

Idaho to Vote on Anti-Oriental Suffrage Rights Law

Second Class Postage
Paid at Los Angeles, Calif.

Membership Publication
Published Weekly Except
Last Week of Year



PACIFIC CITIZEN

VOL. 55 NO. 14

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1962

TEN CENTS

JAPANESE AMERICAN
CITIZENS LEAGUE

125 Weller St., Room 302
Los Angeles 12, Calif.
MADISON 6-4471
— Return Requested —



President's Corner

By K. Patrick Okura

Stumping Through Idaho

MY FIRST traveling assignment as your newly elected president was truly a hectic one that I will not soon forget.

The very active Idaho Chapters had arranged two Issei Appreciation Dinners. The first in Idaho Falls on Saturday night, Sept. 22, and the second in Caldwell on Sunday night, Sept. 23. Since I have never been in these parts of Idaho, I was quite anxious to take this trip and make my debut as your National President.

Since our old fire horse, Mike Masaoka, was also being invited to help launch the legislative campaign in Idaho, I requested that he route his flight by way of Omaha, so that we could travel together to Idaho. Our plans were made so that we would arrive in Idaho Falls early enough on Saturday to meet with the Idaho SJR 1 Committee to help outline its coming campaign. However, as Mike's plane flew into Omaha from Washington, D.C., the airlines decided that the ceiling was too low for it to land, so the plane continued on its way to Denver, thereby, by-passing Omaha completely.

This meant that an entirely new schedule had to be worked out for me to arrive in Idaho Falls in time for the Banquet scheduled at 7 p.m., not alone be there in time for the meeting with the SJR 1 Committee. Well, at 3 a.m., it is rather difficult to get the airlines people excited. So after checking every airline schedule available, we ended up by routing my flight to Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City and finally to Idaho Falls.

I arrived in Idaho Falls at three-thirty in the afternoon in time to say "Hello" to the Committee and to take a hurried sightseeing tour of the picturesque city of Idaho Falls.

I was amazed at the beauty of this part of the country and can see why the natives of Idaho show so much pride when talking about Idaho.

The Banquet Saturday night in Idaho Falls was a huge success with standing room only. In fact,

fifty of the guests found it necessary to be seated in the Coffee Shop outside the main dining room. The news media (newspapers, television, and radio) were very enthusiastic and interested in our campaign and a very worthwhile press conference was held after the Banquet.

The following day, we traveled by car with Joe Nishioka and Ronald Yokota acting as our guides and chaperons to Boise, Idaho, a distance of some 275 miles. As we passed the Craters of the Moon National Monument, we even had time to stop and enjoy the sights of this most unique national park.

In Boise we met with George Sugai and his committee and then dashed to the town of Caldwell, where the Issei Appreciation Banquet was being held on the College of Idaho campus. Both Junji Yamamoto, president of the Boise Valley Chapter and Ike Wakasugi, president of the Snake River Chapter, the two sponsoring Chapters of this Banquet, as well as their hard working committees, should be congratulated for putting on such a fine affair in a short period of two weeks. My good friend, Joe, said, "It was a masterful job as the Toastmaster."

Here again in Caldwell, the Dining Room was packed and it was necessary to set up extra facilities for the overflow.

IT IS my sincere hope that the enthusiasm exhibited by not only the members, but also the guests at both these functions, will be extended to their friends and acquaintances and a successful campaign can be waged in the State of Idaho to give equal voting rights to all its citizens.

I wish to inform our national membership that both Joe Nishioka and George Sugai, the co-chairmen for the Committee for YES on SJR 1, and all their respective committees are doing a yeoman job and if hard work and enthusiasm can be an criteria of victory, I shall be returning to the great State of Idaho to help celebrate after November 6th.

Legislators understood discriminatory language of law barring Orientals suffrage rights, job now with voters



Sen. James McClure

First Order of Business . . .

To the Pacific Citizen:
The fact that the Constitution of the State of Idaho contains language denying to some citizens certain rights of citizenship cannot be defended by anyone. I was determined that a proposal for a Constitutional amendment should be the first order of business during the last session of the Legislature, and I found unanimous support in the Senate and on the floor of both the Senate and the House. I am sure that the voters of Idaho will give it the same unanimous support when they understand its purpose.

There are many fine citizens in Idaho who deserve nothing less than this.

JAMES A. MCCLURE
State Senator
Payette County



Sen. R. H. Young

They Deserve the Right . . .

Greetings:
S.J.R. No. 1 deserves the "Yes" vote of every Idaho citizen. We in Canyon County of the State of Idaho are proud of our American citizens of Japanese ancestry. They are very deserving of the right to vote, to serve as jurors and to hold civil office.

I am urging that my friends vote "Yes."

R. H. (BILL) YOUNG
State Senator
Canyon County



Rep. Orval Hansen

Real Pleasure . . .

To the Pacific Citizen:
I am proud that I have been able to play a part in obtaining approval of SJR 1 by the Idaho Legislature. A few days before the 1961 session of the Idaho Legislature, Joe Nishioka of Idaho Falls called my attention to the provision in the Idaho Constitution which prohibits persons of Oriental ancestry who are not born in the United States from voting, serving as jurors or holding any civil office. He asked for my help in sponsoring and promoting the passage of a Constitutional amendment to remove this discriminatory provision.

I assured him that I would make this the first order of business in the coming session of the Legislature.

At the beginning of the session I prepared for introduction in the House of Representatives, where I was serving as House Majority Leader, a joint resolution which proposed to strike from our state Constitution this discriminatory language. A similar resolution was introduced at about the same time in the Senate. When the Senate resolution was approved by that body, we expedited its consideration in the House.

Unanimous Approval

It was my privilege to sponsor SJR 1 during floor debate in the House. It is noteworthy that SJR 1 was approved by a unanimous vote in both the Senate and the House and that it was the first proposed constitutional amendment approved during the 1961 Session.

In the House I was able to explain fully the nature of the racial barrier in our Constitution and the need for its removal. It is significant that because its purpose was clearly understood by members of the Idaho Legislature, SJR 1 received their unanimous approval.

This suggests that in seeking to win approval of this proposition on the general election ballot in November, our biggest job is to make certain that the voters clearly understand its purpose and effect.

During recent months it has been a real privilege for me to work with leaders in the JACL to draw public attention to this proposed Constitutional amendment and to assist in planning the campaign to assure its approval in the coming general election.

JACLers Commended

Members of the JACL are to be commended for their efforts to promote the passage of SJR 1. All Idahoans are indebted to the JACL for furnishing the leadership in this endeavor. Through their support of this cause, members of the JACL are rendering a distinct

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Gov. Robert Smylie

Impressed with JACL . . .

To the Pacific Citizen:
It has been my pleasure to work with the members of the Japanese American Citizens League during the time I was Attorney General and for the past several years as Governor of Idaho.

I have the opportunity to assist in several of the programs of the JACL. In each case I have always been impressed with the forthrightness and integrity with which the members have addressed themselves to the project under consideration.

During the 1961 Session of the Idaho Legislature I was wholeheartedly behind the Senate Joint Resolution No. 1 and at every opportunity urged its passage. Of course, this Resolution will be on our ballot in this next election to amend our Constitution. I am, of course, still very much in favor of this amendment and am quite certain that the people of Idaho will remove this very unfair restriction from the Idaho Constitution.

Permit me to express my appreciation for the opportunity to address the members of the JACL through your publication.

ROBERT E. SMYLIE
Governor

IDAHO JACLERS IN FINAL PHASE OF CAMPAIGN TO REPEAL OUTMODED LAW

BY GEORGE SUGAI

An enterprising newspaperman in Boise was thumbing through the Idaho state constitution for a story to his paper, the Coeur d'Alene Press, and came across the startling fact that Chinese or persons of Mongolian descent, even though naturalized citizens, had no voting rights.

On Sept. 21, 1960, the Coeur d'Alene Press published the story. Several weeks later, it was headlined in our Pacific Citizen, much to the surprise of all JACLers everywhere and especially in Idaho.

In checking with state legislators, it was discovered in section 3 of Article VI, Idaho constitution, did include "Chinese, or persons of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States" could not vote, serve as jurors or hold any civil office.

The section concerns disqualifications of certain persons from voting, serving as jurors or holding any civil office and lists such classes as the insane, traitor, polygamist and convicts.

Introduced Opening Day

When the 1961 State Legislature convened, a resolution was introduced on the opening day to give equal privileges to all naturalized citizens of Idaho. State Senator James McClure from Payette County was instrumental in having SJR 1 introduced through the State Affairs Committee, of which State Senator R.H. (Bill) Young of Canyon County is chairman.

Joe Nishioka of Idaho Falls, then Intermountain District Council chairman, had alerted State Representative Orval Hansen, House Majority Leader, of the discriminatory law. He also introduced a bill to delete the anti-Oriental voting clause from the State constitution.

Rep. Hansen's message to the Pacific Citizen, printed elsewhere in this issue, recalls the action

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BY JOE NISHIOKA

IDAHO FALLS.—The great challenge facing Japanese Americans of the State of Idaho is whether the campaign to have the voters on Nov. 6 vote Yes on SJR 1 is successful or not.

Four weeks remain to explain why voters should ratify the constitutional amendment to repeal a disqualification against "Chinese or persons of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States" from voting, serving as jurors or holding civil office. Unwittingly, the prohibition today bars naturalized citizens of Oriental ancestry from voting.

Even greater concern faces the Japanese American in Idaho. He is well-accepted in the community as a first class citizen. On Nov. 6, he will know whether his parents, now naturalized citizens, are equally as good.

Indians Once Barred

It has been 21 months since the Pacific Citizen reported the fact that an anti-Oriental law was in the State Constitution. During this period, JACLers laid the groundwork to have bills introduced in the state legislature to have the repeal approved for the ballot and then proceeded to wage this campaign now in its final phase.

In the course of this campaign, it was this writer's privilege to meet with Congressman Walter Judd of Minnesota, sponsor of JACL bills to extend naturalization privileges to the Issei, who was addressing a local group. We were introduced through State Sen. A.W. (Tony) Naegle and State Rep. Orval Hansen of Bonneville County.

And in the course of conversation, Naegle recalled that in 1950, the Indians with the help of then Governor C.A. Robins and the Dept. of the Interior had repealed a portion of the same Article VI, Section 3 of the Idaho Constitution which stated: "No Indians not

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Washington Newsletter: by Mike Masaoka For Equality for Naturalized Citizens

Washington, D.C.

WHEN TEN years ago, the Congress enacted the Immigration and Nationality (Walter - McCarran) Act of 1952, we presumed that the soon-to-be-naturalized Issei, once they attained their citizenship, would be able to enjoy all the privileges and immunities of American citizenship.

This presumption turned out to be true over the past decade, except for one State of the 50—Idaho. There, because of a constitutional prohibition against "Chinese, and persons of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States", naturalized Americans of Japanese ancestry may not vote, serve on juries, or hold civil office.

Although this section in the Idaho State Constitution clearly violates the 14th and 15th Amendments to the Federal Constitution, it nevertheless remains an effective barrier against naturalized Japanese, Chinese, Koreans, and others of Mongolian extraction, particularly in the exercise of the franchise. For, though the Federal Constitution authorizes the Congress to establish the requirements for naturalization, this same National Constitution provides that the several States shall determine the qualifications for their voters.

TO SECURE the repeal of this constitutional discrimination, the

Idaho JACL Chapters in particular, and the Intermountain JACL District Council and the National JACL Organization in general, have organized a campaign for this purpose. Under the effective, dedicated, and inspired co-chairmanship of Joe Nishioka of Idaho Falls and George Sugai of Payette, an Idaho Committee for Yes on SJR 1 has been organized, with specific responsibilities, respectively, for Southeastern and Southwestern Idaho.

Over the weekend of September 22, testimonial banquets for the naturalized Issei pioneers were held in Idaho Falls and in Caldwell, some 30 miles from Boise, to dramatize the kind of individuals who are the unintended victims of this 73-year-old constitutional exclusion. These kick-off dinners for the SJR 1 campaign were turn-away-crowd affairs, what with not only the Issei to be honored and their native-born children present but also with newspapermen and radio and television commentators, not to mention state, county, and local officials and officers of concerned organizations and associations in attendance.

SINCE FEW, if any, even in Idaho would argue that naturalized citizens, regardless of race and national origin, should not be treated equally at least before the law, then why the concern and the campaign for this particular proposition?

The answer is, in reality, so simple as to be dangerous. When the Legislature of the State of Idaho voted unanimously to place this question before the voters in the general election this November 6, it framed the issue as it had to—in terms of the language of the constitutional prohibition. "Shall Section 3 of Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Idaho be amended to permit Chinese, and persons of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States, the right to vote, to serve as jurors, and to hold civil office?"

Unfortunately, to most citizens, this phraseology might well apply to aliens; and so, would give to "Chinese and persons of Mongolian descent not born in the United States" rights and privileges that are not accorded to other aliens who are not of Mongolian ancestry. In other words, conversely stated, this SJR 1 would confer on only aliens of Mongolian descent voting and other citizenship benefits that are denied to all other non-citizens.

If only the Legislature could have used the explanatory word "naturalized" to describe the sole beneficiaries of this amendment to establish legal equality among and for all naturalized citizens of Idaho, without regard to race or national origin, the task and the responsibility of the JACL in Idaho would have been much easier and simpler.

But, since the official question

put to the voters of Idaho on the special ballot for constitutional amendments this November 6 fails to make clear that only naturalized persons of Mongolian ancestry will be given equal rights with other naturalized citizens of Idaho, the task and responsibilities challenging the Idaho JACLers are formidable and troublesome.

TO REACH and inform the 362,704 registered voters of Idaho regarding the facts of SJR 1 is a monumental assignment, especially when one considers that there are only five JACL Chapters in Idaho, three — Pocatello, Idaho Falls, and Rexburg — in the Southeastern corner and two—Boise Valley and Snake River, most of whose members reside in nearby Oregon—in the Southwestern corner. There are no Chapters in the widespread and populated Magic Valley in South-Central Idaho, just as there are no Chapters in the long mountain reaches of the populous Panhandle that extends northward to the Canadian border.

And, to add to the problems, most of Idaho is agricultural. Most JACLers and persons of Japanese ancestry in the so-called Gem State are farmers, many on a large-scale basis. Thus, the weeks and the days, immediately preceding election day, November 6, are those required for the harvest, the busiest season of the year.

STILL, OUT of respect and in tribute to their Issei parents, both living and dead; naturalized and those who passed away before this age-old dream of the pioneer Issei could be realized, many understanding Nisei and Sansei JACLers and other Americans of Japanese ancestry are sacrificing their most precious hours and days in trying to—in the great American tradition of campaigning—educate the voters on the truth and the facts and the meaning of SJR 1.

To these Nisei and Sansei too numerous to mention by name, the successful amendment of the constitutional prohibition is not only a matter of pride and honor but

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Chapter Index

Chapters, which have submitted articles in this week's issue, are as follows:

Boise Valley	No. San Diego
Chicago	Pocatello
Dayton	Rexburg
Idaho Falls	San Jose
	Snake River

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

To insure uninterrupted service, readers are advised to give us two weeks' notice, supplying both old and new addresses to Pacific Citizen, 125 Weller St., Los Angeles 12, Calif.

Idaho SJR 1: Questions & Answers

(This Fact Sheet was released this week by the Committee on Vote Yes for SJR 1.

1. What is the Senate Joint Resolution No. 1 (SJR 1)?

SJR 1 is the first of three constitutional amendments that are on the special ballot for the general election Tuesday, November 6. It is so identified because it was the first of the joint resolutions to be passed by both the Senate and the House in the last 136th Idaho State Legislature. It was approved, incidentally, without a single objection in both Houses.

If answered affirmatively, or "YES", it will extend equality to all naturalized citizens of Idaho to vote, serve on juries and hold civil office, without regard to race or

national origin. Specifically, SJR 1 asks the voters this question: "Shall Section 3 of Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Idaho be amended to permit Chinese, and persons of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States, the right to vote, to serve as jurors, and to hold civil office?"

Unfortunately, the statutory requirements were such that the Legislature was not able to clarify the proposal by describing only naturalized citizens as the sole beneficiaries of this constitutional amendment.

Constitution to provide that Chinese and other Mongolians, not born in the United States, who become naturalized citizens of this country according to the Federal (National) Nationality Law shall enjoy the same rights as other lawfully naturalized citizens—to vote, serve on juries, and hold civil office. It simply eliminates a discrimination against certain naturalized citizens because of their national origins.

would delete that portion of the said section which prohibits naturalized Chinese citizens, and other citizens of Mongolian descent, from voting, serving as jurors, or holding civil office. Though identifying only Chinese, the proposed amendment would also apply to citizens of Japanese ancestry, and all naturalized citizens of Mongolian descent, which, as stated, would enable them to vote, serve as jurors, or hold civil office on the same basis as other naturalized citizens. (Emphasis supplied.)

"Idaho is the only State with such discrimination against any naturalized citizen, and the Idaho State Legislature unanimously recommended that this question should be placed before the voters."

According to the "Proceedings and Debates (1889) of the Idaho Constitutional Convention", page 914, the Chairman explained its purpose in these words: "The greatest desire is to exclude Indians and Chinese and Mongolians from any participation in the elective franchise until they become properly qualified under the law."

I believe that reaches it."

Since the basis for the 1889 disqualification no longer exists, as the Congress now permits, these once-excluded "Chinese and persons of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States" to become naturalized citizens of the United States, it would appear that

5. Isn't this disqualification unconstitutional?

Yes, it is now. But, when it was adopted 77 years ago, it was constitutional because Chinese, Japanese, and others of Mongolian descent "not born in the United States" could not become naturalized citizens of this country inasmuch as they were of races "ineligible to naturalization" under Federal Laws. Since 1952, when the Congress enacted the Immigration and Nationality Act, no lawfully admitted permanent resident immigrant may be denied naturalization on account of race, ancestry, or national origin.

Therefore, now, because the naturalization laws of the country enable these Mongolians not born in the United States to become naturalized citizens on the same basis as other aliens, we believe it to be unconstitutional for Idaho to continue this racial discrimination against certain naturalized citizens.

6. If this section is unconstitutional, why haven't the courts declared it so?

It has never been tested in any State or Federal Court since those disqualified have become eligible for naturalization by act of the Congress of the United States in 1952.

If it were challenged in the

7. Are any naturalized citizens discriminated against today because of this constitutional disqualification?

Yes, there are probably several hundred.

Most numerous of those discriminated against are recently naturalized citizens of Japanese ancestry, most of whom have been in Idaho for 50 or more years, living as good citizens in everything but name and contributing much to the development of this State, mostly in agriculture. Most of them had citizen sons who served with such gallantry in World War II in both the European and Pacific theaters of operation. Many lost sons with the now famous 442nd Japanese American Regimental Combat, the most decorated military unit in United States history for its size and length of service, as well as the

SJR 1 merely carries on the original intention of the framers of the State Constitution that, once they qualified for citizenship, these persons may enjoy the same opportunities as other naturalized citizens to vote, serve on juries, and hold civil office.

14th Amendment to the Constitution?

The 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees that "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law."

The 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees that "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

This belief was among those which prompted the Idaho State Legislature to refer SJR 1 to the voters, in order that a court test would be made unnecessary.

one suffering the most combat casualties.

Others are naturalized Chinese who, like the Japanese, have lived in the State for more than a half-century.

Still others are the newly naturalized Japanese, Chinese, and Korean wives of American veterans. Then, there are the Asian orphans adopted by United States citizens, who may be naturalized as citizens when they attain their majority, and recent refugees from Communist persecution, such as Chinese, Tibetan, and Outer Mongolians, who are among those being naturalized today. Finally, there are former citizens of Can-

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PACIFIC CITIZEN

Published weekly except the last week of the year.
125 Weller St. Rm. 302, Los Angeles 12, Calif., MA 6-4471

JACL Headquarters: 1634 Post St., San Francisco 15, Calif.
Washington Office: 919-18th St. NW, Washington 6, D. C.

Except for the Director's Report, opinions expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy.

Subscription Rate: \$4 per year (payable in advance).
(\$2 of JACL membership dues is a for a year's subscription to PC.)
Airmail: \$9 additional per year. Foreign: \$6 per year
Entered as 2nd Class Matter in Post Office, Los Angeles, Calif.

K. Patrick Okura, National JACL President
Harry K. Honda, Editor Jim Higashi, Business Manager

Director's Report

By Masao Satow

VIGILANCE—THE PRICE OF LIBERTY

San Francisco

Last week television viewers saw a nationwide CBS Report dramatically picture the difficulties and frustrations encountered by Negroes in Mississippi in their attempts to register for voting because of arbitrary roadblocks put up by duly elected officials according to their own whims and prejudices under the pretense of legal procedure.

One could not help but be impressed with the deep convictions and sincere expressions of those denied the right to register, that voting would give them a sense of being a part of this great Country and would establish them as first-class citizens. Emphasized was the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States declaring the right to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by the States because of race, color, or national origin.

The national spotlight continues to focus upon this very serious situation in the deep South, and all of us share this threat to the established principles of this Country.

Similarly concerned with voting rights and busily doing something about the situation are our JACLers in Idaho, where the Idaho State Constitution prohibits Chinese and those of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States, from voting, serving as jurors, or holding civil office.

On first impression, the average voter might look upon the phrase "not born in the United States" as justification for denying the franchise, assuming that those denied are aliens. But this law includes Issei, not born in the United States, but who are now naturalized citizens, from voting.

In 1889 at the Idaho Constitutional Convention when this provision was placed in the Constitution, the Chairman of the Convention declared, "The greatest desire is to exclude Indians and Chinese and Mongolians from any participation in the elective franchise until they become properly qualified under the law."

Now that persons originally prohibited by this section have become "properly qualified under the law," this prohibition should be deleted from the State Constitution.

This practically little known section of the Idaho State Constitution was brought to light by an enterprising reporter of the Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Press just before the 1960 National election, in digging up what he thought were some curious and interesting voting regulations in the State. JACL 1000 Clubber Henry Yamamoto, Coeur d'Alene restaurateur, alerted sent the clipping to cousin Ed Yamamoto, 1000 Club Lifer of Moses Lake, who relayed it on to National Headquarters, from whence it went to PC with a covering memo. Its appearance in the PC stimulated then National 2nd Vice President George Sugai of Payette, Idaho, to urge his personal acquaintances in Idaho State Legislature to act on the matter. As a result, the first action of the State Legislature in January 1961 was to repeal this section of the State Constitution by unanimous vote (Senate vote - 44 to 0, House vote - 55 to 0) and provide for the measure to be referred to the general electorate in 1962.

Meantime, the Intermountain District Council under then Chairman Joe Nishioka of Idaho Falls and George Sugai took up the matter and laid plans for District Council and chapter action. Joe Nishioka continues to give leadership by heading up the Idaho Committee for Yes on SJR 1.

The IDC and Idaho JACLers are to be commended for their efforts to inform the voters in spite of their present busy-ness with crops.

The experience of the 1960 Washington Alien Land Law Repeal Campaign demonstrated conclusively that the endorsement of high officials and many leading organizations must be complemented with vigorous and extensive leg work to get the right information personally to the individual voter, who actually goes into the voting booth and marks the ballot, as the sine qua non of electorate approval.

Our thanks to the chapters outside of Idaho who have sent to the Idaho Committee for Yes on SJR 1 substantial expressions of their support and recording their interest and concern in upholding the established principle of a citizen's right to vote in this Country.

Attorney General's Statement of Purpose

Official Pre-Election Explanation of SJR 1

Following is proposed to be voted at the Nov. 6 election:

SJR 1

To vote on the following, mark a cross (X) in the square at the right of "Yes" or "No."

"Shall Section 3 of Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Idaho be (Not) amended so as to permit Chinese, and persons of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States, to vote, serve as jurors, or hold civil office?"

Attorney General's Statement of Purpose

This proposed amendment of the Idaho Constitution is designed to give naturalized citizens of the United States and other citizens of Mongolian descent, not born in the United States, the right to vote, to serve as jurors, and to hold civil office. Section 3 of Article VI of the Idaho Constitution, as now in effect, disqualifies certain persons from voting, serving as

jurors or holding civil office and among those disqualified are "Chinese or persons of Mongolian descent not born in the United States."

The amendment, if approved, would delete that portion of the said section which prohibits naturalized Chinese citizens, and other citizens of Mongolian descent, from voting, serving as jurors, or holding civil office. Though identifying only Chinese, the proposed amendment would also apply to citizens of Japanese ancestry, and all other naturalized citizens of Mongolian descent, which, as stated, would enable them to vote, serve as jurors, or hold civil office on the same basis as other naturalized citizens.

Idaho is the only State with such discrimination against any naturalized citizen, and the Idaho State Legislature unanimously recommended that this question should be placed before the voters.

'Idaho could end up with egg on her face after November

The Idaho State Journal political editor Bill Hall, in his "Scratchpad" column of Sept. 26, picks up the cudgel which he hopes will remove the anti-Oriental voting law from the Idaho Constitution. His caution that "Idaho could end up with egg on her face after the November election" by failing here is to be well-taken.

BY BILL HALL

If we aren't careful, Idaho could end up with egg on her face after the November election.

There will be on the ballot this time three constitutional amendments. The one in question would amend the Idaho Constitution to give naturalized citizens of Oriental descent the right to vote, hold office and serve on juries.

It is unconstitutional for them to do any of those three things now. The law is largely ignored, but the Idaho Legislature voted unanimously to clean the distasteful measure off the books.

I don't know of anyone who isn't in favor of doing away with the provision, but there is still the possibility that it will not pass.

The Oriental voting amendment, like so many other proposed amendments on the ballot, looks long and dull on the samples I have seen. Many voters will shy away from all that complicated legal wording and won't read the proposition on the ballot.

Generally, voters cast their ballots against a measure they don't understand. If it isn't made plain what the amendment would do, it could easily be defeated.

The result would be a national story, that the voters of Idaho re-

fused to give naturalized citizens of Oriental descent the right to vote, hold office or serve on juries. Idaho is at present the only state with such discrimination against naturalized citizens in its constitution.

Unlike most constitutional amendments, this one does not have to be sold. Voters who know

it exists are more than willing to vote yes.

But the political leaders, the opinion makers and the press of Idaho have their work cut out for them. They must get across the message to vote yes on the amendment known as S.J.R. No. 1. It could be pretty embarrassing if we don't.

—Idaho State Journal

Press Comments:

The JACL and SJR 1

Blackfoot, Idaho

It's always an inspiring experience to attend a meeting of the Japanese American Citizens League. These people are among the racial groups who make up our country who have had to pay a high price for their citizenship. Remembering the price they have paid one can understand that their motto, "Better Americans in a Greater America," are not empty words as they might be for those of us whose citizenship was established several generations back.

It was my privilege to attend the meeting of the JACL in Idaho Falls Saturday evening (Sept. 22) in which the members did honor to the Issei, first generation Japanese who settled in this country and became the parents of most of the Americans of Japanese descent now living in the United States.

The testimonial dinner was timed to coincide with the tenth anniversary of the passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which made it possible for the Issei, who had been living as aliens in the United States, to become citizens.

It was also timed to point out the fact that in the election of 1962, voters of Idaho will be given a chance to remove from the Constitution of the State of Idaho a discriminatory clause (the so-called anti-Mongolian Clause) which prohibits naturalized citizens of the United States of Mongolian birth from voting, serving on juries, or holding public office in Idaho.

1962 Legislature Acts

The 1961 Idaho Legislature felt that this clause should be repealed and voted to submit it to the voters of the state at the 1962 general election.

The twin objectives of paying homage to the Issei and pointing up the one discrimination against them that now exists in Idaho alone of all the states was well accomplished. Approximately 400 JACL members and their guests assembled in the Bonneville Hotel dining room came away from the meeting convinced that something must be done about it.

People from the Blackfoot area took pride that in the stirring program some of the highlights were provided by Miss Vicki Yoden, who accompanied by Patti Yamamoto sang the JACL hymn and "God Bless America," and by Mrs. T. Nagano, Pingree, Gold-Star mother of a member of the 442nd Combat team, who responded in Japanese for the Issei to the welcome given them by the JACL.

Especially stirring was the recitation by Tommy Miyazaki, mem-

Sincerity of Purpose

Payette, Idaho

We as one who was privileged to attend the banquet meeting of the Japanese American Citizens League at Ontario last Saturday (Jan. 27), could not help but be impressed with the sincerity of purpose of members of that organization.

It was a delightful and rewarding affair, showing how earnestly and reasonably the members of the organization are attacking the problem of discrimination that exists against them in our country.

We also could not help but be impressed how this discrimination runs counter to the principles of freedom and equality of opportunity on which our great country was founded, and how we Americans generally have "missed the boat" in this regard.

It is only by the grace of God that any of us are of one nationality rather than another. In this real melting pot that our country has become, there should be a respected place in it for every worthy man or woman who becomes a citizen no matter what his or ancestry might be.

—Independent-Enterprise

what funds we can count on. Many individual contributions have been received. We are grateful for these. Others who would like to send checks may send them directly to Idaho Repeal Treasurer, Charles Hirai, Star Route, Ririe, Idaho.

We look for victory. If this victory is not attained Nov. 6, you can count on the IDC taking up the battle two years or even four years hence. The IDC has a deep conviction for the causes of the JACL. This conviction enabled the IDC to contribute heavily to the National JACL during the war years as graciously mentioned by George Inagaki in the Sept. 17 PC and stated by Sim Togasaki to the National Board at the National Convention July 28 in Seattle.

What Is at Stake

At stake is the dignity of the naturalized Issei in Idaho. This is a real challenge to the prestige and beliefs of our organization.

May I take advantage of this opportunity to publicly extend the appreciation of the IDC to every one who has helped in this campaign; the National Board and Staff; Mike Masaoka; the Idaho members who have devoted so much time the past two years toward the passage of SJR 1. Whatever the outcome, we will be grateful for the sincere effort they have expended,

ber of the 442nd Combat team blinded in combat action and a citizen of Sugar City, of the Japanese-American creed. "I'm proud that I am an American of Japanese ancestry"—a creed that enabled Japanese Americans to face a hostile country with shoulders squared and heads held high.

Main speakers of the evening were Pat Okura, Omaha, National President of the JACL, and Mike Masaoka, representative of the JACL in Washington, D.C.

Okura Praises Issei

(Comment reports on the substance of Okura's speech, which is published in its entirety on the next page.—Ed.)

Mike Masaoka, introduced as Mr. JACL, battler for human and civil rights for all Americans, promoter and member of the 442nd Combat Team, holder of 30 decorations for battle action, and since 1945 the Washington representative of the JACL, saluted Mrs. Nagano, "Whose son lies buried near my brother."

"Idaho," he said, "has more citizens of Japanese ancestry buried in Arlington than all but one other State in the Union, and in relation to population leads all."

Mr. Masaoka pointed out how in 1889 when the Idaho Constitution was adopted there lived in the State many Chinese imported to do the heavy work of railroad construction. The framers of the constitution did not wish these people to take part in state government, so in Section 3, Article 6 of the Idaho Constitution wrote in a provision that people of Mongolian descent, even though naturalized citizens, were barred from voting, serving on juries, or holding public office in Idaho.

Idaho alone of all the states has such a restriction against its citizens. The result is that in Idaho a naturalized citizen born in China, Japan or Korea is denied full rights of citizenship in Idaho. A war bride of an American soldier from one of these lands is barred from exercising full privileges of citizenship.

Effect on the Issei living in Idaho is that while their naturalized brothers and sisters living in Oregon, Washington, California or any other state can vote, they are barred from doing so in Idaho. The 1961 Idaho Legislature, realizing the undemocratic nature of the anti-Mongolian provision, asked for its repeal. It can not be taken for granted that the voters of Idaho will vote to do so, he said.

The problem is to get voters to realize that Sec. 3, Article 6 discriminates against people who have become NATURALIZED CITIZENS.

Repeal of this section would have no effect on aliens of any race living in Idaho. Such people who might never have taken the trouble to become citizens would still be barred from voting.

May Not Understand

The average voter in November may not understand that SJR 1 applies only to naturalized citizens of Mongolian descent, may think that if he votes "yes" it will cost him a little money, so will decide to vote "no," Mr. Masaoka said.

This remaining indignity on loyal citizens could be a gratuitous weapon in the hands of an enemy who is waging a war in which we are battling for the survival of ideas, he said. We can not take it for granted that the battle in Idaho is won but must be sure that every voter understands why they should vote "yes" on SJR 1, he concluded. —Blackfoot News

Sugai

(Continued from Front Page)

taken by the Legislature in detail. The measure was unanimously passed: 42-0 in the Senate, 55-0 in the House.

SJR 1 Committee Formed

Meantime, JACLers in Idaho formed the Committee for Yes on SJR 1, since the signature by Governor Smylie on the measure was assured. Joe Nishioka and George Sugai were elected co-chairmen.

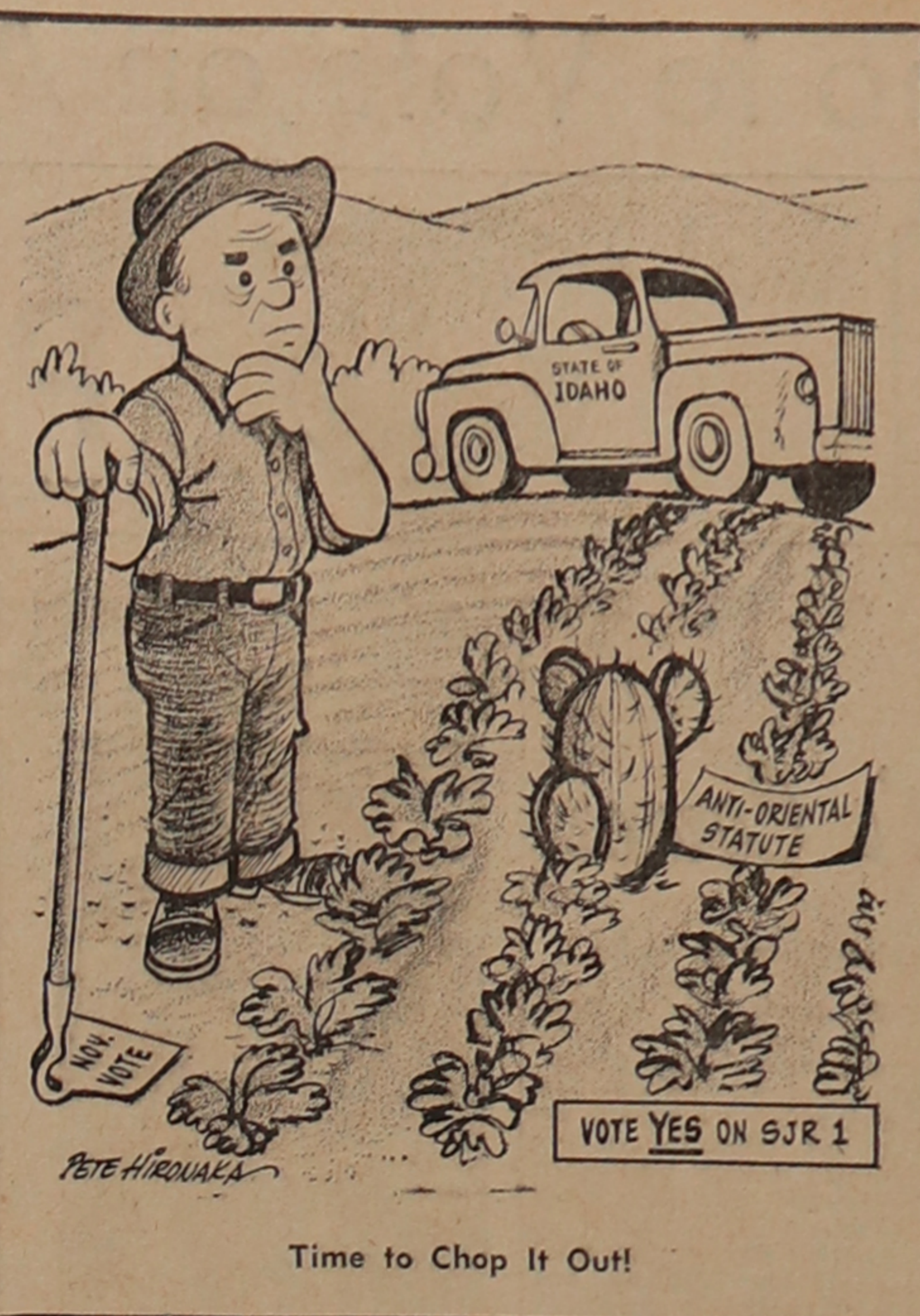
The committee's chief task is to educate and inform the voters of Idaho that naturalized Americans of Chinese or Mongolian descent have no voting rights.

The majority of the people in Idaho are unaware such a law exists and are shocked when told. The Idaho readers of the Pacific Citizen can help now by writing letters to the editor of the local newspapers, pointing out such an antiquated law exists. Approximately one month remains before election.

ANTI-ORIENTAL VOTING LAW CITED AS OUTMODED

IDAHO FALLS.—In the recent study of the Idaho state constitution by the League of Women Voters, several outmoded statutes are cited including the barring of naturalized Chinese or persons of Mongolian descent from voting.

The Idaho Falls Post-Register calls it a "shameful discrimination".



Nishioka

(Continued from Front Page)

Masaoka

(Continued from Front Page)

taxed, who have not severed their tribal relations and adopted the habits of civilization, can neither vote, serve as jurors or hold public office."

Dr. Judd then turned to Naegle and Hansen, asking them to help strike out the shameful and discriminatory law against Orientals from the statutes.

Chuman Pushed Campaign

After SJR 1 was passed by the 1961 legislature, then National JACL President Frank Chuman had a great deal with getting the ball rolling. He attended the first quarterly session of the Intermountain District Council, in January, 1962, being hosted by Snake River Valley JACL at Ontario, Ore. In discussing the resolution, Chuman stated the provision in question should be repealed because it was racially discriminatory and affected persons of Japanese descent.

He said JACL would support the campaign since the disqualification was against U.S. national and international policies, that it was contrary to the 14th Amendment and the 15th Amendment.

At this meeting, the Committee for Vote Yes on SJR 1 was organized with George Sugai and Joe Nishioka as co-chairmen. "For Equality for Naturalized Citizens" was selected as the campaign slogan.

Campaign Strategy

Immediate assignment was for all JACLers to explain the outmoded law to their friends and solicit their support at the poll. Various statewide and local organizations were to be contacted for endorsements.

A check of the 1960 General Election summary was made. It was estimated 382,656 were eligible to vote on the basis of the 1960 Idaho census. Of that number, 362,704 were registered and 302,155 voted, or a percentage of 83.3—one of the highest in the nation. Since 62 pct. of the votes came from 11 of the 44 Idaho counties, the Committee has concentrated its campaign in the 11 counties but not neglecting the others.

Of the 11 counties, six of them have no JACL chapters. The Committee made several trips to meet with the state senators and representatives in the six counties, as well as its civic leaders and men of influence. Their response has been good, but a majority of them noted the resolution does not say anything about naturalized citizens. Hence, the Committee recognized the big educational task before them.

Official Explanation

At the summer IDC quarterly session, June 23-24, at Caldwell, the Committee met with Mike Masaoka. He, with Boise Valley JACL president Junji Yamamoto and George Sugai, conferred with the State Attorney General Frank Benson and Secretary of State Arnold Williams the following day regarding the official explanation of the amendment.

The Committee was successful in seeing that the Attorney General's Statement of Purpose explain "naturalized" Oriental citizens were affected.

In the coming weeks, Committee members will continue to speak to various local groups. Jamie Shintani has done a good job with the Idaho Cattle Feeders, the VFW and Disabled American Veterans. Sam Sakaguchi, past commander of American Legion Bonneville Post 56, secured the endorsement from the American Legion Dept. of Idaho, composed of 96 posts plus the 7th District Auxiliary.

Sud Morishita, Deto Harada, Charles Hirai and George Nukaya worked with the Democrats during their platform convention here and were successful. Ronnie Yokota, Deto Harada and Joe Nishioka did likewise with the Republicans at their platform convention at Pocatello.

George Sugai secured personal endorsements from Governor Smylie and from William S. Johnston, member of the Idaho Advisory Committee on Civil Rights. Kaz Hikida and Junji Yamamoto secured the endorsement from the Idaho Real Estate Assn.

We intend to reach as many voters as possible between now and election day so that on Nov. 6, we will be victorious.

also of removing the stigma of undesirability and unworthiness that these racial slurs imply. They are concerned that the hurt and the humiliation, the indignity and the shock that compromised the naturalization of their parents and those of similar ancestry in Idaho alone be removed from the public scene.

But, perhaps selfishly, they are acutely aware that such racial discrimination against those of their ancestry threatens the integrity and the vanishing and reduces their status to that of second-class citizens. And, what is more this prohibition against those of Mongolian descent sanctioned in the highest law of Idaho unless repealed, remains as an open invitation for the racists and the bigots in another era of hysteria and prejudice to enact even more arbitrary and outrageous laws against their citizenship, their persons, and their properties.

THE COMMITTEE for Yes on SJR 1, aware of the tremendous difficulties in informing almost half a million Idahoans and arousing them to go to the polls on November 6 to vote "Yes" on Senate Joint Resolution No. One, need and invite the active interest and co-operation of every JACLer and every person of goodwill in Idaho in the current campaign for equality for all naturalized citizens.

Those outside the State of Idaho may also help by contributing to the meager campaign treasury and by writing, by informing friends and others in Idaho to vote "Yes" on SJR 1.

For more is at stake than those of Mongolian ancestry in Idaho. The integrity of American citizenship through naturalization, the Americanism of the people of Idaho, and the international "image" of the United States as illustrated in Idaho's regard to its fellow citizens of Asian ancestry—these are some of the implications of, not to mention the consequences of persons of Japanese ancestry in the State of Idaho and the effectiveness of JACL as an instrument of democracy in action.

Statement required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, July 1, 1935, and June 11, 1960 (74 Stat. 208) showing the ownership, management, and circulation of

PACIFIC CITIZEN

Published weekly except the last week of the year at Los Angeles, Calif., for Sept. 28, 1962.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are:
Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League, 1634 Post St., San Francisco, Calif.; Editor: Harry K. Honda, 125 Weller St., Los Angeles 12, Calif.; Managing Editor: Dr. David Mura, 2148 Shipway Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

2. The owner is:
Japanese American Citizens League, 1634 Post St., San Francisco, Calif.; President: K. Patrick Okura, 2604 Garden Rd., Omaha 24, Neb.; 1st V.P.: Jerry Okamoto, 1236 Main Pl., Tracy, Calif.; 2nd V.P.: Tak Kubota, 9817 53th Ave., South, Seattle 18, Wash.; 3rd V.P.: William Marutani, 8112 Alton Ave., Philadelphia 15, Pa.; Treas.: Kameo A. Yoshinari, 7137 N. Marshfield Ave., Chicago 26, Ill.; Sec'y: Dr. David Mura, 2148 Shipway Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

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5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above is—

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(s) JIM HIGASHI
Business Manager
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of September, 1962.
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TOYO Myatake



By Bill Hosokawa

From the Frying Pan

SILVER CITY—Nearly 15 years ago, at a time when I was wandering over the far reaches of what The Denver Post calls the Rocky Mountain Empire, I visited a fascinating old ghost town called Silver City in the mountains of southwestern Idaho. It was a tumble-down collection of weather-beaten old houses, most of them in disrepair, a schoolhouse, and the stone walls of a row of saloons whose roofs long since had disappeared.

Silver City was reached by way of a precarious dirt road that twisted up and up and up. At one time it had yielded a treasure in silver, but when the veins gave out and the price of silver collapsed, so did the city. There was nothing else to sustain it.

Prowling around the ruins of this ghost town, I came upon a cemetery, and then a second one which was somewhat smaller. The first was the burying grounds for the white citizens of Silver City who died of accident, gunshot, alcoholism, or the diseases that ran rampant in those days. The second was reserved for the Chinese.

Thus it was in many of the communities of the Rocky Mountain West where the Chinese, somehow, eked out a living as laundrymen, cooks, truck farmers, and not infrequently, as miners. Usually Chinese miners were not allowed to have their own claims, but they could lease abandoned placers or diggings and make enough to get by through hard work, frugality and diligence. The Chinese were members of the community, and yet they weren't. They were relegated to a second class status, tolerated but not permitted to enjoy either the privileges or responsibilities of citizenship.

DISCRIMINATION—it was in the situation described above that the state of Idaho wrote into its constitution provisions legalizing discrimination against "Chinese or persons of Mongolian descent." Idaho's constitution, the Constitution of the United States notwithstanding, specified that such persons, if not born in the United States, may not vote, serve on juries or hold civil office even though they become naturalized citizens.

Almost everyone would agree this law ought to be stricken from the books. The big problem is to get the people of Idaho so fired up about the injustice and silliness of this provision that they'll go out and vote its repeal next month.

CHINA POLLY—While the Idaho frontier was rough and raw, it was not without tenderness, as witness

the story of China Polly. Her name is listed on documents as Lulu Nathoy, which probably was a rough phonetic rendition of her true name. She was born to impoverished parents somewhere in South China, sold into slavery, and brought to San Francisco in 1868 when she was an attractive girl of 16.

Lulu Nathoy and two other Chinese girls were sent on an 800-mile horseback trip to the mining camp of Warren, Idaho, in what is now the Payette National Forest, where some 1,200 Chinese men were employed. The girls were installed in a dance hall where their company was made available to anyone with the price, and there Lulu Nathoy gained the name of China Polly.

By 1890, the gold was petering out, most of the whites had left Warren and only some 150 Chinese remained. China Polly, nearing 40, took up sewing and embroidery, learned to make trinkets from gold nuggets for a living. She had become a friendly over the years with one Charles A. Bemis, a gambler who lived next door to the dance hall. She kept house for him, nursed him in illness, finally, married him in 1894. The marriage was duly recorded by A.D. Smith, justice of the peace, at Warren.

China Polly and Bemis lived happily in a cabin he built in the canyon of the Salmon River. When Bemis died in 1922, friends took Polly out to the nearest town, Grangeville. It was her first trip away from the cabin in 28 years, and the sight of automobiles frightened her. Polly hurried back to her canyon home, where she lived until 1933. Then she became ill. Friends put her on a horse and took her to the War Eagle mine where an ambulance from Grangeville met them. She died at Grangeville, and was buried there after 82 eventful years.

Local campaign managers for Yes-SJR-1 revealed
IDAHO FALLS.—The Vote Yes on SJR-1 Committee has its local campaign managers in the five JACL chapters throughout Idaho and in the Twin Falls-Magic Valley area, where there is no JACL chapter at the present time. They are as follows:

CHAPTER LIAISON OFFICERS
Pocatello..... Ronnie Yokota
Idaho Falls..... Sach Mikami
Boise Valley..... George Nukaya
Rexburg..... Henry Suehira
Ketchikan..... Kiyoshi Sakota
Snake River..... Barton Sasaki
Magic Valley..... Bob Joo, Twin Falls
Todd Kuzawa, Burley
Yosh Aizawa, Jerome
Sadie Aizawa, Jerome
Jack Hirai, Malta

Renew Your Membership

Issei virtues extolled in Okura tribute

Following is the text of the keynote speech delivered by National JACL President K. Patrick Okura at both Idaho Falls and Caldwell on Sept. 22-23.

I am indeed happy to be in (Idaho Falls) this evening for this most wonderful occasion. As mentioned by your toastmaster, we are commemorating the 10th anniversary of the enactment of the Immigration and Nationality Act by which our Issei parents became naturalized citizens and secondly, but not any less important, we are honoring our Issei pioneers for their many and great contributions over the years not only to us, their children, but also the communities in which they reside and to the State of Idaho and the nation.

In June of 1952, when Congress enacted the Walter-McCarran Immigration and Nationality Act, it enabled for the first time since 1879, to eliminate race as a qualification for naturalization. We are all proud of the role that the Japanese American Citizens League played in having this bill enacted. The record indicates that without the able leadership of the Japanese American Citizens League in this campaign, we would still have on our statute books the Japanese Exclusion Act of 1924.

For those of Japanese ancestry, it not only meant that the immigrant Japanese became eligible for citizenship, but also the legal sanction by which 500 state and local laws and ordinances became null and void. Included in this category were the infamous alien land laws. Approximately 30,000 of our parents have taken advantage of this legislation and have become proud citizens of the United States, the land of their adoption.

The Immigration and Nationality Act or the Walter-McCarran Act also repealed the exclusion laws which absolutely prohibited immigration from certain nations of Asia, with annual immigration quotas based on the 1924 national origins formula. For the Japanese this meant that the racist exclusion Act of 1924 no longer suggested that our parents were second class citizens.

Non-quota opportunities were provided for the alien spouses and minor alien children of American citizens for the first time since our country adopted restrictive immigration laws.

Humanitarian Act
For the Japanese, though only entitled to a token quota of 185 annually, this humanitarian provision meant that more than an average of 5,000 immigrant Japanese have been admitted every year for permanent stay. This has enabled approximately 50,000 Japanese immigrants to become permanent residents of this great country of ours in the past 10 years since the enactment of the Walter-McCarran Act.

In paying tribute to our Issei parents and pioneers, I cannot help thinking of the mistaken ideas we entertained about our Issei parents when we were impatient youngsters with so much adolescent wisdom. In our haste to become "Americanized" we were so intolerant with our Issei parents. Why did they have to be so backward, old fashioned, and so conservative? Why couldn't our parents speak better English? It seemed they shamed us before our non-Japanese friends every time they opened their mouths. Later, we learned that our friends' parents could not speak any better and spoke brokenly too, although with different accents.

As we grew older and matured, we discovered what a difficult language "English" is to those who are not born to it, and how thoroughly it is butchered daily by those native Americans who know no other tongue. Too many Nisei are guilty of this very thing. Considering the limited formal education that most were able to acquire, they did remarkably well with all the inconsistencies of the English language.

Issei Characteristics
Now let's examine and talk about some of the endearing qualities that our Issei parents possessed that our boyish eyes failed to see. First of these qualities is cour-

age. It took a lot of courage for our Issei parents to leave home in the first place. It took more courage to endure the hardships and fight the many prejudices that confronted every Asiatic immigrant a half century ago. This courage was exemplified again as thousands of our Issei parents endured the many hours of attending citizenship classes in the twilight of their life to gain this precious right and become citizens of this country of ours.

Perserverance

Closely linked to courage is Perseverance. The quality that your school teachers used to call "stick-to-itiveness." A quality which is somewhat foreign to many of our younger generation. The will to hang on enabled the Issei to build a nest egg and provide the kind of education and life that so many of the Nisei enjoy today.

Nor can we overlook the Industriousness of our pioneers. The Issei tackled whatever they undertook with such industry that success was almost a foregone conclusion. They did not know the meaning of failure.

This nation of ours was built by industrious people of all races. However, the Japanese pioneers of this area of Idaho identified as "Tad" made possible the fabulous contribution to a great American stable—the Idaho potato.

The Issei were not only successful themselves, but they seemed to have transmitted this quality to their Nisei offspring as they continued to carry on so well in keeping this state the great agriculture state that it is today.

The dignity of work and the pride of accomplishment which is fast becoming an unknown factor in our present generation seems to have been instilled and interwoven into the make-up of the Nisei.

Love of Children

In my humble opinion, the most endearing quality that the Issei possessed which we have inherited, is the Issei Love for their Children. The Issei did not express their affection in the usual way as they are by nature undemonstrative, but that love changed their entire outlook.

When they came to the United States, the majority originally hoped to accumulate a quick fortune and then return to Japan to launch a business or live in luxurious retirement. But fortunes were hard to come by and presently they were children—in most cases, many children. They found these children becoming more and more like those who could trace their ancestry to Plymouth Colony.

The Issei soon abandoned their dreams of triumphant return to their homeland. The rearing and educating of their families came first. And as the Nisei sunk their roots deeper and deeper into American soil, the Issei knew they, too, were here to stay even though they were legally aliens. Only since the passage of the Walter-McCarran Act in 1952, have the Issei been able to become naturalized citizens. I am happy to inform this group that a large percent of the Issei in this community are citizens today.

Most amazing is the fact that the Issei were able to provide their children with a happy, healthy life. Long before psychologists like myself came on the scene to put blame for delinquency on broken homes and parents, the Nisei were finding security, companionship, discipline, and guidance, as well as love and shelter in their families. It's a wonder that the Issei, pressed as they were economically, with both parents working just to make ends meet in a large percentage of households, were able

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GOLD STAR MOTHER, CITIZEN, NEVER VOTED

Mrs. T. Nagano, of Pingree, Idaho, holding a picture of her son Fred, who was killed during the Ligorian campaign in Italy as a member of the 42nd Regt. Combat Team in 1945, is naturalized citizen of the United States.

Photo Courtesy: Blackfoot News

to give their children an ideal home life. As we pay our respects to our naturalized Issei pioneers and express our gratitude for the rich and splendid contribution to the growth and welfare of the great State of Idaho, it is ironic that this is the only state in the union that still prohibits and discriminates against any naturalized citizen.

The right to vote, serve on juries and hold office are the most treasured of rights as well as a privilege and duty of all citizens whether native born or naturalized. The abridgement of the free exercise of the same by reason of race or national origin is a violation of the traditional concepts of American justice and repugnant to the guarantee of the 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

Only this past week the President issued a Presidential Proclamation 3489, declaring and designating the month of September, 1962, as national voter registration month. His proclamation urges all citizens and all civic and educational organizations as well as newspapers, magazines, television, radio, motion pictures, and all other news media to participate, publicize, and promote this voter registration drive, so that every citizen of this country can qualify to vote. Our 87 chapters throughout the United States have vigorously carried on this campaign for the past two years of every eligible voter being registered.

Voter Registration

Our Idaho chapters in Pocatello, Rexburg, Boise Valley, and Idaho Falls are among those with close to one hundred percent eligible voters registered, yet many of our members who are citizens will not be able to vote this coming November 6th because of Section II, of Article VI of the Constitution

of the State of Idaho which disqualifies certain persons from voting, serving as jurors or holding office and among those disqualified are our own naturalized Issei parents. The same Issei parents we are honoring this evening, who have worked so hard for the privilege of becoming a citizen; yet are denied the most cherished and treasured of rights—the right to vote.

As your national president of the Japanese American Citizens League, I appeal to the citizens and voters of the State of Idaho for equality for all its citizens naturalized or native-born without regard to race, color, creed, or national origin.

All this adds up to the fact that the Nisei are blessed with a wonderful heritage. Today, we Nisei in our new found maturity cannot give too much credit to our Issei parents. For their courage, perseverance, industry and their love for their children and the wonderful heritage they have given us, we give humble thanks to Almighty God for being so fortunate.

15th annual Cheer campaign to start

LOS ANGELES.—The annual Christmas Cheer drive starts Monday, now starting its 15th year to assist needy Japanese families and individuals celebrate Christmas.

The project, sponsored by the Los Angeles JACL Coordinating Council, will be handled by the Pasadena JACL this year with Eiko Matsui, president, as chairman with Tom Ito and the Regional Office assisting.

The goal remains the same: \$3,000. Last year, Cheer distributed \$3,377.50 in cash and \$1,280 worth of canned goods, staples and toys to 275 adults and 127 children.

Japanese History Project acknowledges \$6,100 more; total passes \$186,000 mark

SAN FRANCISCO.—Contributions and pledges for the JACL Japanese History Project continue to be acknowledged by National Headquarters as it issued its Fund Report No. 20 today.

Covering a two-week period, \$6,147.93 were received to boost the total to \$186,221.74.

Sequoia JACL's \$1,444 paced the chapters reporting within the past two weeks. Reedley submitted its initial report for \$705.

ALAMEDA
Previously Reported: \$1,375.50
\$5—R. Mizokuchi

CHICAGO
Previously Reported: \$2,821.66
\$100—Mr. & Mrs. Hisakichi Ishii & Marion Ishii, Mr. & Mrs. Masao Tanaka, Dr. & Mrs. Masao Harada, Mr. & Mrs. J. Takeda, Harry Yamamoto.
\$50—Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Maeda
\$25—Mr. & Mrs. Motoji Wakasa, Arthur K. Hayashi, Dr. & Mrs. Stanley A. Uru (in memory of Senichi Shikami)
\$20—Mrs. Yoshi Omura, Takeshi Nakamura
\$15—Mr. & Mrs. Clark H. Shintaku, Mr. & Mrs. Frank F. Arakawa, Matsuya Watanabe, Mr. & Mrs. David Yoshimura
\$10—Mr. & Mrs. Mikisaburo Izui, Miss Kay Fuli, Mrs. Mitsuki Toriuchi, Mr. & Mrs. C. Inouye, Howard Hatanaka, Mrs. Kozui N. Torii, Mr. & Mrs. Masato Ozaki
\$5—Mrs. Yukiyo Nakamura, Mrs. Toy

EAST LOS ANGELES
Previously Reported: \$1,535
\$20—Tomotaro Yangiawata
\$15—Yosh Kono
\$5—Rev. Howard Toriumi
Total This Report: \$40

LONG BEACH - HARBOR DISTRICT
Previously Reported: \$640
\$100—Mr. & Mrs. Harry T. Momita, Dr. & Mrs. Fred Y. Fujikawa, Dr. & Mrs. David Miura
\$25—Mr. & Mrs. George Mio, Mr. & Mrs. Koo Mo
\$25—Mr. & Mrs. Harry Manaka, Dr. & Mrs. Masao Takeshita, Naoki Iseri & George Iseri, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Tanishita, Dr. & Mrs. Kats Izumi
\$15—Mr. & Mrs. Sam Shinji, Mr. & Mrs. Hiroe
\$10—Mr. & Mrs. Dick Takeshita, Kazuo Yoshimoto, Richard T. Kumashiro, Mr. & Mrs. Benji Kakita, Miss Fumi Mayeda, Mr. & Mrs. H. Masui, Mr. & Mrs. Kazuo Kato, Jim Kato, Harry Hayashi
\$5—Toby Kuramoto
\$5—Mr. & Mrs. Tom R. Gilliam, Miss Louise T. Kikawa, Arthur Noda, Jim Aoki
Total This Report: \$671

MOUNTAIN VIEW
Previously Reported: \$1,630.50
\$125—Nishimoto Nursery
\$100—Mr. & Mrs. George Tsukagawa
\$50—Mr. & Mrs. Hayo Iwata, Kariya Nursery
\$25—S.E. Adachi Co., Allan Nara, Mas Fujii Nursery, Shoji Mayeda, Fred Y. Iwasaki, Sakae Bros., James S. Sakoi, Tom Watanabe, Kenji Yamane
\$20—Sawamura Bros.
\$10—Ogata Bros., Haruo Yamaji, Mr. & Mrs. Tad Horino
\$7.50—Mr. & Mrs. Makoto Kawaguchi
\$5—Ed Chikayue, Ichiro Chikayue, Mr. & Mrs. S. Dolguchi, Mr. & Mrs. Mas Hamada, Fred Hoshi, Mr. & Mrs. Aki Ichikawa, Mr. & Mrs. Jiro Sakano, Kiyoshi Ishikawa, Roy Matsuzaki, Ed Nakano, Teruko Nakashima, Naonichi Ogata, Mr. & Mrs. Jiro Sakano, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sako, Mr. & Mrs. George Shiraki, Mr. & Mrs. Minoru Tanaka, Mr. & Mrs. George Yamada
\$5—James Izumi, Koji Kato, Shiro Kunihiro, George Takaki
\$2—Tomio Miyahara, Minoru Takagi & Katsuhiko Aoki, S. Sueki
\$1—W.K. Ono
Total This Report: \$711.50

NEW YORK
Previously Reported: \$10,249
\$50—Nichimen Co. Inc., The Fuji Bank, Ltd., Mitsubishi Internat'l. Corp., (Continued on Page 4)

Chuman to emcee luau for Dan Inouye at Santa Ana
LOS ANGELES.—Southern California friends of Dan Inouye will have a testimonial luau this Sunday at Kono Hawaii in Santa Ana starting at 4 p.m. with attorney Frank Chuman as emcee.

The informal affair is being sponsored by the Bipartisan Committee for Dan Inouye for U.S. Senator. Ken Kono, proprietor of the popular restaurant, said Hawaiian entertainers in the Southland are being invited. Shirley Fujisaki, 1960 Miss Cherry Blossom, will also perform.

Luncheon rally chairmen
BUENA PARK.—George Inagaki and Henry Kanegae are luncheon rally for Republican gubernatorial candidate Richard Nixon at Knott's Berry Farm's Wagon Camp on Saturday, Oct. 13, 12:30 p.m., according to Mo Marumoto, coordinator of Nisei for Nixon.

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Northwest Picture

Pushing SJR 1 in the Panhandle

Seattle. With no phone verification, cannot say that the Yamamoto boys are responsible for all the things that are going on in Coter d'Alene County but the enthusiastic activity is encouraging. The Ministerial Association passed a motion to go ahead in support of SJR 1 and is undertaking the distribution of some 3,000 circulars. Similar support is promised by the Knights of Columbus. Last time we heard, the boys had the support of the Kiwanis, Jr. Chamber, and the Democratic and Republican committees. One of the three county commissioners had indicated his support at the time-like wise the Mayor and seven councilmen. The first Monday in October is set as the day when supporting echelons were to coordinate their efforts so no wonder Ed is already off and away this Sunday.

Our boy shows an equal facility for getting things done around his home town Moses Lake in matters concerning the introduction of Japanese Language course in the high schools, to be realized in the fall of 1963, as reported in the P.C. last week.

Adult evening classes in elementary Japanese have already commenced at the Big Bend Community College—7:50 to 9:35 each Monday and Wednesday, and the first class was held on September 24.

Last-minute appeal for financial support issued by Vote Yes on SJR 1 Committee

BY CHARLEY HIRAI
SJR 1 Committee Treasurer
Idaho Falls
Various methods have been pursued to raise \$15,000 in funds to campaign for Yes on SJR 1 and

Committee chairmen double up on duties for SJR 1

IDAHO FALLS.—Key committees, 21 in number, comprise the campaign staff for Vote Yes on SJR 1, according to general co-chairmen George Sugai of Payette and Joe Nishioka of Idaho Falls.

In several instances, some committee chairmen are doubling up on responsibilities, which began in earnest last January. Committee chairmen are as follows:

Beet Growers Assn.—Masa Tsukamoto, Blackfoot
Budget and Finance—Charley Hira, Idaho Falls
Cattleman's Assn.—Bill Yamauchi, Pocatello
Churches—Rev. George Uemura, Ontario, Ore.
Colleges and Universities—Huck Yamauchi, Sugar City
Endorsements—Ronnie Yokota, Pocatello
Farm Bureau—George Koyama, Nampa
Idaho Board of Education—Hiroshi Nishioka, Blackfoot
Idaho Real Estate—Kaz Hida, Idaho Falls
Idaho State Bar and Judges Assn.—Sugai, Payette
Labor Unions and Political Parties—Joe Nishioka, Idaho Falls
Mayor's League—Bill Yamauchi, Pocatello
Spud Processors—Bill Yoden, Blackfoot
Publicity and Public Relations—Ronnie Yokota, Pocatello
PTA and Teachers Assn.—Kiyoshi Sakota, Rexburg
State Council of Churches—Tommy Miyasaki, Sugar City, George Shiozawa, Pocatello, Yukus Inouye, American Fork, Utah
Veterans Groups—Henry Suvichira, Emmett, Sam Sakaguchi, Idaho Falls, James Shintani, Boise
Ways and Means—Abe Sato, Weiser
Women's Organizations—Seichi Hayashida, Nampa
Movie Project—Deto Harada, Firth

Hansen —

(Continued from Front Page)

service to the State of Idaho and to our country. Their efforts will help to make the language of the supreme law of the State of Idaho consistent with its high purpose and spirit.

To strike from our Constitution a provision which discriminates against a group of loyal and dedicated Americans is to reaffirm our faith in the principle of equality which is so deeply rooted in our Declaration of Independence and our federal Constitution.

By working to promote the passage of this amendment members of the JACL are also calling public attention to the basic values on which our nation has been built. At a time when these values are being challenged their efforts will help Americans to gain a deeper understanding of the true source of our national strength and of the responsibilities that come with the blessings of citizenship in a free land.

During my entire legislative service, covering six years, there is no piece of legislation with which I am more proud to be associated with than with my work on behalf of SJR 1. I will continue to do all within my own power to advance this work until our joint efforts are crowned with success, as I am certain they will be, in November.

State Rep. ORVAL HANSEN
Majority Leader
Idaho House of Representatives

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REXBURG JACLERS HELP PUSH SJR 1 CAMPAIGN IN EASTERN IDAHO

REXBURG, Idaho.—The urgency to secure an overwhelming Yes vote on SJR 1 has become the top priority of the Rexburg JACL as recent and upcoming events here will testify.

The entire membership has supported the special assessment for SJR 1 campaign funds 100 per cent. The chapter has met its apportioned share also.

The local membership gave full support to the recent Issei Pioneer Testimonial at Idaho Falls and the benefit movie at Shelley.

Four local members are serving on the statewide campaign committee to solicit endorsements. Contact has been made and replies are expected shortly.

JACLers who belong to service clubs have taken it upon themselves to inform their fellow members of SJR 1. In our efforts to familiarize the public with the just law, the favorable understanding gained has been most heart-warming.

Candidates Night for Chicagoans slated

CHICAGO.—Incumbent Senator Dirksen and his opponent Congressman Yates will appear at the Chicago JACL Candidates Night planned for Wednesday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m., in the McCormick "Y" Library, Oak and Dearborn Sts., according to chapter public relations chairman Henry Tanabe.

Congressional candidates from heavily Nisei-populated districts No. 2, 9 and 13 will also appear in addition to candidates for various state legislative offices. They are:

9th Dist.—Thomas Ward (R.) and Edward Finnegan (D); Rev. Alva Tompkins, Party; 13th Dist.—John A. Kennedy (D) and Donald Rumsfeld (R); 2nd Dist.—Philip Bessler (R) and Barron O'Hara (D).
Bob Fujiki, Chicago Shimpo editor, will speak to the Issei on the significance of the election to the local Japanese community. Voting machines will be demonstrated.

At the same time, chapter president Joe Sagami is reminding voters to be registered. Those assisting Tanabe for the election year program are:

9th Dist.—Otsanaka, Masa-ko Inouye, Joe Sagami, Abe Hagihara, Esther Hagihara, Ruby Nakagawa, Ruth Kumata, Lillian Kimura, Mark Yoshida, M. H. Inouye, Tony Murakami, Yoshinobu Oda, Kenji Nakane, Chicago Nisei Post 1183 Color Guard

No. San Diego JACL to honor pioneers

CARLSBAD.—Issei pioneers of North San Diego County will be honored during the installation of charter officers of the newly-formed North San Diego County JACL at the Chicken Inn here tomorrow.

Dr. James Kawahara, after being sworn into office by National Director Mas Satow, will present scrolls of appreciation to local Issei pioneers over the age of 69. Uichi Imoto of Vista will respond in behalf of the Issei.

Response to the invitations issued by the chapter has been unusually enthusiastic. Turnout may be the largest of Japanese American residents here in recent years.

Civic dignitaries, including State Senator Hugh Fisher, Assemblyman Sheridan Hegland, Oceanside Mayor Erwin Skelar and County Supervisor Bob Cozzins, have accepted the invitation to witness the installation.

According to Jim Higashi, regional director, the chapter has over 140 members signed.

Frank Chuman, immediate past national JACL president, will be the principal speaker.

Organized as a national organization more than 30 years ago (1930) in Seattle, Washington, it has been cited over the years by members of Congress and of the Government, including several Presidents of the United States, for its leadership in the field of patriotic endeavor, civil and human rights, and international relations.

Its objectives are generally summarized in its slogan: "For Better Americans in A Greater America".

The Japanese American Citizens League is actively involved in this campaign not only because the naturalized citizens of Japanese ancestry are discriminated against in the exercise of their citizenship obligations, but also because the integrity and the dignity of the citizenship of even native-born Americans are involved.

From the voluntary contributions of its membership and of others of goodwill, and with the voluntary efforts of its leadership, the Committee for Yes on SJR 1 was organized and now directs the campaign for equality for naturalized citizens.

Co-Chairmen for the Committee are Joe Nishioka, Route 5, Box 145, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and George Sugai, 1134 Center Ave., Payette, Idaho. Treasurer is Charles Hira, Route 5, Box 351, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Idaho Falls Aerie No. 576 District 9, American Legion, Bonneville County Republican Central Committee, Bonneville Post 56, American Legion Idaho Falls Jr. Chamber of Commerce

Among the citizen leaders who have endorsed SJR 1 are the following:

Governor Robert E. Smylie
U.S. Senator Frank Church
U.S. Senator Len B. Jordan
U.S. Representative Ralph Harding
State Representative Orval Hansen
State Senator R.H. Young
State Senator James McClure
William S. Johnston, Idaho Advisory Committee on Civil Rights
Jack Hawley, Candidate for U.S. Senator
Compton White, Candidate for U.S. Representative
Allan G. Shepard, Candidate for Attorney General
J. Ray Cox
Dr. John Clark, Ricks College president
Dr. Donald E. Walker, President, Idaho State College
Dr. Tom Shearer, College of Idaho

Idaho State Bar Association
Idaho Labor Council AFL-CIO
Fremont County Chronicle News
Emmett Post 4900, Veterans of Foreign Wars
District 4, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2738, Veterans of Foreign Wars Boise Chapter 2, Disabled American Veterans
Bonneville County Farm Bureau
Bingham County Farm Bureau
Seventh District, American Legion Auxiliary
Seventh District, American Legion

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Idaho SJR 1: Questions & Answers

(Continued from Front Page)

ada, Latin America, Europe, and other lands who though not born

8. How do other states treat these naturalized citizens?
As the Attorney General of Idaho emphasized in his official Statement of Purpose regarding SJR 1, Idaho is the only State in the Union that disqualifies naturalized citizens on the basis of race, ancestry, and national origin from voting, jury duty, and holding civil office.

9. Is there any opposition to this Constitutional Amendment?
Not that we know of. But, there may be some who misunderstand the meaning of this proposal and believe that SJR 1 will give "Chinese" and persons of Mongolian descent not born in the United States," in other words aliens, the right to vote, serve on juries, and hold civil office when other aliens may not do so. SJR 1, of course, does not apply to aliens and confers no rights to them.

10. How will SJR 1 be identified on the Nov. 6 ballot?
It will be identified as Senate Joint Resolution No. One (SJR 1) and it will be the first of the constitutional amendments on the special ballot for November 6, 1962.

11. How may we indicate approval of this Constitutional Amendment?
On the special, official ballot for constitutional amendments, mark a cross (X) in the square to the right of the word "YES" near the top of the ballot.

12. How may individual citizens and organizations help in this campaign?
Since the Japanese American Citizens League is a voluntary organization, its funds for the necessary educational campaign are very limited and most of it has come from its own membership. Therefore, understandably, financial assistance will be greatly appreciated.

13. Who and what individuals and organizations are in the leadership of the campaign for equality for all naturalized citizens?
The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is openly and actively in the leadership in this campaign to secure equality for all naturalized citizens. All members of the League are American Citizens, most—but not all—are also of the Japanese ancestry. Many of its members are veterans of military service in World War II. Most have naturalized parents who are denied the basic and major rights, privileges, and immunities of citizenship in the land of their adoption. The League has 89 chapters in 32 States. Idaho Chapters include those in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Rexburg, Boise Valley, and the western Snake River Valley area, though other associated members reside in other parts of the State.

Organized as a national organization more than 30 years ago (1930) in Seattle, Washington, it has been cited over the years by members of Congress and of the Government, including several Presidents of the United States, for its leadership in the field of patriotic endeavor, civil and human rights, and international relations.

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U.S. Senator Len B. Jordan
U.S. Representative Ralph Harding
State Representative Orval Hansen
State Senator R.H. Young
State Senator James McClure
William S. Johnston, Idaho Advisory Committee on Civil Rights
Jack Hawley, Candidate for U.S. Senator
Compton White, Candidate for U.S. Representative
Allan G. Shepard, Candidate for Attorney General
J. Ray Cox
Dr. John Clark, Ricks College president
Dr. Donald E. Walker, President, Idaho State College
Dr. Tom Shearer, College of Idaho

Idaho State Bar Association
Idaho Labor Council AFL-CIO
Fremont County Chronicle News
Emmett Post 4900, Veterans of Foreign Wars
District 4, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2738, Veterans of Foreign Wars Boise Chapter 2, Disabled American Veterans
Bonneville County Farm Bureau
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Seventh District, American Legion Auxiliary
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History Project —

(Continued from Page 3)

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\$25—Takeshi Kobayashi
\$20—Tokuhide Kodama
\$10—Chris K. Ishii, Tokusaburo Shiro, T. Arai
\$5—Mary K. Morita
Total This Report: \$330

PHILADELPHIA
Previously Reported: \$4,128
\$25—Mitsuo Furukawa
\$10—Mrs. Michio Inouye
Total This Report: \$35

REEDLEY
\$100—Ichizo Kitahara
\$25—Dr. James Kiyomiya, Kei Kitahara, Toru Ikeda
\$10—Y. & H. Tatum, Tom & Henry Sasaki, Denroki Sasaki, Magozo Ibari, Kango Togioka, Kyo Kawamoto, Tamura Kai, Tak Naito, George Kiyomoto
\$75—Haruechi Hanemoto
\$5—George Okamura, Shig Matsuoka, George Ikemura, Hank Iwanaga, Joe Nimori, Mits Kuniage, Sam Hara, Hiroshi Sakai, A. Tatum, Wallace Miluno, Ado Iwasaki, Mantsuchi Nakamura, Herbert Maruyama, Sakai Gro-cery, Mataichi Morikawa, Sonny Terashima, Kankichi Oishi, Mas Takasaki, Nob Oishi, R. Terashima, Hide Oishi, Sam Tsutsui, Charles Taguchi, Dr. Aki-aki Tajiri, Sempel Ito, A. Nishimoto, Shingoro Tsuda, Kiyuchi Yamada
\$10—Hiroshi Aoki, Mac Watari, Frank Kimura, Frank Fujioka, Mac Oda, Te-fashi Kaitani, Yumiko Ibari, Masachi Miyashine, Ben Nishimoto, Mas Uyeda, F. Ito, Ken Kuroda, George Wada, U. Charles Mura, Nobuhiko, K. Nobuhiko, Abe, Akira Nishimoto, Kuni Iwo, Kit Sugai, Kaz Kuniage, George Takasaki, Shiroi Oishi, Nob Kurokawa, Jim Ishimaru, Howard Nakamura, Y. Nakamura, Hideo Shiline, Shig Mori, Frank Yamauchi, John Morita, Bill Hirata, Minoru Sakamoto, K. Kowakami, George Hosaka, Henry Hosaka, K. Kawagoe, M. Masumoto, Charles Iwasaki, Nob Kurokawa, Fred Okino, Ben Nakagawa, Sam Nakagawa, Kiki Kawasaki, H. Kawasaki

SAN FRANCISCO
Previously Reported: \$2,844
\$20—Seiko Yokota, Chiyeko Yukawa
\$10—Denichi Akashi, Chiyeko Yukawa
\$5—Tom N. Yasueda, Franklin M. Tokioka, Mr. & Mrs. Yukio Hayashi
Total This Report: \$55

SEQUOIA
Previously Reported: \$500
\$400—Nobuo Higaki and Family
\$300—William H. & John T. Enomoto
\$150—Dr. George R. Baba
\$100—Harry Korematsu, Mr. & Mrs. Richard S. Kitase
\$25—Masaji Honda, A.K. Hirotsu, A.M. Hirotsu, T. Fujiwara, Dr. K. Arakawa
\$20—Mr. S. Inouye
\$15—Harry Kiyomasa
\$10—Hiroshi & Bill Yamamoto, Richard Arimoto, George Tanaka, Mrs. M. Tsukushi, Dr. M. Fukumura, Y. Tao, G. Yamada, Mr. & Mrs. W. Takaki, C. M. Fujioka, Sam Iki, Genshichi Okazawa, Mr. & Mrs. Noriaki Shigetani, I. Takuchi, Uchi Yonemoto
\$5—Fred Doli, S. Yanaga, Kanehiko Uyeda, Y. Yamamoto, S. Yanari, D. Tanaka, T. Dato, K. Kiyomasa, Mrs. Ken Izumi, T. Kato, Tad Masao, Mr. & Mrs. Kazunobu R. Higaki, Mr. & Mrs. James R. Iida, Mr. & Mrs. Taniguchi, Mas Sera, J. Imakire, Ito Abe, Mr. & Mrs. George Motofuji, Frank S. Saito, Mr. & Mrs. Hidema Mihara, M. Shido
\$3—Henry Yanaga, Fred Obuchi, Jack Sato
Total This Report: \$1,444

SOUTHWEST L.A.
Previously Reported: \$858
\$50—John T. Saito (Saito Realty Co.)
\$25—Dennis Deane
Total This Report: \$55

STOCKTON
Previously Reported: \$3,100
\$100—Mrs. Toki Ishimaru (in memory of Shokichi Ishimaru)
\$25—Mr. & Mrs. Kats Nagai
\$10—Tadao Oshima, Frank M. Inamasu
\$5—Jiroku Nishioka
Total This Report: \$150

VENICE — CULVER
Previously Reported: \$2,535
\$100—Matsuko Nursery
\$25—Kiyoshi Kagawa, Ben & Betty
Total This Report: \$255

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YOUTH SPEAKS: Law Should Have Never Existed

The Intermountain Youth District Council has been assisting in the campaign to repeal the Idaho law prohibiting naturalized Issei citizens from voting, holding civil office or serving as jurors in recent weeks. Since the Jr. JACLers were organized at a district level this past year, this effort to make known the problem of their grandparents can be regarded as their first real lesson in politics and help them realize it's the people that count the affairs of government.—Editor.

BY BEN KAWAKAMI
IDYC Chairman

American Fork, Utah
My grandfather is eighty years old and a naturalized American citizen. Though he suffers from partial deafness, a progressive optical cataract, and arthritis, which makes every movement painful, he still works as he has since I can remember. He casts a well considered ballot at every election. His integrity has never been questioned, and he is known and respected in the community in which we live.

Yet he can remember vividly a time when an American of Japanese ancestry was the "Yellow Peril"; a time when he was prohibited by law from owning property, from serving as a juror, from casting a ballot, from exercising the privileges which make American citizenship meaningful.

In the state of Idaho there still persists such a law. It rules that naturalized citizens of Mongolian descent may not vote, serve as jurors, nor hold public office. It is a legal statement predicated upon the assumption of racial distinction and inferiority.

SJR-1 is an amendment to the constitution of Idaho to nullify a law which never should have existed.

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denied social recognition, let alone the basic rights of citizenship. Our parents through personal privation have laboriously elevated their progeny to a level of education and acceptance that ridicules the assumption of inferiority. We are, however, racially distinct. The distinction itself is no longer fundamentally one of hair and eyes but one of heritage. We are distinct in the sense that we are heir to a tradition of industry and integrity which began with our Issei grandparents.

It is perhaps for this reason that SJR-1 is a needed reminder for the Japanese American Youth. It lends perspective by throwing into dramatic relief the acceptance we enjoy today against the almost insurmountable wall of bigotry which circumscribed the Issei. That wall was breached by the exercise of the industry and integrity which is our heritage. That is the lesson we may learn, and the debt that we owe our Issei grandparents.

That the Idaho SJR-1 so profoundly affects the naturalized Issei gives us not only an opportunity to eliminate the last remnants of the credo of racial inferiority, but a rare chance to repay in some measure, however small, the debt that we owe our preceding generations.

Cognizant of these facts the Intermountain District Youth Council pledges its wholehearted support of the passage of SJR-1.

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