

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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## First Evacuee Paid Under Claims Law



Tokuji Tokimasa, 61, Los Angeles realtor, is shown receiving the first check paid out by the government under the Evacuation Claims Act of 1948 which provides compensation to wartime evacuees of Japanese ancestry for accountable business and property losses which were a direct result of mass evacuation. William H. Jacobs, acting head of the Los Angeles field office of the Department of Justice's evacuee claims sec-

tion, is shown giving Tokimasa the check for \$303.36 at a brief ceremony on Dec. 16.

On hand for the ceremony were (left to right) John Ossea, Jr., government attorney who handles the case; Tats Kushida, JACL regional director; Sam Ishikawa, past JACL regional director; Dr. Roy Nishikawa, chairman of the Pacific Southwest JACL district council, and William W. Palmer, government attorney.—Photo courtesy of Toyo Miyatake Studio, Los Angeles.

## Walter Resolution Will Be Primary Objective of ADC's Legislative Drive in 1950

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Walter Resolution, opening the way to naturalization for Japanese and other resident aliens now "ineligible to citizenship," stands first on the 1950 agenda of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee.

Mike M. Masaoka, following his return to Washington after meeting with JACL district council groups in the west, said that legislation to grant long-delayed naturalization privileges to the Issei will be the major legislative objective of JACL ADC.

He indicated that the Walter Resolution, which was passed by the house on June 6, 1949, is on the Senate calendar and will be called up for consideration early in the new session. It was reported out unanimously by the Senate consent calendar upon the objection of Sen. Richard B. Russell, D., Ga.

A supplementary legislative program was suggested this week by Mr. Masaoka if the Walter Resolution is passed by the Senate.

JACL ADC support for the following legislation has been suggested, Mr. Masaoka declared:

The waiver of educational and other requirements and all examinations for the naturalization of all parents of honorably discharged veterans. (Many Issei may not be able to pass the present examinations for naturalization even if the Walter Resolution passes.)

The waiver of educational requirements and examinations for the naturalization of all resident aliens who have resided in the United States for 25 or more consecutive years and have attained the age of 60 or more years.

The granting of permanent resident status to all aliens who entered the United States illegally prior to 1924. (It was explained there are several thousand Japanese aliens here and in Hawaii who entered the United States illegally before 1924 or who have lost documentary evidence of lawful entry. These aliens are not deportable but are

not permanent residents and will not be eligible for naturalization under the Walter Resolution.)

Legislation for equality in naturalization and immigration.

Repeal of all remaining racial exclusion restrictions in Federal immigration laws.

The soldier brides bill to permit the entry of racially ineligible spouses, children and stepchildren of American veterans and servicemen.

Revision of stay of deportation proceedings, providing that the Attorney General be permitted to cancel deportation proceedings with the concurrent approval of both Houses.

Amendment of the present Evacuation Claims Law to liberalize its provisions.

Legislation for granting statehood status to Hawaii.

Legislation providing compensation for injuries sustained by residents of Hawaii during the Japanese attack in Dec. 7, 1941.

Providing compensation for citizen, and possible alien internees in Hawaii who suffered property damage.

Passage of a fair employment practices bill.

Passage of anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bills.

Legislation to provide greater power to the Department of Justice in protecting the civil rights of American citizens.

Mr. Masaoka also indicated that JACL ADC will oppose restrictive legislation affecting racial and religious minorities.

## Tatsumis Sail For U. S. on President Liner

YOKOHAMA, Japan — A Japanese American family which has figured inadvertently in the cold war left on Dec. 22 for the United States aboard the President Wilson.

Shiro Tatsumi, who was a mechanic on the staff of American Consul-General Angus Ward in Mukden, Manchuria, left here with his family aboard the ship which is also carrying the Wards and other members of the consular staff from Mukden home to the United States.

Tatsumi was arrested along with Consul General Ward and three other members of the consulate staff for allegedly beating a Chinese employe. Consul General Ward, in an interview aboard the Lakeland Victory recently, denied that he, Tatsumi or any other member of the staff had beaten the employe.

Consul General Ward Tatsumi and the other staff members were found guilty by a Mukden court of the beating charge and were sentenced to prison terms and ordered deported.

The 50-year old Tatsumi, a former resident of Sacramento, Calif., is accompanied by his wife and their daughter, Mrs. Aiko Chen, as well as Mrs. Chen's two children, Akiko, 10, and George 3.

## Dr. Minami Wins Post in Masons

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Dr. Henry K. Minami, one of the country's most active Nisei Masons has been elected Junior Steward of Harmony Lodge No. 17, FAAM.

Normal progress in a Masonic body is for any person elected to the Junior Stewardship to advance during the next seven years to succeeding higher offices, finally becoming Worshipful Master of the lodge. If Dr. Minami, a dentist with the District of Columbia school department, follows this usual pattern, he will become the first Nisei in the nation to hold a top lodge office.

Recently Dr. Minami became a life member of Harmony Lodge, Columbia Chapter No. 1; Brightwood Commandery No. 6, and Almas Temple of the Noble Shrine.

## Chicago JACL Prepares for National Convention Year

### Committees Already Functioning for JACL Biennial Meet

By CHIZU IYAMA

CHICAGO—The local JACL is ready for its convention year.

Although they were busy with holiday activities, members of the Chicago JACL were also busy completing preliminary arrangements for the eleventh biennial national convention of the JACL which will be held in Chicago from Sept. 28 to Oct. 2.

Convention interest has been heightened by the selection of chairmen for 30 convention committees, as well as chairmen for eight major committees concerned with overall planning for the event which is expected to attract upwards of 1,000 from all parts of the United States.

Dr. Randolph Sakada, convention chairman, disclosed that planning for the national meeting has been carried on for the past twelve months.

"We believe the event is of national importance to all Japanese Americans," Dr. Sakada declared. "Our theme — Blueprint for Tomorrow—highlights the work of the convention which will determine the kind of program which the JACL will carry out in the years to come and how we go about meeting the problems which face us."

Although official delegates to the convention will be immersed in serious discussions, an elaborate program has been prepared which will assure that they and their families and booster delegates will have a "wonderful time."

One Chicago JACL member expressed a prevalent opinion when he said:

"We like conventions because it's fun to meet all our old friends and to make new ones. Since evacuation we've been traveling around so much that we are bound to bump into friends wherever we go."

Chicago, a focal point for Japanese American resettlement, will undoubtedly attract many of its former residents to the JACL convention, as well as persons who have never visited the Windy City.

Hotel Stevens, the world's largest hotel, will be the locale of most of the activities. Situated by the waters of Lake Michigan this fabulous hotel will provide a gorgeous setting for the convention ball, and the coronation of a beautiful JACL Queen. The queen contest has already begun with various districts selecting their comely representatives to the national convention to vie with girls from other areas for the title of "Miss (or Mrs.) JACL."

A unique feature of the convention will be the introduction of a "baby sitting service" for the convenience of mothers who wish to attend various functions. It has long been lamented by JACL members that wives of delegates had to remain home if they had family obligations and that women were thus limited in making conference decisions so this is one method of encouraging the participation of feminine JACLers.

For those interested in the arts, an art and photo exhibit and contest will undoubtedly be a salient point of the convention. Under the direction of Mas Nakagawa, this contest will provide a method of stimulating and recognizing talent among Nisei artists and photographers. The committee is working on rules and prizes for release in the near future.

Sport enthusiasts will find ample opportunity to participate in the golf, bowling, and tennis tournaments and bridge fans will again pit their brains against some of the finest Nisei players in the land.

A talent show committee, headed by Art Hayashi, promises fine entertainment and there will be mixers to encourage the delegates to meet each other on an informal basis.

These and many more events—such as a nationally known speaker to address the gathering, a testimonial dinner to our friends in Congress and elsewhere, sight-seeing around town, and many other events will be in store for convention-goers in 1950. Shig Wakamatsu, president of the Chicago chapter of the JACL has put out the welcome mat to all JACL members, and guarantees an interesting and memorable time.

## Letters Will Suffice If Claims Forms Unavailable, Says Agency

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Department of Justice announced last week that evacuees filing for personal and property losses caused by the West Coast evacuation may submit claims letters directly to the Attorney General if they are unable to secure proper governmental forms.

These letters, as must all evacuation claims, must meet the deadline of January 2, although because that day is a legal holiday, claimants actually have through January 3, 1950, to file their claims, H. G. Morison, assistant attorney general, said.

The letters must be submitted directly to: The Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C., and include the following information:

1. Residence of claimant at time of evacuation
2. Approximate date of evacuation;
3. A report of loss or damage suffered; and
4. Amount for which claim is made.

Mike Masaoka, national JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee legislative director, said the letters will be considered "only as informal notices of claims, and will be allowed solely to prevent hardship if an evacuee is unable to obtain a form."

"Additional forms will be prepared," he emphasized, "and a claimant still must file his claim on the official form within a reasonable time after he submits a letter."

He also pointed out that since the Attorney General has ruled January 2 a legal holiday in this matter, the deadline for claimants has been extended until midnight, January 3.

All claims must be received by the Department of Justice on or before January 3. Letters postmarked January 3 will not be acceptable if they reach the Attorney General after that date. Claims

must be in the hands of the Attorney General's office on the third day of January, 1950, according to the Attorney General's office.

Meantime, Mr. Masaoka said the department has announced that a notice to the effect that claimants who are unable to secure the proper claims forms may file an intention of claim in personal letters to the Attorney General will be posted in post offices throughout the United States.

## Japanese Army Veteran Seeks U.S. Citizenship

SAN FRANCISCO—A California-born Japanese who served with the Japanese army during the war filed suit in U.S. district court on Dec. 16 for restoration of his United States citizenship.

Shigenori Morizumi named Secretary of State Dean Acheson as defendant. Morizumi, represented by Attorneys A. L. Wirin and Fred Okrand, is now employed by the U.S. occupation forces in Japan. He was born in San Francisco in 1923 and his suit states that he went to Japan in 1932 "to reside there temporarily."

He was still in Japan in Jan., 1941, and was inducted into the Japanese army at that time. His service with the army, the suit contends, was the "result of coercion."

Morizumi applied to the U.S. consul at Yokohama for an American passport after the war but this was refused.

The consul also refused to register him as a U.S. citizen, on the ground he lost his citizenship because of service in the Japanese army.



### Chick Sexing Is Big Business:

## Nisei Pioneer a New Industry

A NEW INDUSTRY—so new that even the mention of its name outside its usual environs brings a slight sense of shock and the lifting of eyebrows—is the business of chick sexing.

The name lends itself to mild and corny ribaldry, but almost the entire poultry industry is dependent upon it today.

To the average citizen a fluffy day-old chick is just a cute little bird that appears in pet store windows just before Easter. He takes home a couple for his kids, who exclaim happily over them until the chicks reach that moulting, revolting state, when they are banished from home and garden.

All of this is probably a little silly to the poultryman, to whom a baby chick of the right (female) sex means the mortgage on the farm, money in the bank and a black figure in his annual income.

He knows that the Easter baby chicks are males and that, were it not for the happy advent of Easter, they might have been destroyed.

Until the early thirties, and for many poultrymen for a good many years afterwards the business of raising baby chicks was an expensive affair. The chick gives no indication—to the average eye—whether it will grow into a plump, egg-laying hen or an almost worthless cock.

So, until chick sexing came along, farmers fed and housed and raised all their chicks until they were old enough to be separated. Now a farmer calls in a chick sexer.

Using only his hands, his eyes and a good light, he separates the pullets from the cockerels. The average sexer will go through 500 to 800 chicks an hour, and a really good man will do as high as 1200 or more. Trained sexers have an average of at least 95% accuracy. Training of many months is required to turn out a competent sexer, and three years, it is estimated is required for a skilled man.

Sex of the chick is determined by characteristics and color of the vents, the wings and legs. The main characteristic of cockerels (the males) is usually a lump in the vents, which pullets do not have. While all this may sound simple enough, a good sexer needs training and experience to reach any degree of proficiency. Careless handling of the delicate chicks can cause death or serious injury to the chick, and inaccuracy in determining the chick's sex is wasteful.

Now, with the advent of chick sexing, the poultryman can save his pullets and destroy or otherwise discard the cockerels. The farmers save on feed, housing space and labor that would have gone into the raising of the cockerels. The farmer is assured the necessary number of pullets desired, his equipment for chicks is cut in half, overcrowding is avoided and poultrymen can count on less cannibalism, a rather untidy habit among chickens.

The industry of sexing in the United States is only about fifteen years old. Most of it has been developed by the Nisei. It is one of the few industries in which the Nisei have been almost completely dominant.

It was introduced into the United

States by a group of men from Japan where it originated, in the early 1930s. These experts were brought over to demonstrate the science and to teach it to hatcherymen who were interested.

Like other new ideas, it was a hard one to sell to men in the poultry industry. Reports of almost 100% accuracy in determining the sex of infant chicks seemed too good to be true, and skepticism met pioneer sexers in the field. But the strong resistance that met the first efforts of sexers to sell their services soon gave way. Farmers were among the first to demand that the chicks they bought be sex-determined. Hatcherymen came in line, and today the practice is not only accepted but almost expected in the poultry industry in many parts of the country.

Nisei chick sexing companies, as pioneers in the field, have flourished since their early beginnings only a few years ago. Indeed, the industry is so young that the companies do not themselves agree upon the spelling of the word "sexer," which is also commonly spelled "sexor."

Nisei companies include the International Chick Sexing Association in Mankato Minn.; the American Chick Sexing Association in Lansdale, Pa. the National Chick Sexing Association in Chicago and the Newton Chick Sexing Co. in Iowa.

There are also the United Chick Sexing Association in Ames, Iowa; the Master Sexers Association in Keokuk, Iowa; and the Wisconsin State Chick Sexing School in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

Meanwhile a growing California concern is the Northern California Chick and Poultry Sexing Service with offices in Turlock and Palo Alto.

The National Chick Sexing Association was founded in 1943 in the state of Iowa by George Sugano, who trained his brothers and other members of his immediate family. These persons formed the nucleus around which the company was organized.

It branched out quickly throughout the midwest area and today conducts a school which is recognized by the Veterans' administration for training of former GIs.

S. John Nitta was among the pioneers in the chick sexing business. He studied chick sexing in Nagoya, Japan, where the science is believed to have originated. He returned in 1936 to the United States to establish a school for sexers.

He formed the American Chick Sexing Association, believed to be the largest organization of its kind in America. The association serves hatcheries in 41 of the 48

states as well as hatcheries in Latin America and Europe.

The school was originally started in California in 1937 as one of the first to be established in the United States and has, since its inception, trained more than 300 men and women. The early skepticism met by Nitta and his associates has since been dissipated, and the school and the association have prospered. The association has its office in Lansdale, Pa., where a new brick office and school building have just been completed.

The Newton Chick Sexing Company, managed by Connie Yoshinaga, has been serving central Iowa for the past fifteen years. Like the other companies, it had to overcome a good deal of prejudice against the introduction of chick sexing. This season the company expects to sex three and a half million chicks for Iowa farmers.

Another of the pioneer companies in the field is the International Chick Sexing Association, which was established in 1933 in Fresno.

With the evacuation of Japanese Americans from the coast in 1942, it had to pack up and move. It now operates from Mankato, Minn. Reorganization of the company after the war began and the evacuation uprooted the Nisei was the usual difficult story. The company established a school in Minneapolis in 1944, and a neighborhood controversy developed. Protests on grounds the school violated health regulations were made to the city council. But the Nisei operators won the help of religious, civic and labor organizations. A number of city groups formed a citizens' committee to help the Nisei. They pointed out that the protests were based on racial, rather than health reasons.

All that is now past history, like so many of the incidents that rose up to plague the Nisei relocating in the war. The International is now part of the community in which it is located. The Mankato Chicks ball team is recognized as one of the best amateur teams in the state.

Other companies, too, take part in the civic and public life of the communities in which they are established.

Within the past fifteen years the science of chick sexing has enabled a number of Nisei to develop a new industry in the United States, an industry which is still growing and whose limits are yet to be touched.

### Group Gives Food To Needy Persons

LOS ANGELES — A happier holiday season was provided for approximately 300 indigent persons of Japanese ancestry in Los Angeles County through the efforts of the local Christmas Cheer Committee, composed of local Japanese American community organizations.

Food and presents were given the needy persons.

Right: A good eye, a gentle touch are necessary requirements for the trained sexer. Here students learn the trade at the National Chick Sexing Association in Chicago. Left: Nisei companies sponsor civic and social affairs for their trainees. Here students and friends from Philadelphia and other near-by cities attend a dance held by the American Chick Sexing Association in Lansdale, Pa.

## A Story of the 442nd: HIS NAME WAS NICKY

By T. TAKESHI OYE

We wanted no glory, we wanted no fame. Our deepest longing, hidden and unexpressed, was for the quick end of the bitter job and a return to a more normal existence.

We had been fused by long months of training and by common experience into an indistinguishable whole—the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

The label told nothing of the individuals that comprised this fighting unit. It was only by living in the intimacy of the foxholes that one learned of these men, understood what was behind the mask of anonymity, and came to know that the fighting machine had a heart, a feeling heart that laughed, loved and cried. It was a heart that sang many different tunes and many different lyrics; it was a heart that had a wide-ranging scale—from bitter cynicism to saint-like faith; it was a heart that had seen and felt many things. In the foxhole I heard its song and in the foxhole I saw its tears.

They came from all part of the continental United States. Hawaii, Alaska—farmers, doctors, lawyers, schoolteachers. In the foxholes we came to know each other, learned the same songs and experienced the same heaviness of heart.

There were medals for some, but for the most there was none—just the silent tears of a loved one who felt grief at the parting. In this tangled, fierce drama we each donned our mask and played our bit. In this atmosphere of toughness we assumed a proper mien and played our role with exaggerated fervor. We buried our true selves and pretended at being as hard as the game in which we participated.

It was here that I met Nicky. He was very young but his knowledge of the ways of the world sometimes revealed a startling precocity. He confused virility with manliness but whatever his failings Nicky was no coward. In this crowd of men he had earned the right to be regarded as a man. He had already won many medals, including a Silver Star.

The challenge of battle seemed to cause a transformation in Nicky. His black eyes would dance and his face would crack into a tense smile. As his bullets found their mark, he would make an audible tally. His fight at these moments seemed a very personal one and he executed his job with fearless efficiency. The young boy, thrust into a world of demons, was doing a man's job.

But there were other times when his youthfulness would betray him and he would appear suddenly an awkward adolescent. He had donned too quickly the garments of maturity. He would then find it necessary for himself to prove his manhood before his comrades. He

measured his virility in terms of quantity of expression and the boudoir was his proving ground.

Love? Nicky would laugh at the word. For an older man perhaps, he would say, but for him love was a thing of the moment, animal and fleeting.

But on two occasions we discovered that Nicky had a heart, that his seeming indifference was a sham. We saw it once when his mongrel dog that he had raised during our stay on the static fronts along the Riviera died. Nicky spoke little of that time but we had seen him take the carefully wrapped body into the woods. We knew for certain then that Nicky's seeming indifference to human emotions was a masquerade. Then once again toward the close of hostilities with Germany, we saw him lay aside his mask and express his true self. That was the time his friend Billy was killed in action. When we returned to the rest area, Nicky, who very seldom wrote even to his own family, painfully composed a three page letter to Billy's mother and enclosed a money order for a spiritual bouquet.

"I owe Billy that much at least," was his only remark.

On these occasions Nicky proved to us that he was not as tough as he pretended to be, that he had a heart, that all of us had a heart. He showed us, whatever our pretenses that in the depths of our souls we were essentially men and possessed of the qualities of men. We were playing a devil's game but the devil could not remove God from his place. Each of us was Nicky in one way or another. We each wore a mask, we each played a part, as Shakespeare once said, and like Nicky we rendered our own interpretations. Youthfulness was Nicky's handicap; we had our failings, too, of various kinds. But like Nicky we discovered in the end that our human qualities and our human flaws could not long be hidden. We sought to make Nicky a character different from us but in the end we discovered that each of us were Nickys playing a part as best we knew.

So it was that we laughed, loved, live and fought; men of all faiths, Catholics, Protestants, Buddhists, and of varying philosophies, but essentially men playing the devil's game of war.

### Idaho Falls JACL Plans Carnival Dance

IDAHO FALLS, Ida.—The local JACL chapter will hold a carnival-dance on Jan. 7.

Joe Nishioka is general chairman. Other members of the dance committee are Sam Sakaguchi, Sad Morishita, Fred Ochi, Katsuki Yamasaki and Sam Yamasaki. A Christmas dance was held on Dec. 23 at the JACL hall.

# War Brides and Intermarriage

## Cosmopolitan Chicago Eases Tensions for Interracial Couples

By JOSEPH KITAGAWA

Chicago, Ill.

FOR A LONG time we have regarded persons of Japanese descent as potential problems. Although it is understandable, considering the social, political and economic situations we found ourselves in during the war, it is, nevertheless, undesirable for us to continue this way of thinking. To be sure, there is a darker side to everything, but let us try to see both sides all the time.

As one who has been counseling a great many young people, many of whom have been married and many of whom are considering getting married, I have tried to avoid this "problem psychology" in dealing with them. My rough estimate is that there are more cases of intermarriages of Nisei here in Chicago than in any other area in the country, with the probable exception of Hawaii. And yet, not too many people raise eyebrows nowadays. Each week we hear or read of Miss So and So marrying a person with a Scotch-Irish or Scandinavian name, or a Nisei fellow marrying, too.

Of course, there are amusing and amazing cases, too. But usually people around these couples seem to make more fuss than the young people themselves.

One day a lady was on the phone; she was almost in tears. Her son, a GI, fell in love in Japan. Immediately the scene of Madame Butterfly came to the mother's mind. She is a widow and her husband had not left much money behind. "We can't afford to have a lovely dainty, doll-like Madame Butterfly in the house! We have no maid or butler. We are working people. We can't sit around the house sipping tea all the time!" so she said.

Oh, yes, according to the mother this Lieutenant Pinkerton (who, incidentally, was a private first class) refused to return to the States unless Mother OK'd their marriage. There was nothing I could do, and yet the last thing I could think of doing was to cut the conversation off abruptly. I simply commented that not all the girls in Japan are necessarily like Madame Butterfly; in fact, some of them are rather on the tougher side. I also tried to convince this lady that her son must be old enough to know what he was doing. If the mother was not convinced, I was willing to write to a Chaplain friend of mine who could look into the matter and counsel them there. Well, the mother was not sure what had to be done. I strongly suggested that she give some thought on the matter and hung up.

A week later this lady showed up in person. I tried to impress her with the fact that I was expected to give a luncheon talk downtown, but she suggested that she could drive me there in time for the luncheon. So we sat down and talked. In the course of our conversation, we married them and separated them numerous times. I stuck to my theory that people are people wherever you go. Nationalities do not make such a difference. We even had to go through a ridiculous experience of comparing how diapers were changed in the Orient and in the West. At any rate, I jumped that hurdle all right.

But that was not the end of the story. Shortly afterward came the GI son who flew in. There was a complication on the other side of the ocean. Evidently, the young lady was informed and misinformed about life in America by her friends. Her mother's distant cousin had a friend who once was a sailor and had seen San Francisco for a couple of days. It must have been about 40 years ago. Nevertheless he claimed to be the authority on life in America in his village. He advised his relatives and friends that America was no place to live permanently. This disturbed the young lady's mother a great deal.

Her dad, who had been non-committal about the whole affair up to that time, suddenly felt insecure with the thought that his daughter, if she left for America, might not return to him at all. They visited several shrines and tried fortunes. One fortune said "Great luck," the next one said "Be cautious about your decision." So the parents tried several more fortunes at various famous shrines. (It sounds like a game. Since they try it until they are satisfied or they get exhausted, fortune-telling is a good business. They have nothing to lose). At any rate, this procedure flabbergasted the GI completely. In the meantime he had to return to the States, but he still intends to marry this girl.

If this GI and this young lady in Japan should get over all the hurdles and establish a happy home, maybe later I will tell their children what we all had to go through before their parents' marriage. Right now I am still writing numerous letters, explaining in Japanese language to the girl about the complications on this side, at the same time encouraging her not to be disturbed by the minor difficulties, while translating her weeping letters into English. Well, this is some experience.

But not all the cases of war-brides are so complicated, I know many of them; some married to Jews, Catholic, Protestants, or even Buddhists, including all kinds of nationalities; most of whom are quite well satisfied. Oh, well, they gripe sometimes, but so does practically everybody. I even met a GI of Jewish background, reared in the Catholic church, married in Shinto rites in Japan.

Usually it is quite a job to find suitable friends for these war-brides. So many of them complain that they are lonely. Usually the husbands do not stay home long enough to teach their wives English, etc.

Those who live with their in-laws tend to regard them as though they were in-laws in Japan. I have tried to convince these girls that married couples are the unit of the society and they are quite independent, socially and economically. In Japan, wives have to please their in-laws more than they please their husbands, but here they had better concentrate on their husbands, etc... So it goes. All in all, they are making a wholesome adjustment to the Windy City.

I don't mean to fight for the Chamber of Commerce of Chicago, and I certainly will not say this is the best place in the Union, but the cosmopolitan character of this city makes it easier for war-brides and intermarried couples.

Unfortunately, we still have the problem psychology. Some people think it is strange that intermarriage or war-brides do not create more tensions... To be sure, it is harder to maintain mental security when one has to keep rapport with more than one group, but enough people are succeeding in doing that. So-called minority groups tend to demand loyalty from those who are on the fringe of their groups. In reality, however, mixed couples and war-brides have to maintain their relationships and usefulness in more than one group. That they can and are doing so in Chicago is a happy development of democratic life in action.

# LOOK SOUTHWARD, SANSEI

## The Deep South and the Southwest Offer New Vistas for Young Japanese Americans

By ROKU SUGAHARA

THIS IS ABOUT three words of advice.

I say, "Look forward, Sansei..."

You can take it or leave it.

Of course, other three-word phrases are a little more familiar to everyone.

There is, "I love you."

Those are spine-tingling, thrilling and wonderful words; perhaps the greatest in the rosy reel of romance. Whether we like it or not, we shall someday have to say them or hope to hear them. It happens all the time.

Then there are those three concise words of wisdom that Damon Runyon used to utter to every man seeking counsel on a career: "Get the money."

Mighty important is the need to obtain the wherewithal to buy blankets for baby, nylons for the little woman, and bread for the family table.

I am adding a third three-word phrase, seeing that romance and economics are dispensed with, especially for the younger generation.

"Look southward, Sansei..."

That's my little contribution to the rising generation as I look down from my cloistered ivy towers of Olympian heights this bright and crisp morning as we are readying to usher in 1950 and a new half century.

By no means is this an original idea but I did inherit it quite legitimately.

When the 20th century loomed large across the horizon of time back in 1900, some of the thinking community fathers, leaders and counselors wrote and spoke something along these same lines. I refer you to the New Year editions of the venacular newspapers of fifty years ago.

The trend of the Issei population from 1900 on, was definitely southward. For example, our family trekked down from Seattle to Los Angeles in search of greener pastures and happier hunting grounds. Hundreds of other families left their regional reservations in Portland, Tacoma, San Francisco and other points north to seek their rice and "okazu" in San Diego, Imperial Valley, San Fernando Valley, and, of course, in Li'l Tokyo.

Today in 1950, I think this advice holds good for the Sansei as it did for the Issei in 1900.

We Nisei were sort of left out of this advisory oratory and essay-writing. Somehow a convenient century or half-century mark did not present itself and the Issei left us to shift for ourselves.

Most of us did stay put until Uncle Sam started to scheme out a new pattern of life for us around December, 1941.

I realize that you can't go much further south in California than Chula Vista, but I am not talking in terms of California and the West Coast.

My personal observation, for what it is worth, is that the big future of the coming generation will be in the southern part of the United States.

Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, for example, are states in which there is still a challenging frontier, new lands to till, vast acreage to develop, and plenty of room to romp around without stepping on too many tender toes.

California in its mushrooming, burdened ten million population, has about reached a point of saturation. Competition becomes acute, good jobs scarce, new businesses difficult to start, opportunities limited which add up to a fertile area for discriminative practices. Prices of land rentals of acreage, operating expenses in business, and the cost of living are high and steadily rising as the population reaches a bursting point.

On the other hand, in states as Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia and parts of Florida good farm land can be purchased for \$100-\$150 an acre or be rented for

as low as \$5 per acre per annum.

It grieves me to hear so many recent Nisei graduates of medical, dental and lay schools announce they are going back to California to practice. I think they would be much better off starting in a new and different area than on the West Coast. They should seek new community ties, new friends, and new vistas for their future.

I recall with painful clarity, in the gloomy decade of 1930-1939, in Los Angeles how poorly a large number of professional men fared in Li'l Tokyo. There were simply not that many good law cases to file, cavities to fill, and tonsils to cut to go around. I believe the same situation will prevail when the Sansei become of age and professional men will again be working for peanuts.

Many Nisei farmers are making good in the vast fertile reaches of the rambling Rio Grande Valley in Texas. They have built comfortable homes, own fine farms, and are happily established midst friendly neighbors. They are neither plagued by the intense competition found so prevalent in the limited farm areas in southern California nor burdened with the high production costs.

The rich Salt River Valley of Arizona is also proving quite remunerative to the many young farmers who are probing into the soil and extracting handsome returns.

Going into the deep South, the fabulous delta lands of Louisiana and Mississippi could well provide further Sansei farmers with comfortable incomes. Rice, sugar, and truck garden products grow the year round in weather similar to California.

There are just a handful of Japanese in the floral and nursery business from Texas to Florida but everyone has been rather successful. There are ample lucrative opportunities in this particular field in the south, both in

the wholesale and retail end. Sansei with know-how in floriculture can be assured of a good future in the south.

In the deep south there are unlimited business possibilities for enterprising young people. Competition there is not as fierce as in western and northern cities; merchandising and marketing are new arts that are just being developed.

For example, I would like to point out just a few cases of the results which some hard-working Negroes were able to achieve in New Orleans.

Joe Bartholomew had just a grade school education, but was able to work himself into the contracting business and is now worth over a half million dollars. Many of his white competitors have said, "If Joe can do it with two strikes against him, then I ought to be ashamed of myself."

The story of Belmont Haydel is also classic. This Negro, in 1934 with \$150 cash, started a flower shop. Today he is one of the largest florists in town and his net worth has risen above the \$150,000 mark.

Another Negro started a potato chip business in 1940. He started out with only \$78 cash, but today his business ventures gross over \$200,000 a year.

A Negro farmer in Edgard, La., owns 500 acres outright, leases some 1500 more acres, and his holdings are estimated to be worth over \$250,000.

All these men had the barest of education but had the facility of taking advantage of the opportunities around and making the best of them.

The south is the last frontier of opportunity remaining in this country today. The competition is not as great, the pressure of population not so exacting, and the pattern of their economic life is not so dominated as in other sections of the nation. The south has been a little behind in economic and industrial progress but it is now beginning to wake up from its long slumbers to slowly emerge and reassert itself.

Change is the essence of progress. Evacuation and relocation brought by a war, helped carve a better and brighter future for many a Nisei.

I think the southward trek will prove as valuable to the Sansei in this last half of the 20th century.

### New Year's Greetings

- MISS EUNIOE KUMAGAI, 9 So. 2nd Ave., Glendale, Ariz.
- JAMES AND MASU ABE, 150 Hitchcock Rd., Salinas, Calif.
- MR. J. MIYENO, 2604 Y St., Omaha, Neb.
- MARGARET FRANK YAMAMOTO, Route 1, Pocatello, Ida.
- DR. AND MRS. F. T. INUKAI, 1001 Appar St., Oakland, Calif.
- GEORGE IWASAKI, Route 5, Hillsboro, Ore.

The Pacific Citizen regrets that there were incorrect addresses in the greetings of the following individuals and families in the Holiday issue:

- YOSHIO and TOSHIKO MIZUTANI, Rt. 2, Box 110, Thermal, California.
- YOSHITO OGIMACHI, c/o Box 974, Indio, Calif.
- IRA, GLADYS and DONALD LLOYD SHIMASAKI, 5705 Wyn-gate Drive, Bethesda, Md.
- MISS GRACE MASUDA, 3336 Burnet Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.
- MR. and MRS. FRANK NISHITA, Rt. 1, Box 9, San Juan Bautista, Calif.
- MR. and MRS. ISSAC SHINGAI, Rt. 1, Box 8, San Juan Bautista, Calif.
- DENICHI and RUTH HASHIMOTO, 284 E. Washington St., San Jose, Calif.
- GEORGE ITAYA, Rt. 6, Box 269, Stockton, Calif.
- TAMAKO and HARU YAGI, P.O. Box 294, French Camp, Calif.
- JACK IKEDA, 444 No. 38th St., Omaha, Neb.
- MR. J. MIYENO, 2604 Y St. Omaha, Neb.
- MR. and MRS. WILLIAM KOBAYASHI, 14751 Bushard St., Santa Ana, Calif.
- MR. and MRS. JACK TAKAHASHI, 31 No. Ham, Lodi, Calif.
- MR. HAL H. ISE, 2411 Montana Ave., Billings, Mont.
- OGAMI FAMILY, 478 E. Court, Weiser, Idaho.
- RUBY and DICK ICHIJURA, 505 No. 6th, Pocatello, Ida.
- MR. and MRS. K. MORIZONO, 1444 14th St., Oakland, Calif.
- OAKLAND Y.B.A., 181 6th St., Oakland, Calif.
- MR. and MRS. KOSHIO and FAMILY, Ft. Lupton, Colo.
- MR. and MRS. SHIRO MURAOKA, Toshio, Tommy and Laura, 710 Ridgeway Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

**"For a Good New Year's Resolution--Resolve to Attend the JAACL National Convention in Chicago on Sept. 28 to Oct. 2, 1950"**

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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LARRY TAJIRI..... EDITOR

## EDITORIAL:

### The Nisei in 1950

The spectacular growth of the JACL during the year 1949 cannot be laid to so simple a thing as the need for social contact among the Nisei.

During the last 12 months the JACL attained for the first time a breadth of operation and organization that could enable it to be designated truly national. Chapters were formed in areas where the Nisei had long been resident but had never before organized on purely racial grounds. Local groups were formed in Texas, areas of Colorado, Wyoming and Montana where the JACL had not touched. JACL organizations in the mid-western states and in the east were strengthened.

Never before had the Nisei been so well organized and for so worthy a purpose.

Before the Nisei had pecked away at little injustices, had tried to smooth down the minor symptoms of discrimination. The California anti-alien land law was deplored, as were the repeated attempts to curtail alien rights in fishing and other industries.

But the major operation of eliminating these discriminations by eliminating their cause—a racially restrictive citizenship act which made them possible—did not occur to the Japanese Americans.

It was not until the war and the evacuation that the Nisei came to grips with political reality.

Then, when the Nisei were stripped of political power and worldly goods and such wealth as they had accumulated through many years, they began to see the ugly and powerful thing that racism was. It was then, when the Nisei and Issei were at their weakest social and economic point, that they began to fight back.

The evacuation did not make heroes of the Nisei. But it did call out some impelling strength and a determination to come back.

There, in the barbed-wire enclosures of the western desert, in the tar-shacked homes of the WRA, the Nisei were born.

Their first cries of protest went all but unheard, coming as they did from behind barbed wire and distilled to a thin wail in the desert air.

But the Nisei persisted. They came out of the camps ready to tackle not alone the injustice of the evacuation but injustice on many fronts. They came out ready to fight for what before the war had seemed impossible goals—naturalization for the Issei, cancellation of restrictive land laws, discriminatory laws in employment and housing.

The Nisei youth who got kicked out of California turned up in Minnesota, fighting a restrictive covenant on the home he wanted to buy. The Japanese American out of a relocation camp in Utah came up fighting in New York, demanding his right to a job for which he might never have applied in California.

Thousands of Nisei GIs in the Pacific and in Europe and a single airman named Ben Kuroki had established forever the right of the Nisei to full citizenship along with their fellow Americans. But this demonstration in the fields of war had to be reinforced by the Nisei at home. The rights had been won. They had to be claimed.

The JACL goal in 1949 was elimination of racial restrictions in citizenship.

This goal illustrated graphically the maturity of the Nisei. It shows the Nisei were ready at last to grapple with elemental problems, for the citizenship clause that left the Issei outside the realm of American citizens, was the basic injustice that made possible so many others—the land laws and those laws which prohibited non-alien from entering various professional and industrial fields.

The JACL ADC goal in 1949 also shows that the Nisei have at last come to realize that their futures were not separate from the lives of the Issei. If, for a time, the Nisei had turned from their Issei parents, they now turned back to them in a common enterprise.

Strength in organization, an identification of self with the larger good and an instinct for probing sensitive spots for discrimination—these things the Nisei learned in the bitter years of the war.

The new year 1950 may prove a year of fulfillment for the Nisei and the Issei.

The Pacific Citizen Staff Wishes You a

Happy New Year

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## Obituary for the Yellow Peril

It is about time that somebody gave a decent burial to the Yellow Peril.

Some future historian in a Buck Rogers era of space ships and interplanetary transportation, fingering the dusty archives of the Twentieth century, may come across a footnote about a half-century of racist intimidation practiced by political opportunists and economic special interests against persons of Japanese ancestry on the west coast of these United States.

Measured in the perspective of history a footnote is about all that 50 years of racist agitation and restrictive legislation, climaxed by mass evacuation and detention, will receive. Some of the folk myths and legends spawned by the Yellow Peril will survive, of course; folk myths like folk songs are hardy and have the stuff of survival in an age of impermanence.

For the Japanese immigrant and his American children the Yellow Peril was a real and living thing. It affected their lives deeply, marking them out for discrimination, and it proscribed their area of education and economic opportunity and, in many urban districts, sentenced them to residence in racial ghettos. The Yellow Peril was the villain who pushed the button to set in motion the betrayal of the democratic process which history will record as the racial mass evacuation of 1942.

Perhaps no one can say just when the Yellow Peril died. It may have been on that day in January, 1942, when an American president whose three initials will probably be remembered as long as his name set his signature to a document authorizing the formation of the Japanese American Combat Team with the comment that Americanism is a matter of race or ancestry but of the mind and heart, although the death throes of the Yellow Peril continued long after. It may have been on a crisp autumn day in the forests of the Vosges when men from that same combat team rescued a lost battalion of men from the Texas division or it may have been on the day that the frock-coated statesmen of Nippon boarded a battleship called the Missouri to sign surrender documents. It has been noted that persons of Japanese descent in the Pacific coast states were, unwittingly, the pawns in a game of power politics in the Pacific.

The time of the patient's passing may be uncertain but there can be no question about the fact of death.

The Yellow Peril is no longer an instrument of political opportunism nor of economic advantage. In its time the Yellow Peril was utilized to elect men to public office, pass restrictive laws and excuse local discrimination. Its practitioners became men of power in their native state and in the halls of Congress. Its protagonists gave it a literature of its own, novels and short stories being published on the Japanese menace. Its theme was captured in the aptly titled "Hym of Hate" which was published by the Hearst press in 1926 and chanted in part:

"They meet us with a smile  
But they're working all the while,  
And they're waiting just to steal  
our California!

So keep your eyes on Togo,  
With his pockets full of maps,  
For we've found out we can't  
trust the Japs!"

The Nisei for the most part, grew up ignorant and innocent of the turmoil which had surrounded their parents. They found, however, that the Yellow Peril was to dog their very existence as the mongers of hate sought to make them pariahs in their native land. The year 1942 was a bitter and disillusioning year for most Nisei, penned behind the watchtowers of the evacuation camps, while the orators of the Yellow Peril shouted for mass depotation and permanent exclusion from the west coast. More than a score of organizations, flying the standards of patriotism but inspired by greed or race hatred, were formed along the Pacific coast. There was the Remember Pearl Harbor League in the northwest and the Japanese Exclusion Association in the south. To the evacuee in a tarpaper-coated barrack home the resulting clamor obscured the fact that these

organizations represented only a small minority of the people. But the end result was found in the segregation center at Tule Lake where the disaffection of several thousand of native Americans was recorded. The Yellow Peril had done its work.

The Yellow Peril was used as an economic, social and political weapon originally against the Chinese in America. The same charges of fecundity and inassimilability later used against the Japanese were made against the earlier Chinese immigrants and forced them into the ghettos of Chinatown. Nisei children, as well as other young Californians, have chanted rhymes at play about "Chin-Chin-Chinaman" without realizing its racist origin. California children also have read Bret Harte's "Heathen Chinese" in school.

Thus the Yellow Peril was ready made when the Japanese arrived. Originally, the Japanese immigrants were welcomed, particularly as a source of cheap labor, but the welcome turned to opposition when these immigrants sought to improve their status. The campaign was made into a national issue when Mayor Eugene Schmitz of San Francisco and Abe Ruef, then political boss of the city, facing indictment for felonious activity, decided they needed an issue which would take the minds of the voters off of their own criminal conduct. Mayor Schmitz created an incident when his school board ordered segregation of all Oriental children. The action resulted in a verbal spanking from President Theodore Roosevelt and Mayor Schmitz seized on the incident to lead a delegation to Washington to apprise the White House of the "Japanese menace."

## Hiroshima Minister Preaches Peace Message in Hawaii

By LAWRENCE NAKATSUKA

HONOLULU—Lest Americans are inclined to forget the tragedy of Hiroshima, a Japanese Methodist pastor who survived the atom bomb blast more than four years ago has been preaching the gospel of peace in the United States since the fall of 1948.

The preacher of peace is the Rev. Kiyoshi Tanimoto, about whose heroism John Hersey wrote so eloquently in his book "Hiroshima."

The Methodist minister has just completed a 14 month tour of the mainland in promoting a movement based on the theme of "No More Hiroshimas." He left Japan in September, 1938, at the invitation of the Methodist Mission Board in New York. Since then, he has spoken before 400 organizations in 30 states, travelling 50,000 miles for the peace mission.

The 40 year old minister has related to his audiences his personal experience of having lived through the first A-bomb explosion that morning of August 6, 1945. The blast and destruction of life that resulted from it were so horrible the minister is obsessed with the need for telling everyone who will listen to him that the world must have peace or face a fate many times more devastating than the Hiroshima bombing.

The Rev. Tanimoto is now speaking before many groups in Hawaii, repeating the message he has already delivered on the mainland. He will leave soon for his home and church in Hiroshima.

The church at Nagaregawa, a residential suburb of Hiroshima, has been partly rebuilt. The pastor was moving the belongings of a friend in a pushcart, when the A-bomb was dropped. He threw himself between a couple of boulders. When he got up he saw ruins and death around him.

Then began days and nights of ministering to the dying and

In the years that followed the Yellow Peril became a major force in the political life of California. Politicians dedicated themselves to the issue and one organization, the Native Sons of the Golden West, came to wield considerable power because of its opposition to the Japanese. Considerable money was spent to inform the people of California about the Yellow Peril and one man, V. S. McClatchy, gave up his work as publisher of the Sacramento Bee to dedicate himself to the "Japanese problem" as the head of the Joint Immigration Committee.

The California alien land law, copied in many western states, was passed in 1913 by the legislature and as an initiative measure in 1920. Its purpose was to prohibit the ownership or enjoyment of real property by aliens "ineligible to citizenship" and was aimed primarily against the Japanese group. The Yellow Peril politicians also were responsible for the passage of the Japanese Exclusion Act of 1924 which prohibited immigration of all "aliens ineligible to citizenship." The alien land law, repealed in Utah and declared unconstitutional by the Oregon State Supreme court, was rendered unenforceable in California, in the view of the state's attorney general, by the U. S. Supreme Court's decision in the Oyama case in 1948. As far as the 1924 Immigration Act is concerned, the Judd bill, which will repeal its restrictive provisions, has been passed by the House and was supported by a large majority of west coast legislators.

Time, the courts and the legislatures are gradually erasing the imprints of the Yellow Peril. Its mongers had their greatest opportunity early in World War II when public hysteria and indignation outweighed constitutional guarantees for Americans of Japanese ancestry. But the Yellow Peril advocates failed, largely because of the wartime behavior of the Japanese American group.

There will be no epitaphs to honor the men who made the Yellow Peril an instrument for hate and profit. Rather, in time, they may become the pariahs, outcasts because of their denial of decency and the democratic spirit.

Problems remain of course, for Japanese Americans. They are still a visible minority. But their problems are those of other minorities, rather than problems growing out of antagonisms fomented in the name of hate or the cashbox.

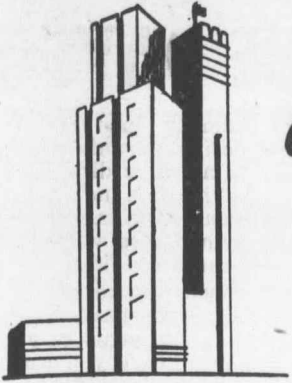
The Yellow Peril is dead and the time is past for burial.



KIYOSHI TANIMOTO

wounded — an episode which has been told graphically in John Hersey's book. The pastor worked tirelessly among the burned and bleeding; he gave them water; he organized rescue teams to evacuate those in danger, and fought fires which followed the explosion; he recruited volunteers to collect food and feed the victims.

Finally, he collapsed from radiation sickness. He was bed-ridden with a fever of 104°. It (Continued on page 6)



# A Nisei in Manhattan

by Roku Sugahara

## Some Random Thoughts for the New Year

I have a pocketful of little odds and ends of scrap paper. On each were ideas for columns. Now that the year has ended, I must dispose of these little jottings so that I can balance my books.

Never seem to have enough time to get around to do the things I really want to do. There's always the matter of making a living that comes up and that takes top priority.

Then here is my Cousin Willie who bothers me with a lot of nonsense and out of deference to family ties, I have to answer him. There is the matter of attending to the readers of this column. I might say they are of two types: those who approve and tolerate some of my findings and those who don't.

The first group are those whom I meet face to face: an old friend from L.A., a neighbor who lives in the next block, a former buddy in the army, a few JACL members, and, of course my relatives. They all have a little different idea of what I should feature so I wind up by pleasing none.

The anti-Sugahara forces are also out in numbers. They usually get to me by mail. Frequently I have no defense or opportunity for rebuttal so I let it go at that. Four out of five such letters of protest will carry a phoney name and address. James Tanaka of Chicago and Shiro Suzuki of Los Angeles, whoever they may be, are always ready to lead the attack.

I was speaking of scraps of paper and ideas I had for 1949. Somehow these are the ones I dropped overboard somewhere along the past 12 months.

ITEM 1. I had hoped to get an interview with former Ambassador Grew. Both times I was in Washington I couldn't make the connections so that idea was given up.

ITEM 2. For something a little different I had hoped to write another column on the symptoms of being 35, or thereabouts, but I couldn't add to my previous list substantially so I dropped that subject. I did figure out three peculiarities and I might as well pass them on to you. Nisei men in their mid-thirties will tend to do the following: get sleepy after a big meal and dive on the parlor sofa for a snooze, start watching the comb for loose hairs after combing their hair in the morning instead of keeping an alert eye on the mirror, and begin to spend less time and effort scheming out suitable gifts for the little woman on her birthday. That is, if I am to be classed as an average Nisei of about 35.

ITEM 3. I had a trip to Puerto Rico all lined up and was ready to report on some of the Nisei living there. The hurried plane trip fell through due to bad weather and I had to content myself with a short auto trip to Florida which turned out to be very ordinary.

ITEM 4. I wanted to raise the question of what happened to the old Tokyo Club of pre-war days. Somehow the information never did get back to me. I was interested to know just how many unsolved murders and death were connected with that gangster group and just how much profit they used to make a year. The silence was deafening.

ITEM 5. During the fretful days of evacuation, I heard there was a "black list" of JACL leaders that a band of rebels in the various camps compiled. What happened to that white paper? Just who were on the list and why? Here, again, I ran into a stone wall.

ITEM 6. I tried to get Cousin Willie and a few of the other big wheelers and dealers around the 9th and 7th street markets in Los Angeles to give me their analysis of the wholesale produce situation. I did get a lot of market reports but not enough statistics about the Nisei wholesalers. I wanted to know just what percentage of the business they handled as compared with pre-war days and what was the outlook for the years ahead. I guess the boys are worried about their income tax situation so they replied only in terms of generalities.

ITEM 7. New York Nisei in unusual occupations. I had great hopes for this one. I thought I might find a lion tamer, a policeman, a fireman, a subway conductor, a glass blower, a super at the Metropolitan, or a professional beggar among the crowd. Most of us have just routine jobs draw average weekly salaries, and live lives similar to those in most Main Streets across the nation. I did come across a family of professional acrobats but when I did actually meet them, I found out they were Chinese and didn't speak a word of English.

ITEM 8. I laid the groundwork for planting a profit-making oriental art store. Had a raft of ideas of what type of merchandise to carry, what items of interest to display, and a list of promotional schemes to drum up business. I even had the anticipated revenue per day calculated down to the penny. But, being of a secretive and selfish nature, I decided to defer revealing my modus operandi to so many potential competitors. Of course, the matter of not having all the 100 Gs necessary to invest did have some negative influence.

ITEM 9. I remember one hot sultry day in New Orleans I was going to try to swim across the Mississippi. And, if I managed to live through that ordeal of splashing my way across three quarters of a mile of muddy water, I thought I might pen a few lines about the feat. When I did get up enough courage to jump into the swirling churning waters, I found out that I was about all in just a few dozen feet from the levee. The powerful tide was carrying me down stream 20 feet to every stroke I attempted. I was dodging, at the same time, all kinds of tree branches, planks, riverboats and debris and immediately gave up any and all ideas of getting across. I figured I was lucky to get back to shore, forty feet away. So, for lack of accomplishment, I threw in the sponge on that caper.

ITEM 10. I also had high hopes of writing how it felt to land a 150-pound sailfish. Two whole days I spent on the Gulf of Mexico on a fishing boat in search of this powerful adversary. We trolled for about five or six hours each day. The closest we got to even catching a fish was when we dipped into the salt box and snatched an unwilling sardine to act as a lure on the end of our line. The skipper had a world of excuses; the day was too windy, the water was not salty enough, the tide was running out, the fish had just migrated, and our bait was too small, among many other reasons.

Well that just about rounds out my list. Of course, I have a couple of dozen Manhattan Nisei names on my list that I had hoped to interview, but the days and weeks somehow slipped by before I found time to look them up.

I must not forget. To my friends and foes, regular readers of this column and others, a Happy New Year.

Bill Hosokawa:

## FROM THE FRYING PAN

### Xmas Cards Recall Old Friends

Denver, Colo.

Each evening for more than a week now we've been enjoying a small private reminiscence session over a little stack of the day's mail. The postman's offerings are waiting when we get home, and we sit down to see who remembered us, to admire the beauty and novelty of the greeting cards, to study the aptness of the messages.

For this is the Christmas card season, and we are hearing, for the first time in a twelve-month, from persons whom we knew and were close to in the long ago and far away. Each card conjures up a face, or a pair of faces, in memory. And there are mind-pictures, too, of places and things and incidents; and of such nebulous things as the way one person used to laugh, or how his eyes used to crinkle up when he smiled.

Oddly, each card seems to reflect something of the sender's personality: The bold, colorful card; the gay modern card; the traditional conservative card; the progressive with ideas; the family man with the family portrait. And more and more, we have come to appreciate the last type for the years are slipping by and they have brought new wrinkles as well as offspring to old friends.

Our friends are well-scattered—from coast to coast and almost from border to border and on a couple of continents besides. The war was responsible for some of that, but I suppose a goodly-number would have wandered off anyway. Life's like that. And we never hear from most of them until the Christmas season rolls around again.

For this pleasure of renewing contacts, if for nothing else, we enjoy the holiday season. Christmas, unfortunately has become largely a pagan celebration dedicated to that great, goldplated god materialism. One need only to view the jostling shopping crowds, the sales ballyhoo that begins in November even before the turkey bones are laid to rest, to see the homage being paid to this green-backed deity of the masses.

But a bit of the traditional spirit, modified by the times, remains in the fellowship, good wishes and good will toward all men expressed in the exchange of greetings. (Sign in window: 50 individualized Xmas cards, \$1.79. Your name imprinted free).

And then it will be New Year's, although it isn't clear whether we're entering the last year of the first half of the Twentieth century, or the first year of the second half of same.

So far as the Nisei is concerned, the years are bright with promise. His place in his native land has been won and assured by his own blood, sweat and tears. He is attaining economic, and in a lesser measure political and social maturity. A large part of the struggle is over; bulging, expanding and consolidating are in the future.

The price, of course, is vigilance. But can things ever get as bad as they were eight years ago this month?

Merry Christmas, folks, and a Happier New Year.

### By the Side of the Hill:

## National Health Insurance Plan Faces Obstacles in Congress

By I. H. GORDON

Washington, D. C.

The pundits of the Capital are rather well united in one belief—that the administration's proposed national compulsory health insurance program will not be passed by the 81st Congress.

The pundits, who include a motley assortment of columnists, plain working newspaper men, scholars of government who express themselves, often more vigorously than well, in letters to the editors, and a wonderful variety of politicians, hangers-on and bureau officials, are by no means as united on the merits of the program as they are on the disposition of it during the next Congress.

Yet even staunch advocates of freeeeee enterprise, and the doctor's God-given right to make a buck and Hippocrates be hanged, are squirming after the latest plan of the AMA to fight "socialized medicine," which, of course, is the compulsory \$25 fee leveled upon every member physician in the nation for a massive propaganda campaign to fight the whole and, to them, intolerable idea.

Such fearless supporters of the rule of the monopoly and the privilege of the hungry to go hungry if he cannot find a job, as the Times-Herald Col. McCormick's righteous voice in the wilderness of Washington, and The Daily News, the tabloid-size flag of the Scripps-Howard Kingdom, are wondering, but only faintly, if such a levy is wise and democratic, practical as they consider the whole idea of a frightening war chest to turn loose on the bogey of medical insurance.

Even the letters to the editors have begun to question the AMA's actions in this respect.

Now these are curious manifestations, indeed. For until the AMA's "pay \$25 and fight 'socialized medicine' or lose your standing in our august body" edict to the physicians of America, the newspapers of the Capital presented a united front in support of the AMA. The one exception to this has been Herblock's cartoons in the Washington Post.

Newspapers, naturally, are fine institutions to discuss "public support" or "public antipathy," or "public reaction," or "public outcry." What editors mean who use these terms are, of course, what other editors throughout the nation are doing.

Taking editorial writers at their face value, it is safe, then, to assume, that the "public is aroused and disturbed" by the AMA's undemocratic \$25 assessment against its members.

Which a step further, means the AMA now is becoming faintly tainted in the "public mind."

Well, the AMA has done this thing to itself. Its actions long ago alienated that body to a great many liberals, intellectuals and the better-informed. Its succeeding screams penetrated to a larger bloc and began disturbing an increasingly greater number of persons. Finally, the AMA has brought down the wrath of, well, in any

event, a faint wrist slapping, from the American press; and rather penetrating and asute condemnation from such publications as the Atlantic Monthly, The Nation and New Republic, to name but a few. The doctors of the nation are treading on dangerous ice. At the moment, it is doubtful that many of them recognize this. For, in truth, many doctors are a rather sheep-like lot, led, willynilly, by cagey, rich "social practitioners" and wealthy "specialists" who want neither their domain nor their lucrative practices troubled by such ridiculous ideas as may upset their individual economic applectarts.

Their arguments against compulsory medical insurance, are, for the most part, somewhat asinine and, if the situation were not so serious, for life, death and doctors can never be otherwise than serious, would be lugubrious. Their position on the question of prepaid insurance has shifted over the years. Prior to the First World War, a time they would like us to forget, the AMA supported the scheme they now oppose. Their statistics are open to questioning, and even suspicion. Their attacks are misleading and cloaked in such semantic red herrings as "socialism" and "communism."

The AMA grows positively vicious when Oscar Ewing speaks in support of national insurance, especially when he points out such facts as, under the proposed law, doctors are under no compulsion to join in a national insurance program; that the only effect such a regulation would have upon them would be for the government, through our prepaid insurance deducted the same as income taxes, to pay the bills; that county AMA associations will have a great deal of say in how the payments are to be determined in their own localities.

To this the AMA replies with such maudlin appeals as distributing pictures of an old practitioner sitting beside a bed, (you've probably seen the picture in your doctor's office), and labeling it something like: Keep the government out of this picture.

The AMA has very few legs to stand on. This it knows full well, else it would not be placed in the position of a forced assessment upon the doctors of America, an assessment levied without any national referendum by the doctors, themselves, to see if they favor or oppose medical insurance.

Thank goodness, the AMA has

## Vagaries

### Scholarships . . .

Among the art scholships being offered by the San Gabriel Valley Art Center in Pasadena, Calif., is one specifically for a Nisei . . . The man who may have been the richest person of Japanese ancestry in the western hemisphere died last week in Rio de Janeiro. He was Hisato Fujiwara, a Brazilian coffee grower. Although Brazilian coffee crops have been poor this year, Fujiwara received \$1,500,000 for this year's crop and was rated among Brazil's ten top growers . . . Plans are going ahead for the establishment of an American Buddhist university in New York City. The Rev. Hozen Seki head of the New York Buddhist church, returned recently from a three-months trip to Japan to obtain books and other religious materials.

### Hot Trombone . . .

The trombone you will hear in the Lionel Hampton orchestra's new recordings for Decca will probably be that of Paul Higaki, the only Nisei playing with a top band. Higaki, regarded by Hampton as one of the top trombonists in the country, has been helping the Hampton organization score their current success at Bop City, New York's temple of modern jazz . . . Before joining Hampton, Higaki also played with Lucky Millinder, the late Jimmie Lunceford and Freddie Martin.

### Guidebook . . .

The new national Nisei Guidebook, to be published by the James Nishimura organization, the Chicago Publishing Co., will total some 300 pages including 114 pages of features and photos by Nisei writers and photographers . . . Togo Tanaka has taken over the editorship of Scene, monthly picture magazine.

### Holiday . . .

There are two pages of pictures on Japanese Americans in Los Angeles in the current, January, 1950, issue of Holiday. Except for one picture of a war memorial service, the photos by Ernest Kleinberg stress the "Japanese" side of Nisei life in Los Angeles. The coverage is part of Holiday's spread of Los Angeles which features an article by Hamilton Basso on the "colossus of the west coast." . . . The caption on the photos declares: "Los Angeles has a unique local minority in her colorful Japanese Americans. Bundled out of the state in 1941, the Nisei have returned with a new pride in their sons' great war record." . . . many another recent publication, Holiday uses the word "Nisei" as a term with reference to all persons of Japanese ancestry.

taken the finest step possible to undermine its cause; and the most helpful step it possibly could have undertaken to insure that eventually this nation will enjoy a national prepaid medical insurance program.



Home office personnel of the Western Pioneer Insurance Company, left to right, are Jack Kelly, Tad Hirota, Kiku Shimasaki, An-

thony Scarcella, Roland Robinson, Tim Sasabuchi, Ralph L. Jensen, Y. B. Mamiya and Tom Myles.

## Nisei and Business: WESTERN PIONEERS

Oakland, Calif.  
A MILESTONE in the history of Japanese Americans was marked during 1949 with the founding of the first Nisei stock company authorized to transact automobile and general liability insurance.

Owned and controlled by Nisei and specializing in their insurance needs, the Western Pioneer Insurance Company was given its certificate to practice insurance in September.

Within its short history, the company has developed steadily throughout the state. Some 40 Nisei, Issei and Caucasian agents and brokers now represent the new firm.

Organization of the firm was motivated in 1947 by the realization that the Nisei and Issei, along with members of other minority groups, were discriminated against in the purchase of auto and other insurance by some of the insurance companies.

The practice was a steady irritant in the side of the Japanese Americans, who were nonetheless helpless in the face of the discrimination. In some instances Nisei were totally rejected—solely on the basis of race—and in other cases were charged a discriminatory surcharge. This practice was rationalized by the discriminating companies on grounds that members of minority groups were poor financial risks and that, in the case of auto insurance, members of minority groups would inevitably lose in a court case, should an auto accident in which they were involved go before a jury.

With the adoption by some states, including California, of compulsory insurance laws, the discriminatory practice worked an additional hardship upon the individ-

ual who wanted to obey the law but was not willing to pay a discriminatory tax merely to do so.

Thus the Western Pioneer Insurance Company grew out of the special need of Nisei and Issei for insurance.

Among the organizers were 15 Nisei who promoted the sale of stock for the company for a year's period, completing capitalization in late August.

The company established headquarters at 4101 Broadway in Oakland in a former bank building.

Heading the company as president is Ralph L. Jensen, formerly with the Citizen's bank in Idaho and personal analyst for International Harvester in the western states for 15 years. During the war he served as automotive advisor for the west coast army command.

Yosh Buddy Mamiya, formerly San Diego agent for the Silver Gate Realty and Insurance Co., is vice president. A member of the 442nd combat team during the war, he is also an active JACLer.

Western Pioneer's secretary is

Tom Myles, Harvard college and law school graduate, who has practiced law in Nevada and his home state. Myles saw service as a captain in the counter intelligence corps in the Pacific theater.

Roland Robins of Oakland is the underwriting manager, while Jack Kelly, bombardier navigator and captain in the air corps, is office manager and insurance accountant.

Anthony Scarcella of Oakland heads the claims section.

Kiku Shimasaki, who returned recently from two years' civil service duty in occupied Japan, is chief stenographer.

### Hiroshima Minister

(Continued from page 4)  
took two months of rest before he could move about again.

He was lucky to have survived the holocaust that took a hundred thousand lives in one fatal flash. But having lived through it, he believes the world should learn the lesson of the wanton wastefulness of war; that Hiroshima should stand forever as an exhibit for peace. His dream, therefore, is to make Hiroshima a world peace center.

For that purpose, the Rev. Tanimoto proposes the establishment of a permanent "Institute on World Peace" at Hiroshima. The institute would study ways of promoting peace. Coupled with it would be social service centers—hospitals, orphanages and homes for widows and children.

The pastor reports a great need for these facilities to care for the physical wellbeing of Hiroshima people.

A "Hiroshima Peace Center Committee" is being organized in the United States, according to the Rev. Tanimoto. Prominent public figures like Authoress Pearl Buck, Writer John Hersey and Norman Cousins of the Saturday Review of Literature, Methodist leaders, Dr. G. Hopkins and Dr. Charles Boss are backing the movement which is to be non-sectarian, inter-racial and worldwide.

The pastor reports that World Peace Day is being observed more widely every year on the anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing. Christian clergymen in Oakland have started a "No More Hiroshimas" campaign.

For the Rev. Tanimoto, this was his second visit to the mainland. He studied theology at Emory College in Atlanta, Ga., from 1937 to 1940.

### Professional Notices

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## PORTRAIT OF THE DAYS

By ARITA EDMONDS IKEGAMI  
MENTALLY I can review the important days of my life and find that some were indeed of greater moment than were others. Like the days that came just prior to the evacuation and those that followed. For then it seemed that the only things one could be certain of were the uncertainties.

The sad and the comic interwove to lend each day some particular importance. Those were the times filled with my deceit to myself. Deceit born of fear for what each tomorrow might bring, causing my self to believe that would never end and that war was a thing eternal.

But in spite of such self-inflicted pity, the war did end. Being a normal person and with an aptitude for changing moods, it did not take me long to adjust myself to the fact that people are for the most part good and that life flows on like a smooth and aged wine. To drink it is sweet and I can now sip of life with a deep and sincere appreciation. All this because I have learned that:

Humans are all of the same chemical formula but that whatever the chemical ingredient that goes to make up the individual personality, some are blessed with a greater abundance of the milk of human kindness than are others.

Money is a powerful and controlling element and albeit, a necessary agent in the every day scheme of existence.

A rich man who possesses no compassion for his less fortunate brother is a pathetic creature and basically a spiritual pauper.

Good manners are the product of good breeding and along with the asset known as culture, cannot be purchased.

Tolerance heads the list of greater virtues and a man may come from the hill country or he may come from the set called "Back Bay," yet if he cut a vein and compare the blood that runs forth with the blood of any man alive, he will find that all blood runs red.

For every good deed you do and for every kind thought you think there is something of equal good that awaits you.

Without being loved or without loving, there is very little of worth to which one may aspire.

That little children are very important people and if you are not of the prolific variety, you can love the offspring of others and therefrom derive a measure of satisfaction for the paternal yearnings in your heart.

That among the more "earthy" things there is a thrill to such a simple act as baking a batch of bread in a ranch kitchen for the first time.

That being the youngest in a

family of adoring brothers and sisters and doting parents can be the prelude to a tragic disappointment, for childhood is not a permanent state and one's family may not always sympathize with your ideas or self-confessed ideals.

You must choose the person with whom you decide to share all the mature moments and years of your life with the same care you would in choosing place of residence in the hereafter, had you the choice, of course.

Strangers often reveal themselves as helpful angels, thereby giving you a taste of heaven here on this mortal sphere. Nothing is as wonderful as the hand of a good friend, extended in comfort.

I, who avowedly almost became a cynic have softened to the sweetness of a life that is truly wonderful. Trust and kindness in mankind have become very important components of my daily program for daily living.

Life is truly a "big parade." Picture it today in your mind, that you may review it with care tomorrow. Be careful how you pose it—this "portrait of your days."

### San Luis Valley Holds Social Despite Severe Snowstorm

LA JARA, Colo. — Despite a snowstorm, 50 persons attended a bingo social held by the San Luis Valley JACL on Dec. 10.

It was reported that many others started out from their homes for the WOW hall in La Jara but were forced back by slippery roads and blinding snow.

A recording of Mike M. Masaoaka's address at the first Mountain Plains regional conference on No. 13 in Denver was played at the social so that those who were unable to attend the Denver event could hear the message of the JACL ADC director.

Rudy Yoshizaki was in charge of entertainment, assisted by Mrs. Yoshizaki.

At the close of the evening Auctioneer Fred Nozawa, aided by Masao Aigaki, sold homemade pies and cakes.

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## Save Fishermen As Tuna Boat Capsizes at Sea

SAN DIEGO—Three fishermen of Japanese ancestry from San Diego were rescued, along with 11 other members of the crew, as the \$375,000 tuna boat Dominator capsized and sank in the Galapagos Islands off Ecuador, 2800 miles south of here, on Dec. 12.

The fishermen were identified as Isamu Matsuhara, Yasuo Nakamoto and Masahara Tsuida.

The Dominator left San Diego on Nov. 20 for a 70-day tuna fishing trip.

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## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Mitsuru Fujinami a boy on Dec. 8 in Salt Lake City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ray Masao Kusamura, Murray, Utah, a girl on Dec. 4.

To Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kazunobu Nishita a boy Mark Kazuo, on Dec. 7 in San Jose.

To Mr. and Mrs. Megumi Nakano, Los Altos, Calif., a girl, Yukie Phyllis, on Dec. 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kingo Tajii, Madrone, Calif., a girl, Diana Agnes, on Dec. 9.

To Mr. and Mrs. Katsuto Takai a boy on Nov. 27 in Stockton, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fred T. Matsuno a boy on Nov. 16 in Lodi, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Michio Yamamoto, Acampo, Calif., a girl on Nov. 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tokio Okamoto a girl on Dec. 10 in Sacramento.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kiyoto Hamasaki a boy on Dec. 11 in Auburn, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masashi Shimosa a girl on Dec. 12 in San Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ben Shimomura, Winters, Calif., a girl on Dec. 7.

To Mr. and Mrs. Morio Kitagaki a girl in Oakland.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sam Mukaida a boy, Allen, on Dec. 6 in New York City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tadashi Yamamoto a boy in Denver.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bert Motomu Tanaka, San Diego, Calif., a boy on Nov. 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ogi a boy on Dec. 14 in San Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. Donald K. Toriumi, Pasadena Calif., a girl Janice Joy, on Nov. 30.

### DEATHS

Saichiro Kazahara, 69, on Dec. 15 in Salt Lake City.

Yoshimatsu Wada, 72, on Dec. 13 in Salt Lake City.

Sumitaro Taguchi 73, on Dec. 13 in Reedley, Calif.

Kajiemon Haji, 67, on Dec. 13 in Fowler Calif.

Saizo Tsuji, 64, on Dec. 2 in Los Angeles.

Fukujiro Shimashita on Dec. 7 in Chicago.

Mrs. Haru Suzuki, 59, on Dec. 16 in Oakland, Calif.

T. Okamoto, 72, Fort Lupton, Colo., on Dec. 18 in Denver.

Ichiro Matsuura, 79, on Dec. 18 in Los Angeles.

### MARRIAGES

June Hayami to James Ogisaka on Dec. 3 in Chicago.

Mary Yamamoto to Jim Etow on Dec. 18 in Watsonville, Calif.

Mariko Otani to Genkichi Miyagishima on Dec. 3 in Chicago.

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Alice Kohaya, 24, and Kiyoshi Yoshimoto, 29, San Mateo, Calif., in Sacramento.

Teruye Mikami, 23, Lodi, Calif., and Ted Tokio Otani, 29 Calwa, in Fresno.

Katherine Sugawara, 21, and Lee Fong, 22, in Oakland, Calif.

Frances Maule, 19, and Roy Kawamoto, 26, Los Gatos, Calif., in San Francisco.

### WANT ADS

**BOARD AND ROOM**—For young men, 1208 West 64th St., Chicago, Illinois. Call WALbrook 5-3671, after 6 p.m.

**PERSONAL**—Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Mr. & Mrs. Ray Hiroshi Sato, formerly of Hollywood and Chicago, please contact: Ken K. Aiba, JA Section, HQ Yokohama Command, APO 503 c/o Postmaster, S. F. Calif.

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## Midwest Attorneys Will Join JACL in Advising on Claims

CHICAGO — Midwest attorneys interested in the evacuation claims program have agreed to cooperate in JACL's project to inform the Department of Justice as to their views on the legal and administrative aspects of the claims program, the Midwest office of the JACL reported last week.

Meeting with Mike Masaoka, national legislative director of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee, Washington, D.C. these attorneys heard an outline of Canada's experience with their evacuation claims program and the latest developments in the American program, particularly as it related to the Los Angeles field office.

Problems concerning local attorneys were raised and discussed by the group.

Since the government claims program is unprecedented and since those attorneys filing claims are in a better position to interpret the law and suggest administrative procedures that will insure the evacuee-claimant more liberal claims, Masaoka suggested that the attorneys present form a special committee to cooperate in the National JACL program to present memoranda to the Department of Justice on every controversial aspect of the law.

Masaoka pointed out that the Nisei and other attorneys in Los Angeles had agreed to a similar

suggestion and that attorneys throughout the nation, working together to prepare such memoranda, would render a real service to the community as well as to their own claimants.

JACL, as the principal sponsor of the evacuation claims law passed last year by Congress, will coordinate this cooperative program from Washington.

Attorneys Thomas Masuda, Jiro Yamaguchi, George Kita, Wiley Higuchi, Harold Gordon and Richard Hikawa of Chicago and Charles Tatsuda of Minneapolis agreed to cooperate. Other interested attorneys will be asked to join the program. Richard Akagi, Midwest Regional Representative, was named temporary chairman of the Chicago committee.

Others in attendance included Noboru Honda chairman of the Chicago Chapter evacuation claims committee and a member of the National JACL Board, Shigeo Wakamatsu, Chicago Chapter president, and Ken Yoshihara and Mike Hagiwara of the Business Service Associates.

### Mrs. Ruth Hashimoto Elected President of San Jose Chapter

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Mrs. Ruth Hashimoto was elected president of the United Citizens League of Santa Clara County for the coming year at the elections held on Dec. 8.

Other members of the new cabinet are Dr. Robert Okamoto, first vice-pres.; Arthur Nakata, Palo Alto, second vice-pres.; Sachiye Endo, sec.; Sam Tanase, treas., and Phil Matsumura, historian.

The new cabinet will be installed at a dinner to be held at Dinah's Shack on Jan. 12 from 6:30 p.m. with Esau Shimizu in charge.


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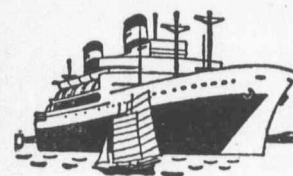


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# Tri-State Buddhists Crown Brighton Girl



Elsie Nakata, 17, of Brighton, Colo., was selected as queen of the Tri-State Buddhist conference held on Dec. 17 and 18 in December. Miss Nakata (back row center) was crowned at a dance in the Silver Glade of the Cosmopolitan hotel.

The queen's attendants are: (back row) Pearl Kuwabara, 19, Denver, and Mrs. Rose Masunaga, 20, Fort Lupton; (front) Bessie Yoshida, 17, Ala-

mosa; Betty Uyemura, 20, Rocky Ford, and Ruby Mayeda, 16, Longmont. In addition to the business sessions delegates attended a mixer, skating party and a talent show and watched a team from Crowley, Colo., win the basketball tournament from 11 other contenders. Dr. Eugene Link, professor of sociology at Denver university, was the main speaker.—Cut courtesy of Rocky Mountain News, Denver.

# People of Japanese Ancestry In U. S. Unite in Support Of Walter Bill, Says Masaoka

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mike Masaoka, national JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee legislative director, returned on Dec. 16 from a six-week tour that left him feeling "confident that persons of Japanese ancestry are united in the common goal of seeking passage of the Walter Resolution."

The resolution, which passed the House unanimously early in the year, but suffered a temporary setback in the Senate on the lone objection of Sen. Russell (D., Ga.), would grant naturalization privileges to some 88,000 Japanese in the United States and Hawaii.

Mr. Masaoka said he is optimistic over chances for comparatively early passage of the measure when Congress reconvenes.

The legislative director said he found economic conditions among those of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast "improved over what it was a year ago."

"Japanese Americans throughout the nation are facing the future with confidence. They have been reaccepted into the mainstream of American life even more rapidly than we ever dared hope. There is little unemployment among them."

He said their two major interests today are focused upon the Walter measure, and progress of the Evacuation Claims program, passed by Congress to indemnify Issei and Nisei for real and personal property losses suffered in their evacuation from the West Coast several months after the outbreak of war.

Mr. Masaoka discussed both of these matters in a series of conferences at:

The organizational meeting of the Mountain Plains JACL District Council convention, Denver; the organizational meeting of the Northern California-Western Nevada District JACL Council convention, San Francisco; the fifth annual Intermountain District Council Convention, Ogden; the organizational meeting of the Pacific Northwest District Council at

its Spokane convention, and at the meeting of the Pacific-Southwest District Council in Los Angeles.

Mr. Masaoka conferred in Salt Lake City with Hito Okada, national JACL president; Mas Satow, national director and Larry Tajiri, editor of The Pacific Citizen.

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These prices include parcel postage to Japan or other destinations.

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## Montana Chapter Announces Profit On Recent Carnival

BILLINGS, Mont. — The Montana JACL chapter made a net profit of \$483.93 from its carnival on Nov. 20 at Laurel, Yasuo Nayematsu, treasurer, reported at a recent meeting.

He also reported that a contribu-

## Open CPA Office

LOS ANGELES — Formation of a firm of certified public accountants was announced here recently by Sho Iino of Los Angeles and Masaji Takeda who recently returned to this city from Chicago.

A contribution of \$50 was received from Sam Ujifusa of Worland, Wyo.

## Hawaii Wins All-Oriental Cage Crown

SAN JOSE, Calif.—The Hawaii Nisei All-Stars ended the two-year domination of the national all-Oriental basketball tournament by the San Francisco St. Mary's Saints, defeating the Chinese American team, 42 to 39, in the finals of the tourney on Dec. 25 at the San Jose State gym.

The host San Jose Zebras won the consolation round by nosing out the Chicago Huskies, champions of the recent Nisei invitational tourney, 47 to 46.

San Francisco Saints, 43; Southern California Appliance, 39.

Berkeley Nissei, 61; San Francisco Filipino A.C., 39. Hawaii All-Stars, 47; Chicago Huskies, 39.

Seattle All-Orientials, 55; San Jose Zebras 52.

**SEMI-FINALS**  
Hawaii All-Stars, 54; Berkeley Nissei, 42.

S.F. Saints, 50; Seattle All-Orientials, 33.

**Consolation Round**  
San Jose Zebras 49; S.C. Appliance, 46.

Chicago Huskies, 61; S.F. Filipinos, 32.

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