



Bill Hosokawa

From the Frying Pan

Denver, Colo.

TWO NOVELS—If the class will come to attention, we shall discuss the two Nobel Prize-winning novels of Yasunari Kawabata. The first of these is "Snow Country," and the other, "Thousand Cranes," written in 1956 and 1959, respectively, by the distinguished Japanese author. Both were translated into English and published by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., but have been reissued in a single volume to celebrate the award of the 1968 Nobel Prize. The not inconsiderable job of translation was done by Edward G. Seidensticker, and it is only through his efforts that we are able to enjoy Kawabata's work.

"Snow Country" is the story of a young pleasure-seeker from Tokyo and the geisha he meets in an obscure hot springs resort on the snowy northwest coast of Japan. Both know their relationship must be transitory, but they are drawn together by a strange attraction.

"Thousand Cranes" focuses on a somewhat undistinguished young man and his relationships with his late father's two mistresses, and the daughter of one of them.

Neither story is a novel in the English language sense in that not much of anything really happens. These are not stories for rapid and breathless reading, with one skimming over the pages to see what takes place next. Rather, they are stories for leisurely and thoughtful perusal, for as in a Kabuki play, there are fine nuances that one must watch for, symbolism that one must be aware of to understand their significance on the narrative, gestures and meanings that must be recognized, seemingly inane dialogue that must be translated for the deep emotion that it conceals.

Reading these novels is something like viewing a Japanese movie which seems to drag on and on, causing American audiences to wish some skilled film editor would scissor out misty-eyed scenes where the heroine stares endlessly off into space.

This is not to say these films, or Kawabata's stories, are bad. In their originals surely they were masterpieces, affecting the Japanese — for whom they were produced — in a profound manner. But in the English translation the novels fail to convey the essence of the stories to one who is accustomed to reading American novels. This is not to condemn the translator, a skilled craftsman and a longtime student of Japan and the Japanese; it is altogether possible that the cultural gap defies meaningful (as contrasted to technically competent) translation.

Seidensticker is well aware of the difficulty of his assignment, and he tries to help the reader to understand the nature of Kawabata's writing in an introduction. In the climactic scene of "Snow Country," Seidensticker tells us, the young man, Shimamura, says affectionately to the geisha: "You're a good girl." A moment later he unconsciously repeats himself, but this time he says, "You're a good woman."

The use of the word "woman," rather than "girl," Seidensticker explains, tells the geisha that she has been used, and she knows Shimamura must leave her. Seidensticker goes on: "It would be hard to think of another novel in which so slight a shift in tone reveals so much." In view of such subtle writing, perhaps it is impertinent for a reviewer to ask what a geisha expected of a casual patron if not to be used.

The final paragraph of Seidensticker's introduction points up the difficulty of judging this Japanese novel by American standards: "Snow Country" is perhaps Kawabata's masterpiece. He has found in Shimamura's love affair the perfect symbol for a denial of love, and he has the woman Komako and in the shadowy beauty of the snow country fit subjects for the haiku-like flashes that bring the denial forth. And in the final analysis, the very success of the novel becomes a sort of affirmation of the humanity that is being denied."

That the Nobel Prize judges could understand, or perhaps sense, Kawabata's intention and appreciate the effect he had on his Japanese readers is a tribute to their perspicacity.

S.F. BLACKS TELL TIME ERRED IN VIEWS ON NISEI

Magazine Faulted for Not Correcting Jan. 31 Statement

SAN FRANCISCO — In spite of a number of impressive letters to the editors of Time Magazine objecting to the irresponsible statement in their Jan. 31 edition asserting "the Japanese American community is the natural enemy of the Blacks," the editors of Time have ignored all letters seeking to correct this false editorial comment.

A strong editorial by Dr. Carlton Goodlett, editor of the San Francisco Sun Reporter (PC Feb. 28) charged, "This is the figment-of-imagination conclusion of an unidentified Time correspondent who has not properly researched San Francisco."

A campaign to get responsible leaders from San Francisco to respond to the Time's erroneous charge was led by Edison Uno of San Francisco. Public officials and Negro leaders were quick to respond by writing to Time Magazine earlier this month.

Nihonmachi Assemblyman Willie Brown, Jr., San Francisco Supervisor Terry Francois, and NAACP Regional Director Leonard Carter—all leading citizens of the black community — denied any validity in the Time statement.

No Evidence

William Becker, Director of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission wrote Time:

"In your January 31 article on 'The Black and the Jew' you charged that in San Francisco it is the Japanese American who are 'singled out as a visible symbol of oppression' by the black community. The Human Rights Commission has no evidence that this is the case. Since this piece contained so much solid material, this careless reference to intergroup relations in the City is doubly unfortunate."

Mayor Joseph Alioto expressed his complete concurrence of the Commission's rebuttal to Time's unfortunate slander. The mayor said the Commission's letter will speak for all San Francisco and will undo the damage done in the article. The official voice of San Francisco fell on the deaf ears of Time Magazine, Uno commented.

Carter wrote Time: "Statements of this nature can hardly be construed designed to bring about closer relationships. Time Magazine knows better than to use this kind of racial incitement and we expect more of you than that." News clipping on this subject from the two San Francisco Japanese newspapers, Hokubei Mainichi and Nichi Bei Times, were also sent to Time to give evidence that their information was inaccurate.

"We are very grateful to those who wrote to Time. Although they did not publish any of the letters, it is quite understandable for Time not to admit such a gross irresponsible mistake. Our communities must work diligently to combat the myths designed to create misunderstanding, hostility, suspicion, and fear," Uno said optimistically.

Gas disperses floral union workers

GREELEY, Colo.—Dist. Judge Hugh H. Arnold has issued a contempt citation against the National Florist Workers Organization (NFWO) and its president as a result of the strike picketing incident Feb. 15 at the Kitayama Brothers flower farm near Brighton.

Judge Arnold ordered the NFWO and president Mrs. Guadalupe (Lupe) Briseno to appear before him March 7 at 1:30 p.m. to show cause why they shouldn't be held in contempt of court.

If the judge rules that contempt was committed in violation of an injunction he issued against Mrs. Briseno and the organization in early February, Mrs. Briseno could be subject to a fine and jail sentence.

Judges Injunction

The judge's injunction restrained the defendants from interfering with anyone coming or going from the Kitayama property, from destruction of property (such as motor vehicles) of persons coming or going from the greenhouse complex, and from being within the main gate to the Kitayama operations.

Lysle R. Dirrim, Brighton, attorney for Ray Kitayama, operator of the farm, filed the motion for a contempt citation.

Japan Week plans set for Sept. 5-20

SAN FRANCISCO — Japanese and American interests both public and private, will stage "Japan Week in San Francisco" under co-sponsorship of the Greater San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and the Japanese consulate general from Sept. 5 to 20, it was announced last week.

Both the U.S. and Japanese governments are cooperating in the major undertaking, according to Walter Hoadley, general chairman who is executive vice president of the Bank of America.

Cultural, social, trade and sporting events are scheduled to dramatize San Francisco's unique role as America's gateway to the Orient, Hoadley added.

Watts Walloper costly to produce

LOS ANGELES — A project which received early JACL support last year was the Green Power Foundation, organized by Norman Hodges and other black businessmen over a year ago, which hoped to have 1,100 employees from low-income areas by 1970.

Jack Jones, L.A. Times reporter who is main speaker at the Progressive Westside JACL installation Mar. 8, in a feature story on "black capitalism" Feb. 23, reported the company organized to produce the Watts Walloper baseball bat has turned to furniture, sandboxes and picnic tables because irradiating the California golden oak to make the bats was too costly.

The firm operates a small trucking firm, a gas station and is coming out with a batting machine for baseball players.

tion, saying the NFWO and Mrs. Briseno put a chain across the Kitayama gate early Saturday, Feb. 15. He also charged that an automobile entering the gate (after the chain was cut) was damaged by pickets.

Some 40 members of the NFWO and their sympathizers had gathered at the main gate of the Kitayama greenhouses complex two miles north of Denver in Weld County Saturday at about 6:30 a.m. Thick fog added an eerie note to the scene, as five women members of a group which has been picketing the flower plant since last July 1 fastened loops of a heavy log chain around their waists.

Enter by Back Road
Other members of the group padlocked ends of the chain to gate posts 25 feet apart—an act contrary to a court injunction. The purpose was to prevent company workers from entering the property, but the workers entered at about 7 a.m. by a back road. Deputies arrived a half-hour later. A Weld County sheriff's department car stopped on the road beside the Kitayama yard. Moments later, three uniformed deputies wearing gas masks marched abreast out of the fog toward the gate.

Waving the picket group aside, they passed single file under the chain and conferred with the production manager for Kitayama. After a few minutes, a Kitayama employee appeared with acetylene torch equipment. With Deputy Sheriff J. A. Olson and Manuel Alvarez standing near by the employee, Tim Matsuno, cut the chain at each post. The chain dropped to the ground and the women—Mrs. Mary Padilla; Mrs. Martha Del Real; Mrs. Lupe Briseno, NFWO president; Mrs. Rachel Sandoval, and Mrs. Mary Salas—remained in the gateway, the chain loops still around them.

'Pepper Fog' Gas
Without a word, Sgt. D. B. Rutz of the sheriff's department, flanked by the other officers, advanced on the women, carrying a device with a nozzle labeled "pepper fog." When a few feet away, Rutz turned on the machine and threw a snow-white layer of gas over the women who crouched to the ground, coughing and weeping.

Someone shouted, "move back!" and the line of women, half crawling, half walking, dragged the chain with them out onto the roadway, assisted by males in the group. As they began to move, Rutz shut off his machine and the three officers moved back behind the gate into the Kitayama yard.

Chains Cut
Wires holding the chains around the five women were cut as they held handkerchiefs to their streaming eyes. Mrs. Sandoval said she is about six months pregnant. The women and their supporters regrouped around the gate to chant slogans and hurl epithets at the officers and Ray Kitayama, the plant owner.

At that point, a horse and rider with cowboy hat, holstered pistol and lasso rope

Quits SDS to push TWLF in Hawaii

HONOLULU — Carol Amioka has resigned as president of the Students for a Democratic Society here "to spend more time organizing a Third World Liberation Front" at the Univ. of Hawaii, where she is a junior classwoman. As an Oriental minority person, she felt focus on the TWLF was more her "bag" than SDS, which she felt was a radical organization essentially white in make-up. SDS here at one time consisted about 50 members but it is dwindling, she added.

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Student unrest in Japan blamed on pampering folks

By JIM HENRY
TOKYO—The escalating violence of student radicals here is said to be one of the products of postwar education, which has placed over-emphasis on how to pass entrance examinations to prestigious schools.

SAKURA SCRIPT

sound judgment. Like a race-horse wearing a blinder, these youngsters are running toward their goal without seeing much of the world. Once they enter universities, some of them are thrilled to read about the new world, including that of Marx and Mao Tse-tung, and want to start a revolution.

Many parents are becoming too lenient toward their children following the philosophy of "spoiled children."

Spock argues that children should be treated with kindness and taught to love rather than fear parents. Punishment must be spared.

The similar lenient method of child care practiced by Japanese mothers seems to partly explain why radical students act like nothing more than spoiled children.

Kitayama -

At one time last summer, representatives from the Crusade for Justice, the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, Core City Ministries and other organizations mingled at the gate and had presidential hopeful Sen. Eugene McCarthy present to inspect the picket-line.

BLOOD ON THE MOON

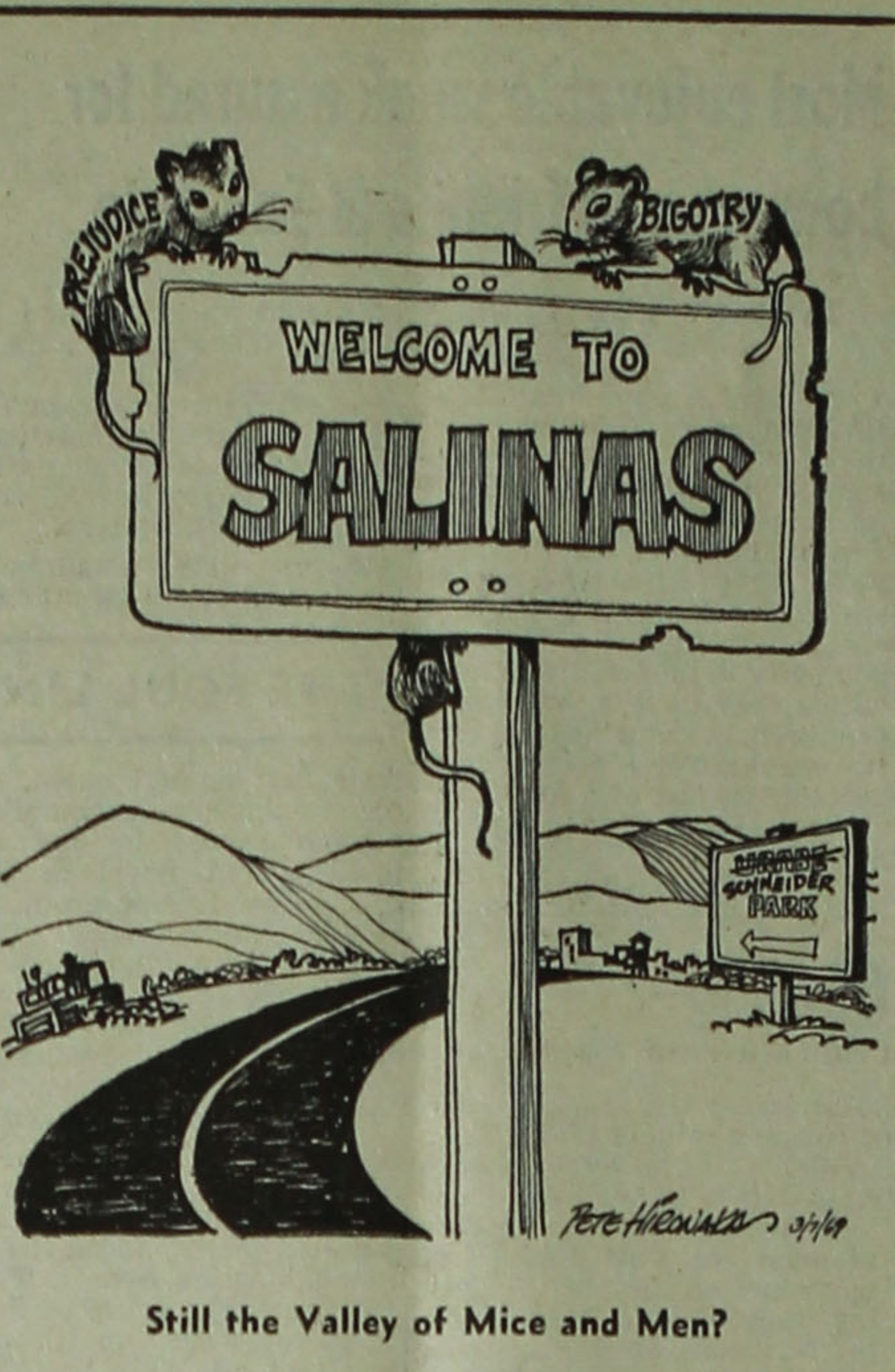
NOW THERE'S SOME sharp reader who muttered to himself that fixing the date for Easter would vary depending on the latitude and longitude from which the astronomical reading was taken.

20TH CENTURY ADORNMENT

WHAT WILL BE ADORNED on Easter Sunday will be all those gals appearing in their brightest best, and it'll inevitably boost their spirits . . . barring a tragedy of two ladies showing up with the same outfit.

THE EASTERN FLOWERS, symbolic of the risen Christ, beautiful and ethetically pleasing as they are, nevertheless are but fleeting; they will be gone tomorrow.

THE EASTERN FLOWERS, symbolic of the risen Christ, beautiful and ethetically pleasing as they are, nevertheless are but fleeting; they will be gone tomorrow.



Still the Valley of Mice and Men?

Letters from Our Readers

Ethnic Concern's scope

I commend the work started by the Ethnic Concern Committee. I believe it was long overdue. As a concerned J.A. observer of the committee, however, I would like to have the group reconsider its statement regarding work with other minorities.

The essence of what it stands for is fine - to promote goodwill, harmony and understanding among other minorities. Yet by limiting its scope just to minorities, the committee also limits the contributions minorities can make in solving the race problem.

I think the JA's have a great advantage in gaining a "foothold" (maybe we have, to some extent) into the white Anglo-Saxon Protestant community and then pave the way for other minority groups to follow and by excluding other races in the program, we also limit our effectiveness.

I would like the committee to consider expanding its scope of "only minority races" to "other races." The greatest emphasis at this point is at "only minority races."

MRS. MARTHA SUZUKI Los Angeles

(Scope of JACL Ethnic Concern Committee is with the deterioration of relations between the Japanese and "other minority races," specifically, the improvement of race relations with the majority community is the general concern of the entire JACL organization, especially through its public relations and civil rights committees.—Editor.)

Public Relations

As a Japanese-American employed in the Washington State Department of Public Instruction in Olympia, I was public relations article (PC Feb. 7) regarding the general lack of information on the role of Japanese in America.

JACL is in a strategic position to furnish brochure, information about available speakers, documents, bibliographies, and other source materials all of which if approved by your organization would provide an official resource of invaluable aid to schools.

NANCY R. MATOMATSU Associate Supervisor of Learning Resources Services Sup't. of Public Instruction Olympia, Wash. 98501

Chicago JACler

As editor of the "Chicago JACler," I find it necessary to correct erroneous statements made in past issues of the Pacific Citizen regarding the Chicago Chapter.

The Editorial Board consists of five members. Of these five, I am the only member working directly with the "JACler." The Editorial Board was established to serve as an advisory unit to me, the editor. It is not a censoring unit but is a unit which advises on editorial content in regards to the policies of the Chicago Chapter. Thus, editorials are not the opinion of a staff member as you implied

Jr. JACler quits post to highlight lack of concern

(It was "big news" for San Jose Jr. JACL when its vice-president Art Kameda resigned from office for the reasons stated below as published in its recent Junior San Josean. In all the years of editing the Pacific Citizen, this is the first time such a method was selected for showing out of office.—Editor.)

By ART KAMEDA

San Jose I am resigning as vice-president of Jr. JACL. My decision to do so has come after many days of thinking. It is by no means a rash one. My primary reason for resigning is that for my purposes the Jr. JACL isn't doing enough in the fields of human relations and civil rights.

YOUTH SPEAKS

signing is that for my purposes the Jr. JACL isn't doing enough in the fields of human relations and civil rights. This is by no means an attack on the club. I will remain as a member and will be eager to help out when it comes to civil rights and human relations.

Having gone to a predominantly Black high school (Ravenswood) and coming from a predominantly Black community (East Palo Alto), I have seen and been able to feel the problems of my Black brothers. I am sure that there is much more to their problems than most people realize.

First-Hand Experience

I am fortunate that my environment has been like a personal tutor. It has educated me as to what barriers my Black brothers face. It has shown me prejudice at work, it has shown me block-busting at work, it has shown me a deep misunderstanding of my Black brothers.

Unfortunately, it is so very hard to understand the problems of my Black brothers. I doubt very much that I would understand their problems, had it not been for my environment. Since I do understand the problems, I feel it is my responsibility to help toward solving the problems and to help people to understand the problems. For me not to do so would be like seeing a murderer about to kill and not doing a thing about it.

Like the murderer about to kill a person, apathy is about to kill our nation. Continued apathy will breed an all-out revolution; the revolution will kill our nation. Any person seeing a murderer about to go to work has a responsibility to try to stop the killing. I have seen apathy toward the Black problems.

Doing My 'Thing'

I realize that there are other important things that need doing and that the JACL is doing some of these. I respect the people who go all-out for JACL—they are "doing their thing." "Doing my thing" is working in the areas of human relations and civil rights.

Thus, I leave the vice-presidency for someone who is more interested in the overall aspect of JACL. I would rather spend my time concentrating my efforts toward human-relations and civil rights.

Someone may say that I am channeling my efforts too much in one direction. My answer is I feel that my environment has placed me in such a predicament, also feel that I understand the problems better than the vast majority of non-Black people. Not enough people understand their problems. Those of us who do, must work toward solving them. Also, I could never do too much help my Black brothers. I could spend every second for the rest of my life and even that wouldn't be enough.

Junior San Josean Editor's Note: It is with deep regret that San Jose Jr. JACL learns of the resignation of our vice-president, Art Kameda. Art's views and opinions on civil rights and human relations are those that can be shared with other San Jose Jr. JACLers.

Hayakawa -

Continued from Front Page but to the future of our country as America is a very mixed and varied society.

"All of us as Americans have experiences that other peoples of the world mostly do not have. You stand in Union Square in San Francisco and ex-Bulgarians, ex-Russians, ex-Japanese, ex-Chinese, ex-Filipinos and others will pass by.

Dr. Hayakawa then told about a report from Israel where Jews from many countries of Europe, Africa and Asia had returned to establish a Jewish nation. At first these Jews from many lands were always fighting, but it was the American Jews who were always able to get the Jews from many nations to work together.

"We have this talent and we Japanese Americans are quite in the middle of it, not only culturally but in terms of race. So I think we all have a great, great opportunity. I also think we have a great obligation."

Accent on Youth Alan Kumamoto



What a Mind Blower

Wow! that last weekend was a long one. Actually as I wrote that last column we weren't sure what to expect of the Pacific Southwest District Youth Council snow trip. It must first be admitted that youth, discussion leaders and the few adults present all got something from the experience.

It was a rap session and it was also a sensitivity session and never before were things handled in such a way in Junior JACL. In retrospect it really didn't get to become a polished sensitivity session with us going too deeply into areas because of the time limitation. Someone commented that we should have scheduled a marathon where we could continue into the wee hours.

As for snow, there weren't inches, there were feet, as a blizzard pushed through the Big Bear Lake area. In fact, 37 tired and weary stranded youth did not return until Monday evening along with district youth commissioner James "Butch" Kasahara and Selanoco chapter adviser Victor Azawa. Seems as though the snow had taken its toll on the unfortunate students had to stay in the snugly warmth of the lodge and regret missing a day away from studies.

We had visitors from Northern California (Winston Ashizawa and Ben Matsuura) including an Easterner (Norman Ishimoto) and three Juniors from General California (Marion Okamura, Tim Kurumaji and Gail Taniwa).

Our three California based DYCs are scheduling their tri-district Summer Convention planning meetings during DYC sessions. The first was held in General Calif., this last one in Southern Calif. and in May the site moves into the Northern Calif. area. A lot of brain power is going into that Summer Happening.

We would be remiss if we didn't mention the changing of the guard. What we mean is that Patti Iwataki is now the PSWDYC chairman, excuse me, chairwoman. Don Asakawa is drifting into the role of plain member with his soul on the board. Besides he still has responsibilities with the Tri-district convention. Must extend the thank yous to the Asian American Political Alliance gang that helped as leaders and the other concerned individuals who all helped make a beautiful thing come true. Please now read Patti Dohzen's Sansei Slant for more.

TIE & GARTER: Dr. Frank Sakamoto

Chicago Congratulations to the Gardena Chapter for recognizing those Knights who pledged years of faithful financial endeavors. They are Joe H. Kobata and Hideo Ao for 20 years membership and Dr. John Koyama, George Kobata and Kenji Osaka for Life membership. They certainly deserve that great recognition that a special 1000 Club pin is a must (as Helen states).

We talk about instilling pride in our organization, so here is a good project. Although at the National Convention \$2,500 was appropriated for 1000 Club pins, I think that we do not have enough money to complete this project. But be assured, we are working on a 1000 Club pin.

Thanks to Toshi Hiraide, president of the Gardena Chapter, George Aoyagi, past 1000 Club Chairman, and Ron Shiozaki, past PSW District Governor, for they certainly came through with flying colors in reaching our goal of 2,000. Just to tell you what kind of men they are, their comforting words to me were: if we still do not reach the goal of 2,000, you may sign up our mothers . . . Thanks again fellows for still carrying out a very enthusiastic drive.

The Chicago Chapter feels that they too will not be left behind and for 1969 a new program will be instituted with their 1000 club chairman Tak Ochiai.

Tak was also appointed by the Chapter and Convention Board chairman Hiro Mayeda to head the 1970 Whing Ding. Chicago also goes on record as appointing Gil Furudori 1000 Club chairman for the YJAs (young adults). Gil has come up through the Jrs. and is a very influential member of the Chicago chapter. He states that the YJAs will come through with their financial obligations. The Chicago chapter is now looking into the possibility of renting a luxury liner for the National Whing Ding and to assure all 1000 Clubbers attending the convention will go home with fond memories.

25 Years Ago

In the Pacific Citizen, March 4, 1944 100th Infantry captures Italian town of San Michele to spearhead Allied attack on Cassino . . . Dies Committee member seeks removal of 126 Nisei GIs from Camp Grant (Ill.) hospital detachment . . . Japanese Canadians reported in action on Italian front . . . Rep. Eberhardt (Pa.) files minority report dissenting with Dies Committee demand for ouster of WRA Director Dillon Meyer . . . Tule Lake Co-op license upheld by State Atty. Gen. Robert Kenny . . . Fifty-thousand evacuees may not return to California, S.F. Chronicle writer believes after survey with west coast leaders . . . Kent (Wash.) community split on question of return of evacuees Provo (Utah) Civic Welfare Committee favors fair play for Nisei; city commission defers action on AFL demand to bar evacuees from operating business. Interior Sec. Tokes reveals only 7 out of 409 Nisei in WRA camps fail to report for induction since Jan. 21 . . . Canadian Gallup Poll notes majority opinion opposed to deportation of its Nisei after the war . . . Washington state VFW urges postwar repatriation of all Japanese Oregon Grange in Hood River wants state to buy up evacuee properties. Nisei U.S.A.: Fascism Has Many Faces. Editorials: "Action by Congress" (on rejection of Leroy Johnson bill in House on denaturalization); "The Sleepy Lagoon" (on contribution of Manzanar High School students to defense fund for 17 Mexican Americans convicted of murder in 1942 on circumstantial evidence); "Fact vs. Fiction" (on Utah business license squabble); "A Promise Kept" (on Sgt. Kuroki appearing with Ginny Simms on NBC radio show).

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