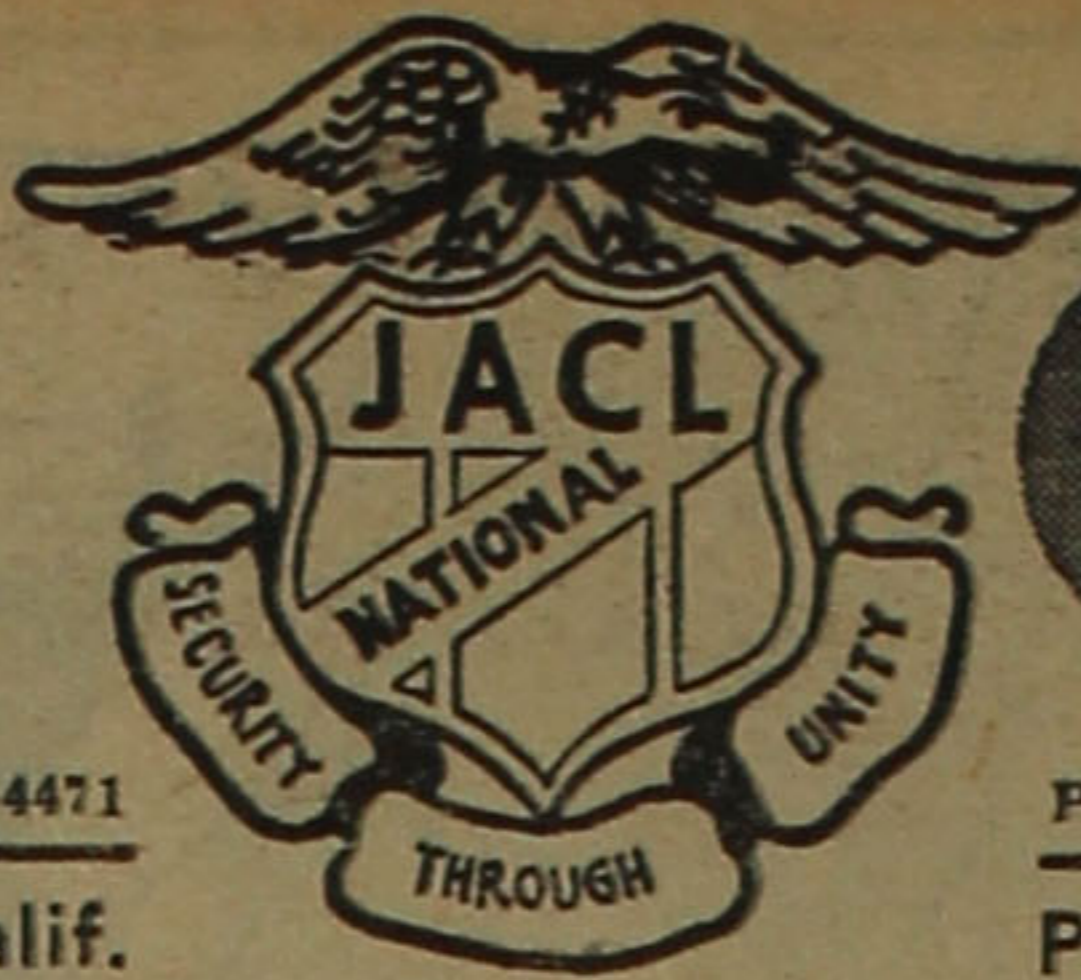


# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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## Evacuation called 'tragic failure of principle' by ass't U.S. attorney general

The Pacific Citizen is happy to reprint the speech prepared for delivery at the 15th Biennial national JACL convention last Monday at the recognitions banquet by Ass't U.S. Attorney General George C. Doubs. The address was made following the presentation of the JACL Scroll of Appreciation for his efforts in concluding the evacuation claims program. The text is as follows:

Salt Lake City

I accept with pride this award, which you may be assured shall always be cherished by me. I do recognize that it constitutes more than a recognition of my own contribution to the Evacuation Claims Program — it is in reality a tribute to each of the men and women of the Civil Division of the Department of Justice in Washington, in Los Angeles and in San Francisco, who for ten years so ably, conscientiously, and impartially have handled and determined the awards under the Evacuation Claims Program and are now bringing it to a successful conclusion.

Mr. Chairman and fellow Americans,

Although I am a long way from home tonight I do not feel a stranger here because I met many of you on my trip last year to the West Coast in my efforts to stimulate the claimants and their lawyers to assist our efforts to accelerate the program and I have had a helpful association at all times with your representatives, Mr. Mike Masaoka in Washington, Mr. Masao Satow in San Francisco and Dr. Roy Nishikawa in Los Angeles.

Attorney General William P. Rogers has asked me to extend to you his greetings, to express his own personal satisfaction with the unflinching assistance and cooperation accorded the Department of Justice by JACL and to wish this convention a successful meeting.

### EVACUATION DAYS OF 1942

May I remind you of some recent history. In 1942 the War Department, acting under an Executive Order of the President, directed the exclusion of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast of the continental United States, Alaska and a portion of Arizona. Of a total population of about 113,000 in this area, 110,442 persons of Japanese ancestry were removed to relocation centers administered by the War Relocation Authority, and for approximately two and one-half years they were exiled from their homes. Of the total number evacuated 40 per cent were children under 21; 65 per cent were born in this country, were native born American citizens, yet no distinction was made between citizens and aliens. After January 2, 1945, they were permitted to return to the evacuated areas to pick up the ravelled ends of the life they knew before the forced evacuation. By the end of 1945 about half of them had so returned, the remainder scattering throughout the country, and thousands, who had joined the Armed Services of the United States, were serving with the Army of Occupation in Europe or Asia.

The evacuation orders of the War Department gave the persons evacuated desperately little time in which to settle their affairs. The governmental safeguards designed to prevent undue loss were belatedly instituted, were not effectively publicized among the evacuees and were never entirely successful. Merchants had to dispose of their stock and businesses at sacrifice prices. In a setting of confusion and hysteria, hurried sales were made of homes, fields, farms and personal possessions for a fraction of their value. A large number had to accept totally inadequate arrangements for the protection and management of property. Valuable leasehold interests were abandoned. Persons entrusted with the management of evacuees' real property mulcted the owners in diverse ways. Tenants were wasteful, failed to pay rent and even converted property to their own use. Even worse than property loss was the mental anguish of American citizens who temporarily were being treated not as citizens but as enemy aliens.

In the relocation centers the only income opportunities lay in Center employment at wage rates of \$12 to \$19 per month plus small clothing allowances; with the consequence that many persons were unable to continue the payments of life insurance premiums and some found themselves unable to make mortgage or tax payments. Life insurance policies and substantial equities in property were lost.

The chief military justification for the mass removal of these American citizens was the war with Japan, the possibility of the existence of a disloyal element in their midst, the difficult military situation in the Pacific, the notion that the West Coast constituted a critical military area which increased uneasiness as to the possibility of espionage or sabotage, and the lack of time or facilities for individual loyalty screening. Yet the Nisei evacuated were not individually charged with any offense known to our law. Indeed, enemy aliens, who were believed to be "dangerous to the peace and security" of the Nation, had already been placed under arrest.

The tragedy of this unique governmental action was accentuated by the fact that there was no minority group in this country with a more admirable record of industry, obedience to law, civic responsibility and consistent loyalty to our great country than these citizens of Japanese ancestry. As Chief Justice James H. Wolfe of the Supreme Court of Utah observed on February 6, 1946 a Japanese American on the West Coast "had no more to do with the cause of the war with Japan than he had to do with an earthquake."

It is significant that there was not recorded throughout the war — before or after this war measure — any acts of sabotage or espionage attributed to those who were the victims of the forced relocation. The Nisei proved them-

Continued on Page 4

## JACL's Japan policy to go per-issue basis

SALT LAKE CITY. — In order that vital questions on international relations, especially those relating to Japan, which directly affect the welfare of Americans of Japanese ancestry can be duly considered, the Japanese American Citizens League at its 15th Biennial National JACL Convention Council Sessions overwhelmingly voted to discuss these matters on an issue-to-issue basis as they arise.

Fifty-seven chapters approved this policy statement with only one opposed. A number of delegates because of specific instructions abstained from participating in the voting.

Debate on the position that the JACL should take on international relations revealed that in spite of apparent differences of opinion, there was actually unanimity as to how this particular subject should be treated.

### Study Committee

After discussions which were spread over three days, it was the consensus that on major policy decisions based upon either actual or proposed congressional bills and actual or proposed governmental action that they should be referred to a study committee if the welfare of Americans of Japanese ancestry in this country is directly involved.

The study committee will be composed of a national chairman of the National Board, and each district council shall elect a committee chairman for its district who shall also be a member of the national committee. The term of office of the committee members shall be for a biennium period.

It was believed that this new approach would enable the JACL to consider all necessary action on an issue-to-issue basis in such a manner as to enable the organization to better contribute to the welfare of the group in this country and the maintenance and encouragement of friendly rela-

tions with Japan.

### 1954 Policy Amended

The JACL policy statement on international relations now reads:

"As an organization, most of whose members are Americans of Japanese ancestry, the Japanese American Citizens League hails the present era of good will existing between the United States of America and Japan. "As citizens of the United States, JACL members share with other Americans the hope that Japan will remain a steadfast ally in the Pacific, that Japan will become an even more potent partner in the community of free nations, that Japan will develop into a truly democratic bastion in Asia.

"At the same time, JACL envisions its primary responsibility

as one to its own membership, of continuing to promote the welfare of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States as provided in the National Constitution and is the conviction that such activities make 'For Better Americans in a Greater America'.

### Amended Portion

"However, because we cannot foresee the nature of the major questions or matters which may arise in the field of international relations which directly affect the welfare of persons in the United States each such question or matter, as it arises, should be studied and acted upon individually.

"JACL does recognize, however, that many of its members

(Continued on Page 8)



Dr. Roy Nishikawa (left) of Los Angeles, 1956-58 national JACL president, congratulates his successor Shig Wakamatsu of Chicago.

—Twilight Photo Service.

## Sacramento chosen site of 1960 nat'l JACL convention

SALT LAKE CITY.—The city of Sacramento, with its mayor and chamber of commerce extending invitations, was selected as the site of the 1960 national JACL convention.

Tak Tsujita, Sacramento delegate, read the messages and told of accommodations and chapter know-how in staging a convention.

Even emery boards packed in cellophane were given to delegates. On them was the bid: "Sacramento Next".

While no dates have been set, it was hinted that late spring or early fall (after the State Fair) would be considered favorably.

Delegates were also buzzing that 1962's convention could either be in Denver, Detroit or Seattle.

### Buddhist minister

TORONTO. — Hawaiian-born minister, the Rev. Newton Ishiura, has been assigned to the Toronto Buddhist Church, succeeding the Rev. T. Tsuji, who assumes the new post of director of Buddhist education in San Francisco. Rev. Ishiura was formerly a lecturer in Japanese at Yale University.

## WAKAMATSU UNANIMOUSLY VOTED '58-60 NATIONAL JACL PRESIDENT

SALT LAKE CITY.—Shigeo Wakamatsu of Chicago was unanimously elected president by acclamation by delegates attending the 15th Biennial National Convention of the Japanese American Citizens League here last weekend.

Presiding chairman of the Monday session of the national council, Dr. Roy Nishikawa read Wakamatsu's name and asked for further nominations when Detroit delegate Charles Yata moved nominations be closed and it was seconded and carried.

A little pandemonium broke the silence of the Hotel Utah Empire Room as Midwest and Eastern District delegates who were the most obvious supporters, blew noisemakers and honked horns.

Akiji Yoshimura, NC-WN chairman, was the lone candidate for 1st v.p. and was elected in the same manner—by acclamation.

The unexpected came for the next post: 2nd v.p., with both Ken Dyo and Kango Kunitsugu from the PSW making last-minute withdrawals. Its DC chairman Dave Yokozeki was then nominated, but he also declined. A hurried caucus for a nominee ensued with Toru Sakahara of Seattle, who was

placed on the ballot by the nominations committee for 3rd v.p., won the post without competition.

### Election Confusion

In voting for treasurer, Cleveland delegate Joe Kadowaki rose to say something for his candidate William Sadatake but was deemed out of order and sat down. Charles Nagao, EDC chairman, was recognized, believing he would make a brief speech in behalf of Akira Hayashi of New York, incumbent. But to the amazement of delegates, Nagao withdrew Hayashi's name. Kadowaki got the floor next and said he was in conversation with his candidate that morning, asking that his name be withdrawn. This impasse was short-lived as Hayashi was renominated and then re-elected unopposed.

Ballots were used for the first time in tallying for the 1000 Club Chairman. Bill Matsumoto won in a very unexpected turn of events over incumbent Kenji Tashiro.

Dr. T. T. Yatabe, who has had the privilege of installing new national officers at every postwar convention, read the same oath used at chapter installation ceremonies at the recognitions banquet that evening.



## From the Frying Pan

By Bill Hosokawa

(Our heartiest congratulations to our PC colleague for his selection as the 1956-58 Nisei of the Biennium. Bill asked that we hold this week's column for a special he wanted to do about last Monday night's award. But the mailman failed to deliver in time.—Editor.)

Denver, Colo.

**SKINNY DOG STORY**—Among the most devoted patrons of Denver's greyhound racing track are a number of Issei and Nisei. Like other optimists, they are lured by the prospect of winning a king's ransom on a two-dollar investment. Success, of course, doesn't come easily. Each bet must be preceded by intense study of the form charts and agonized soul-searching. Some bettors consult newspaper astrology columns before embarking on an evening of wagering. Others inject "science" into their calculations, taking into account such matters as condition of beast and track, the skill of the trainer, the quality of the opposition, past performances, the phase of the moon and other pertinent factors.

What it all amounts to, however, is that one bets \$2 that a particular skinny dog will be able to avoid any number of pitfalls and reach the finish line ahead of a bunch of other skinny dogs. This story has to do with one Nisei woman dog enthusiast, and how blind luck overwhelmed all her intense, scientific calculations.

Her interest on this day was the daily double in which the bettor tries to pick the winner of the first race and also of the second race. Now, picking one winner is tough enough but to hit two is a near impossibility. The rewards are correspondingly rich, which accounts for the appeal of this test.

By some mysterious process, she determined that No. 4 dog in the second race would win handily. But she was uncertain about the first race. She proceeded to "wheel" her dog, meaning that she bought tickets pairing No. 4 in the second race with No. 1 in the first race, No. 4 with No. 2, No. 4 with No. 3, and so on. The objective was to make sure that No. 4, in which she had infinite faith, would be paired with any dog that might win the first race.

But for some unaccountable reason she skipped over No. 4 dog in the first race. Perhaps it was such a pig of a racing dog that she had no faith in its chances. The man who sold her the tickets noticed this omission. He called it to her attention. He overstepped the bounds of his role as ticket-seller and urged her not to leave this chink in the armor of her protection. But to no avail. Struck by an illogical desire to economize, she stood firm on her decision to skip the 4-4 combination.

Some minutes later, as she pondered the situation, she was plagued by a gnawing doubt. Just before the windows closed she hurried back to the ticket-seller and invested \$2 on the 4-4.

Of course, the 4-4 combination came in. It paid more than \$200. Trembling slightly, this Nisei woman of my acquaintance hurried back to the ticket-seller and tipped him \$20 for his insistence.

And this, in dog-racing circles, is known as scientific betting.

**ADD INTERESTING JOBS**—A few weeks ago several pacifists were arrested for trying to interfere with construction of the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile launching base near Cheyenne, Wyo. Later, they were given a hearing by Justice of the Peace Tosh Suyematsu who found them guilty and fined them. Suyematsu lectured the defendants, named Theodore Olson, Arthur Springer and Ellanor Calkings, warning them sternly that attempts to undermine America's defenses could not be tolerated.

**TOKYO ROSE**—Frontier, a magazine of liberal thought published in Los Angeles, some months ago stirred nationwide interest in the federal government's efforts to deport Iva Toguri, convicted of treason as Tokyo Rose. Frontier feels that its story had no little to do with the justice department's decision to drop deportation proceedings against her. Now Frontier's editor, Phil Kerby, is asking a review of her case in hopes of getting her a presidential pardon.



Dangerous Corner

## Gold Star Mother of World War II's Nisei CMH winner recall's son's heroism

HONOLULU. —Mrs. Nawa Munemori, 71, Gold Star Mother of the only World War II Nisei winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, said her hero-son, Sadao, "only did his duty in giving his life for his country."

Any other soldier fighting under circumstances Sadao did would have done the same thing, she added modestly upon arrival by Pan American Airways from Los Angeles recently.

Mrs. Munemori, accompanied by her son-in-law and daughter, Dr. and Mrs. Tom S. Tamura of Los Angeles, spent two weeks with another daughter, Mrs. Albert M. Yokoyama, 2026 Leiloke Drive.

Yokoyama, incidentally, was a member of the famed 100th Infantry Battalion, the outfit to which Sadao Munemori belonged at the outset of the war.

A widow since 1938, Mrs. Munemori is a tiny woman with the burden of the years clearly visible on her face.

"Sadao," recalled the Gold Star Mother, "was a light-hearted lad of 18 when he enlisted in the Army a month before the attack on Pearl Harbor."

He had just finished school (Frank Wiggins Technical School,

made plans to become the owner of an auto repair shop some day.

But for Sadao that day never came. For on the night of April 5, 1945, only two days before the fighting ended in Europe, Munemori volunteered to go on a patrol near Seravessra, Italy, the mother said.

As the small group inched forward, Mrs. Munemori was later told, the enemy opened fire on them, killing the squad leader and pinning down the other men.

Sadao grabbed some hand grenades and crept toward the enemy alone. He blew up two machine gun nests and was returning to the patrol when an unexploded grenade slipped from his hands and rolled toward his men.

"Without regard for his own safety," as his citation later read, "Munemori jumped to his feet, ran down a hill and threw himself on the grenade just before it exploded."

Thus, his comrades were saved at the cost of his life.

Today Mrs. Munemori recalls the words Sadao wrote his brother, Isao, from the battlefields of Italy: "Tell Mother I'll come home. But tell her the important thing is my duty to my country."

## Teenaged ballerina outstanding in show, on summer circuit before resuming school

SEATTLE. — A tiny Chicago ballerina, Sharon Konishi, who recently performed in the Aqua Follies here, is only 14 years old, five feet tall and weighs slightly over 105. But she is outstanding and dancing experts predict a great future for her.

Sharon was born in Arizona, then moved to Chicago which is her home when she is not on the road. She watched ballet on television, decided she wanted to be a ballerina.

For eight years, she took lessons in Chicago. She had dreams of being as good as Sono Osato, the Japanese ballerina who has done so well throughout the United States.

A year ago she went to a tryout in Chicago. Betty Gour, choreographer, took one look at Sharon and hired her right on the spot.

"She catches on quickly," said Miss Gour proudly. "I knew I had something good there."

Sharon got a job dancing in the Chicago auto show.

That was a year ago. Then she went on the road with the Aqua Follies.

Sharon will be a sophomore and

hopes to return to school in Chicago after playing the Iowa state route. She has a boy friend but does not write to him. A girl at the age of 14 who travels has many other problems on her mind.

For instance she has to practice two hours a day. It is hard work. She has to keep in condition.

## PC Letter Box

### PC RENEWAL FROM JAPAN

Editor: . . . I am pleased to renew my subscription as I find the PC very invaluable in providing me information about the activities of the Nisei in the United States and about various legislation that might concern me.

After reading the paper thoroughly, I take it to the office (Pan American—Tokyo International Airport) where I pass it around to former Nisei residents now working for our company. As one boy says, he looks forward to reading it as he used to be a subscriber back in the States. Another boy, who is a member of the Toastmasters—only one in Japan as far as I know—says he finds good material in the editorials for selecting subjects to speak on. In his initial appearance as a speaker, his subject was "A Nisei". Another boy says he finds interest in scanning the Vital Statistics of former friends. And so on, it passes from one Nisei to another.

MRS. SATOKO OGASAWARA  
Yokohama, Japan

(We'd like to call attention to the PC advertising running this week for new subscribers. And non-members intending to subscribe should do so immediately before the rate goes up to \$4, as being contemplated at the present time.—Ed.)

### HOW LENIENT?

Editor: . . . in the Aug. 8 PC, Tamotsu Murayama reports the Tokyo judge was lenient on Cappy Harada, who was fined 150,000 yen (\$416) and a suspended sentence. How lenient was he?

CURIOUS READER  
Los Angeles.

(We understand violation of the Japanese foreign exchange control law can draw a three-year jail sentence and fines up to the equivalent of \$9,600.—Editor.)

## If your PC expires this month . . .

Subscribers of the Pacific Citizen, whose subscriptions expire this month, have been notified by an unsealed envelope, specially developed for the purpose of renewals. The circulation department mails these billing envelopes at the end of each month prior to the month of expiration.

While the unsealed envelope carries a message soliciting gift subscriptions on the back, it has a billing notice on the inside flap. This gummed flap should be sealed on the outside, after enclosing check or money order. It can then be mailed as a regular letter with postage to be paid by the Pacific Citizen.

Prompt attention to this matter by our readers shall be greatly appreciated.

And at the age of 14 and weighing 105 pounds she also has another worrisome problem.

She is afraid she will gain weight.

Why beg, borrow or steal the next issue from other Pacific Citizen subscribers? Subscribe now; have your own copy mailed each week to you.

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# Vagaries

By Larry S. Tajiri

## Headliners in News, Sports

Bill Hosokawa, honored as the "Nisei of the Biennium" at the JACL national convention in Salt Lake Monday, leaves for the Orient in two weeks on special assignment from The Denver Post. Bill will do a series of articles for The Post on the news behind the headlines in the Far East, and his trip comes at a time when tension is heightening again.

Bill's last assignment in Asia came six years ago when there was a shooting war in Korea. He went across as the first war correspondent in The Denver Post's long history, and covered the Inchon landings. His incisive reportage made Post headlines.

Bill Hosokawa came to The Denver Post 12 years ago after a stint on the Des Moines Register. He was named editor of Empire, The Denver Post's color roto weekly, in 1951 and he made the magazine possibly the best of the nation's locally-edited Sunday supplements. His articles also have been published by The Saturday Evening Post, American and Readers Digest. Since last year he has been assistant managing editor of his newspaper, the highest post held by a Nisei in U.S. journalism.

Speaking of honors, the Arizona all-star basketball and football games, held last Friday and Saturday in Flagstaff, Ariz., were dedicated to Bill Kajikawa. At halftime at Saturday's football game, Kajikawa, student and coach at Arizona State at Tempe for the past quarter-century, was called out to midfield to receive a watch as a symbol of the regard which his fellow Arizona coaches, from high schools and colleges, have for him.

We remember Bill from a long time ago, having grown up with him on the unfashionable eastside of Los Angeles. We were in the same classes at the Maryknoll school on Hewitt Street, and we learned our football in the concrete yard from Brother Theophane Walsh.

There was something about Bill which stood out even in those days. He could climb a fence faster, throw a football farther than the rest of us. He was the best at whatever sport we played.

About the time Bill was of high school age his father, who had a barbershop on Mateo street, moved the family to Phoenix. Bill went to Phoenix Union and soon he was just about the best football and baseball player, pound for pound, in the state of Arizona. He made all-state teams in both sports and got an athletic scholarship to Arizona State College. For the Sun Devils Bill—5 feet 7 and 140 pounds—was one of the smallest quarterbacks in college football, but he was a top field general and had deadly accuracy with his passing arm. He was cited on the "Little All-America" team one year—that was before the Sun Devils moved into the football majors. He also caught the eye of baseball scouts for his play at second base, and was offered pro contracts, but he decided to stay and coach at the school.

In the past two decades—with time out for service with the 442nd Combat Team—Kajikawa has been head basketball coach for nine years, and former head baseball coach and freshman football coach. For many years he also was assistant varsity football coach, and was chief scout for the Sun Devils. He resigned as basketball coach in 1957 to become head of the required physical education program for men.

Four seasons ago, Kajikawa was named Border Conference coach of the year when his Sun Devils staged a remarkable comeback after losing 11 of the first 12 teams. That was the year the team climbed from dead last to third, beating the arch-rival University of Arizona twice for the first time in 13 years. The second victory was a heartstopping 104-103 contest which is now Border Conference legend.

Kajikawa has just completed teaching in the summer sessions at Tempe. Next January he takes off on a sabbatical to complete his work for a Ph.D. at the University of Southern California.

Bill's wife, Margaret, works at the Tempe Branch of the First National Bank. Daughter Christine enters Tempe High in September, after receiving the citizenship award as the outstanding graduate in her junior high class. Carol, meanwhile, enters junior high this fall.

After nearly two decades of coaching, Kajikawa is one of the most popular personalities in Arizona athletics. Frank Michelbach, president of the Flagstaff Townjacks, sponsors of the Arizona coaches clinic, said it: "More important that the watch Kaji received is the vast number of friends he has counted over the years."

(Communications for Larry Tajiri may be sent directly to his office—Drama Editor, Denver Post, Denver, Colo.)

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Welcome JACLers—Your Host: George Furuta, 1000er

## Text of Dr. Nishikawa's keynote address to Convention

The text of the "Past Is Prologue" keynote address given by Dr. Roy Nishikawa, national JACL president, is as follows:

By DR. ROY M. NISHIKAWA  
National JACL President

It was in 1948 that I first came to Salt Lake City as a delegate of the newly-formed Southwest Los Angeles Chapter to the 10th Biennial National JACL Convention. At that time, little did I dream that a decade later, I would return once again to this beautiful city as your National President or that I would be assigned the responsibility of making the keynote address at a time when it is more important than ever to decide in which direction JACL will go.

Since the Salt Lake City Convention of 1948, we have had other National Conventions, all of them outstanding, all of them marking milestones of progress and almost all of them extolling the theme of looking ahead, of planning for the future—always stressing growth and development and never for a moment being content to rest upon past laurels.

In 1950 in Chicago, the theme was "Blueprint for Tomorrow."

In 1952 in San Francisco, the theme was "Homecoming"—and what a wonderful homecoming that was! For during the convention itself, we received the good news from Mike Masaoka that at long last our parents would no longer have to bear the stigma of aliens ineligible for citizenship.

In 1954 in my home city of Los Angeles, the convention theme was "New Horizons". One of the "New Horizons" discussed there related to international relations. In fact our current Japan-America affairs policy was written there. And, I understand that there is a possibility that this question will be discussed again at this convention. On this question, I am told that if you are not worried or confused about it, perhaps you don't understand the situation!

We were back in San Francisco in 1956 and the convention theme was "Changing Perspectives". And for this year, your Convention Board has selected the theme, "Past Is Prologue".

### Meaning of Theme

Past is Prologue. What does this mean?

The past can be simply defined as that which has gone on before—and those of you well acquainted with JACL's past know of its brilliant accomplishments—accomplishments which seemed improbable if not impossible a decade ago: Compensation for enforced evacuation; citizenship for Issei; stay of deportation of deserving aliens and their American-born families; repeal of alien land laws; much progress in the elimination of discrimination and prejudice; effective local, regional, and national public relations and education; invaluable liaisons with civic, fraternal and social welfare and governmental agencies and organizations. In short, during the war we were merely tolerated. But today, we have won for ourselves, our parents and our children, the status of first class citizens.

So much for the past. Surely I have not done justice to it in this brief review. The past is important. But the future is far more interesting and far more challenging. We must live in the future—not in the past. The Past, after all, is Prologue. What does prologue mean?

Prologue can be defined simply as a preface or as an introduction. In other words, the convention theme recognizes that what is past is merely a prelude or an introduction into the future. Once again, as during the last decade, we are looking forward and planning ahead. And, of course, this is as it should be.

### JACL's Future

What then, is in JACL's future? This question is not an easy one to answer. The world of the future is a world full of uncertainties. This question raises such problems as: What course do we take? What policies do we adopt? What programs and activities do we sponsor? Where are we going and why? These are fundamental questions.

Some of you delegates may have come to Salt Lake City as-

suming that all of the answers to our future problems will come out of this convention—all neatly spelled out—all cut and dried. If so, it is my unpleasant duty to dissuade you from such notions. There are no easy and complete answers. There are no panacea. Anything of value that we may

accomplish here will be the result of hard work and our best thinking. And when you get back to your home chapters and must implement whatever we decide, hard work and your best thinking will be more important than ever. Nevertheless, some delegates regard this convention as a sort of a critical period—a kind of crossroad—and I suppose it is, but

Continued on Page 4

アメリカン プレジデント船からの素晴らしいお知らせ! 貴方の御手許に美しい最新版の「日本への御旅行の手引」を御届けしましょう。和英両文で書かれた此の新しいガイドブックさへあれば貴方のお知りになりたいあらゆる事項が直ぐ判り、待望の訪日御旅行をこよなく楽しいものにする事でせう。未だお手許に此のガイドブックが無かつたら直接下のクーポンを御送り下さるか最寄の旅行案内社に御申込み下さい。即刻素晴らしい御旅行の伴侶を無料贈呈します。



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**Doub's convention speech —**

Continued from Front Page

selves to be loyal to the traditions of this country, manifesting remarkable patience, self-restraint and fortitude throughout of the period of their exile. That loyalty was later given concrete expression in the high percentage of voluntary enlistments in the Armed Forces of this country by those of Japanese ancestry of eligible age which even exceeded the nation-wide percentage and in the valiant exploits of the 442nd Regimental Combat team, composed entirely of Japanese-Americans, the most decorated combat team in the war.

I have no doubt that history will record that this tragic and unprecedented episode violated the most fundamental standards and traditions of individual dignity and personal freedom for which our country stands. History will further record that this oppressive measure was not a military necessity but constituted a tragic failure of principle by the executive power in accomplishing it and by the judicial power in sustaining it. Although the action taken violated our basic American legal policy of individual and not group responsibility, the voices which opposed this measure at the time were pathetically few and there were no roars from the young lions of the liberal tradition. It is at least gratifying that there was one agency of the Government—the Department of Justice—which, from the very outset, opposed such measures until responsibility for the internal security of the Pacific Coast area was transferred from the Department of Justice to the War Department and the argument of military necessity then prevailed.

Let us remember that this episode represented but a temporary hysterical lapse from our great ideals of freedom and justice for the individual and have faith that the conscience and maturity of America will never permit its repetition for any minority group of our great country.

**RENUNCIATION OF CITIZENSHIP**

You will recall that after the Tule Lake Center was established there was a strong movement in the Congress to strip citizenship by legislation from all evacuees who failed to give affirmative answers to the so-called loyalty questions and who had applied for expatriation to Japan. In order to prevent this, Attorney General Biddle proposed that a law should be passed to permit persons to renounce their citizenship voluntarily if they wished to do so, and in July, 1944 Congress adopted such a law and gave its administration to the Attorney General. In December, 1944, there came the announcement of the closing of the centers which set off a wave of hysteria as a result of which 5,790 American citizens of Japanese ancestry threw away their birthright of citizenship. You are entitled to take just pride in the fact that the vast majority of persons of Japanese ancestry, in spite of their painful experience, manifested their patriotism and fortitude by resisting the pressures in the relocation centers to renounce their American citizenship, and, indeed, felt ashamed and disdainful of the comparatively small number who did so.

The question has often been asked why Attorney General Biddle, who recommended machinery designed to prevent coercion in the renunciations of citizenship, should have been willing to approve renunciations that were given in the circumstances that prevailed at Tule Lake at that time. Unfortunately, he interpreted the law as authorizing him to disapprove a voluntary renunciation only if it was contrary to the interest of national defense, and a renunciation was not a coerced one even though it was a product of the treatment which the renunciant had received at the hands of the Government under the evacuation program. In other words, unless the renunciant was at the time acting in fear of immediate physical injury, his renunciation was deemed to be voluntary, and was then accepted and approved as not contrary to the interest of national defense.

In 1949 the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit rendered its admirable opinion in the Murakami case holding that, where the mind of individuals had been conditioned by hardships such as those imposed by evacuation and detention in relocation centers and by property losses such as those experienced by persons of Japanese ancestry and where they had a reasonable basis for feeling that the country of their birth had deprived them of their rights of citizenship merely because of ancestry, then it was not necessary that they be in fear of immediate physical punishment or danger to deem their renunciation of citizenship as coerced. It was enough for restoration of citizenship that they feared at the time that they would be driven from the centers into hostile communities in which they would not be able to make a living and in which they might receive discriminatory treatment.

This decision was not appealed by the Department of Justice to the Supreme Court but was accepted by it as a valid enunciation of the law applicable to this unusual situation. The Attorney General announced that he would not require claims to restoration of citizenship in litigation to be tried in court and the Department of Justice would act upon the terms of a fair interpretation of the Murakami decision.

When I became Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Division in May 1956, I found that citizenship restoration was being denied when the Civil Division believed that it could successfully defend the claim under the technical legal decisions rendered. After carefully reviewing this problem, I recommended to the Attorney General that there should be a liberalization of the standards applied and in case of any doubt the presumption should be in favor of the applicant. Attorney General Brownell approved this proposal and prompt action was taken implementing the new liberalized standards.

But this was not enough. Even after the announcement of the revised, liberalized standards, we found that our pro-

Continued on Page 6

**Nishikawa —**

Continued from Page 3

personally, I expect no revolutions here. The situation reminds me of the story of the person who went around questioning people: If you had only one day to live, what would you do?

One person said he would get drunk; another said, I'd live it up while I had time; still another said, I'd try to make it up to all of the people that I have ever wronged. And finally, a priest, who was playing ball with some children was asked what he would do, and after some thought said: Why, I expect I'd continue to play ball.

In regards to the future of JACL, I believe that we shall continue to play ball. In other words, to carry on. Regardless of the decisions which may be made at this convention, I expect that by and large, JACL will continue to function in all of the ways and in all of the fields in which she has been active in the past.

This is not to discount the importance of possible new fields such as international relations or the shifting emphasis on various problems which are brought about by changing conditions. And this does not mean that JACL should drift aimlessly but rather, that she should constantly seek to improve her programs and activities.

**Greatest Work Lies Ahead**

I do not have a crystal ball and I believe I would be presumptuous to anticipate the actions of the National Council. Yet based upon the experiences and lessons of the past and with full confidence in the leaders and members of JACL, I unhesitatingly predict that the greatest work of JACL lies ahead of it, not behind it. In determining our future course, I believe that there are certain fundamental factors which we must keep in mind. These factors are not new, they are not original. Some of you have heard me express them on many previous occasions.

But, I do believe that these factors remain fundamental—not because I say so—but because they apply to all of us not only as Japanese Americans but as Americans and as enlightened citizens of this world.

What then, are these fundamental factors? (I believe that there are five).

**Heredity Factor**

First, we must remember that we can never quite escape our heredity.

Nor is it desirable to do so. Heredity is something which we inherited from our parents, and which we will pass on to our children and to our children's children. Because of its basic nature, heredity has posed for us in the past most of our major problems including the indignities of forced evacuation and incarceration. In the future, it may once again pose problems which are both unique and difficult.

In speaking of the problems posed by his heredity and his early environment, George Washington Carver, the famous Negro scientist who was born the son of a slave and who lived in a one room shack said, "I have had the advantages of disadvantages."

A paradox? No. What Carver meant was that supreme effort and character were needed to overcome the problems posed by his heredity and environment. We in JACL too, have had the advantages of disadvantages. The pioneer Mormons who settled this area no doubt had the advantages of disadvantages. Can we escape our heredity? We can try to run away from our heredity but eventually we shall find that there is no place to hide. The best thing we can do about our heredity is to accept it, be proud of it, and to make the most of it. This is basic.

Second, we should become more aware of the dangers of apathy and complacency. This could become one of the major internal problems which threaten the national organization. The false thinking that "our work is all through" can become the Achilles' heel leading to JACL's downfall. The bitter lessons of the past

have been wasted if we forge for a moment that the price of freedom and justice is eternal vigilance and unremitting effort.

**Only National Nisei Group**

All of JACL's work cannot be glamorous, exciting or challenging. Let's face it; much of the work is ordinary, time consuming tedious and sometimes frustrating. Immediate and striking results are not always evident. And it is at this point, when we are tired and our spirits are low that we need the faith and confidence that only a vision of the "Big Picture" can give. Let us not forget for a moment that JACL is the only nationwide organized group dedicated to the promotion and protection of the welfare of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

In moments when we feel like asking, is JACL failing us? Let us ask instead, Are we failing the JACL?

The Third basic factor is this: We should endeavor to instill in our youth all of the qualities we hold dear in our heritage and promote and support even greater opportunities for them in scholarship, leadership and good citizenship. We should teach them something of the history of the Japanese in America and make them aware of the unique problems faced during wartime so that there will be no inclination for our youth to take for granted the wonderful status that all of us enjoy today. Perhaps there is no problem as to short term leadership within our national organization. But looking ahead 15 to 20 years from now, we see that today's youth will become tomorrow's leaders. Adequate provisions for JACL's future leaders then, must be made now.

And so our National JACL Oratorical and Essay Contests, our National JACL Scholarship and our National JACL Youth Program will become increasingly more important every year. But, even more important, will be how we can implement our youth program on the local chapter level. And this responsibility rests upon all of you delegates.

**Shaping the Future**

Speaking of our youth and our responsibilities to them reminds me of Joshua Loth Liebman, author of "Peace of Mind" and a very great and very good man, who has said:

"Not only in our personal lives but also in the life of humanity we must have the ability to live

in the long term instead of short term values . . . Life will not perish with us; humanity will not die when we die. Culture will not disappear with our generation. We can live only with the resolve to make our best contribution to whatever culture shall survive . . . we are the ancestors of an unpredictable, creative, aspiring human society yet in the making . . . Constantly, without our knowing it, we are the sources of infection for good or evil. We are the carriers of health and disease . . . the divine health of courage and nobility or the demonic disease of hate and anxiety . . . Our emotions, our moods, as well as our words and our deeds penetrate human life and make those who come in contact with us either the beneficiaries or the victims of our presence on earth. What we are today, helps determine the shape of tomorrow."

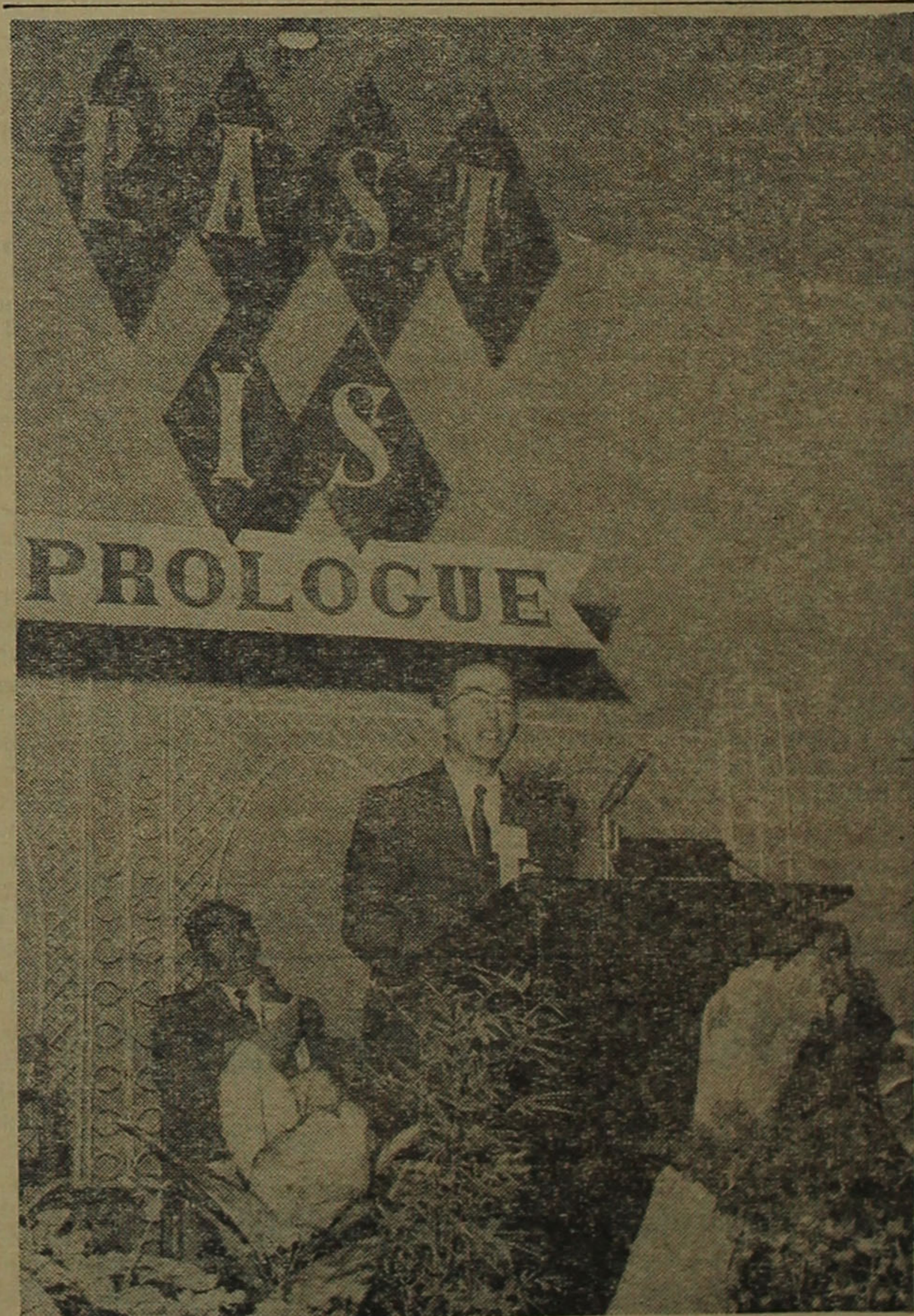
This then, so beautifully stated by Dr. Liebman describes well the responsibilities that we have to our youth and to the coming generation.

The fourth basic factor is that we must learn to adjust and adapt to changing community, national, and world conditions. Adaptation is the primary rule for survival: For plant, for animal, for man, for any organization or any country. A rigid adherence to past policies may make for conservatism and safety yet at the same time may stifle or blind us to the creative opportunities thrusting themselves upon us. It seems to me that flexibility is preferable to rigidity. That liberalism is preferable to isolationism. That great visions are preferable to ultra-conservatism arising out of fears and apprehensions.

**Adaptation Fundamental**

We must resist the easy tendency to drift along and the possible temptation to preserve the status quo because it means less effort and less trouble. We must never become so narrowly concerned with local chapter problems that we overlook the "Big Picture" in JACL. With soul-searching honesty, let us examine our weaknesses and our strengths and our motivations. We should strive not for the status quo, but for constant improvement. Let us grow, develop and progress—for these are lifetime tasks. And, especially in today's dynamic world, to stand still, is to take a step backward. Adapt or die remains

Continued on Page 5



Rupert Hachiya, 15th Biennial convention chairman, extends greetings at the Opening Ceremonies, standing underneath a brown and gold colored sign spelling the Salt Lake convention theme. Sitting in the rear are Mas Yano (left), ceremonies chairman, and Ichiro Doi, chapter president.

VERY TRULY YOURS:

Delegates should not  
be restricted in voting

Clarification of JACL's policy on U.S.-Japan was the issue that provoked the most interest at the 15th Biennial convention. It was a subject that the vernacular newspapers and press associations were most interested.

What was regarded as two extreme views, when it came time to discuss it on the floor of the national council, actually appeared to be the same as both camps were in agreement with the substance — that unless the welfare of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States were directly involved, the JACL as an organization would not intervene. What was clarified was the implementation of the basic JACL philosophy on international relations by making it specific that questions of a major controversial nature would be studied by a committee of national composition.

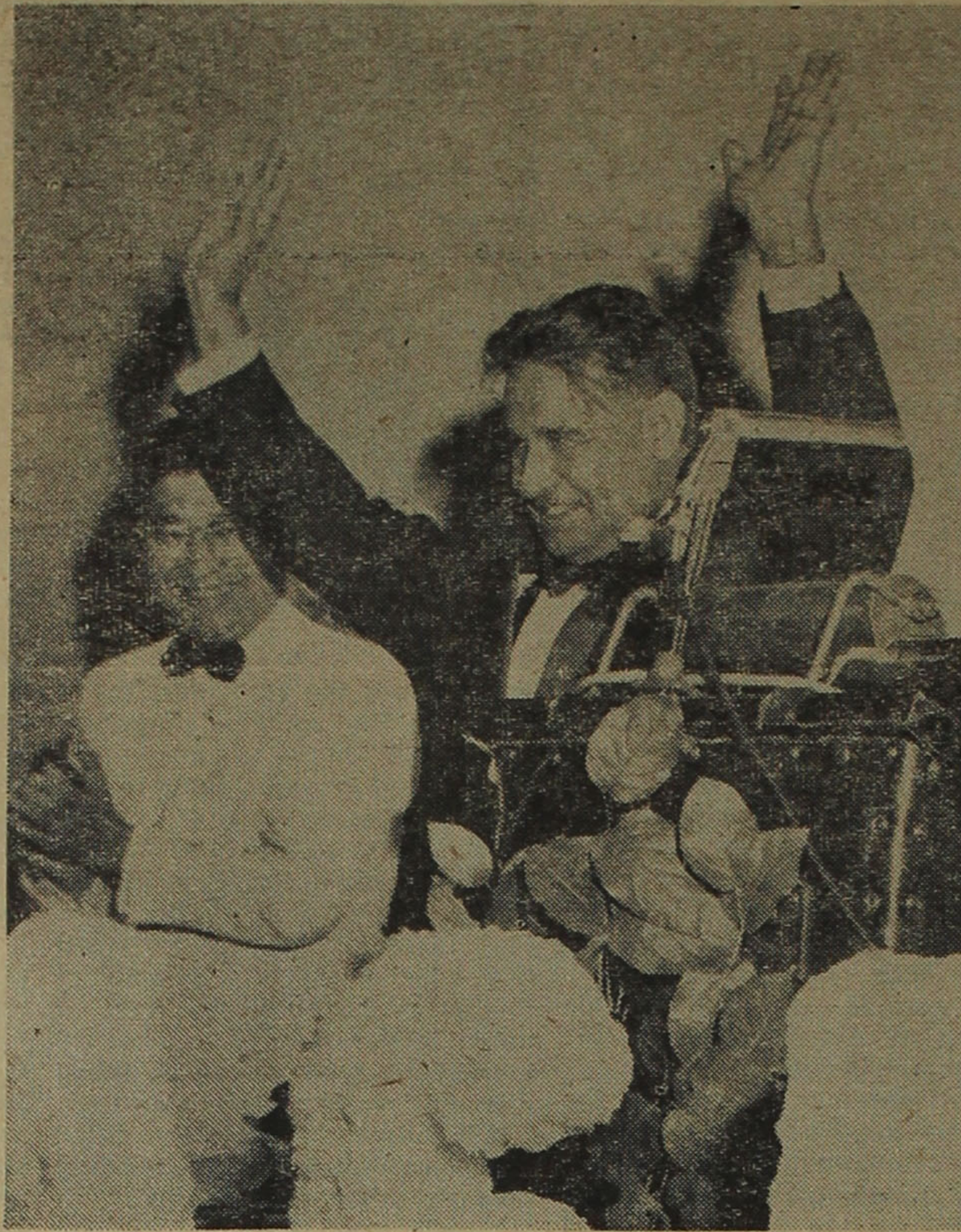
The manner in which the delegates ascertained their decisions occupied nearly six hours of the council session. It provided each delegate who wanted to render their observations to have his say. The meeting of various ideas under one roof was the amalgam to evolve clarification.

It is a tribute to the organization that delegates did come with an attitude that would assess each point of view. The delegates did not come with closed minds. But the point that should be made here is that it was regrettable that some chapters which instructed their delegates no leeway to change their votes had to cast their nays against their own personal conviction. While the next convention (to be held in 1960 at Sacramento) is still distant, it would be wise to gain a lesson from this year's convention for chapters to allow discretion upon the delegate to exercise his good judgment in the manner of voting.

From this corner, the delegates all showed a common sense attitude, were careful to keep the organization intact as well as weigh the topics for the welfare of all persons of Japanese ancestry. For many, it was the idea that what is good for all persons of Japanese ancestry in America would be good for JACL.

—Harry Honda.

# Nisei must help U.S. to win cold war in Asia, urges Saund



Congressman D.S. Saund (D., Calif.) greets delegates at the 15th Biennial National JACL Convention as its main recognitions banquet speaker. In the background is Mike Masaoka, Washington JACL representative, who introduced the first Asian-born congressman ever elected in the United States.—Twilight Photo Service.

**BY HARRY HONDA**  
SALT LAKE CITY.—After JACLers decided to study U.S.-Japan affairs as they affect persons of Japanese ancestry on an "issue-to-issue" basis, they were told by Congressman D. S. Saund "to help win the millions of hearts in Asia and Africa".

The main banquet speaker of the 15th Biennial national convention was given a standing ovation as he concluded a 35-minute extemporaneous speech in which he made these points:

1. Humbled by the fact that he was the first Asian ever elected to the U.S. Congress, he added, "but I don't want to be the last; I want one of you to join me".

2. His election was a "tribute to the Californians of the 29th Congressional District (Coachella and Imperial Valley) and all the people of the U.S. for sending an immigrant Hindu to Congress."

3. The Nisei are good sportsman — "never found better anywhere else" — and sportsmanship is a strong American characteristic.

4. There's no second best in this game of Cold War. "If we don't win, there won't be another one . . . It is important that we must win the hearts of millions in Asia and Africa."

### Nisei Can Do Job

"No one can do a better job than you and I," declared the Hindu-born legislator from Imperial Valley. "Tell the American story to them—the people of Asia and Africa," he urged.

What the United States needs is public relations in Asia. The U.S. has the best salesmen in the world, but hasn't done anything in Asia. "That's our trouble. We are comfortably unconcerned on what the rest of the world thinks about the United States."

As a one-man subcommittee for the House last year, the man who felt very much at home with over 350 Oriental faces before him admitted to the Asians that there was racial prejudice against them in America, but it has changed.

While the turnout in Japan, India, Manila, etc., was stupendous and Asians were proud of the fact that Judge Saund was elected, he personally believed that this milling manifestation was their high esteem still held for American institutions.

He found there was still "a lot of respect and goodwill for the U.S. in Asia."

### JACLer Comments

One JACL chapter delegate, after the banquet, commented:

"Why, his speech was 'international relations' all over again," referring to the keynote and banquet speeches made in 1956 and the current problem of whether JACL should take a more active role in winning the cold war, especially that aspect which con-

### NISHIKAWA —

Continued from Page 4

one of life's fundamental rules. The fifth and to me the most important factor of all is the idea of Service. Service is the basic reason for existence of the JACL. Without this concept of service at its core, JACL is merely a shell, without substance, without meaning and without significance.

And without service, JACL will eventually wither away like an untended vine which dies from lack of nourishment. Intelligent and perceptive men and women will not consistently support an organization which is not basically founded on the idea of service.

The greatest intellect of this generation, Dr. Albert Einstein has said in this regard:

"Is it not strange that we come into this world, not knowing where we came from and not knowing where we shall go . . . Yet from the standpoint of daily life there is one thing that we know for sure: that men were placed on earth for the sake of other men."

### Service Stressed

Greater than Einstein—the Greatest Teacher of all—Jesus of Nazareth has taught that man does not live by bread alone. That he who would save his life shall thereby lose it; that he who would lose his life—lose it for the sake of others—would thereby save it. Service, then, must be basic to JACL. JACL must continue as in the past, to serve our members, our fellow men, our communities, our country and our world.

These are not mere high-sounding principles. These are the most practical principles extant. History has proved that the great men of this world were dedicated to service. In our own country, we admire those most who served our country best: George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson and many, many others. In our own organization we respect and admire most those men who served JACL the most: Dr. Thomas Yatabe, Mike Masaoka, Saburo Kido, George Inagaki, Mas Satow and many, many others. Service, then, and men dedicated to service have been the keynote of JACL's past brilliant history. In the future, also, service must be our keynote.

In conclusion let me review

briefly the five basic factors we ought to remember in considering our future: First that heredity is inescapable; second, that we must overcome the natural tendency to become apathetic and complacent; third, our responsibility to our youth; fourth, the necessity for adaptation, growth and development; and last but not least, the idea of service.

### JACL Slogans

Finally, all of you are aware that we have two national JACL slogans: Security Through Unity and Becoming Better Americans in a Greater America. You have heard these slogans often. Unfortunately, there is a tendency in human nature to discount phrases which we hear too often. Instead of thinking about their actual meanings, some of us in our sophistication become blasé and tend to think that slogans are mere clichés, mere catch phrases. I hope that JACL's twin slogans will never fall into these categories.

Security Through Unity is more than a slogan! This is something that many of us fought for, died for, and helped to make come true in our lifetime. Security through Unity has come to life and is a living fact today. But looking ahead, we see that Becoming Better Americans in a Greater America will ever prove challenging and inspiring to us. Here is a slogan whose concept we shall never quite attain—for every advance that we make, there will be greater advances to be won ahead.

What about JACL's future? Let me say in all frankness that I do not have the answer. And with all due respect to Mas Satow and Mike Masaoka, they do not have the answers either. Who does then? You do—all of you, delegates and members of JACL. In the final analysis, each of us by his interest, concern and effort helps to determine the future of JACL.

Whither JACL? The choice belongs to each of us. The Challenge belongs to each of us. Hence it behooves us to face the future with confidence, wisdom, courage, patience and faith. By so doing we can make the convention theme, "Past is Prologue", meaningful and fruitful in our lives and in the lives of generations yet to come.



Story on Page 8

Dr. Roy Nishikawa (left) hands JACLer of Biennium medallion to Mrs. Sue Joe of Long Beach. Similarly honored for the past biennium was MDC Chairman Kumeo Yoshinari of Chicago. Mrs. Joe's outstanding work with youth and leadership in the community merited JACL's most coveted award.

cerns the position of Japan in the free world.

The 3½-hour recognitions dinner began with introduction of one of the longest headtables in JACL convention history — 37 including toastmaster Shigeki Ushio, Sen. Arthur V. Watkins and Sen. Wallace F. Bennett, Asst. U.S. Atty. Gen. George C. Doubs (whose remarks are reprinted in full in this week's PC), Enoch E. Ellison, and past national JACL presidents Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, Saburo Kido, Hito Okada and George Inagaki, and ex-Gov. H. Maw.

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# THE Northwest PICTURE

By Elmer Ogawa

## 'HANDS ACROSS THE SEA' PROBLEM

Seattle

As this is being written during this all-important JACL convention weekend at Salt Lake City with so many very important events, discussions, elections, and decisions in the process of development, we stay-at-homes feel somewhat out of the picture, and without a thing to say.

A significant, information packed, extra convention newsy PC will be rolling off the presses this week, an issue which we feel sure is eagerly awaited. Without a doubt, the individual reports of individual chapter delegates will draw unrestricted attention in most locals, when the chapters next convene.

For instance, Seattle chapter delegates, President Takeshi Kubota, and (now 2nd nat'l veep) Toru Sakahara were given pretty much carte blanche at pre-convention meetings of the board. Several detailed and intricate questions came up in relation to the problems that are being worked out this weekend, and the delegates were advised to weigh the developments and use their own judgment.

It was a fine vote of confidence in the delegates, who in our opinion have a bit of the virtue of leaning toward the conservative. In connection with the comments on delegates, alternate Harry S. Kawabe, the 68-year-old Alaskan entrepreneur and art connoisseur, is an Issei who thinks and acts like a 35-year-old executive.

Since turning in the previous column, your reporter had quite an interesting chat with a wheel of the Nisei Veterans Committee here. Principal discussion was about the "hands across the sea" problems (we'll call it) concerning matters of policy, as it concerns public relations, economic, and social affinity with official and unofficial representatives of the old country.

The discussion was pretty much a duplicate of the discussions made in the local chapter. Was asked if I knew of the official Vets policy. Oh, yes, it's pretty iron clad and one hundred six and seven-eighths all American—anyhow, over 100 per cent.

The representative of the independent vets organization seemed well acquainted with the exact problems that confronted the JACL. To get back where we started, all of us stay-at-homes, not only JACLers, are interested in what the news of the convention will be.

## Doub's convention speech —

Continued on Page 4

cedures for restoration were not being invoked and that literally hundreds of renunciants were taking no action in order to obtain a restoration of their citizenship.

Accordingly, last year I made a much publicized trip to Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle, and at public meetings with counsel and their clients, I emphasized the importance to all renunciants of Japanese ancestry of taking prompt action to obtain the return of American citizenship while the administrative machinery remained in existence. I also explained the little known procedures available to that end. The results were gratifying. There followed a flood of applications for restoration of citizenship and relief has now been extended to more than 3,000 of the original 5,790 renunciants. Of the total number of renunciants, 4,308 have now applied for citizenship restoration and of that number only a small number —370 — have been denied; 367 applications now remain pending for action. I hope that JACL will urge those of the 1,458 renunciants, who have not applied for citizenship restoration, to do so in order that their cases may be administratively determined.

## EVACUATION CLAIMS PROGRAM

As to the Japanese Evacuation Claims program, we have greatly accelerated the disposition of cases by adopting more expeditious procedures. Of approximately 26,000 claims, including reopened claims, all have been processed and adjudicated at this time with the exception of the small number of 109. Our San Francisco office was closed on June 30, 1958, and I am hopeful that Attorney General Rogers may be able to announce within the next six or eight weeks that the Evacuation Claims Program has been concluded.

You will recall that the Evacuation Claims Act, approved by the Congress on July 2, 1948, and administered by the Civil Division of the Department of Justice, required that all claims be adjudicated according to law. It prescribed procedures requiring formal findings of fact and opinions of law incident to each adjudication and a formal written record was required of all proceedings including hearings open to public inspection. There was no appeal from the Attorney General's decisions and he was given at that time on power to compromise claims.

Under the adjudicative power of the original Act awards were made as to only 745 claims, the sums allowed totalling \$1,700,000, only 3 per cent of the total claims. This unprecedented statute presented many difficult and far-reaching problems of interpretation, which had to be resolved before expeditious processing became possible. These were decided in the adjudicating opinions, issued in mimeograph form as Precedent Decisions and mailed to all attorneys of record and others having value and significance far transcending the comparatively small number of claims directly involved.

It was not until August 17, 1951 that Congress amended the Claims Act to authorize the Attorney General to pay, in the settlement of a claim, a sum not to exceed \$2500, or three-fourths of the amount of the compensable items of the claim, whichever was smaller. Under this limited compromise authority the Department of Justice was successful in expeditiously processing a vast number of small claims. At the end of the calendar year 1953 approximately 18,000 claims had been acted upon. Because most of the remaining

Continued on Back Page

# Seabrook lass wins JACL oratorical

SALT LAKE CITY.—One of the most inspiring moments of the 15th Biennial was found in the oratorical contest Saturday where three young men and four young ladies—all in their teens—spoke on "What JACL Means to Japanese American Youth."

Each speaker, representing their particular district council, was warmly applauded by a full house of some 350 and as Mas Yano, national oratorical and essay contest chairman, chose to comment after the last speaker sat down: "... I'd hate to be a judge of this contest."

The decisions of the oratorical contest were read by Pat Okura of Boys Town, Neb., on the judging panel. The first name mentioned was Darryl Sakada of Dayton, O., for third prize; then, Nancy Kubo of Long Beach, second, and Pauline Nagao of Seabrook, N.J., a very surprised but happy champion.

Pauline's father, Charles Nagao, was attending the convention as EDC chairman.

While the judges were deliberating, the essay contest winner was announced with Nancy Fujita of Petaluma, Calif., with second and third place prizes going to Julia Kiyoguchi of Salt Lake City and Grace Endo of Midvale, Utah. There were 12 essays entered, according to Elmer Smith of the contest judging staff.

Mike Masaoka presented the 1958 Pvt. Ben Frank Masaoka memorial scholarship to Ronald Inouye of American Fork, Utah, adding that for the first time in 12 years, his mother, donor of the scholarship administered by National JACL, was extremely glad to know that at last someone the Masaoka family personally knew for a long time had won.

The text of the winning speech follows:

BY PAULINE NAGAO

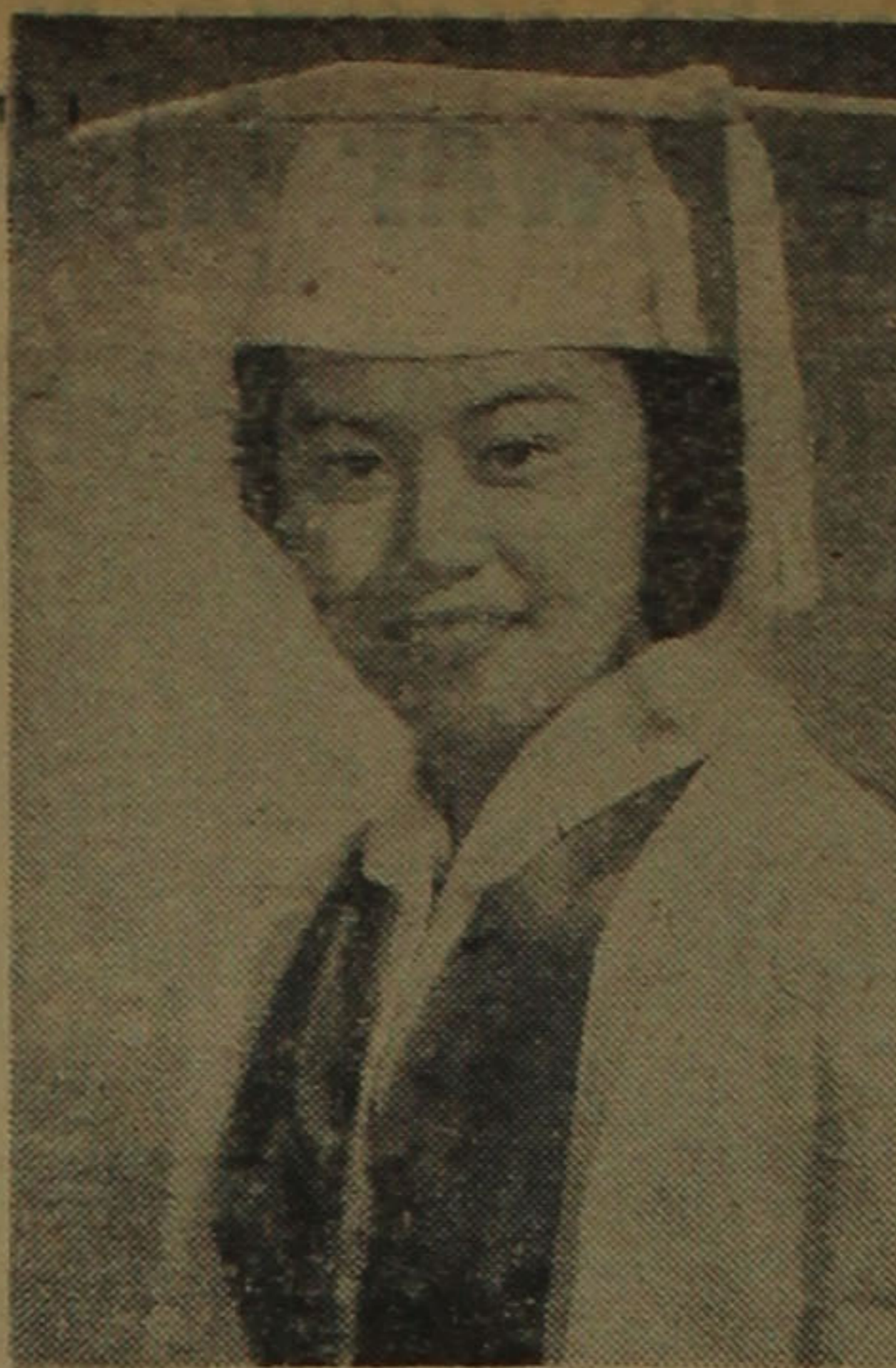
The Japanese American Citizens League has been the Moses of the Nisei, for just as Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt and slavery so JACL has freed the Japanese Americans from the bonds of bigotry, prejudice and discrimination.

Founded for the purpose of securing equality for persons of Japanese ancestry, JACL has been instrumental in the repealing of racially restrictive laws. Largely through the efforts of the leaders of this organization, the Immigration-Nationality Act was passed, and the star which had seemed so high suddenly loomed into sight. This star was the long-awaited American citizenship for our grandparents. On June 29, 1953, because the county courthouse was too small to accommodate them, 126 Issei, or First Generation of Japanese in America, became United States citizens in the auditorium of the grammar school in Seabrook, New Jersey. This was the first and at that time the largest single group of Japanese ever to be naturalized. At one time the American Legion nationally opposed citizenship for Japanese aliens. The Seabrook Chapter of the JACL had done an eminent job of public relations, for these men and women had prepared for their naturalization tests in an American Legion citizenship school.

Seabrook, New Jersey, the center for the largest frozen food processing plant in the world better known as Seabrook Farms, is the community to which approximately 600 Japanese American families migrated from many relocation centers in 1944.

Meaning to Youth

It would be easy to enumerate the contributions of JACL in language ennobled by elegant



PAULINE NAGAO Picked Top Orator

phrases, but the true meaning of JACL to the youth of Japanese ancestry is to be found in the examples of gracious living by our parents, who through the JACL have worked earnestly to further the acceptance of ourselves in Seabrook and the neighboring town of Bridgeton. This was no small task, for when the people of Bridgeton first became aware of these bronze-skinned, slant-eyed individuals who looked so much like the enemy overseas, their minds were immediately filled with suspicion. Realizing that only through unity could security be obtained, the Nisei, or Second Generation of Japanese in America, sought the guidance of JACL and through their local chapter set out to prove themselves worthy Americans. Their success lies in the fact that in the Bridgeton area, Japanese American families are readily accepted anywhere they choose to live. The community is desirous and proud to have them as neighbors and friends.

The Seabrook JACL demonstrates its community spirit by undertaking many philanthropical projects. One of these is the famous Chow Mein Dinner held every year attracting many from the surrounding areas. The proceeds are donated to worthwhile community enterprises. Last year the profits became a part of the fund for an ear, nose, and throat clinic in the new Bridgeton Hospital Annex. This year a sum was donated to the hospital in Elmer, another nearby community, and cherry trees were given to the Bridgeton City Park. In 1957, in order to promote the principles of moral courage, brotherhood, service, and good conduct, the Seabrook JACL established a citizenship award to be given to both a grammar school and high school student.

Story of Parents

Our parents have paved the way well for us, and we are grateful, knowing the persecution and hatred they have endured; for we have read of the forced mass evacuation of aliens and citizens of Japanese ancestry to the relocation centers surrounded by barbed wire fences and soldiers bearing guns. From our fathers we know about the splendid record of the Nisei regiment, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which had to prove its loyalty to the country that questioned even the right of its members to give their lives in the awe-inspiring proof of that devotion.

While all these past experiences of the JACL are indeed glorious, we must remember that the past is our prologue. It serves as an introduction of the life JACL wishes the younger generation to live; and the Japanese American Citizens League urges us to develop as good American citizens, to continue to live as our worthy parents have done in the past, and to actively participate in American affairs. And we, the youth, have already in part translated our understanding of this message through our action in the home, the school, and in the community.

First of all, in the Japanese American homes, there is love with a great respect for our elders plus a feeling of belonging. Since it has been proven in the many cases brought to court that much of the juvenile delinquency in this country is the result of insecurity in the home, I would like to state that in the records of Cumberland County, in which Seabrook and Bridgeton are located, there is absolutely no record of a juvenile delinquent of Japanese ancestry; thus, proving that love plus a feeling of belonging gives us a strong sense of security.

Secondly, in the schools many of the Sansei, or the Third Generation of Japanese in America, have proven themselves outstanding students. This year in our own Bridgeton High School 20 Japanese Americans graduated in a class of 354 pupils. About fifty per cent of the awards went to Japanese Americans, and the majority of the scholarships were received by the Sansei.

Finally, the youth of Japanese ancestry have contributed much to the community in which they live. They have participated in the various activities of their different churches, they have joined such organizations as the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and they have by their good conduct raised the standards and the ideals of others around them.

Through our deeds we have shown what JACL means to us, for only because of the devoted and untiring efforts of this organization, can the Japanese American youth stand with head erect and firmly say, "I am proud that I am American of Japanese ancestry."

Indeed much has been accomplished, but there is much yet to be done. Just as Joshua continued in the steps of Moses and led the Israelites into the promised land so we, the young people, must carry on in the footsteps of our noble parents. Even though an aura of complacency free from prejudice now exists, we must when the time comes, join the JACL in order to help safeguard its accomplishments and to initiate policies that will help make this an even greater America.

This then is what the JACL means to me as a representative of the Japanese American youth. It means remembering the dignity and integrity with which our parents faced adversity; it means respecting the wisdom of the visionaries who organized the JACL; and finally, it means accepting with willing hearts the responsibilities of leadership that someday we may live in a land in which all men are free, a land unblemished by bigotry, and a land "where we may walk in peace and dignity."

## NOTICES

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