

UNFULFILLED U.S. OBLIGATION

Shigeki J. Sugiyama, National JAACL President
Alfred Hatate, PC Board Chairman
Harry K. Honda, Editor

Second-class postage paid at Los Angeles, Calif. Subscription Rates (payable in advance): U.S. \$7 a year, \$13.50 for two years. Foreign \$10 a year. \$3.75 of JAACL Membership Dues for one-year subscription. Note: Subscribers wishing first-class delivery, either air or surface, should inquire about rates domestic or international.

Friday, Aug. 22, 1975
Harry K. Honda
Ye Editor's Desk
LITTLE TOKYO—MY HOMETOWN

In so many things, Los Angeles is unique. Unlike cities back East peopled by streams of emigres pouring in from boat or boat-&-train with their children and grandchildren throwing away their ancestral cultures in the rush to become unhyphenated Americans, the bulk of people who have come here come from the other side of the desert—very few via the sea.

Yet, Ellay has been an exceptionally rich mixture of human types who have clung to their traditions. The Nisei Week Festival, winding down this weekend, is but one sampling sustained by the largest population of Japanese on the U.S. mainland—105,000 by the 1970 Census. Its black population astonished the world in 1965 when Wa'ts erupted. The Mexican element lives a generally separate life; the Anglo culture is typically Midwestern and lacking in those European groups which are so visible East with the exception of the Jewish population. In recent years, the American Indians have come along with new immigrants from Korea, Philippines and China—building up their respective colonies.

What se's the Japanese apart to the growth of L.A. occurred during World War II when the harsh, humiliating experience of Evacuation uprooted entire communities of Japanese from the West Coast to inland concentration camps American style. In the 30 years since the camps were closed, all the signs indicate recovery though pockets of need are still unfilled.

According to history curator Bill Mason at the L.A. County Museum, the first Japanese to arrive in Los Angeles came in 1869 to work as houseboys in San Marino but they had left by the 1880 Census when there were no Japanese counted in Los Angeles.

The Little Tokyo community began in 1882, most of them being farm hands. Five years later a Japanese restaurant was opened by Charles Kame, also known as Hamaonuke Shigeta, at 340 E. 1st St., who sold out two years later. The Japanese colony had grown to about 3,000 by 1905—the nucleus split between where the Union Depot s'ands today and where the high-rise downtown office buildings stand on W. 6th St.

After the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906 came the first mass movement of Japanese to Los Angeles as the colony boomed to 8,500 in the 1910 Census and First and San Pedro became a genuine Nihonmachi—Japanese town—where restaurants, shops and other businesses beckoned tourists and residents alike. During the next decade, young Issei began sending for picture brides, those in Little Tokyo establishing homes behind their shops or in houses eastward to the river.

Of the 20,000 Japanese in the county by 1920—about half were city dwellers. By 1930, there were 36,000 Japanese in the county after the U.S. stopped further immigration from Japan in 1924. Japanese population stabilized in the county as the 1940 Census shows 37,000 and the count was about the same in 1950. The population, however, doubled in the 1950s with 77,000 counted by 1960—many of them returning or non-native Angelenos coming from temporary havens in the Midwest and East where they had spent their war years.

Where as the life of Little Tokyo before Evacuation made it the center of Japanese American population because of the business and residential characteristics, since their return it is almost solely as a center of daytime life only as old residential restrictions were lifted, permitting the community to be diffused throughout the city as a whole. There are several reasons for this: the Nisei war record of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and military intelligence in the Pacific theater during World War II, growth in tolerance, removal of restrictive covenants and improvement in U.S.-Japan relations.

With the Sanei generation coming of age, many are following their Nisei parents in jobs demanding technical skill and higher education, branching out into law, engineering and a variety of white collar positions. Marriages between Caucasians and Japanese have also become more common than they used to be. Juvenile delinquency—going in for standard American features like pills, knives, gangs, etc.—is corresponding with the Caucasian ratio in the middle-class families; yet great interest persists in trying to understand their Japanese heritage and establishing an Asian American community with others whose ancestors came as immigrants from East Asia.

On the eve when Little Tokyo arises anew with its senior citizens housing project, a cultural community center, two new churches, a high-rise hotel and a commercial complex, the Japanese community might assess its pursuit of the American dream is about complete. It has seen the election of Nisei to city councils and the state legislature. Someday, there may be a Japanese American mayor in L.A. as there have been in the Fountain Valley, Gardena, Carson and nearby in Oxnard.

If this story troubles you for being too enthusiastic, let us confess that as a native son of a half century who has seen the dynamic changes that have energized the community and continue to move our hometown ahead, you cannot help but be a booster.

EXECOM— the JAACL personnel manual considers evaluation of employees and other records as privileged information. Continued from Front Page

Headquarters needed a \$250 petty cash fund, that should also be budgeted. Future JAACL budgets are expected to itemize individual personnel salaries, the EXECOM recommended following discussion on personnel policy. Practices in the public and nonprofit sectors—government, schools, churches—were also noted. Grace Ueyehara, who works in the public school system, said she was not bothered about information of her salary being publicized as public taxes are involved and the public should know. Murakami noted

San Francisco er affects of the atomic holocaust reveal that people are dying every year from illnesses and diseases affected by the nuclear radiation in their bodies. On the whole, their health is poor. Researchers stress that the higher the radiation dosage received, the greater danger of cancer. They tire easily and have high incidence of anemia, greater susceptibility to illness, not only cancer but other diseases than the norm. Despite the pain and suffering of the years since 1945, these people remain immensely patriotic and unemittered. They believe in the goodness of the democratic system and remain optimistic that the government will recognize their needs and provide medical benefits. Mrs. Suyeishi's devotion to the cause of helping the A-Bomb survivors is an inspiration to all.

In the 4,700 exhibits are samples of keloid scar tissue that formed on human bodies exposed to the bomb, melted rocks, roof tiles and window glass from the intense heat of the bomb, and charred clothing worn by victims. Women and children suffered and died who were not involved in the war at all. The city was decimated. It's an experience that makes one want to be a pacifist. Many visitors indicate this type of feeling in the comments of the museum guest books. The horror of it is vivid in my mind and it's been almost ten years since I was there.

Hibakusha in U.S.
In the United States today there is a Committee of Atomic Bomb Survivors. This group has given special significance to my remembering. Kanji Kuramoto and Kaz Suyeishi are local Japanese American leaders on that committee. I have talked to them and found them very sensitive, concerned individuals who are willing to step forth in a situation which is not pleasant, to try to help others. I have the deepest respect for them. On the anniversary of the bombing they received nationwide coverage in a news conference on network television. In advocating for legislation they have received abuse in the form of racist phone calls:
"You Jap go home..."
"Remember Pearl Harbor..."
"You, born here or not, Japs are always Japs..."
"You deserve to suffer because you were our enemy..."
The abuse seems particularly vicious considering the humanitarian nature of their advocacy. They indicate that there are about 800 survivors of the bomb in the U.S. These are mainly U.S. citizens who for one reason or another were in Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the bombing. Many of these victims are women. Many are weak. They are not well organized. Individually they are ill-equipped to advocate on their own behalf. The stark reality of the aftermath of the bombing is still felt.

Medical treatment
These survivors must have an annual health examination and special care by medical doctors familiar with the problems of radiation poisoning. Survivors in Japan are provided with free medical care. In 1955, the Atomic Bomb Survivors Medical Treatment Law passed the Japanese Diet. The Japanese government provides a health examination, medical supervision and free medical care and financial aid to those in need. The U.S. government has poured millions of dollars to rebuild the Japanese economy. However, not one cent has gone to treating the survivors. The Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission has received \$80 million from the U.S. government. This commission was recently renamed Radiation Effects Research Foundation and placed under joint U.S.-Japanese sponsorship. Nearly 1,000 scientific reports have come out since its establishment in 1947. Research has been done on survivors to gather data on the effects of nuclear radiation so that such information will be available in case the U.S. ever has an atomic bomb dropped here. Yet the U.S. government has not provided assistance to solve the human needs of deserving people. Welfare and public health programs in the U.S. do not meet the particular needs of the A-Bomb survivors. These doctors have no experience with the unusual problems of radiation exposure. The tragic need for American citizens who were in Japan by chance and, therefore, suffer grave consequence is not being met. Not doing anything to help these people now is a great injustice. Whether or not it was right to drop the bomb is always a question. Extending humanitarian aid to American citizens who suffered because of it seems to me a clear obligation.

QUESTION BOX
Nisei Relays
Q—Who were the teams winning the overall PSWDC Nisei Relays championship? We want to inscribe them on a trophy.—S.O., Gardena.
A—Overall team champions since 1965 when this category was established are as follows:
'65—Venice-Culver '71—Orange City
'66—Orange City '72—Orange City
'67—Orange City '73—Gardena V
'68—Orange City '74—Gardena V
'69—Gardena V '75—Gardena V
'70—Gardena V
Looks like the PSWDC will have to come through with another perpetual trophy now that Gardena Valley JAACL has retired the last one from Merit Savings.

Pause for a Chuckle
Have you heard of the movie theater that played "Earthquake" and "Towering Inferno" together, and billed the double-feature as "Shake and Bake"?

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8:00 - 11:30 p.m.—Welcome Mixer, Sky Room - Grand Hotel

• Sat., Sept. 13
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.—Registration
9:00 - 9:15 a.m.—Greetings
9:15 - 11:15 a.m.—1st Workshop
11:30 - 1:30 p.m.—Lunch, Representative speakers from UAW & Japanese Corporations on "U.S.-Japan Trade Relations"
1:45 - 3:45 p.m.—2nd Workshop
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.—3rd Workshop
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.—Dinner, John Dean III, splr. "Reparations" convention and make a vacation a joint venture
9:00 - 1:00 a.m.—Dance

Because September is just around the corner, plan now to attend the Southern California attractions the Knott's Berry Farm, Wax Museum & Marland are but a few minutes away. Bring your family, but plan now!

• Sun., Sept. 14
9:00 - 12 Noon—Open Discussion

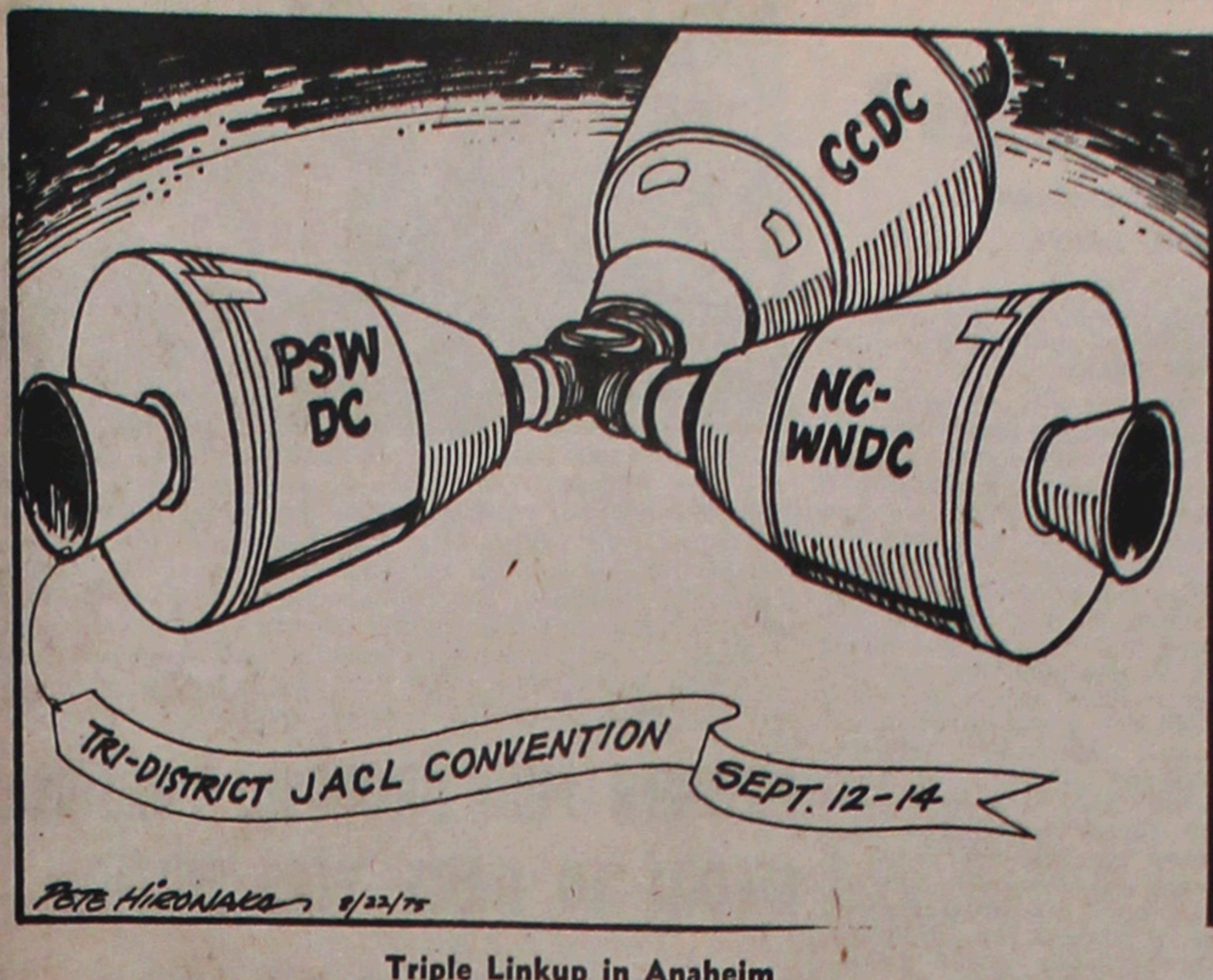
PACKAGE DEAL: \$34.50 Per Person
Registration — \$ 3.00 Dinner-Dance —\$20.00
Mixer — \$ 5.00 (Non memb. —\$25.00)
Lunch — \$ 6.50 Dance Only — \$ 5.00

Due to the availability of limited space at all hotels because September is still in the tourist season, request reservation forms from your district office as soon as possible. Return the hotel forms by Aug. 12 to the address on the card. For any or all of Tri-District package, mail a check, payable to Orange County JAACL, 6181 Dover Dr., Huntington Beach, Calif. 92647, Attention: Ben Shimazu, Treasurer. For those who pre-register by Aug. 15th a drawing will be held for 2 tickets refunds (1 couple) to the dinner-dance. So register early!

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FROM THE FRYING PAN: Bill Hosokawa
The Incredible City

Hong Kong You know what it's like when you and 50,000 other people try to leave the stadium at the same time after a football game. That's the way it is in down town Hong Kong at quitting time any afternoon of the week. The people simply pour out of the towering office buildings and flood onto the narrow sidewalks. Streetcars and busses are double-deckers and at the rush hour they parade down the street only feet apart, looking more like a conveyor belt than a transit system. When a taxi stops it's almost worth your life to stand in the way of the people who pile into it—three in the back seat, two up front with the driver. They seem to be strangers, but they're all going in the same direction so they climb in together. I never did figure out how they determine their destinations or decide how to divide the fare. The Star ferries shuttling between Kowloon on the mainland and Victoria, also known as Hong Kong, on the island, are busy as ever. But beneath the harbor now is a tunnel carrying vehicular traffic under the liners and freighters of many lands at anchor.

owners will refuse to extend the lease or make some sort of accommodation. No' long ago many persons had feared that Communist China would simply walk in and seize the billions of dollars worth of British-owned real estate. But they didn't, and it doesn't appear that they will. Hong Kong is worth more to the Chinese as a prosperous economic outpost, the window to the outside world, than in Communist hands. So the British are continuing to build, the latest being a towering convention center and office building. Ted Kojima of the Pan American World Airways office in Los Angeles and Hiro Hishiki of the Kashi Mainichi were at the cocktail party in the top floor lounge of the Garden Lee Hotel as the new convention center was pointed out to us. It was a building that would be impressive among New York's skyscrapers. But between it and the hotel were scores of miserably dirty and crowded tenements, and somehow the contrast seemed to epitomize Hong Kong.

Almost everybody in Hong Kong seems to be a capitalist, or at least an entrepreneur, from the hawker carrying his baskets of merchandise suspended from a pole over his shoulders to the thousands of shopkeepers, the bankers and great department store owners. With so many people selling, who is buying? If it is safe to generalize, the Chinese of Hong Kong are businessmen out to make their buck by commerce. There is no reason to believe they are any different from their cousins behind the bamboo curtain on the mainland. (In fact, many Hong Kong Chinese cross the border to visit relatives in Canton and nearby villages and have no trouble returning so long as they have British papers. But if business and individual enterprise are so much a part of their lives, how did the Communists impose their system on the people? Why have the people so docilely accepted an economic system so utterly different from what they have been accustomed to? One of these days, I suppose, we'll learn the complete story.

With land area at a premium even the tenements in Hong Kong are in high-rise buildings. Magnificent new apartments climb the steep hills and look down on incredibly crowded government low-rent apartments. Refugees from the mainland wait months and years to rent an apartment which in reality is a 100-square foot cubicle—a space 10 feet by 10 feet, smaller by far than the average American bedroom—for a family of four. Now the next step is to go underground. Since the tunnel has been completed and is working very well, a subway system soon is to be drilled and blasted out of the Hong Kong granite with the aid of Japanese contractors. These are vast investments, indeed, on land that is only leased from the Chinese government. The lease expires just before the end of the century, but no one seems to be concerned that the

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Army ROTC. The more you look at it, the better it looks.
4RCS-2

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Wayne Horiuchi

Plain Speaking

BILINGUAL VOTE INFORMATION

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 has just been extended for another seven years by the Congress. This landmark civil rights legislation has been the major reason for the enfranchisement of millions of Blacks in the South during the 60's. This year, the Congress chose to expand the coverage of the Voting Rights Act to include language minorities namely the Spanish Speaking, Native, Alaskan, and Asian Americans.

The guts of the Voting Rights Act provides for bilingual voting information, suspension of literacy tests, the federal supervision of elections in those jurisdictions covered, federal clearance for changes in local election laws, and the expansion to include those jurisdictions who meet the following three "triggers": (1) 5 percent or more of the voting age population is an American Indian, Hispanic, Alaskan or Asian American, (2) less than 50 percent of voting age persons were registered or voted in the 1972 elections, (3) the voting instructions in the election were in English only.

Preliminary studies indicate that Honolulu and San Francisco counties have sufficient Asian Americans in the voting populace to be covered by the act.

What was personally rewarding to me was the opportunity to work with one of the most famous civil rights coalitions today, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. I had the privilege of participating with such people as Joseph Rau, former president of the Americans for Democratic Action, Clarence Mitchell of the NAACP (often called the "one-hundred and first senator in Congress"), Marvin Caplan of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, David Brody of B'nai B'rith, Kenny Young of the AFL-CIO (I also had the privilege of working with Mr. Young in a senatorial campaign in Utah) and Manny Fierro of El Congreso.

After some southern senators attempted to pass several crippling amendments to the Voting Rights Act, the Senate passed it 77 to 12 and returned it to the House for final approval and the avoidance of a conference which may have allowed parliamentary difficulties.

With the President's signature, another page in the Civil Rights book can be turned, until the next chapter.

Mukai to speak on 'Future of JACL' at IDC quarterly

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho — Gerold Mukai, National JACL Planning Committee chairman for Intermountain District Council, will be the main banquet speaker at the quarterly IDC-IDYC session being hosted by the Idaho Falls JACL this weekend Aug. 23-24 at Ramada Inn, 850 Lindsay Blvd.

The Westminster College official will speak on "The Future of JACL". IDC Gov. George Kimura will preside at the business session starting at 1 p.m. Saturday. Committee reports will be made by:

Masa Tsukamoto, IDC biennial convention chairman; Yoshiko Ochi, Issei; Ron Yokota, cookbook; Shake Ushio, prog. conductor; Jack Ogami, record; Ben Aoyagi, nominator; Keri Iseri, school; Henry Suyehira, poet; Frank Yoshimura, youth; Saige Aramaki, memb. and 1000 Club.

PNW-IDC regional director Stan Kiyokawa will relate his quarterly resume with a question and answer period. Marjorie Hasegawa will explain the newly adopted IDC constitution and by-laws. The plans for the biennial IDC convention Nov. 28-30 at Pocatello will also be completed.

Action is expected on the Snake River Valley JACL resolution concerning national JACL scholarships, calling for better guidelines in evaluating candidates and recognizing the need of expanding the available dollars and opportunities.

Issei citizenship began 20 yrs. ago, JACL fete slated

LOS ANGELES — "Two Decades of Citizenship" will be the theme of a Sept. 20 luncheon commemorating the naturalization of Issei residents that began twenty years ago, it was announced by co-chairmen Takito Yamaguma and Tats Kushida of the Downtown L.A. JACL.

Issei citizens of the Los Angeles area attending this celebration of their newly acquired status as American citizens will be presented a personalized certificate in their honor. Guest speaker will be Joseph Sureck, District Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, who has long been active in the Issei naturalization program while head of the I&NS office in Hawaii.

The program will be held at Golden Dragon Restaurant, 980 N. Broadway in New Chinatown from noon. Co-sponsoring the program with the JACL will be the Southern Calif. Japanese Chamber of Commerce and the Nanka Nikkei Fujinkai. Reservations, at \$7 per person, may be made with Mr. Yamaguma at 687-9800, SCJCC at 626-5116 or Steve Kawaguchi at 683-1717.

The first decade was celebrated in September, 1965, with nearly 300 Issei citizens in attendance.

Army ROTC info

FRESNO, Calif. — Information on scholarships provided by the Army ROTC, the Air Force ROTC and Navy-Marine Corps ROTC is available at the Central California JACL regional office, 912 F St. (237-4006).

Scholarships are available to high school graduates (or the equivalent) under age 25 and members of the 1976 graduating class. Awards range from two to four years.

Quote of Note

Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel—Samuel Johnson.

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MILWAUKEE—Members of the Milwaukee JACL join musicians and dancers from the Nippon Mizuko Geino Kyokai (Folk Dance and Music Society) of Tokyo in a spontaneous dance at a reception held in the group's honor at the International Institute of Milwaukee County. Their appearance at Milwaukee's Summerfest was co-sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and Pabst Brewing Co. The JACL served as the folk society's host during their stay.

Pulse

For the Elders

Salinas Valley JACL will honor the Issei at an appreciation night program Oct. 11 at the YMBA Hall, it was announced by chapter president Hayes Dacus. Akira Aoyama was named chairman of the dinner-event.

August Events

"The Plums Can Wait" a one-act play written by Hiroshi Kashiwagi, of his family who worked on a plum farm immediately after Camp, will be presented August 23, at the Grace Lutheran Church, 24th St. and Barrett Ave., Richmond, (near Civic Center), under auspices of the Contra Costa and Berkeley JACLs.

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Kido was not 'a forgotten man'

SAN FRANCISCO—National Executive Director David E. Ushio responded this past week (Aug. 7) to the criticism leveled by Hokubel Mainichi columnist Phil Jordan in his article which appeared July 30 under the heading, "A Forgotten Man", referring to Saburo Kido, wartime National JACL president and one of the organization's founders.

The Sacramento free-lance writer had observed JACL leaders present at the recent dedication of National Headquarters did not visit the Kidos, who live a ten-minute drive from the new JACL building, "to express on such a happy occasion their appreciation of Sab's lifetime of dedicated service."

Jordan viewed "it was a damn shame . . . (for) without Sab Kido there might not be a JACL today."

Ushio told the Hokubel Mainichi that most sensitive individuals in JACL already understand that Kido is recognized by all JACLers and the dedication committee "as one of the foremost leaders in Japanese American and JACL history". Kido's presence on the honorary building committee and as past national president was extremely helpful in the building fund campaign, Ushio assured.

While the dedication planners made special effort to invite Kido to all the activities, Ushio said they were disappointed he could not attend because of his physical disabilities.

Ushio also pointed out the dedication ceremonies were in honor of the Issei, in line with what JACL leaders, including Kido, had always done—to remember and help the Issei.

The committee's concern for Kido's happiness and health is joined by thousands of other JACL members nationwide, Ushio concluded.

CALENDAR

- Aug. 21-24 EDC-MDC—Cleveland hosts: Joint Conference, Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea.
Aug. 23-24 IDC—Idaho Falls hosts: Qtrly session, Ramada Inn; Sat. 1 p.m., bus mgr; Gerold Mukai, banq. spr.
Aug. 24 (Sunday) NC-WNDC—Swin Meet, Gunn High, Palo Alto.
Aug. 22 (Friday) San Francisco—School movie benefit, JACL Bldg, 8:30 p.m.
Aug. 23 (Saturday) Berkeley-Contra Costa—Kashiwagi play: "Plums Can Wait", Grace Lutheran Church, Richmond.
Aug. 29 (Friday) Chicago—Dr. Harry Kitano reception, JASC Bldg, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 12 (Friday) Philadelphia—Bd Mtg., Ray Masters' ceo.
Sept. 14 (Tuesday) Salinas Valley—Bd Mtg., Bank of Tokyo, 8 p.m.
Sept. 20 (Saturday) Downtown L.A.—Issei Citizenship 20th Anny luncheon, Golden Dragon Restaurant, 960 N Broadway, noon; Joseph Sureck, INS dist dir, spkr.
Sept. 21-22 PNWDC—Portland hosts. Qtrly session, Coliseum Travelodge.



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CANE-

Continued from Front Page

redeveloped. Many had already been forced to move when the area south of Post had been redeveloped as the Japan Center, after a community-sponsored project for the area failed to materialize.

"Our corporation, composed of property owners, storekeepers, residents and tenants, permitted them first to acquire land in the four-block area along with community organizations such as Konkko Church at Bush and Laguna, the newly completed Christ United Presbyterian Church at Sutter and Laguna and Sokoji, which will be erected along the street, plus the JACL's new national headquarters building on Sutter St.," Ashizawa explained.

Nihonmachi Project

It was noted the Nihonmachi project was the first redevelopment program in the U.S. that allowed former residents to buy back land in the same area and to continue to maintain the pre-development community.

Kawahara then asked why no provision was made for low-cost housing in Nihonmachi. Ashizawa pointed out that none of those assigned land had funds to provide such economical projects which would require subsidies that would have been difficult to obtain.

Kawahara asked Ashizawa why he was charging \$270 for a studio apartment in his new Webster St. complex between Bush and Sutter. Again Ashizawa corrected him, saying he was charging \$190—the going price for such apartments.

George Yamasaki Jr., past chapter president who presided at the Portland convention during the session when resolutions were being considered, accused CANE of bad faith after getting Kawahara to admit that the CANE board of directors had determined not to change a word of the resolution even before meeting with chapter presidents as the national mandate had directed.

Charles Kubokawa of Se-

quola JACL, who recalled he had supported the San Francisco delegates at Portland, offered the following motion, which was carried by unanimous vote. The Bay Area Community JACL was not represented at the meeting. His motion stated: The NCWNDC took the position that the whole problem of redevelopment of Nihonmachi throughout the country is of concern to the JACL but that the request for specific support of action by CANE regarding an area in San Francisco was purely a (local) San Francisco redevelopment issue and should not be considered by the district council.

Local matter

Earlier this spring, CANE sought support of JACL and other community groups of its boycott of Kintetsu-owned businesses. Recognizing the boycott as a local matter, National JACL referred it to the NC-WNDC for recommendation. San Francisco JACL had gone on record disapproving the boycott, adding that it was a misdirected campaign.

In June, prior to the special National Board session, CANE requested JACL not to use the Miyako Hotel, a Kintetsu-owned operation. Since the meeting was scheduled at Headquarters, only lodging

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Mr. Miki-

Continued from Front Page
to contribute to the center at this time.

The prime minister, however, then promised his personal help to raise approximately \$3 million from non-governmental sources in Japan. The project, he felt, was very much worthy of support.

Miki was able to observe the proposed site of the cultural center and the progress being made in the redevelopment of Little Tokyo when he was driven through the streets of Los Angeles' Civic Center

area Saturday afternoon on his way back to the hotel from his appointments in Long Beach and the Univ. of Southern California. He saw the federally-funded, 300-unit senior citizen housing edifice, Little Tokyo Towers, and the site on Los Angeles St. where a 400-room hotel is being built by a consortium of Japanese companies.

Also attending the meeting Saturday morning with the prime minister were Toshio Yamazaki, director general of the American Affairs Bureau of the Japanese Foreign Ministry; Toshiaki Kaitu, deputy cabinet secretary; and Consul General Ke'ichi Tachibana.

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SCHOLARS, SCHOLASTICS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

San Francisco scholarship program. If one reads the biographies of the winners of the most prestigious awards, the pattern is very similar. The winner usually comes from a family of middle or upper income, the student has walked off with at least three or four other scholarships, and their grades and extracurricular activities indicate their future potential as successful students in some of the best universities and colleges in the country. Of course, this is to their credit and we take pride in their accomplishments. My personal view is that the 14 scholarships administered by the JACL or any other organization should be awarded upon the basis of economic need. I wonder how many of the 250 applicants will be prevented from attending an institution of higher education because of lack of funds, especially in larger families where their parents may not have the resources to assist financially the high cost of education today.

Several years ago when I worked for UC-San Francisco Medical Center as the campus financial aid officer, I had the difficult responsibility to develop the criteria for awarding scholarships, grants, loans, and other forms of financial aid. I know from experience the importance of a few hundred dollars to a struggling student. Last month I attended the graduation of a Chicago friend who successfully finished medical school. He came from a poor family. Married with two children, he smiled when he showed me his diploma and said it represented his indebtedness of \$18,000 in loans and another \$6,000 in grants and scholarships. I cite this example of the high cost of education to

day. Naturally, undergraduate degrees come at a less cost, but nevertheless students and parents are faced with rapidly increasing costs. Many chapters have an active scholarship program for graduating seniors. I hope they will seriously consider the financial need as the most important criteria if the student shows promise and motivation. There are many ways to recognize those other top honor students. A nice engraved certificate, a medal, a plaque, or some other kind of appropriate recognition would make the funds available to some other needy student.

There is a movement by colleges and universities to eliminate their minority recruitment programs due to court challenges by non-minority students who are charging "reverse discrimination." The new criteria will be the "economic disadvantage" of the student. In other words, most Affirmative Action and Educational Opportunity Programs will be placed by recruiting financially poor students with no regard for race, color, or sex. I don't have to remind you that if you have children in high school and want them to go to college, the secret is to start saving your money now. The other side of the coin is, maybe college is not the answer for our children. That's a whole new can of worms which I will save for another time.

At this point, I would like to take exception to the way the JACL administers its

Cultural center in financial bind

PASADENA, Calif.—A \$500,000 interim committee headed by Dr. Kiyoshi Ogawa has been formed to save the center, which has classrooms, auditorium and a two-story office building. Pasadena JACL has annual-ly assisted in the community bazaar for the institute. The next bazaar is scheduled Oct. 19.

Faced with an annual deficit of more than \$3,000 and necessary repairs amounting to

Urban League urges job guarantee plan

ATLANTA, Ga.—The National Urban League ended its 65th annual convention July 31 by urging the federal government to adopt "a national policy guaranteeing jobs for all citizens able to work." A number of other "statements of concerns" were adopted: favoring health care as a right, school busing, stiffer federal gun control laws and women's rights. Urban League director Vernon Jordan said the single most important issue facing black people and the country is "unemployment... and beyond that the negative response from Administration leaders to that issue."

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