voters registered a vote of repudiation against what the proponents regarded as entrenched tradition and precedent in the Alien Land Law. This milestone in the Golden State's record of anti-Orientalism marks the turning point of the forces long identified with anti-Japanese agitation. The California Joint Immigration Committee and the Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West since the turn of the century have been embarked on a campaign of restrictive and expulsive action which was finally climaxed with the evacuation. Their attempts at race incitement as witnessed in the recent drive for endorsement of Proposition 15 did not win the requisite response at the polls. Observers point out this electoral reprimand may mean the demise of hate programs against Japanese Americans.

This legislative proposal was initiated while the war was still raging in the Pacific. Enacted June 16, 1945, it was identified as Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 17 to validate 1923 and 1913 amendments to the initiative Alien Land Law of 1920. These amendments included provisions for the automatic and immediate escheat or reversion to the state of properties acquired by Nisei, the imputation of bad faith in their acquisition of real estate, harsh and unreasonable penalties, the inability of the alien parents to "acquire, possess, enjoy use, cultivate, occupy, transfer, transmit and inherit real property . . . (or to . . . have in whole or in part the beneficial use thereof."

The Alien Land Law of 1920 permitted amendments in furtherance of its purposes. Proponents felt that in order to forestall any attempts to question whether these amendments were in furtherance of the purposes, they should be placed in the State Constitution by being validated by the electorate. This refusal by the voters to rubber stamp this legislative proposal raises some serious questions as to whether the courts will continue permitting infringements upon the property rights of American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

The recent Oyama decision by the California Supreme Court further emphasized the disabilities and deficiencies of the "ineligible alien" in regard to property rights. This election campaign spearheaded by the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee was primarily concerned with the deprivation of the rights of Nisei and the Nisei soldier. Upon this issue Californians rallied and unmistakably voiced their opposition to legal attacks against Japanese Americans. The democratic right to equal consideration is now vindicated. Ex-Sgt. Akira Iwamura's grievance was deemed to be legitimate and aroused the conscience of voters.

In a refreshing commentary, it was observed that hysteria gener-

Okuno; reception, Elaine Ueyemura; posters, Fred Nishida; publicity, Kazue Sekiya.

The proceeds of the concert will go to the recently established CC-YBA organ fund.

ated in certain quarters of California was responsible for the wartime displacement of Japanese Americans. Last week California took a decisive step in denouncing racist assaults against Japanese Americans. The Golden State's example was followed in the enactment of similar Alien Land Laws in 17 other western states. It may signify that California's lead here again may result in relegating other Alien Land laws to dead letter hangovers.

The defeat of Proposition 15 becomes significant in view of the trouncing taken by Proposition 11, the Fair Employment Practices Commission act. Proposition 15 is ideologically fair practices in agricultural operations. Despite attempts to link up Japanese aliens involved by the Alien Land Law with the atrocities committed by the recent enemy, the attitude of fair play was sustained.

The JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee budget started out with \$250 for a state-wide coverage. As interest was whipped up, requests from organizations for informational literature assumed landslide proportions. It was originally planned to exploit organizational contracts so that informational drives would be conducted among their members. Issei generally believed the measure was foredoomed to passage. The overwhelming passage of the Initiative Act of 1920 was remembered and the accompaniment of vicious race-baiting were painful memories. The older generation recalled generous expenditures for campaign drives, but the vote which swamped them was actually distressing. Consequently there was little support financially. In many quarters a fatalistic and passive attitude was manifest.

San Francisco vernacular newspapers in editorials in their Japanese sections and in daily news stories reporting the activities of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee awakened readers from apathy. A solicitation drive was launched which culminated in contributions from all parts of Northern California. Sales of leaflets and donations amounted to \$5000 in the San Francisco regional office. These receipts covered the campaign expenses and are being duly reported to the California Secretary of State in accordance with the law. In comparison with the amounts spent by other participants to support their objectives this figure is a modest one.

During the height of the campaign frequent callers stopped at the office to leave their offerings. A Coast Guard pensioner, domestic workers, wives of servicemen, students, farmers, soldiers in uniform, storekeepers, gardeners, and others including the treasurer of the Townsend Harris Post, American Legion who left a \$100 War Bond. In the evening volunteer workers helped in mailing. Even high school students assisted in the office.

JACL chapters and members on their own initiative distributed literature, sent mailings to the voters in their precincts, spoke at local meetings, bought radio time and newspaper advertisements and persuaded friends and organizations to carry on for their cause. Significantly enough, JACL chapter efforts were reflected in generous "NO" votes. Where no Nisei organizations were established to combat Proposition 15, as in the Sacramento district, the vote was 2 to 1 in its favor.

Proposition 15 proponents chose to place their campaign emphasis on "the Japanese." If this plebiscite is to be interpreted as an accente is to be interpreted as the Nisei and his parents, then the day of the anti-Nisei race-baiter is over in California.

Disclose Japanese Americans Aided in Construction of Huge U. S. Navy Oil Storage System

HONOLULU—More than 500 Americans of Japanese ancestry were employed by the Navy Department in a secret war project, the construction of a huge oil storage system under Red hill behind Pearl Harbor, it was disclosed here on Nov. 11.

Sixteen men were killed and dozens were injured in burrowing into the lava heart of the hill. It was not disclosed whether any of the casualties included Japanese Americans.

The story of the Navy's \$42,000,000 project, which was started in 1940 and completed in 1943 was told this week in David O. Woodbury's book, "Builders for Battle."

Hardrock miners from Colorado, tunnel men from Montana, Idaho and Nevada, and coal miners from Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Kentucky labored on the project alongside the Japanese Americans who supplied much of the labor for the project.

(Japanese Americans also were used on many other Navy construction and salvaging projects during the war in Hawaii. A group of Japanese American volunteers from the University of Hawaii, called the "VVV's," did important construction work for the Army after Pearl Harbor. Most of the VVV's later served with the 442nd Combat Team and other units.)

In the Red hill project twenty vertical concrete-lined tanks, each higher than a 20-story building, were dug beneath the hill. Each holds 250,000,000 gallons of fuel oil. These tanks, with 12 surface tanks, would hold enough to fuel the Pacific fleet for six years.

According to the Navy, only 17 men are needed to operate the system.

Evacuee Group Faces Eviction In Portland

Fire Chief Condemns Hotel as Hazard Under New Code

PORTLAND, Ore.—A number of returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry, including the family of Mr. and Mrs. Shizuo Kai, faced eviction this week, when Fire Chief Grenfell condemned the Barton hotel, New Panama hotel and other properties as fire hazards.

The Barton hotel is managed by a returned evacuee.

The 62 tenants of the Barton hotel immediately signed petitions protesting eviction "at the time when winter is coming." Most of the tenants declared they had "no place to go."

The condemnations were ordered by the fire marshal under a new amendment to the city's fire code.

Japanese Americans Pack Celery for GI Thanksgiving Dinners

IRVINGTON, Calif.—Returned Japanese Americans helped pack 120,000 bunches of Irvington celery which left Oakland on Nov. 11 aboard the Army's Flying Scud which was loaded with food for the Thanksgiving dinners of American GIs in Japan.

More than 25 Japanese Americans helped pack the 5000 crates of celery, according to W. B. Williams, farmer-shipper.

The Japanese Americans harvested, packed and delivered the special shipment of celery in less than three days. The shipment filled three freight cars.

Southern California Nisei, Issei Pledge JACL Support

LOS ANGELES—Nisei and Issei leaders in Los Angeles Monday night pledged their support of the JACL in its program to bring the Oyama test case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The resolution followed a speech by Mike Masaoka, executive secretary of the JACL Anti-Discrimination committee, in which he analyzed the recent decision of the California State Supreme Court against the Nisei defendant.

The resolution, which was unanimously passed, also called upon Japanese Issei and Nisei in southern California to cooperate with the JACL and the Northern California Civil Rights Defense Union in supporting the Oyama test case.

The resolution thanked the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee for its leadership in the campaign which defeated Proposition 15 on November 5 and pledged the wholehearted support of the Japanese American community in the JACL's fight for the passage of naturalization and evacuation claims legislation.

In his speech Masaoka characterized the Oyama decision of the state's highest court as "based

upon bad and obsolete law."

Masaoka stated that the U. S. Supreme Court will be asked to rule that the alien land law is in violation of the federal constitution "because it discriminates against the Japanese on the basis of race and denies them the equal protection of the law."

"The Oyama decision is so sweeping," Masaoka said, "that the property rights in land of most persons of Japanese ancestry in California become suspect, and this applies to residential properties in the metropolitan areas as well as to agricultural lands."

Disband Stockton Committee to Aid Returned Evacuees

STOCKTON, Calif.—Announcing it had accomplished its original purpose of assisting in the resettlement of Japanese American evacuees in the Stockton area, the Japanese American Resettlement committee disbanded on Nov. 5.

The Rev. Andrew Juvinall was chairman and Amos Alonzo Stagg, famous football coach at College of Pacific, was honorary chairman.

Although the committee has been disbanded, the members stressed they would continue to ally themselves with the cause of fair play for Japanese Americans and members of other racial minority groups in the Stockton area.

Last Rites Held For Mrs. W. Onoye

LOS ANGELES—Funeral services for Mrs. Wakiko Onoye, 56, of 2342 West 31st street, Los Angeles, were held November 9 at the Japanese Methodist church. She died suddenly of a stroke on November 4.

Mrs. Onoye was an active member of the Christian church. She is survived by her husband, Mr. Zempachi Onoye, two sons Shigeto and Charles, and four daughters, Sada, Evelyn and Esther Onoye and Mrs. Gladys K. Shimasaki. Another son, Lloyd M. Onoye, was killed in April, 1945, while in service with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Contest Winners Offered Trip To Intermountain Convention

Winners of the oratorical and essay contests being held in conjunction with the Intermountain District JACL convention in Boise and Weiser, Idaho, Dec. 14-16, will be awarded free trips to the convention in addition to trophies and medals, according to Tom Hoshiyama, chairman.

All JACL members may enter either or both contests. Essays must be submitted to Mr. Hoshiyama, 706 Utah Savings and Trust building, Salt Lake City,

by Dec. 1. Entries may be on any subject relative to Japanese Americans. Essays must be 1000 to 1500 words in length.

Applications to enter the oratorical contest must be made by Nov. 20, with one of the following regional chairmen: Mary Ban, Rt. 4, Nampa, Idaho, southwestern Idaho chapters; Mrs. F. Ochi 247 4th st., Idaho Falls, Idaho, southeastern Idaho; or Tom Hoshiyama, Utah chapters.

Winners will be notified in time to make the convention trip.

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Decision in Hawaii

The negotiated settlement of the industry-wide sugar strike in Hawaii, which has deeply affected the lives of the territory's 500,000 residents, indicates that labor and capital have reached a common ground of agreement on the basic wage and working issues which were at stake.

The result of the strike, which includes wage raises estimated at \$10,000,000 annually to sugar industry workers, proves that organized labor has met its most difficult test in Hawaii. It should be stressed that the success of the strike was made possible, in large share, by the interracial unity of the industry's workers who represent all of the many racial groups represented in the Hawaiian population. This interracial unity was achieved on the basis of the forthright anti-discrimination policy which has characterized the activities of the CIO's ILWU. Previous attempts on the part of Hawaiian labor groups to improve their wage and working conditions had not been wholly successful because management had been able to play one race group against another.

As a result of the strike settlement the sugar industry's workers have achieved a new sense of dignity. Formerly such "perquisites" as housing, fuel, water and medical care had been provided by industry on the plantations in addition to an hourly wage of 41 cents an hour on the island of Hawaii and 43½ cents elsewhere in the territory. The new contract calls for a minimum wage of 70½ cents per hour and ranging to \$1.38. The new wages include an allowance for the "perquisites," which now are considered on integral part of the worker's wage and not the gift of a benevolent plantation. The new contract, which also calls for sick leave and vacations, removes the workers from the peon status under the feudal economy which had existed on the plantations.

The effect of the strike settlement reached this week in Honolulu will be to end the monopoly control of Hawaii's economy by the "Big Five" industrial interests which one time maintained absolute control of basic industries and virtual control of shipping and commerce.

The news from Hawaii is that labor can now meet on equal footing with management. And the interpretation of that news is that the people of Hawaii, including its variegated racial groups, are now able to achieve a new degree of social and economic democracy.

The news from Hawaii is the best recommendation to date that Hawaii is ready for the maturity of statehood.

Program for Democracy

Americans who oppose legislative action to guarantee equal economic and political rights to all men, regardless of color or religious belief, are too prone to say, "You can't legislate racial democracy."

But during the war the FEPC proved that economic opportunity can be legislated—and successfully.

The argument that racial democracy cannot be achieved by legislation or by education is as old as the varied racial concepts that have kept us all from thinking clearly about the problem. These concepts, such as the "lazy" Negro or the "heathen" Chinese, have kept us from accepting persons of minority ancestry as full participants in this democracy.

This week, writing in the American Council's Report on Race Relations, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, director of the Community Service's Division of the council, reports that

in the Soviet Union a three-point program of legislation, economic opportunity and education has almost entirely erased racial prejudice from a country that once was "rife with anti-Semitism and national hatreds."

Expressions of nationality or racial chauvinism are punishable by law, says Dr. Weaver. In addition, the existence of full employment and social security "have removed the economic causes for the intergroup tensions and rivalries. Studied action to include all ethnic and nationality groups in the affairs of the nation have put a visible stamp of official approval upon equality of opportunity."

Most important, says Dr. Weaver, is the use of education in schools, trade unions and in cultural activities throughout the nation.

"Russia has shown the world that group prejudices and conflict can be modified," Dr. Weaver concludes. "The methods of capitalism and our form of democracy differ from those of the Soviet Union, but in Russia's handling of minority problems we can find valuable methodological tools — tools which are equally applicable to our society, but which will require refinement and redirection."

Statutory Deadwood

The people of Oregon repealed the state's so-called "Chinaman law," prohibiting the ownership of agricultural and mining property by Chinese aliens, at the general elections on Nov. 5. The proponents of repeal argued that the law, a legislative restriction aimed at a single race group, was in conflict with the Constitution and that it was statutory deadwood and was not being enforced.

Oregon, however, still has an Alien Land law, patterned on the California act, prohibiting the ownership of farm property by "aliens ineligible to citizenship" and aimed directly at Japanese aliens. This Oregon land law was amended in 1945 in a move which was interpreted as an effort to prevent the return of evacuees of Japanese ancestry to their former homes on the West coast by denying them access to farm property. This law is still on the statute books of the state.

One of the reasons for the action to repeal the anti-Chinese land law in Oregon is the fact that the government of China promulgated a new land law in April, 1946, which is applicable to lands purchased by American nationals in China. It is pointed out that in the United States land and its incidents are governed by state statutes. Some states still have laws, as Oregon did, which prohibit the owning of land by Chinese aliens, while others impose restrictions on land ownership by Chinese nationals. Still other states have no race restrictions of any kind on land ownership. An American national in China, under the new law, is granted the same rights as Chinese have in the state from which the American national has come. If an American national's state of origin prohibits the owning of land by Chinese, such national cannot own land in China. The Republic of China is showing that discrimination is a two-edged sword and the action of the Chinese already has had the effect of repealing an anti-Chinese law in a West Coast state.

The large plurality of votes against Proposition 15, expected to total 400,000 when all the ballots have been counted, indicates that the people of California have repudiated the Alien Land law. This law, which shames the integrity of the state which has invited the United Nations to locate its headquarters within its boundaries, is still in effect, although stringent legislative amendments passed in 1923 and 1943 were rejected in the vote on Proposition 15. One of the propositions passed at the California elections now gives the legislature for the first time the power to propose the amendment, or even repeal, of laws which have been placed on the statute books by direct initiative vote of the people. The repudiation of the Alien Land Law in the vote of more than 1,200,000 Californians against Proposition 15 should inspire the 1946 legislature to propose the repeal of the Alien Land law itself. Until this is done, and until similar examples of legislative discrimination have been eliminated, California cannot be cleansed of the taint of racism.

Since California has been the fountainhead of this type of anti-Oriental legislation, it is expected that the 17 other states which have passed anti-alien land laws will follow its lead in any action toward repeal of these restrictions.

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

On the Nisei at the Polls

During the recent political campaign in California several Nisei leaders were approached by opponents of the fair employment practices initiative on the state ballot. The anti-FEPC group suggested that these Nisei publicly condemn the FEPC proposal in return for support in defeating Proposition 15, the Alien Land Law amendments. The opponents of the FEPC, who waged a campaign of fear and distortion, wanted the Nisei, as representatives of a racial minority group, to condemn the proposal so that anti-FEPC publicity could claim that even members of racial minorities were opposed to the initiative.

The Nisei leaders involved refused to compromise their integrity. Proposition 15 was defeated without the aid of deals with political opportunists. The Nisei had learned a political lesson during the war and had learned it the hard way. The sum of that lesson was that opportunism does not pay.

The opportunists were the first to melt away when Americans of Japanese ancestry were subjected to the intensive hate campaign of the race-baiters after the outbreak of war. A flag-waver who had staged a patriotic rally for the Nisei only a few months before Pearl Harbor became one of the first to demand mass evacuation. Corrupt officials who had carried the political favor of the Nisei jumped on the racist bandwagon.

In the bleak months which followed the attack on Pearl Harbor the Nisei became fair game for the hate-monger and the political and economic opportunist. But the Nisei also found there were staunch citizens who had not lost their faith in the group and who were determined that Japanese Americans would not be the victims of the indiscriminate emotions aroused by the war. It took more than ordinary courage to stand up to be counted on behalf of fair play for the Nisei in 1942. Those who did included persons who represented every shade of political opinion. There were a number of outstanding Republicans, such as many of the men and women who lent their names and prestige to the fair play committees which were organized on the Pacific coast. But, in the main, the friends of the Nisei were those whose politics would be classed as "liberal" or "progressive." In the minds of these people, of course, the issue was not one of political partisanship, and they were joined by their common interest in democratic fair play.

A degree of political partisanship was injected, particularly at the national level, in discussions over the wartime treatment of Japanese Americans, but the demarcation usually was between reactionaries and progressives. The War Relocation Authority was created by the executive order of Franklin D. Roosevelt and was staffed largely with liberal administrators, like Dillon Myer, Milton Eisenhower and others, whose activities were subjected to bitter attacks from reactionaries in both parties.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities, under Martin Dies, a reactionary Democrat, and Parnell Thomas and John Costello, hounded both the Japanese Americans and the WRA. The Dies Committee held star chamber hearings on the Pacific coast in 1943 and collaborated with the campaign of the Hearst press to picture the evacuees as spies and saboteurs. The Dies Committee seized the files of the JACL in Washington and the contents appeared in the Hearst newspapers before the files were even introduced at a congressional hearing. Stories designed to incite hatred against Japanese Americans and to discredit the WRA, such as the fabrications that the evacuees were being accorded special treatment and were enjoying tile bathrooms in the relocation camps and eating butter, scarce meats and drinking gallons of whiskey were released by the Dies Committee to the newspapers.

Rep. Costello's efforts were in-

terpreted as an effort to gain publicity for a possible campaign for the forthcoming nomination for United States Senator from California in 1944. The Dies Committee's campaign backfired, largely through the alertness of the WRA, who were quick to show up the false testimony presented before the committee and through the minority report presented by Rep. Herman Eberharter, a New Deal member, which challenged the Dies group's campaign of racial bias and distortion.

The identification of political reactionaries, particularly in the Republican party with a campaign of restrictive activity against Japanese Americans, became pronounced in the 1944 elections in California when the GOP, through Lieutenant Governor Houser and other candidates, openly charged that the reelection of Franklin D. Roosevelt would mean the early return of Japanese American evacuees to the Pacific coast. The impression was heightened when Ohio's Governor Bricker, touring California on a campaign swing, made the silly statement that local communities should have the right to exclude Americans and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry. Meanwhile, the WRA had been transferred to the Interior Department and Harold L. Ickes, whose name is synonymous with the New Deal, became the outstanding administration critic of West Coast racism against the Japanese Americans. Mrs. Roosevelt, who had visited the Gila River center; Henry Wallace, Abe Fortas and other New Dealers also defended the WRA's policy in its treatment of the evacuees. This WRA policy, incidentally, was predicated on the belief that "the very great majority" of the evacuees were loyal Americans. Critics of the WRA were forced to attack the loyalty of the Japanese Americans in their tirades against WRA policy, just as Governor Bricker had swallowed the Hearst line against the Nisei in his Los Angeles statement in 1944.

The use of the Nisei evacuee issue by the reactionaries in their attacks on the administration is illustrated by the change in attitude of Upton Close, now one of the foremost spokesmen for American reaction. Many Nisei will recall that Close, then a commentator in San Francisco for NBC, was the first radio speaker to stress the loyalty of the Nisei after the news had been broadcast that Pearl Harbor had been attacked. Close later became identified with American reactionaries and attacked both the Nisei and the WRA in radio broadcasts claiming that the relocation centers were hotbeds of Communism.

It is undoubtedly a reflection of their wartime experiences that Nisei who took an active part in the 1946 elections campaigned for progressive candidates, mainly on the Democratic ticket. All of the active political campaigning by Nisei groups was for Democratic and liberal personalities, although this does not necessarily mean that the average Nisei on the mainland voted that way. In Seattle a committee of Nisei veterans campaigned for Rep. Hugh DeLoach. In Chicago the new Nisei weekly, the Nisei Courier, recommended a Democratic slate, including Rep. Emily Taft Douglas, who has one of the best liberal records in the House, but who was defeated in the GOP landslide. In San Francisco the Nichi-Bei Times urged the election of the Democratic slate, while in New York City the Japanese American Committee for Democracy campaigned actively for the Mead-Lehman ticket and for Reps. Vito Marcantonio and Adam Clayton Powell. The Washington correspondent of the Los Angeles Times made a point of mentioning that some of the financial contributors to the campaign of Dr. Hubert Phillips of Fresno, one of the leading wartime spokesmen in behalf of the democratic treatment of the Nisei and the Democratic candidate for Congress had "Japanese" names.

The Nisei have learned to be wary of political opportunism, but they have also demonstrated their willingness to work — and support the campaigns of candidates whose platforms are progressive in concept and embrace the welfare of the whole people.

Chicago JACL Chapter Will Hold Elections

Jack Nakagawa Nominated for Presidency of Unit

CHICAGO—Jack Nakagawa is the choice of the nominating committee for president of the Chicago chapter of the JACL, according to the list of nominations announced recently. Elections will be held at the monthly meeting of the Chicago chapter on Nov. 21 at the Loop Club, 59 W. Monroe St., from 8 to 10 p. m. Other candidates announced by the nominating committee include Harry Sabusawa, vice-president; Harry Suzuki, rec. sec.; Marvel Oda, corres. sec.; Masaji Morikawa, treas.; and Bill Sims, Kiyoko Kasai and Martha Hayes, representatives. The nominating committee explained the fact that only one person had been nominated for each post by declaring that many other members had been approached, but had declined to run. The elections will be open to write-candidates, it was stressed.

Chicago Bowlers Win Two Matches From Cincinnati

CHICAGO—The city's top Nisei bowling teams defeated a visiting Cincinnati Nisei squad in a three-game series on Nov. 9 and 10.

The Chicago teams are the leaders of the city's fourteen-team Nisei league.

In the first game Cincinnati defeated Victory Recreation of Chicago, 2428 to 2383. Joe Horimoto fired a 534 while Stogie Toki had a 520 for the winners. Shorty Tanaka and Tak Fujii, top average bowlers in the Chicago league, had 539 and 512, respectively.

The Cincinnati squad lost on Nov. 10 to Terusaki and Dea's Garage team, 2389 to 2183. Jim Uejo of the winning team had high series of 552.

In the final game Bob's Cafe, last season's Chicago league champions, defeated Cincinnati, 2436 to 2377. George Yamasaki and Chy Kawakami led Bob's Cafe with a series of 533 and 524. Jim Takeuchi of Cincinnati had 522, while Stogie Toki finished with 521. Paul Sugimoto, Joe Horimoto and Shig Watanabe were the other members of the Cincinnati team.

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Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Masami Nawa a girl in Denver, Colo.
To Mr. and Mrs. George Yago a girl on Oct. 10 in Greeley, Colo.
To Mr. and Mrs. K. Harry Uno a girl in Ault, Colo.
To Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Fujii a girl on Oct. 26 in Walnut Grove, Calif.
To Mr. and Mrs. Ralph T. Sugimoto a girl on Oct. 26 in Elk Grove, Calif.
To Mr. and Mrs. Todd Tomihiro a boy, Robert Michio, on Sept. 27 in Boston, Mass.
To Mr. and Mrs. Ichiro Nakajima a girl on Nov. 1 in Los Angeles.
To Mr. and Mrs. Katsumi Matsumaga a boy on Nov. 1 in Brighton, Calif.
To Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Morikawa a girl in Guadalupe, Calif.
To Mr. and Mrs. Esami Okamoto a girl on Oct. 6 in Chicago.

DEATHS

Hidejiro Hirata, 46, 330 23rd St., Ogden, Utah, on Nov. 9.
Yukie Tanikawa on Nov. 6 in Los Angeles.
Mrs. Wakiko Onouye, 58, on Nov. 4 in Los Angeles.
Paul Hajime Sakauye, 35, on Nov. 8 in Venice, Calif.
Yahei Naruto, 57, on Nov. 5 in Los Angeles.
Hisayo Okino on Oct. 29 at Visalia, Calif.
Harue Kuromi, 52, on Nov. 8 in Los Angeles.
Sanaya Carol Matsuo, 2, in Sacramento, Calif.
Benichi Sano, 73, on Nov. 8 in Los Angeles.
Ryuichi Neishi, 29, 330 23rd St., Ogden, Utah on Nov. 6.
Tetsutaro Hidaka, 27, in San Jose on Nov. 6.
Yasutaro Yamada in San Jose on Nov. 5.

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Joe E. Brown Will Be Guest At Chicago JACL Inaugural

CHICAGO—Joe E. Brown, famous star of the radio, stage and screen, has made tentative arrangements to attend the inaugural ball of the Chicago Japanese American Citizens League on December 13 as a special guest of the chapter, it was announced this week by the program committee.

Mr. Brown, whose interest in the Nisei and their problems endeared him to all Japanese Americans, will be officially presented with an invitation at a dinner with Mari Sabusawa of the program committee and some of her committee members. The dinner will be held Sunday, November 17, at the Wisteria Tea Room.

MARRIAGES

Sumi Hirai to George Ito on Oct. 27 in Chicago.
Alice Kiyo Makimoto to Gerald Kakehashi on Oct. 26 in Chicago.
Yoshiko Nakamura to Paul Yasuo Hisayama on Oct. 20 in Los Angeles.
Tomiko Suzumoto to Sgt. Tsutomu Hada on Nov. 10 in Los Angeles.
Mineko Mary Suzuki to Philip Ichino on Nov. 10 in Los Angeles.
Suiko Nishimori, formerly of Bainbridge Island, Wash., to Robert Yonemitsu, formerly of Los Angeles, on Nov. 2 in Chicago.
Florence Takemura to Craig Otsuka in Chicago.
Patricia Sakon to George Handa on Oct. 19 in Chicago.
Marye Nagafuchi to Harry H. Oda on Oct. 20 in Chicago.
Sue Miura to Tada Hashimo on Oct. 29 in Chicago.
Toshiko Akiyama to Kiyto Sujiura on Nov. 10 in Denver.
Yuki Taziri to James Muroya on Nov. 9 in Denver.
Fumi Nakagawa to Pvt. Joe T. ato, Nyssa, Ore., in Monterey, Calif.
May Reiko Yoneshiro to Yoshitsugu Sagara on Nov. 10 in Denver.

During the war the famous actor publicly praised the fighting men of Japanese ancestry in the U. S. Army in both the Pacific and Italian war theaters, where he came in contact with them during the course of USO tours.

Following his tour of Pacific war fronts, the noted comedian said that American soldiers on the front-lines in the war against Japan strongly condemned discriminatory treatment of Nisei Americans.

"As for the persecution of the Nisei here," Brown said, "they think it's terrible. I know. I've had a number of round-table discussions with them on that subject alone."

The Chicago chapter's inaugural ball will be held at the Shoreland hotel in the Crystal ballroom under the chairmanship of Lincoln Shimidzu.

Other committee chairmen will be Dr. Mas Sakada, facilities; Jack Ota and Louise Suski, publicity; Mas Iwakagama, bids; Jiro Yamaguchi, sales; Mary Suzuki, program; Noboru Honda, patrons and patronesses; and Miss Sabusawa.

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Interracial Solidarity Shown By Sugar Industry Workers As Strike Nears Settlement

HONOLULU—The interracial solidarity of Hawaii's 28,000 sugar industry workers was lauded here this week by CIO officials as the territory's 75-day old sugar industry strike appeared near settlement.

Workers of all racial groups are represented in the membership of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union but the majority are of Japanese, Portuguese, Chinese, Filipino and Hawaiian ancestry, it was indicated.

A union official noted that previous strikes in the sugar industry had failed because of the lack of interracial unity among the sugar workers.

(A Honolulu report on Nov. 15 declared that the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association had signed an agreement granting \$10,500,000 more yearly in wages to employees as settlement of the 75-day-old sugar strike appeared to have been negotiated. The agreement, which provides a guarantee against anti-labor practices and includes promises of improved working conditions, must be ratified by the 28,000 members of the CIO's International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and by 33 plantations. Quick ratification was predicted by ILWU leaders and it was possible that the workers

would be back at their jobs by Nov. 19.)

It was noted that the CIO's ILWU had stressed interracial activity and responsibility in its organization of sugar, pineapple, warehouse and waterfront workers in Hawaii during the war years. CIO leadership in Hawaii is representative of the many race groups in the territory. Many of the leaders of local unions in the sugar strike are Japanese Americans, including combat veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Combat Team.

Chairman of the ILWU's Territorial Council is Jack H. Kawano, longshoremen's leader and wartime member of Hawaii's Manpower Board.

Kawano and other local CIO officials have played an active part in the negotiations with sugar industry representatives.

Nathan P. Feinsinger, special representative of the Labor Department, announced last week that he believed that a basis for an agreement between the union and industry representatives on the basic issues of the strike had been reached.

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YBA Group Holds First Post-war Meet in Watsonville

WATSONVILLE, Calif. — With "This Is My Faith" as its theme, the first postwar coast district YBA conference was held in Watsonville on Oct. 27.

The conference, by unanimous vote, passed a resolution of appreciation to American soldiers of Japanese ancestry for their valiant war service.

The membership pledged to "keep the brilliant war record of these soldiers untainted by faithfully serving the United States as loyal citizens."

Cabinet officers for the year 1946-47 were installed in a candlelight service led by Manabu Fukuda, national YBA president.

The cabinet is composed of Tom Takeda, president; Larry Onitsuka and Grace Kodama, vice presidents; Michi Hirose, recording secretary; Marianne Masui, corresponding secretary; Bob Manabe, treasurer; Hitoshi Akizuka, auditor; Riyoko Ichikawa, religious chairman; Sachi Endo, social chairman; Bill Mine, boys' athletic manager, and Alice Ichishita, girls' athletic manager.

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Nisei Team Proves Surprise of San Jose Winter League

SAN JOSE, Calif.—The all-Nisei Zebra nine is providing the surprise of San Jose's fast winter baseball league, in which many of the players are professionals, including several from Class AAA leagues.

The young Zebra team is currently tied for second place with three victories and one loss.

Last Sunday the Zebras came from behind with a five-run rally in the eighth to defeat the University of Santa Clara nine.

The Zebra team recently was reinforced by several Nisei stars from the Presidio of Monterey team which reached the finals of the Sixth Army Command tournament recently.

Sawaya Recovers

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—A recovered fumble by Al Sawaya, Diego State lineman, set up second of three touchdowns as Aztecs defeated Loyola's Lions Nov. 8 at Gilmore stadium.

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