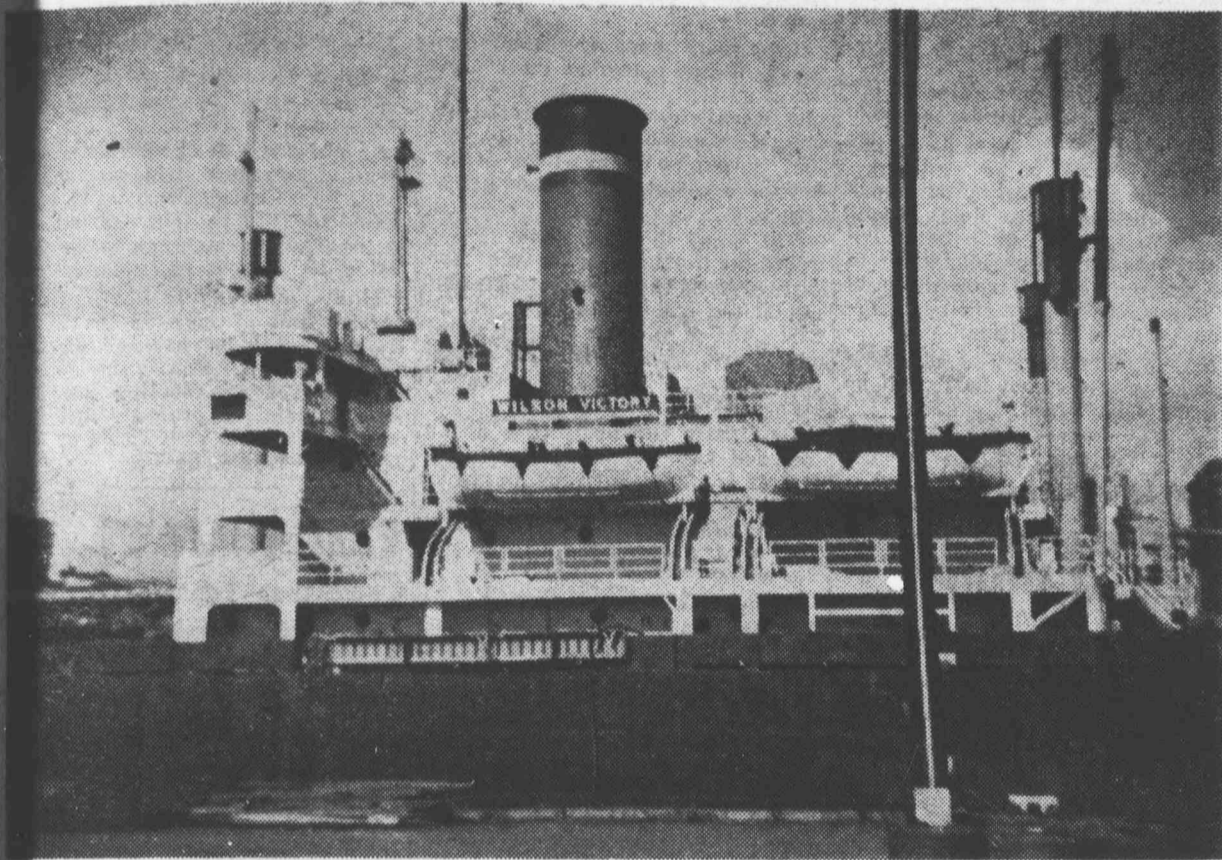




Army Renames Ship for Nisei War Hero



The U. S. Army transport Wilson Victory, the ship which brought the men and colors of the 442nd Combat Team home from Leghorn, Italy, in July, 1946, will be redesignated the USAT Pvt. Sadao Munemori on March 16 at ceremonies in New York harbor. The renaming of the ship

will honor one of the 442nd's heroes and the only Nisei to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. A JACL plaque will be placed aboard the ship during the redesignation rites. This photo of the Wilson Victory was taken recently when the ship stopped in Honolulu, en route back to the United States from the Far East.

Munemori Ship Naming Rites Set This Week

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The twice-postponed Munemori ship redesignation ceremonies have now been advanced three days to March 16, Brooklyn Army base authorities informed the Washington office of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee this week. The schedule was moved up, it was explained, to restore the 7,046-ton cargo carrier Pvt. Sadao S. Munemori to service at the "earliest possible moment."

The official renaming of the ship originally was to have been held two days ago, but was postponed to March 12 to allow repairs to the ship. The ceremonies were put off a second time, to March 19, when it was discovered earlier last week that it would take more time to complete the job of overhauling than the first estimates indicated. The Brooklyn authorities revised the date with the receipt of shipping orders.

The Washington JACL ADC office learned further that the former Wilson Victory has been sailing as the "Pvt. Sadao S. Munemori" for several months; the vessel was renamed soon after the War department order was announced. The USAT Munemori, named for the only Nisei Congressional Medal of Honor winner in U. S. history, has been operating out of New York on a regularly-assigned run in the Atlantic and is registered as the Pvt. Sadao S. Munemori. The ceremonies on March 16 are to make the redesignation official.

It was hoped that following the renaming ceremonies, the Munemori will be diverted to the Pacific area. Port officials said that the vessel had made at least two trips to the Pacific since it was acquired by the Army Transportation corps in 1945.

JACL Sends \$510 To CARE for Bruyeres Project

The National JACL this week sent a check for \$510, the contributions of JACL chapters and friends, to Sam Ishikawa, eastern regional director of the JACL, to be used to purchase 51 CARE packages for the townspeople of Bruyeres, France.

Masaoka Suggests Assignment Of Munemori Ship to Pacific

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Reassignment of the USAT Pvt. Sadao S. Munemori to permanent duty in the Pacific as a graphic demonstration to the peoples of Asia, and particularly Japan, of American democracy at work was suggested on March 11 by Mike Masaoka, national legislative director of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee.

On the eve of the formal renaming of the Wilson Victory for a Nisei soldier, Mr. Masaoka, on behalf of the national JACL and the thousands of Nisei soldiers who have proudly worn the American uniform, urged Secretary of the Army, Kenneth C. Royall, that he exercise his good influence to put the Munemori on the regular Pacific run at the earliest possible moment.

The placement of the 7,046-ton Army cargo carrier for occupation duties in the Orient "would serve to demonstrate to the people of Japan and Asia that in America distinctions are not made on the basis of race or national origin," he wrote, adding, "Americans of all creeds are honored for the part they played in winning the victory over totalitarianism."

"We further believe that this would have a most salutary effect upon the peoples of the Orient who are now looking to the United States for leadership and guidance in the present world."

Mr. Masaoka emphasized it would be "most appropriate" if after the redesignation ceremonies are held, the ship is transferred to the Pacific. He suggested that in reassigning the trig Army transport to the Far East it should make calls at Yokohama and at other ports in U.S. occupied Japan. "If it could be arranged, it might be even more significant if relief goods for Japan were to be shipped on the USAT 'Pvt. Sadao Munemori' on its maiden voyage to Yokohama," he said.

Sam Ishikawa, eastern states director of the JACL ADC, meanwhile reported that preparations have been completed to make the ship ceremony a noteworthy event for the Nisei. Although somewhat harassed by two postponements and finally a third change—when the Army advanced the ceremony date three days—he expressed hope that no further complications would develop.

As one of his minor troubles he revealed that the Army's decision had cost him a number of extra trips to the plaque makers. He

was forced to revise the date on the inscription four times.

The Washington JACL ADC late today announced that Colonel James M. Hanley, a former executive officer of the 442nd, and now with the Judge Advocate General's Office in Washington, will attend the ship redesignation rites. He is substituting for Colonel Virgil R. Miller, former commanding officer of the Japanese American regiment, who was originally scheduled to be present. Colonel Miller had accepted the JACL invitation but was forced to cancel his participation when the Army last week announced its third change in the renaming schedule.

The most recent information from New York port of embarkation officials indicates that the USAT Munemori will be shipping out of port a day or two following the ceremony.

Tom Itami Named President of Snake River JACL

ONTARIO, Ore.—Thomas Itami was named president of the Snake River JACL at an election meeting Feb. 6 at the Community hall.

George Sugai was elected vice president, with Noriko Morikawa and Natsuko Hashitani named corresponding and recording secretaries.

Other officers are Tom Iseri, treasurer; Mac Sugai and James Watanabe, social chairmen; Joe Saito and James Watanabe, official delegates; and Alice Nishitani, historian.

Mun Iseri and Ted Nakamura were named captains of membership teams. Tom Iseri and George Sugai were named finance chairmen, and Joe Saito was named chairman of a committee to revise the constitution.

The Snake River chapter will hold meetings on the second Friday of each month.

Senator McGrath Introduces Bill to Grant Naturalization Rights to Issei Residents

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Introduction into Congress of another naturalization bill, described as satisfying the "minimum objectives" of the JACL ADC goal for citizenship for Issei, was reported this week by the Washington office of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee.

The bill, which was given the number S. 2245, was submitted last week by Senator J. Howard McGrath, of Rhode Island, concurrently chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

It provides for the naturalization of all persons who were lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence prior to Jan. 1, 1925.

Unlike an earlier measure which he introduced in the Senate last summer, Senator McGrath's new bill would not eliminate the racial provisions of Section 303 of the Nationality Act of 1940 which deals with naturalization. The measure simply provides for the addition of the following paragraph to Section 303: "(5) Without regard to subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, all persons who were lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence prior to January 1, 1925."

In granting the privilege of citizenship to Issei who emigrated to this country prior to 1925, the bill would in effect, however, nullify a number of federal and state laws and regulations such as the alien land laws and fishing statutes which affect these "ineligible" aliens. Japanese who have lived in this country as law-abiding residents for scores of years but who have been prevented from engaging in specific occupations would benefit from this legislation.

Treaty merchants, temporary visitors or students who have been in this country since before the war would not be eligible for naturalization under the terms of this bill, not would they be under any one of the dozen or so naturalization measures before the Congress, since it is the apparent intent of the national legislature to include only aliens enjoying a permanent residency status, regardless of the recipient's nationality or race.

The Washington JACL ADC office points out further that those aliens who have been granted the right to remain here permanently through enactment of Congressional legislation would not be aided by this bill, since they originally were not admitted as permanent residents.

How the new McGrath bill would affect the fate of other naturalization legislation, notably H. R. 5004, submitted by Representative Walter H. Judd, influential Republican congressman from Minnesota, and the original McGrath measure, was not known. It was ad-

mitted by the JACL ADC office that passage of Senate bill 2245 might be less difficult than other citizenship legislation since, unlike a number of naturalization formulas, it would not disturb the present quotas or immigration restrictions.

The first McGrath bill, it was recalled, embodies the principle that "the right to become a naturalized citizen shall not be denied or abridged because of race." That clause would in effect repeal Section 303 of the 1940 Nationality Act, for that section — with its subsequent amendments since 1940 — as it now stands provides that the right to become a naturalized citizen "shall extend only to white persons, persons of African nativity or descent . . . descendants of races indigenous to the Western Hemisphere . . . Chinese . . . Filipinos . . . and persons of races indigenous in India." By omission other Pacific islands and Asiatic peoples, such as the Japanese, Siamese, and Koreans, are excluded.

Furthermore, repeal of Section 303 would automatically permit the use of established quotas to the Japanese, provided that no further legislation was passed. Such legislation, it was argued, might run into serious objections in view of resistance to the complete lifting of racial bars to Oriental immigration. While it was admitted that the principle of racial equality espoused in the Judd and original McGrath bills is laudable, fear was expressed that to insist on naturalization on this principle alone might delay full Congressional action on all pending citizenship measures.

In view of the shortness of time with which to press for legislation, there is one body of opinion here that it might be more expedient to work for "minimum" objectives rather than to commit the fight alone to broad principles. To insist on the absolute elimination of all racial bars, these persons argue, might not only kill any sentiment in favor of lifting immigration exclusion but also jeopardize the passage of legislation granting the right of citizenship to the thousands of deserving long-time, law abiding alien residents already here.

Japanese Canadians Plan Drive For Removal of Restrictions

Free Movement Still Restricted Under Federal Orders

LONDON, Ont.—An all-out campaign for the removal of Federal government restrictions against persons of Japanese ancestry was initiated at the two-day Ontario conference of the Japanese Canadian Citizens Association on Feb. 28 and 29.

Roger Obata, president of the national JCCA, announced that a brief would be circulated among all members of Parliament, urging them to put an end to the two orders-in-council restricting persons of Japanese ancestry in Canada which will come up for review on March 31.

Obata declared the orders, originally adopted during the war, denied fishing licenses to persons of Japanese ancestry in British Columbia and restricted their return to the coastal area from which they were evacuated. Obata noted that fishing was a major industry for Japanese Canadians until the outbreak of war.

"Their continued enforcement is

contrary to democratic principles and the precepts of Canadian citizenship which grant all rights, powers and privileges to citizens of Canada," Obata declared.

The conference decided to send wires to Prime Minister Mackenzie King and Justice Minister Hsley denouncing the orders-in-council.

Sasaki Goes on Trial Before Allied Military Commission

YOKOHAMA, Japan — James Kunichi Sasaki, a native of Japan who studied in the United States and lived in Tucson, Ariz., pleaded not guilty with six other defendants before an Allied military commission on charges of having caused the deaths of six Allied war prisoners.

Sasaki was an embassy attache in Washington at the time of Pearl Harbor and returned to Japan on the exchange ship Gripsholm in 1942. He served during the war as a civilian interpreter to the navy staff at the Ofuna prison camp.

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LARRY TAJIRI.....EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Munemori Ceremony

On March 16th army transport ship Wilson Victory will be officially named for Pvt. Sadao Munemori, who died in action with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Italy.

The JACL's interest in the Munemori ceremony is born of the conviction that the action on the part of the army in redesignating the ship is a signal honor not only to the lone Nisei winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, but also an outstanding tribute to his fellow Nisei soldiers who fought in both the European and Pacific theaters, hundreds of whom gave their lives in battle.

The organization feels it is significant that the Wilson Victory is the same vessel which brought the men and colors of the famed 442nd Japanese American unit on its triumphant homecoming from Italy in the summer of 1946. To every Nisei serviceman the army's action in perpetuating the memory of Private Munemori will have deep and lasting meaning.

The simple inscription on the bronze plaque which the JACL will place aboard the transport on the day of the ceremony was designed as a tribute not only to the 21-year-old Nisei hero, who died on the Italian battlefield, but to all Japanese Americans who wore the mufti.

The men of the Japanese American 442nd lived up to the highest ideals of democratic action. More than 660 of them died in action or of wounds. Over 9,000 Nisei were wounded in action or suffered from combat-induced illness. The most decorated unit in World War II won its honors with blood, sweat and tears.

The JACL plaque reads:
"Dedicated to the memory of Pvt. Sadao Munemori, C.M.H. 442nd Inf. Reg., who by his heroic sacrifices on the field of battle proved that Americanism is a matter of the mind and the heart, and not of race or ancestry.

"Presented by the Japanese American Citizens League, New York City, March 16, 1948."—T.Y.

Naturalization Bill

The McGrath naturalization bill, sponsored by the Rhode Island senator who is the national chairman of the Democratic party, is a proposal which will grant the right to naturalization to the very great majority of resident Japanese aliens in the United States without disturbing the racially restrictive Section 303 of the Nationality Act of 1940.

The McGrath proposal has been especially tailored to accomplish a practical objective, that of making citizenship available for approximately 90,000 Japanese aliens, all of whom entered the United States as permanent residents before the Asiatic Exclusion law of 1924 became effective. The effect of the bill will be to nullify state statutes and such municipal ordinances which prohibit property ownership or restrict the business and professional activity of Japanese aliens because they are at present "ineligible to citizenship."

It has been pointed out this week that the McGrath bill meets only the "minimum objectives" of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee's legislative program. The race discrimination which exists in the naturalization law will remain. It would be far more consistent with the pledge of the United Nations charter to eliminate race or ancestry entirely as a qualification for American citizenship.

Thousands of resident Japanese aliens in

the United States and Hawaii already have applied for the first papers for citizenship as a means of indicating their desire to become citizens. It is to be hoped that Congress acts soon on the comprehensive Judd bill, which will repeal the racially discriminatory clause in the naturalization law, and if the Judd bill faces difficulty, on the limited McGrath proposal. It is important that the Issei who have proved themselves to be loyal and worthy residents of the United States not be denied the right of full participation in American life a day longer than it is necessary to get the proposed legislation through Congress.

Restricted Aliens

While the Takahashi fishing case in the U.S. Supreme court has focused attention upon the inability of the alien to engage in commercial fishing in California, there still remain a large number of other occupations from which aliens are barred in that state and others.

Aliens are barred by law from engaging in such necessary and common occupations as law, real estate, insurance, teaching in public schools and civil service. An alien cannot become a pharmacist, a registered nurse, a certified public accountant.

The Japanese alien, because he is "racially inadmissible to citizenship" is twice handicapped in this situation. Many of the above occupations are open to persons who secure first papers. While the Issei have been granted first papers, they are nonetheless open to the charge of lack of good faith and intentions since they cannot complete the naturalization process. Therefore their situation is morally and legally insecure, if challenged.

The Japanese alien, in California cannot lease land, share crop a farm or have interest in agricultural properties. He cannot, in addition, fish for a livelihood or engage in any commercial fishing. Both of these occupations have, in the past, been mainstays in the economic situation of Japanese Americans.

In addition to the occupational disabilities suffered by aliens, there are other necessary rights which are barred from them. Aliens, of course, cannot vote or hold public office. They cannot receive old age pensions, though they contribute through taxation to these benefits. Nor can aliens attend colleges or universities without payment of a substantial alien tuition fee, even though they are long-time residents of the state.

These unfair disabilities of the "racially inadmissible" alien cannot be overcome without striking at the root of the injustice—naturalization and citizenship laws which discriminate upon the basis of race and color.

There is the need to fight these discriminatory laws in each field of occupation—by fighting the alien land law of the western states, by having declared unconstitutional the alien fishing bills of California, and by registering protest each time an alien is denied the right to make a living because of his citizenship status.

It remains clear, however, that these injustices cannot be eradicated without first eliminating the basis of discrimination—the status of ineligibility which has been set by the Congress of the United States.

Hizi Koyke

The great personal success scored on the Pacific coast by Hizi Koyke this season as Cho-Cho-San in the San Carlo Opera company's production of "Madame Butterfly" is indicative of the changed attitude of the general public toward persons of Japanese ancestry.

During the war the popular Puccini opera was quietly dropped from the San Carlo repertoire, as well as from the programs of the Metropolitan and other companies. The war period was no time for a story about a romance, however tragic, about a Japanese girl and an American Navy officer. Mme. Koyke went into virtual retirement.

Her return to the operatic stage has been greeted by critical hosannahs from coast to coast. She received encore after encore last week at the War Memorial opera house in San Francisco and Marjory M. Fisher, the San Francisco News critic, called her performance "one of the most thrilling ever seen in our Opera house." Similar plaudits have followed her appearances in Los Angeles, Fresno, Sacramento, Portland and Seattle.

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

Artists and Racial Identities

The twin facts of race and ancestry long have limited the achievements of Japanese and other minority group artists in the fields of music, dance and acting. Sessue Hayakawa was primarily a Japanese actor, although he did portray roles other than that of Japanese on the screen. Michio Ito was known as a Japanese dancer, even though his technique was influenced strongly by Serge Diaghileff and other Europeans. Tamaki Miura and Hizi Koyke are famous for their portrayals of Puccini's ill-fated heroine, Cho-Cho-San.

The significant fact about Yuriko Amemiya Kikuchi's success as a modern dancer, like that of Sono Osato's in the ballet and in Broadway musicals, is that the matter of ancestry has had little to do with their individual achievements. Although the dance may be considered as a somewhat exotic art form, it might be said that both Yuriko and Miss Osato have succeeded in spite of the fact that they were of Japanese ancestry.

Yuriko, as she is billed in the programs of the Martha Graham company, has been a member of America's foremost modern dance group for three years, joining the group shortly after she arrived in New York from the Gila River relocation center. In that time she has appeared in nearly all of the Martha Graham productions. Her role of an American pioneer woman of the Revolutionary period in "Apalachian Spring" is typical of the parts she has essayed successfully as a member of the Graham company. Two weeks ago at New York's Maxine Elliott theater she appeared in her first solo role in "Tale of Seizure" and was well received by the New York critics. It may be noted that not one of her appearances with Martha Graham has been in an Oriental role, although Yuriko is an accomplished Japanese dancer as those who have seen her perform in Los Angeles and at Gila can testify.

Sono Osato, a member of the Ballet Russe for many years, appeared in all of the company's repertoire, from the inevitable "Les Sylphides" and "Swan Lake" to "Petrouchka" and the American Indians and pioneers of "Union Pacific." In 1940 Miss Osato appeared as a soloist in "Prodigal Son." She left the ballet and scored a personal success in "One Touch of Venus," a Broadway musical which ran for two years. She was starred in "On the Town," a musical with a New York background in which she danced the role of a typical American girl who wins the title "Miss Subways." Her performance in "On the Town" led to an MGM contract and a featured role in the forthcoming film, "The Kissing Bandit," with Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson.

The success stories of both Yuriko and Sono Osato presage a time of lessening racial consciousness in the theater.

On the whole, however, minority group artists are beset by the frustrations presented by the lack of specialized material. This is particularly true of the legitimate drama and its illegitimate offspring the motion picture, both of which are already influenced by the fact that ours is still a fundamentally Anglo-Saxon culture. Although there are many fine Negro actors, they are limited by the lack of vehicles. There are few roles of the stature of Othello, in which Paul Robeson gave a memorable performance, and few modern plays like Richard Wright's "Native Son" which starred Canada Lee and "Deep Are The Roots" in which Gordon Heath, a fine young Negro actor, appeared. Broadway, of course, has seen many fine all-Negro productions, such as DuBose Hayward's "Porgy," from which George Gershwin's native American opera, "Porgy and Bess," was adapted, and Marc Connelly's "Green Pastures," Eugene O'Neill's "All God's Chillun Got Wings" and "Emperor Jones." Paul Yordan's "Anna Lucasta" and the play, "Mamba's Daughters," in which Ethel Waters appeared in a straight dramatic role. Most of these, however, had folk themes and represented specialized dramatic material in which the fact of race was ever present.

Although many white actors

have played Negro roles, usually in blackface, probably the only occasion in which a Negro actor was called on to play a white role was in a Broadway revival a few years ago of Shakespeare's "Tempest" in which Canada Lee appeared.

It is difficult to recall any instance in which any Oriental actor has been called on to play an Oriental role on the screen or stage, with the exception of Sono Osato's gypsy dancer in "The Kissing Bandit" and the American Indian roles of Sessue Hayakawa in his early movie days with The Ince productions.

In Hawaii, of course, audiences are not nearly as race conscious and Florence Ahn, the Korean American soprano, has been featured in a community production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Patience," and Nisei and other Oriental Americans appear regularly in the productions of the University of Hawaii Theater Guild.

The motion picture careers of Anna May Wong, like that of Sessue Hayakawa, was seriously limited by the lack of suitable roles. Hayakawa finally went to France where he made a number of pictures, while Miss Wong went to England where she starred in such films as "Java Head," "Joseph Hergesheimer" and "The Yankee Captain" who brings a Japanese princess home to a staid England community. Hollywood has been host to a number of talented Oriental American actors and actresses, including Tom Mori, Keye Luke, Philip Ahn, Lotus Long, Sojin Kamijima, Tetsu Komai, Miki Morita, Hiraoka, Otto Yamaoka, Yamaoka and numerous others. It is James Wong Howe, the cameraman of "Body and Soul" and scores of other films, and Eddie Imadzu, the art director of "Romance of Rosy Ridge" and "Killer McCoy," who have steadily employed.

Hollywood's latest featured Oriental star is Maylia, the Chinese American actress who appears in Columbia's "To the Earth."

Although radio is a non-racial art, it has afforded few opportunities to minority group artists to perform without reference to their racial identities. Aside from a Nisei on a small West Virginia station and a Negro announcer in New York, there probably are other non-Caucasians regularly employed in radio in non-racial capacities. An exception was Betty Ito of Chicago who used to be heard daily on CBS before she was the all-American sweetheart of Jack Armstrong, the all-American boy. Before she became nationally identified with the role of Butterfly with the San Carlo Opera company, Hizi Koyke, brilliant mimic, used to do bits for NBC soap operas and dramas in New York.

NBC once employed Yuriko Hiraoka, probably the world's best xylophonist, as a staff artist for ten years playing non-Japanese music but Hiraoka was fired after Pearl Harbor day—because he was of Japanese ancestry.

The point is that, as they stand, it is still difficult for minority group artists to perform to be regarded simply as artists without regard to their racial identities. Two dancers, Yuriko and Sono Osato, have achieved this, perhaps, in time, other artists in allied fields may be similarly accepted.

Ellis Center Group Hears Helen Thomson

CHICAGO—Mrs. Helen Thomson, civic leader of the Oakwood Kenwood area, spoke at the Ellis community center work camp meeting Friday, March 5, on the subject, "Our Voting Responsibilities."

Mrs. Thomson demonstrated methods and procedures of registering and voting and brought sample ballots to the meeting. She told the group that citizens have "no right to the privileges and opportunities in the government of our great democracy" if they do not exercise their voting franchise.

Hizi Koyke's Performance As Heroine of Puccini Opera

By EIJI TANABE

LOS ANGELES—Hizi Koyke's superlative singing dominated the San Carlo opera company's performance of "Madame Butterfly" Monday night at the Philharmonic auditorium. Miss Koyke's outstanding performance as Cio-cio san marked a tremendous comeback for the petite Japanese star.

There was no music, however, for Tokyo-born Hizi Koyke during the war years. Her Italian American husband, Edward M. Gallo, general manager of the San Carlo company, went into the army.

Her father and her half brothers and sisters were in Japan.

"I locked away my operatic scores and took inventory of myself," she said, as she solemnly recalled those days.

"War," she said, "is a terrible thing. It is a disease affecting not one person but the whole human race. It leaves a scar not on the fighters alone but on everyone."

Her manager husband beamed as he looked at her and said, "But it has done her a great deal of

good. She has mellowed into an artist who knows suffering."

Hizi said she was thankful to the JAACL-ADC for "all that it is doing," when asked if she knew of the organization.

She said that she was one of the first Japanese aliens to take out first U.S. citizenship papers.

Hizi Koyke was educated in Tokyo at the Canadian Methodist church. Today she is established as one of the greatest tragediennes to sing the famous Puccini role of Butterfly.

Monday night her mezzo soprano seemed to have greater power even than in prewar years. The silvery splendor of her voice and her dramatic interpretation of Cio-cio san touched the heart of her audience and brought her out on the stage for at least five encores after each act.

There have been and will be other Madame Butterflies, but one has not felt the whole impact of Puccini's opera without having experienced at least once the sight and sound of Hizi Koyke's interpretation.

ISAMU NOGUCHI Noted Sculptor Wins Fame As Dance Stage Designer

By JOHN MARTIN

(In the N.Y. Times of Feb. 29)

ISAMU NOGUCHI is neither a dancer nor a choreographer, but he has nevertheless made a stimulating and important contribution to the dance, as anyone who has attended Martha Graham's past few seasons with any degree of regularity must be aware. Mr. Noguchi has designed the stage for the greater part of Miss Graham's present repertoire, and he has done a stunning job of it. Beyond this, however, he has made clear certain principles about stage design for modern dance which have long been needed.

Design for the ballet has been traditionally a painter's art. Specific ballets as a rule either tell a story, in which case they demand scenery with some representational connotations, however stylized, or else they are purely objective technical arrangements, in which case all they require is an ornamental and appropriate decor. In by far the greatest number of cases in contemporary practice, ballet design consists chiefly of a painted back-cloth and a set of handsome costumes.

The problems of the modern dance as a theatre art are altogether different. It is primarily subjective in its origins; it rarely deals with a specific locale, and even when it does, it attempts to project its inner intent in terms that approach the universal. Its movement is expressive without being pantomimic, it deals in themes rather than stories, it is basically concerned with space, it is not in the least interested in mere decorative and pictorial charm, and its fundamental accent upon emotional communication renders quite incompatible the ballet's predominantly spectacular emphasis in stage design.

Mr. Noguchi, accordingly, has approached the problem from a different point of view. Being a sculptor he would naturally do so, yet his designs are by no means exclusively sculptural; they are both theatrical and choreographic as well. The greatest emphasis of his settings is spatial, and that is where he has made such an invaluable contribution to the subject as a whole. Obviously he works in advance with the choreographer, and presumably before the actual composition of the dance begins he has outlined a basic design built upon these preliminary conferences. The finished result is above all else a space pattern within which the dance work is contained. It is other things, as well, but this is paramount.

Specifically his designs usually consist of several units—sculptural forms, constructions, or what you will, alone or in close groups. Each unit is quite complete in itself, yet they are interrelated in such a manner that together they both define and dramatize the total area in which the dancers are to move. So completely and succinctly do they define it that a back-cloth would have no function whatever. Most of his designs

could be set in the middle of a vast, open space and still be effectively self-contained. And so potently do they dramatize the area that every movement made within it takes on an added value by its automatic justification of the design. Indeed, it is only as the movement progresses that we see the designer's full intent.

His setting unfolds, as it were, with the unfolding of the choreographic material to which it is so functionally allied. It becomes thus essentially dynamic design, in contrast to the customary static picture-making scenery which is seen, applauded at the rise of the curtain, and forgotten.

All his designs are abstract, though in varying degrees. In "Appalachian Spring" there is a definite sense of a place, as the choreographer's context demands, "Dark Meadow" is pure abstraction; "Night Journey" comes about halfway between these two extremes, presenting a distorted, a morbidly interpreted, room. There is brilliant dramatic imagination in the forbidding, bone-like furniture of "Herodiade"; in the burning, copper, tree-like object in "Cave of the Heart," which serves at the end of the Sorcerer's apotheosis; in the crisp white tape that lies along the floor and leads into the labyrinth in "Errand into the Maze."

Everywhere he has not only created evocative forms, but he has created them in materials which have evocative tactile values, colors, tensions.

Not every choreographer, to be sure, would have given him such opportunity as Miss Graham has, for not only is she constantly alert to experimentation, but also she has long been working from her own angle in just these directions in design. As far back as 1935 it was Mr. Noguchi who designed her simple but eloquent setting for "Frontier." Her first complete setting along these general lines was Philip Stapp's delightful "Every Soul Is a Circus." Arch Lauterer did a superb set for "Punch and the Judy" in its first version, and a lovely one, now somehow deteriorated, for "Salem Shore." But what Mr. Noguchi has done is essentially in a class apart because of his personal approach. It is a revelation of what the medium can produce.

Eden Township Drive Nears Completion

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. — The JAACL and ADC fund drive of the Eden Township JAACL was scheduled to be completed this weekend, according to Toichi Domoto, chapter president, and Masaburo Shinoda, who is representing the Issei group. The Eden group raised \$1200 last year.

Serving on the drive are T. Yoshioka, Toichi Domoto and Kenji Fujii, Hayward and Mt. Eden; Henry Wada and M. Shinoda, San Lorenzo and San Leandro; and T. Nomura and Kay Hirao, Ashland.

Bill Hosokawa: FROM THE FRYING PAN

The Two Drs. Takahashi

Denver, Colo.

The fact that two men named Bill Takahashi are active in the field of medicine has occasioned more than a little confusion. One, Dr. William N. Takahashi, assistant professor of plant pathology at the University of California, made news a few weeks ago when it was announced he had discovered a chemical which can kill viruses inside living cells without affecting the cells themselves. While the discovery was made with a virus which attacks tomato and tobacco plants, it is believed the principle involved may open up the way to treatment of human diseases such as infantile paralysis.

The second Dr. Takahashi is William Y., a pediatrician who last summer moved his practice from Chicago to Boulder, Colo. Dr. Takahashi stepped into Boulder cold. He didn't know anyone, and no one knew him. But today the hundreds of parents living in Vetsville, the University of Colorado's veterans village, swear by him. Dr. Takahashi, perceiving a need for pediatric services in Vetsville, helped the village council to establish a free well-baby clinic under state sponsorship. Then he pitched in his own professional services.

The clinic has become so successful that it is being held up as a model in the state health program. Last week, at a conference of Colorado veterans village mayors, Dr. Takahashi was highly praised and his name announced as the one who best could help other villages to found baby clinics.

roll. The mayor himself draws only \$6,000, the same as Dr. Ogura's salary. The mayor's salary is fixed by the antiquated city charter, as are those of the city attorney (he gets \$5,000) and the managers of the various departments who get \$4,000.

The Post pointed out that Dr. Ogura's raise was in the nature of a promotion since he recently was given a more responsible position. All of which is a pretty nice tribute to the Nisei.

The name Chuck Murrel means nothing to most Nisei. He is a member of the community council of Pioneer village, which is one of the two veterans housing projects at the University of Denver. Murrel was elected to the post by fellow residents of the village. He and his wife are one of the best-liked couples in the student settlement. Chuck Murrel and his wife also happen to be the only Negroes in an all-white community.

Denver's Dr. Ogura

Still another Nisei medico, Dr. George Ogura, made news in this area. Dr. Ogura is assistant laboratory director of the city and county of Denver under a recently adopted setup in which the office of coronor is abolished. He was one of 17 top-salaried Denver city employes who, the Denver Post reported, were given pay increases during January ranging from \$300 to \$2,200 annually. The Post said Dr. Ogura's salary was raised from \$3,900 to \$6,000, an increase of \$2,400.

Mayor Newton is pledged to economy, but he has had to raise the pay of a number of top bracket employes to keep them on the city pay-

Vagaries MINORITY WEEK

This Week's Quote

"Most of us in the United States believe strongly in free enterprise but sometimes we forget that freedom and duty always go hand in hand, and that if the free do not accept social responsibility they will not remain free.

"The right of our enterprise to be free will in the long run depend on whether free enterprise recognizes a duty to provide men with equal opportunity. Industrial freedom cannot indefinitely survive as license to discriminate against men because of their race, color or religion."—John Foster Dulles, in a message to officials of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC.

Save the Confederacy

Some of the support for the threatened southern revolt (over Truman's civil rights program) is as counterfeit as the motive behind it. A North Carolina woman, pledging support for the secession of "us Rebels," sent in a \$100 donation to "fight the Civil War all over again."

The \$100 was in confederate money.

Howser Report . . .

California's Attorney General Howser's explanation to State office's policy on escheat cases involving persons of Japanese ancestry, in view of the Supreme Court's Oyama case decision, has been postponed because of the fact that Howser has been in Washington on the tidelands case. He is expected to return next week.

Anent Pilgrim House

"The leaders of our community must not sanction segregation and discrimination, but must take it upon their shoulders as their duty to work out an integrated program, striving towards cooperation and harmony.

"The Negroes, who have attended the Pilgrim House as a community center for their use and have benefited by its services, will soon be barred from its premises. Because there will be another place for them as a substitute (a poor one at that) the new occupants will find no reason for keeping its doors open to them any longer. This move will be another slap in the face, and they shall feel the ugly sting of segregation dealt to them by another racial minority."

—Editorial in the Town Crier

Ariyoshi Book . . .

Sakari Suzuki had his first big one-man show of oils since the end of the war at the Artists galleries on New York's 59th street this month . . . Four Nisei are now on the staff of the East and West Association, of which Pearl Buck is president, in New York City . . . Koji Ariyoshi's new book, now being considered by a New York publisher, is called "No Stars in My Eyes." It tells of his youth on the Kona coast as the son of a small farmer, of his experiences on "Tobacco Road" in Georgia, of the evacuation and Manzanar relocation and beet topping in Idaho and of his experiences as an army lieutenant in China when he served as a liaison officer between the U.S. Army, the Kuomintang government and the Chinese Communists at Yen-an.

Going Too Far

On September 12, 1946 a Negro woman, Mrs. Lottie E. Taylor, boarded a bus in Washington, bound for Brightwood, Va. The bus operator asked her to move to a seat at the rear. She refused. Quietly. The bus driver went to Fairfax county courthouse, obtained a warrant charging Mrs. Taylor with "disorderly conduct."

This week the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals ruled that a state disorderly conduct law cannot be used to maintain racial segregation on buses, the case against Mrs. Taylor was dismissed.

War Story . . .

One of the war's most tragic stories concerns a Nisei in Japan who tried desperately to return to the United States in 1941 as international relations worsened. He finally got on an NYK liner in November, the ship which turned back to Japan after getting within sight of Hawaii. Later in the war he was forcibly drafted into the Japanese forces. He was killed in the Philippines.

Palestine

"Because Negroes are themselves a victim of hate and persecution, oppression and outrage, they should be the first to be willing to stand up and be counted on the side of the struggle of the Jew to achieve partition of Palestine and an international police force to maintain peace under the United Nations to give reality to the interest of Negroes in this fight for the right of the Jews to set up a commonwealth in Palestine, a fight which is no longer a Jewish fight but a fight of the Gentiles, Protestants, Negroes, and all other minorities, nationalities and labor."

—A. Philip Randolph.

Nisei Orchestra Makes Debut

DENVER—An all-Nisei 10-piece dance orchestra, the Stardusters, made its first public appearance at the Denver Nisei Mothers' Club Leap Year dance Feb. 21.

The orchestra was organized by George Kobayashi. Members are Jiro Shoji, piano; George Matsumonji, bass fiddle; Bob Sakata, drums; Frank Yama, Walt Moriya and Dick Motoyoshi, sax; Sam Sato, clarinet; Albert Noda and Kiyoshi Kawahata, trumpet; and Edie So, guitar.

Plan Celebration On 70th Anniversary

SAN FRANCISCO — The 70th anniversary of Christian ministry among persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States will be celebrated in San Francisco in August, it was decided last week at a meeting of the directors of the Northern California Christian Church federation.

The federation will sponsor an Issei-Nisei conference in San Francisco on April 20 and the annual retreat at Monterey will be held from July 6 to 10.

