

## Forum at JACL Hq. compares bias faced by Jews, Japanese Americans

SAN FRANCISCO—While the Japanese in America have faced discrimination for many years, it was not until the 1950s that discrimination against the Jews was eased in many areas.

This was among the points brought out by Ernest H. Weiner, Bay Area director of

the American Jewish Committee, at a panel presentation, "Jewish and Japanese American Sensitivities," held at JACL Headquarters Bldg. Jan. 22.

Weiner was one of four speakers at the program co-sponsored by the Northern California-Western Nevada JACL District Council and AJC.

## Shin Tokyo Plaza developers picked

LOS ANGELES—Buildings on the northside of First St. in Little Tokyo will be torn down in a few years and the main business area will shift to a pedestrian shopping mall, main business area will shift to Tokyo Plaza, along Moline Alley—between First and Second St. west of Central Ave.

The Community Redevelopment Agency designated the group, headed by Akira Kawasaka, former chairman of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Little Tokyo, the exclusive rights to negotiate for the \$2.9 million shopping area which is expected to retain much of the flavor and community spirit of the existing Little Tokyo.

## Credit Union says it's 6 1/2%—not 6 1/4

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—The National JACL Credit has credited member accounts with a 6 1/2% per annum dividend for the second half of 1975—instead of 6 1/4% as previously announced. The previous mid-year dividend was also 6 1/4%.

## Merit Savings breaks ground for new branch

TORRANCE, Calif.—Ground was broken Jan. 20 for the new Merit Savings & Loan branch here at 185th and Western Ave., opposite its present temporary facilities. Civic leaders from neighboring Gardena and Torrance joined Bruce Kaji, Merit president, and May Sueyoshi, branch manager, at the ceremonies.

Tosh Terasawa is the architect; George Inouye, the contractor.

## 'Japanese in America' photo display to mark Bicentennial being organized

CHICAGO — The Japanese community here has launched a nationwide search for material to be featured in a photographic essay commemorating the U.S. Bicentennial.

According to Mrs. Nobu Yamakoshi and Tak Murakami, co-chairmen of the "Japanese in America" bicentennial exhibit, leading Nikkei artists and designers in the Chicago area will plan the show "with consummate taste and attractiveness" for display at famous John Hancock Center during June on the mezzanine level and on the 84th floor observatory during July.

During July, hundreds of Nisei veterans and their families

will convene here for a reunion.

The exhibit is expected to consist of about 300 photographs that depict the momentous chapters in the lives of the Japanese and Japanese Americans in the United States. The photograph search committee at the present time is making selections from the vast resources made available to the Bicentennial committee.

It will cover the following periods: (1) Immigration and early history of Japanese in U.S., (2) WW2 and its effects, (3) Evacuation, (4) postwar years, (5) individuals whose achievements have been recognized in their respective fields.

From JACL Nat'l Headquarters

## Communication Chapter Spirit

### 1000 Club brochure now available

A new green and brown brochure to recruit 1000 Club members was announced by Headquarters Jan. 23. A series of questions and answers describing the 1000 Club and membership form are printed two sides of legal-size paper folded twice.

Titled "A New Look at the JACL 1000 Club", the contributions of 1000ers (ranging from \$35 regular to \$250 corporate) provide JACL with the extra measure of support to expand and improve traditional programs, services and activities as well as implement vitally needed new programs, the brochure responds in answer to "What are 1000 Club dues used for?"

### Bldg. Fund financial report in brief

San Francisco Fund raising: Brochures 10,109; administrative \$3,000; adv. and promotion \$2,737; postage and mailing \$12,531; dedication expense (net) \$1,777; travel and lodging \$5,456—total: \$35,541 (85%).

Administrative: office supplies, expenses \$4,505; salaries \$12,983; payroll taxes \$883; medical insurance \$35; telephone \$391; interest expense \$915—total: \$19,711 (44%).

Deposits (performance and prop. tax)—\$1,192 (2%). Total cash payments and payables—\$444,427.70.

For the past quarter ending Dec. 31, \$20,059.50 in pledges were acknowledged. Total amount contributed up through Dec. 31 was \$447,414.

Contributions came to \$439,861.33 that allowed for \$3,886.14 additional interest income. Cash payments and payables shows:

Land \$10,577; building \$323,657; furniture and fixtures \$30,412; fees and permits \$23,246—Total: \$587,894 (87.4%).

For Information: Sacramento JACL P.O. Box 22583, Sacramento 95822

A proud legacy

20 weeks 'til 24th Biennial Nat'l JACL Convention June 21-26, 1976 Sacramento, Calif.

## L.A. SCHOOL BOARD LIST DOWN TO TEN

LOS ANGELES—Hideko Bannai, wife of the Gardena assemblyman Paul Bannai, and Dr. David Lopez-Lee, who is of Mexican-Chinese parentage, survived the week-long trimming of some 300 candidates seeking to fill the vacancy on the Los Angeles board of education. Both were among the 18 Asian Americans who sought the appointment.

A public school board hearing was scheduled Tuesday (Feb. 3) to interview the ten finalists.

Mrs. Bannai, 50, described as a housewife, has teaching credentials with a bachelor's degree in English from CSU-Los Angeles. Lopez-Lee, associate professor at USC, is a former candidate for the L.A. city council.

## Rice grower view of quotas due

WASHINGTON — Senate action on the House-passed legislation that would end rice acreage allotment was asked to be postponed by six senators who approached the Senate Democratic leadership.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield and his deputy, Robert C. Byrd, were sent telegrams to wait until the rice growers expressed their sentiments in a referendum scheduled this past week and to be made known by Feb. 15. Signers of the message were:

Sens. Russell Long (D-La.), John Tower (R-Tex.), Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), John Tunney (D-Calif.), J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.), and Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.).

## National solicitation campaign for JACL-Hayashi law scholarship to start

NEW YORK — February 9, 1976, the second anniversary of the death of the late Thomas T. Hayashi, will be the official date when contributions to the law scholarship named in his honor will be invited.

Mike Masaoka, chairman of the JACL Thomas T. Hayashi Law Scholarship Committee, announced.

Contributions, deductible for income tax purpose, may be sent to Joe Imai, Treasurer, JACL Thomas T. Hayashi Law Scholarship, c/o New York JACL Office, 50 W. 87th St., New York, N.Y. 10023. Checks should be made out to "JACL-Thomas T. Hayashi Law Scholarship." All contributions will be acknowledged.

About a year ago, the Eastern District Council of the Japanese American Citizens League decided to name a scholarship in memory of one of the outstanding JACLers and Japanese American civic, civil rights, and Christian leaders in the East. Since Hayashi was an attorney who believed in the resort to law and to the legislature as the most effective means to nullify racially discriminatory laws and to secure corrective and remedial statutes, it was agreed that a Law Scholarship would be most appropriate.

By identifying the legal profession, it was hoped that others would designate various professions for their scholarship as a means to provide opportunities for Japanese Americans, and Asian Amer-

## CMA 'payments' to legislators under inquiry

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Assemblyman Paul Bannai (R-Gardena) was among 10 state legislators who had received \$1,000 last October from the California Medical Assn. as the Fair Political Practices Commission has launched an investigation, the L.A. Times writer Larry Stammer reported this past week (Jan. 30).

Paul Brown, a lobbyist for the CMA, confirmed the probe but the commission did not comment. At issue was whether Prop. 9, the state's political reform act was violated. Under the law, it is illegal for a lobbyist to "arrange" for a campaign contribution or to give a gift exceeding \$10 a month to any member of the Legislature.

Other legislators named were: ASSEMBLY — Paul Priolo (R-Pacific Palisades), Gary Hart (D-Santa Barbara), Frank Valencia (D-Pasadena), William Lancaster (R-Covina), Julian Dixon (D-Los Angeles), SENATE — S. John Stull (R-Escondido), Robert Pringle (D-Riverside), Jerry Smith (D-San Jose) and Newton Russell (R-Glendale).

The 10 lawmakers were asked to address a meeting of the association's political action committee attended by 400 doctors last October in Los Angeles, according to Brown, to speak about the legislative process and not any specific legislation. The payments, he added, were intended only as honorariums—seven accepting the money on that basis, while three asked the checks be considered campaign contributions.

No charges have been filed by FPPC, Brown said.

Eight of the ten legislators, including Bannai, have received the \$1,000 to the FPPC.

icans, to enter into professional fields, too many of which were closed to those of Asian origin until recently.

### EDC Fund Committee

The EDC Committee to solicit contributions and to administer the Law Scholarship is composed of representatives from each of the four JACL Chapters in the Eastern Region who knew and worked with Hayashi during, and after, World War II in the judicial and legislative areas of advocacy.

Scholarship will be open to (1) a member or the child of a member of the JACL, (2) a Japanese American, and (3) an Asian American, in that order, who has been accepted by, or who has applied to, an accredited law school in the United States.

Depending upon the total in the fund, the amount of the scholarship or scholarships will be determined and announced, as will the specific criteria to be used by the judges of the selection subcommittee. A goal of at least \$20,000 has been set for the Law Scholarship appeal, with the interest from the principal being used for the scholarship itself.

Members of the Executive Committee (Ron Inouye, Murray Sprunt, Ruby Schaar, Futami and Holly Hayashi, executive, New York; Vernon Ichisaka, Kiyomi Nakamura, Seabrook; Kaz Horita, Dr.

Continued on Next Page

## Chapter Spirit

### WASHINGTON, D.C. JACL

### A Sense of Cultural Heritage

The Washington, D.C. Chapter of JACL has had an interesting and exciting year. Because of the aggressive and active leadership of Dr. Mel Chiofari and the diligence of Dr. Alley Watada, the program chairman, the Washington, D.C. Chapter programs have been most successful.

The chapter participated in the successful Smithsonian Folklife Festival which was not only profitable but attracted hundreds of thousands nationally. Thanks must go to Toro Hircse, Kennon Nakamura, and Fumi Iki who encouraged over 150 volunteers in the chapter to help in the food booth.

### FRESNO ALL (JACL)

### Community Awareness Boosted

The Fresno American Loyalty League (ALL), one of the oldest chapters and largest chapter in the Central California District, begins its 1976 year with social activities and services for the Fresno Japanese community.

President Taro Katagiri and his vice-president, Dr. Dennis Hayashi, are coordinating many activities including the membership dinner, a community picnic, and lecture series.

Lectures proved to be successful last year, as the ALL sponsored a series on "Sexual Dysfunction." The lecture, coordinated by Gilbert Yoshida, featured Dr. Nathan Liskey and his wife Jean, both professional counselors.

The Community Day Dinner and Program was started last

year through efforts of the Asian American Club of CSU-Fresno. The chapter contributed by attending and by providing food for the event. This year, the Fresno ALL hopes to get more of their membership involved in the event that was designed to bring together various Asian Americans in the Fresno area.

### PCYA Program

For the first time, the Fresno ALL will be participating in the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans Program. The selection committee, comprised of chairperson Barbara Taniguchi, Dr. Nob Morii, Bob Tsubota, Norman Otani, and JAY's representative, Allen Inouye, selected Judy Nishimoto, daughter of

Continued on Page 3

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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## Sketches from Wendy Yoshimura's hearing Jan. 23



Frances Schreiber, also defense attorney

—By volunteer PC staff artist Karen Takata

## Japanese Americans neglected?

LOS ANGELES—Several local neighborhood newspapers this past week (Jan. 22) carried a front-page banner reading "Japanese Americans Neglected?" which proceeded to describe how this community is becoming integrated and what it is contributing to society.

The in-depth piece by Ronald Ham was based on interviews with two JACLers, Michael Ishikawa Jr. and Ellen Endo, Pacific Southwest District governor and secretary, respectively.

Discussions on various contemporary topics were related in the following order: (1) Wendy Yoshimura case, (2) JACL, (3) the Evacuation experience, (4) ethnic heritage, (5) whale boycott, (6) English as a Second Language, (7) Little Tokyo redevelopment, (8) racial stereotypes, (9) senior citizens and (10) recent immigrants.

Ham's story appeared in the newspapers published by Hick-Deals Publications, which has a string of 14 papers in the Hollywood, Wilshire and Southwest sections of the city.

### Yoshimura Trial

Referring to the statement in a letter explaining why a Wendy Yoshimura fair trial fund was needed, "Under the current American system of judicial practice, it appears that those who are affluent... these who belong to the majority society have a greater chance toward protection than the poor, the friendless or the racial minorities," Ham said it might have been construed as "radical or even unpatriotic" in past years, "but it is difficult to deny when perhaps the largest organization of Japanese Americans in the

country—the JACL—is its main supporter."

Noting that JACL does not claim to represent the part they played in this country, more than 600,000 Japanese Americans in the country or the 150,000 in Los Angeles County, "a local JACL spokesman (Ishikawa) was able to identify some characteristics of Japanese Americans and some of their problems."

JACL membership statistics are included in the story along with the note that it "even publishes its own weekly newspaper—the Pacific Citizen."

### Evacuation Poster

The Evacuation experience was told by referring to the 1942 Army poster directing all Japanese Americans to report for evacuation, which hangs in Ishikawa's office at the downtown Federal Building. He is field representative for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Japanese Americans of different generations would react differently, Ham was told. The Issei would probably remember the land they lost and might feel guilty because of their race. The Nisei would remember the incarceration.

Noting that Sansei have grown up in mostly integrated areas, according to Ishikawa the Sansei are asking themselves, "Is it really all just 'white is right' or does ethnic heritage have a potential to be of great value?" And noting that Japanese American contributions to Western civilization and U.S. culture are "enormous," Ishikawa said it may be difficult for Sansei to find any information about these contributions in print.

"Japanese Americans are an overlooked race," Ishikawa

declared, explaining there's virtually nothing in U.S. history books about the part they played in this country.

About whale boycott, Ishikawa said JACL recognizes the need for whale conservation... but objects to the racial overtones in the American campaign to boycott all Japanese products, "whether they are related to Japan's whaling industry or not," Ishikawa said, "JACL supports the ends, not the means" of the boycott.

### ESL Programs

Of ESL, Ishikawa said JACL has approached the L.A. school district, which he said was the first to admit it hadn't provided enough ESL programs for Asians. ESL in Los Angeles has been with the Spanish speaking, Ishikawa continued.

Little Tokyo redevelopment was called a "more recent and on-going controversy, on which JACL has taken no official stand as yet." While Ishikawa was fearful many Japanese Americans would be pushed out of Little Tokyo for tourist attractions, Ellen Endo warned the problem of senior citizens housing would escalate when the old hotels in Nihonmachi are torn down about a year from now.

Reference to stereotypes came from the report of the California Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, which stresses negative and positive stereotypes that were both misleading and nonconstructive.

Endo felt the problem with newly arrived immigrants was the lack of bilingual social workers in view of the increased ceilings on immigration quotas.

## National JACL board to convene Feb. 13-15 at Hq.

SAN FRANCISCO—Approximately 20 hours have been scheduled by National JACL president Shig Sugiyama for the National JACL Board meeting Feb. 13-15 at the JACL National Headquarters building.

Staff is not expected to attend this meeting since a separate staff meeting will be needed to implement policy decisions of the Board, Sugiyama added.

Meanwhile, to prepare for the board meeting, progress reports on various committees and activities for use at the Board meeting are being submitted this weekend. At least 50 subjects were listed to be submitted by:

Steve Doi—JACL Building Fund; travel program.

Al Hatake—Pacific Citizen.

Les Hiraoka—Ad Hoc Committee on the Rice Act.

Kaz Hiraoka—1000 Club; Youth-Student exchange; JACL-JACL fellowship; National bowling tournament; Reference library on Japanese Americans.

Frank Iwama—Yamada-Okubo liaison.

Helen Kawagoe—Anti-defamation.

Lillian Kimura—Gerontology Project; Ad Hoc Committee on Religion; Planning commission.

Tomio Moriguchi—Financial report; Uniform dues feasibility study; automation of membership processing and related transactions.

Jim Murakami—Administration of Nat'l Hq.; Bicentennial involvement for JACL; National convention planning; Personnel Committee and manual revisions.

Noboru Nakamura—Development committee.

Les Hiraoka—Political education committee.

Yone Satoda—Endowment fund. Dale Shimazaki—JAYs.

Shig Sugiyama—Hq. 11th plan guidelines; Separate legislative arm for JACL.

Izumi Taniguchi—Ethnic heritage project; Interracial marriage proposal implementation; Nisei retirement plan.

Cliff Ueda—Abbreviation of "Japan"; Iva Toguri committee; Whaling issue committee.

Grayce Uyehara—East Coast history project; Nominations committee; Presidential Classroom for Young Americans; National JACL recognition; Scholarship-student aid and Scholarship Foundation; Student intern program; Public Relations office.

George Yamazaki Jr.—CAJNE (membership) resolution; Constitution revision.

Ki-ri Yoshika—Accounting procedures.

Staff: Asian American Legal Defense and Education proposal; Advocacy of Japanese American-Asian American interests; Membership Newletters; Meria access and exposure.

Board members are to be housed at Kyoto Inn, a half block from JACL Headquarters.

## Detroit chapter awards its first \$1,000 scholarship

By MARGARET WATANABE  
DETROIT—Currently attending the Univ. of Michigan pursuing studies in the medical science area, Keri Fujii of Warren, Mich., is Detroit JACL's first winner of the chapter \$1,000 scholarship.

So significant is the amount (it tops the National JACL No. 1 award of \$700) that some are calling Miss Fujii the "Detroit Chapter Fellow No. 1."

While at Mott High School, prepping in math and science with honors, she was active on campus in its political action club, organized a school-wide career and interest seminar for two years, and engaged in creative writing.

Outside of school, she was a Camp Striper at South Macomb Hospital attended the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans and co-chaired the Detroit JAYs chapter this past year. She also participated in JAY workshops in Cleveland and Chicago and the JAY convention at Hayward, Calif.

### Metro L.A. to host

### Feb. 22 PSW quarterly

LOS ANGELES—Metropolitan L.A. JACL will host the upcoming Pacific Southwest District Council quarterly session Feb. 22 at the new Little Tokyo Towers, the JACL regional office announced.

While the agenda is being prepared for release, an initial report of the National JACL Board meeting can be expected as it convenes the week prior.

### Program director

GARDENA, Calif. — Applications for the position of director of programs at the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute should be sent to 15225 S. Western Ave., Suite 204, Gardena 90249, by Feb. 13. Bilingual (Japanese-English) ability is mandatory along with administrative and communications abilities.

GRESHAM, Ore.—Gresham-Troutdale JACLers contributed over 800 man-hours to landscape a Japanese garden in honor of Issei pioneers and which was dedicated Sept. 2, 1975, at Gresham's Main Park. Designed by Sam Iwamoto, rocks lining the paths were handpicked, boulders moved in by tractor, a Yanagi tree and azaleas planted on the island site named, "Tsuru." (Details were published in the Jan. 30 PC "Chapter Spirit". Black and white photos of other chapter projects are welcome.)

Photo by Buford Sommers



EDITORIALS

Growth of JACL

(Excerpts of a 1940 Speech by Walter Tsukamoto)

From 21 chapters in 1934, 30 chapters in 1936 and 42 chapters in 1938, the JACL today consists of 50 member chapters and covers every important community of any size wherein Nisei reside.

Objects and purposes of this organization is best expressed in the Preamble of its constitution: "We, the American Citizens of Japanese ancestry, in order to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States, to foster and spread the true spirit of Americanism, to build the character of our people morally and spiritually on American ideals, and to promote the welfare and aid in the development of Americans of Japanese descent as an integral part of the national life, do establish this Constitution of the Japanese American Citizens League of the United States of America."

"During WW2, the phrase—"and the principles for which it stands against all enemies foreign and domestic" was inserted at this point. But at the 1948 convention, it was completely reworded to the form currently in use after membership was open to all Americans irrespective of race.—Ed.)

The JACL today is no longer a small organization. It has a membership close to 10,000. This number will be dwarfed by the huge annual increase which will take place in the next decade. With this growth in numbers will come many problems heretofore new or negligible. Our record from the standpoint of crime and public relief is among the lowest... but the maintenance of such a fine record becomes increasingly difficult with the large increase in the number of Nisei. Our responsibility in this regard must be discharged by a sound program of education and direction...

We believe in this organization because it is dedicated to all Americans, be they members or not; because its purpose is entirely unselfish and because it seeks to instill in the minds and hearts of all Americans of Japanese ancestry a deep love for and appreciation of this great country of which they are an inseparable and integral part.

The present growth of the League has been a tough, uphill fight. In spite of the many benefits and privileges gained by the JACL for the Nisei in general, there have been many chronic complaints. There are discontents and dissatisfactions. Gloomy minds mistakenly think they see a breaking down of the organization.

In one sense, discontent is a good thing. It is the opposite of self-satisfaction. It is a good thing to appreciate that we have not done our best and then try to do it. It is a good thing to understand that we have not made most of our opportunities. But there is another kind of discontent, born of an inclination to jealousy and envy that seeks not to repair its mistakes nor to profit by its failures but to build up, but to tear down. There is among these few a sense of hopelessness over hopeless misfortune and to these Nisei it is more to pity than to blame.

But, in these discontents, there is a menace to the security of the Nisei. They afford opportunities for the demagogues but glory to the serious-minded Nisei. They are too level-headed and too intelligent to be caught by the appeals of these malcontents—to the dictates of envy, hatred and malice.

The JACL—skeptics, ill-wishers and minority oppression groups to the contrary notwithstanding—makes no compromise on the one and only reason for its existence: the maintenance and direction of every effort, program and activity as a patriotic body of American citizens to perpetuate forever our American ideals and institutions... The Nisei have a solemn duty... to themselves in developing their individual character as worthy and substantial citizens... and make of themselves as integral part of the nation's life. This organization is dedicated toward the realization of that purpose...

And that whenever the need should arise, we will be among the first to fight for the preservation of these ideals.

Walter Tsukamoto of Sacramento was National JACL president at the time this address was made at the 1940 national convention in Portland. An attorney who was among the co-founders of the National JACL, he was called to duty during World War II, and spent the remaining years of his life in the military service. Col. Tsukamoto died in 1961 in Germany and was posthumously decorated with the Legion of Merit.

Let Freedom Ring

Excerpts from The Patriot's Bible, Orbis Books, (\$3.95) Maryknoll, N.Y. 10545

Were the money which it has cost to gain, at the close of a long war, a little territory... expended in improving what they already possess, in making roads, opening rivers, building ports, improving the arts and finding employment for the idle poor, it would render them (the nations) much stronger, wealthier and happier. This I hope will be our wisdom.

—Thomas Jefferson

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Hilton Hotel Case

I was shocked to find a racist-tinged insinuation was admitted into court in the Rinko Yamada v. Hilton case (PC, Dec. 12) as follows:

The defense of the hotel chain was based upon the contention that the girls may have let in a known burglar. To bring this out, defense attorney John T. Burke introduced evidence purporting to show that the girls had visited "social action" groups including the Black Panthers while in Chicago...

Couldn't we learn from the United Farm Workers and make people boycott a certain hotel chain? And I would like to ask the composition of the jury?

MRS. D. DATE  
Sacramento, Calif.

Holiday Issue

I recall our parents, Dr. and Mrs. Shoz'ch Fujita, taking us to visit "Harris-san" (Kanaye Nagasawa) in Santa Rosa. We took him carni and mochi-gashi on our way to visit the Luther Burbank Garden. One of the main fountain was working and "Harris-san" was an old man. He said it was beautiful long ago when all the fountains were working and the garden filled with flowers from all over the world.

The C.I.C.

By EDISON T. UNO

San Francisco  
One of the personal rewards derived from community involvement, whether it be within JACL or with other community based groups, is the meeting of new friends and the renewing of old friends.

A few months ago, I was invited to participate in a meeting sponsored by the Japanese American Postal Club,

MINORITY ONE

a group of career employees who get together to promote and protect their interests in the postal system. Subject that night was the interest of Japanese American federal employees who are seeking remedial legislation to provide for retirement credits for those who were subject to the Evacuation order during World War II.

Social Security credits are now available to many Japanese Americans who survived the internment years. Thanks to the efforts by the JACL, its Washington representative and our friends in Congress, an amendment to the Social Security Act makes some effort to redress the gross injustices of the Evacuation; although in my opinion this belated recognition is much too little and far too late. Nevertheless, it is good to know that our government is making some good faith efforts to make amends.

I hope all former evacuees will apply immediately for credits they are entitled to as a result of a change in the law. I understand the law has been interpreted to include all evacuees, aliens and citizens alike, who were 18 at the time of their imprisonment. Whether you qualify for these credits can be determined by the Social Security Administration from records of all individuals kept in the National Archives.

If anyone has any doubts or questions, they should write to Tom Matsumoto, Social Security Administration, 1701 Divisadero St., San Francisco, Calif. 94115.

One of the problems seems to be that of communications. I hope that if you or anyone of your friends or relatives may be eligible for these Social Security credits that this information will be transmitted to them. It could mean an increase in cash benefits or in some cases an earlier retirement situation, as I understand it. However, since I am not an authority, I would suggest all official interpretations be referred to Mr. Matsumoto.

There is a large number of civil service workers who are not covered by Social Security, in fact, as I understand it, most federal employees

participate in their own federal retirement systems. My guess is that there are separate systems for the armed forces, postal service, and all other federal agencies.

A few Nisei have been actively working for legislation to remedy the fact that they were not covered by the amendments for camp credits under Social Security. Ms. Toshiko Yashida of Benicia, a career employee at the U.S. Naval Shipyard at Mare Island, has waged a one woman campaign to seek legislative relief. She has spent an enormous amount of time and effort to write to members of Congress, to research the subject, to contact other interested individuals, to get petitions signed, to meet with public officials, and a host of other activities necessary to promote the support for Congressional action.

As a result of her personal efforts, a few bills have been introduced, but action beyond the sub-committee stage has been minimal. Ms. Yashida sparked the interest of other Nisei federal employees and it was at the Japanese American Postal Club meeting that I had the pleasure to meet this determined fighter for justice on behalf of all her fellow ex-evacuees.

It was immediately apparent that the majority of Nisei who were at the meeting were in favor of the suggested remedial legislation. As a result, the postal group supported the formation of a representative group of Nisei federal employees in the S.F. Bay Area to organize a comprehensive campaign.

Thus, a new group known as the Committee for Internment Credit (CIC) was born. The leadership includes Toshiko Yashida, Bill Kyono, Mutsu Furiya, Zane Matsuzaki, Frank Nishimura, John Yasumoto, Carl Yano, Jim Otsuki, Bob Midzuno and others.

I've attended a few CIC meetings and I am impressed with their enthusiasm and dedication. John Yasumoto is an old time S.F. JACLer and has contributed much towards the success of our group health program. Friends like Bill Kyono, Bob Midzuno, Zane Matsuzaki, and Frank Nishimura are active in the postal group. Others on the committee are new friends, who unselfishly give of their time and energy towards a cause which will benefit many Nisei if successful.

Anyone interested in supporting this worthy effort may write to the Committee for Internment Credit, care of William Kyono, 387 - 23rd Ave., San Francisco 94121.

I know our national organization will be supportive of this effort and will cooperate with CIC to correct an injustice too long ignored. The CIC effort will be nationwide, I hope you'll join them.

rights and opportunities for the disadvantaged, the denied, and the deprived.

He helped found the New York JACL while still in Law School and was the first Chairman of the Eastern District JACL Council. After being elected successively Third, Second, and First National JACL Vice Presidents in the 1950's, he refused the national presidency in order to concentrate on the law and the legislature for the redress of the wrongs committed against those of Japanese origin, first as the National JACL Legal Counsel and then as the Chairman of the National JACL Legal-Legislative Committee for many years.

Married to the former Futami Ogawa, also of Sacramento, he has an adopted daughter Holly, who is now a junior at St. Johns University in New York.

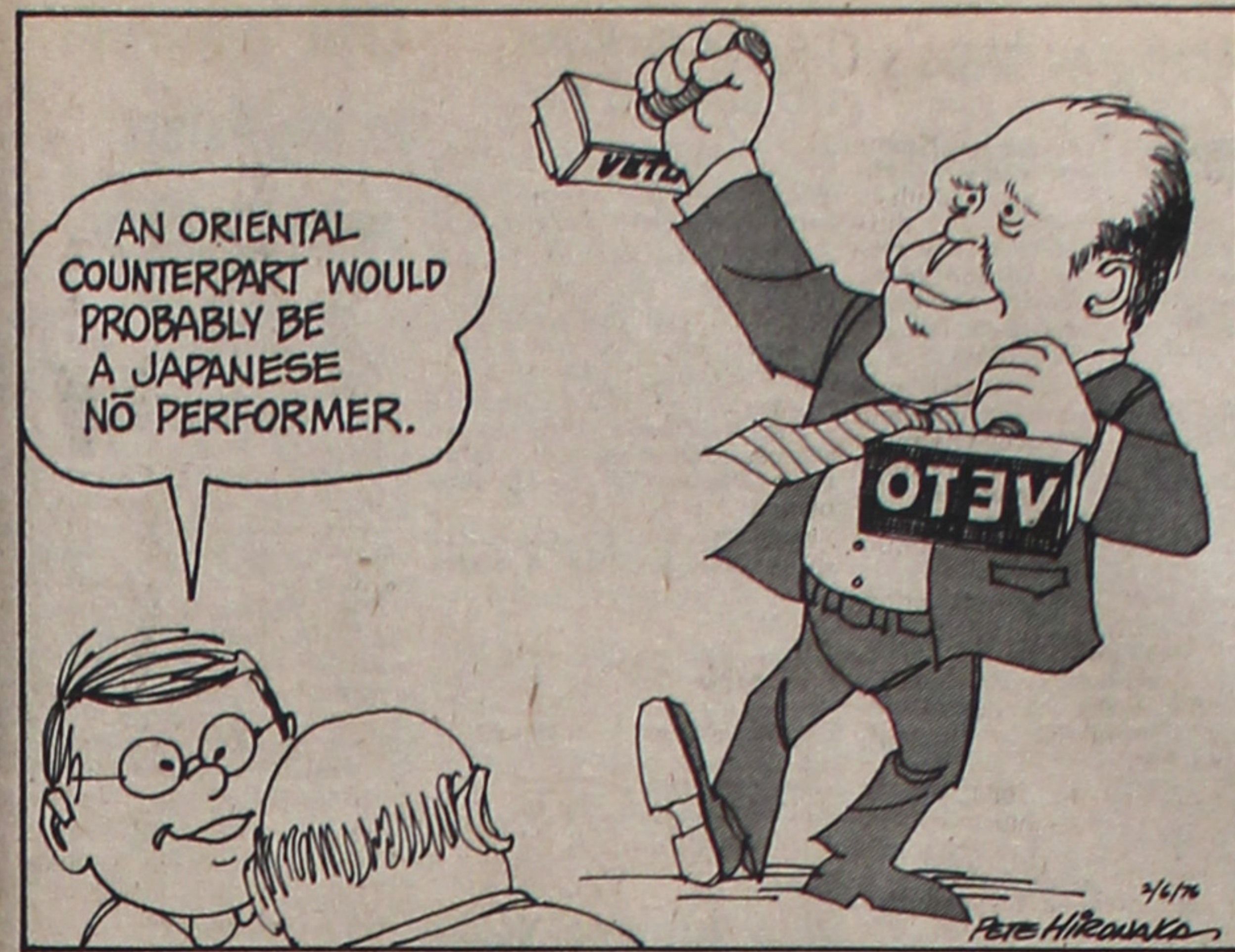
Because of the financial and other aid offered by the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council and others of goodwill, Tom was able to leave the Tule Lake WRA camp and to attend Bard College in New York City in 1943. Again because of the financial and other help from "friends," he was able to attend and to graduate with honors from the New York University Law School in 1946. Tom never forgot that only the help of a volunteer student relocation organization and of friends enabled him to enter into the law profession, especially since he could never have entered this field while in Sacramento.

He first worked as a legal aid in the prestigious New York law firm Whitman and Ransom, then opened up a partnership known as Zalk and Hayashi, and finally returned to Whitman and Ransom as a partner some ten years before his death on Feb. 9, 1974. Though he specialized in international law, he devoted much of his time to voluntary immigration and citizenship, civil and human

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FROM THE FRYING PAN: Bill Hosokawa

Tororo, etcetera

Denver, Colo.

Back in childhood, which was a long time ago, my father would bring home something known to the Japanese as tororo-imo. It was a knobby, gnarled root, looking something like a warty, sunburned, malnourished daikon.

Kenkyusha's Japanese-English dictionary says tororo-imo is a type of yam. I thought yams were sweet potatoes, but Webster's says the yam also can be starchy, tuberous root of various plants. So that's probably what the tororo-imo (imo means potato in Japanese) was and is.

My mother would scrape the skin off the tororo, which was like scraping a carrot, and grate the root in a mixing bowl. This produced a slimy, viscous fluid. Then she would add soup stock. The result was stuff that looked like, I hope you will pardon me, what might be found in the bottom of an uncleaned spittoon.

But the flavor was wonderful. My brother and I looked forward to the occasions when the Old Man, who did most of the shopping since Ma didn't drive, would bring a tororo-imo home.

I shall call the finished product tororo soup for want of a better term. It was served in bowls at room temperature. The flavor is indescribable because there is nothing else quite like it. Perhaps the closest thing is the poi of Hawaii, but somewhat thinner and before fermentation has given it the sourish taste.

Tororo soup could be slurped, and the sensation was most satisfying as it slid down the esophagus. It was even better poured over rice. The tororo soup made the rice too slippery to chew, so one just sort of inhaled the mixture. Eating this way, a young fellow was likely to consume double his normal rice quota, which may have been the reason the Old Man brought home tororo-imo only infrequently.

After I left home, the opportunities

of slurping tororo soup were rare. Until the other night when Kyoko Kita fixed some.

She made it just the way Ma did. It had the same bilious appearance. It slid down the gullet, with the same satisfying sensation, together with an astonishing quantity of rice. It was like being a boy again.

I must introduce you to Kyoko. She is the long-suffering wife of my boyfriend, Hatch Kita. They moved to Denver last fall. Hatch was one of the first G.I.'s to land in Japan after the surrender in 1945. He took his discharge there, and latched onto a civil service job working for the U.S. Army. In all he spent some 30 years in and around Tokyo. Along the way he met and married Kyoko, the accomplished daughter of a physician.

Kyoko knows quite a bit about the Japanese cultural arts. She is a certified flower arrangement teacher, she can play I don't know how many Japanese musical instruments and she serves tea with proper ceremony. But it is as a cook that she shines most brilliantly. Perhaps I am a bit prejudiced in this regard because of all her accomplishments, her culinary skills are what I am best prepared to appreciate.

At any rate, she has not been shy about demonstrating her cooking skills for friends, which may be the reason that, as reported last week, slacks with a 38-inch waist are somewhat more comfortable on me now than a 36. She whumps up Chinese dishes and assembles Japanese delicacies with rare artistry. She also makes tororo soup. Hatch Kita is a clod not to appreciate more what a jewel he discovered and married and brought home to enrich the culinary delights of Denver.

I have been toying with the idea of writing a song about tororo, the first two lines of which are: Ta-ra boom dee-ay/Tororo makes my day. But on second thought it seems wiser simply to enjoy eating it. Slurp!

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## Hayakawa critical of WW2 camp issue revival

CUPERTINO, Calif. — Speaking here at the West Valley JACL installation dinner Jan. 24, Dr. S. I. Hayakawa criticized young Japanese American activists for their revival of the World War II relocation camp issue.

"Recent demands and public posturing by a militant group of young Japanese American activists—most of whom had not even been born at the time of the 1942 coastal evacuation—should be regarded with more caution than enthusiasm," Hayakawa declared.

Such groups have been demanding additional war reparations for relocated families and installation of plaques inscribed "concentration camp" at the sites.

"It is not to be denied that racism and economic opportunism were involved in the Japanese relocation. But the compelling reason was that Japan was at war with the United States and there were ample grounds to fear an attack or invasion of the Pacific Coast."

He said the activists' demands are "unnecessary for Japanese Americans, who are already in the American mainstream." Today, he continued, "Japanese have a higher than average level of education and income; they have political representation, locally and nationally, greater than their proportion of the population, and they enjoy such a degree of social acceptance that more than half of their marriages are to non-Japanese."

(Hayakawa, a Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, will be guest speaker at the Riverside JACL installation Feb. 7 at the Palace of the Dragon, 5602 Mission, Rubidoux.)

### Service center moves

LOS ANGELES—Oriental Service Center has moved to 1315 W. 7th St., (483-0644), open daily from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Besides trying to help community agencies hire bilingual Oriental workers, it offers information and referral services to the Asian communities.

## Japanese figure skating champion bred in Minnesota bound for Olympics

TOKYO — Japanese senior ladies' figure skating champion, Emi Cathy Watanabe, 16, is competing this week at Innsbruck in the Winter Olympics.

The petite lass has been living since age 9 near Minneapolis with her Filipino mother in order to study under skating coach Felix Kaspar. Her father is sales manager for Philippine Airlines in Manila and Tokyo. She was home here last month for several exhibitions before members of the Imperial Family and the public.

After the Olympics and the World Figure Skating Championships in Sweden, she intends to return to her classes at Golden Valley High School and graduate.

## KENNY UYEDA: Gardena Valley JACLER North Torrance's Outstanding Citizen

TORRANCE, Calif. — Kenny Uyeda was honored by the North Torrance Lions Club as its "outstanding citizen" during the club's community recognition week, Jan. 26-30. About 200 attended the testimonial banquet held Jan. 27 at Mishima Restaurant.

The Utah-born Nisei was cited for his contributions and service to an overwhelming range of civic and business organizations, especially in terms of devotion to the task at hand and inspiration to others.

In making the selection, Kay Iizuka, recognitions chairman, and James Ogawa, club president, said Uyeda's work with the Torrance Planning Commission was most significant.

Appointed in 1956, Uyeda has been vice-chairman the past 12 years and never missed a public hearing since being appointed—a 20-year perfect attendance record. He also is past president of the So. Calif. Planning Council, comprised of planning officials in the region; past president of the Southwest Area Planning Council, composed of representatives from 14 cities in the South Bay area; and past v.p. for Los Angeles County Assn. of Planning Officials.

Uyeda is secretary with the L.A. regional forum on solid waste management—a 140-member group involved in reclamation and recycling, sanitation and water resource protection.

Besides running his business, Kenny's nursery, since his return from Ogden during WW2 where he worked with the War Manpower Commission and Office of Defense Transportation, he assists the Torrance YMCA and Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute in their respective development programs. He is also a charter member of the North Torrance Lions Club.

Uyeda attended Jordan High School in Sandy, Utah, and graduated from Utah Aggies. In 1936, the family (which includes the now Mrs. Chiz Satow of San Francisco) moved to El Monte and continued farming. Kenny was a produce buyer when war came and evacuated voluntarily back to Utah, where he married the former Alice S. Ito of Tremonton in 1943. They have two children, Douglas, and Declynn (Mrs. Michael Hama).

Other dignitaries and organizations joined in honoring Uyeda. They included: Kalamazoo Hawaii; Gardena Valley Nisei Club; GV Japanese Cultural Institute; GV JACL; GV Gardena Assn.; City of Torrance; County of Los Angeles; the Offices of Gov. Edmund Brown, Assemblyman Paul Bernal, State Sen. Ralph Dills and Rep. Charles H. Wilson.

Frank Okada was dinner emcee. Community Recognition Week was being celebrated for the first time this year by the Lions club throughout the United States.

### Fresno —

Continued from Front Page



Judy Nishimoto

the Keith Nishimotos. Judy is a senior at Madera High School, a straight A student, active in school government, on the student swim team, and member of the Fresno JAYS. Money for this activity was raised by the Fresno ALL, the Gardener's Association, the local Sierra Nisei VFW post, and Fresno JAYS.

Currently, there have been plans to offer a scholarship as a joint effort by the Fresno ALL and JAYS.

1976 will be a busy year for the Fresno ALL. Persons interested in the activities and fun should contact Taro Katagiri. Persons wishing to become members should contact Norton Nishio, 4474 N. Pleasant, Fresno 93705. Dues are \$14 single and \$26 couple.

Fresno ALL meets every first Monday at the North Fresno Branch of the California First Bank (formerly the Bank of Tokyo).

### Washington, D.C. —

Continued from Front Page

Night, Japanese films, potluck dinner, picnic, duffels club tournament, Japanese cooking class, and chapter installation dinner.

In addition, over 50 tickets were distributed to members of the Washington, D.C. Chapter to go to the White House Arriving Ceremony for Emperor Hirohito.

Thank to the effort of Seiko Wakabayashi, the chapter reached nearly 400 members. Seiko is membership chairperson again this year. Interested persons should call or write Seiko. Address is 7020 Sulky Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852. Phone (301) 881-7390.

Gale Asaka, the JAYS advisor, had a successful year with a lot of fun with JAY young people like Kaia Kitagawa, Debbie Asaka, Cathy Nishimoto, Corrine Furukawa, Linda Suzuki, Roxanne Uyeda, and Ruthellly Enokida. From selling hot dogs, T-shirts, and stationery to assuming responsibility for one of the chapter programs for the year, the JAYS have done a very good job.

Major Event for '76 This year, 1976, similar events will be held with the Smithsonian Folklife Festival being a major event. The leadership activities have been turned over to Mike Suzuki who has been elected as the new chairman. Mike is no stranger to the JACL as he has served for many years as a leader at all levels including the position as a National vice-president.

Special recognition must go to Harry Takagi, Joe Hirata,



Livingston-Merced JACL cabinet members are installed. From left: (Top) Kazuo Masuda, David Ushio (Nat'l Director), Frank Shoji, Leonard Kinoshita, Hiroshi Hamaguchi, Ki Shibata; (Front) Floy Yagi, June Kishi, Frances Tashima, Betty Minabe.

## Pulse Installation

San Benito County JACL installed John Kurasaki president in ceremonies conducted Jan. 18 by San Benito County Superior Judge Edward Brady at the annual dinner at Paine's in Hollister. Kurasaki succeeds Gary Shingal.

Stephen Magyar, vice president of Monterey Savings & Loan, spoke on public relations. Kay Kamimoto was program chairman, Tony Boch was emcee. Sho Nakamoto was handed the chapter fishing derby trophy. Ten new members of the chapter were introduced also.

A retired Army colonel at Ft. Ord, Magyar stressed PR should be a day-to-day activity for everyone and illustrated his points humorously. The average American, greatly concerned about body odors, deuses himself with deodorants and sweet-smelling lotions and then "emerges from the bathroom with a personality that stinks."

A serious message about the need for better PR for the nation's farmers began with the remark that "agriculture has done the loudest job of PR of anybody." Most people take agriculture for granted, like a light switch on the wall. "Someday, if we don't keep pace, we will flip the switch and the lights won't go on. But it would be even worse if we would go to the store and there would be no food. Good PR starts with you and in agriculture or in any business, it can pay great rewards," he concluded.

Reno JACL elected Ron Yamamoto chapter president and will swear him and his cabinet into office Feb. 6, 7 p.m. at Elorado Hotel, 4th and Virginia. National JACL president Hirohito.

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Special recognition must go to Harry Takagi, Joe Hirata,

ed "to have it made" and this too has its disadvantages. Weiner said, "The Japanese are blanketed as Asian Americans and special efforts are being made as in Japanese American studies in school."

Attempts to foster classes in Jewish history and Jewish American studies have generally failed, he said, "because it has been pointed out that help is given only the disadvantaged."

Other speakers were Sue Bransten, AJC board member, and Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki of Lafayette.

Many similarities in discriminatory practices and attitudes directed against Japanese Americans and Jews were noted by the speakers and in the discussions which followed the talks.

—Nichi Bei Times

and Tosh Hoshide for their long time service in the local chapter. They received awards at our installation dinner.

Because this year will be the Bicentennial of this country, the Washington, D.C. Chapter will be very busy. If you happen to be visiting, D.C. this year, please look up us and we'll be delighted to show you some fine hospitality which characterizes our chapter.

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## Liv-Merced hear Ushio-Nishioka at joint installation

MODESTO, Calif. — New officers of the Livingston-Merced JACL and the Livingston-Cortez JAYS were sworn in at a joint installation dinner Jan. 24 at the Holiday Inn here. Livingston Postmaster Nori Tashima, a past chapter president was emcee.

National JACL director David Ushio and youth director Gail Nishioka installed as guest speakers and installation officers. Leonard Kinoshita was re-elected chapter president while Vicki Hamaguchi heads the JAYS.

Ushio related some experiences he and his wife encountered during their November trip to Japan, meeting with Crown Prince and Princess of Japan, appearing on TV and visiting his relatives. Ushio said there is need for Nisei and Sansei to become more aware and knowledgeable of U.S.-Japan relations.

Nishioka spoke on the role of Japanese American youth in today's society and shared some of her views about the growth of youth organizations.

1976 Programs

Kinoshita previewed 1976 chapter activities, stressing community programs and concerns with health services, affirmative action for Merced Union High School, city beautification, and cultural studies at Stanislaus State College.

Kinoshita also revealed their Issei Story project is underway and when completed, it will tell of the Issei pioneers and their families in the Yamato and Cressey colonies.

Representatives from the 1976 JACL convention board

Edwin Ohki (542-3723), Cotati—Martin Shimizu (795-5042).

February Events

Tickets have been distributed for the annual chicken teriyaki take-out on Feb. 22, by the Santa Maria Valley JACL to raise "Dollars for Scholars". George Shiro-ma heads the cooking crew, assisted by Tony Tito and men of the chapter. All monies must be submitted to treasurer Rose Oye or president Ellen Kishiyama by Feb. 14. Champion ticket seller to date is Mary Ueki, who has sold over 91 tickets. Last year the group sold 714 tickets.

January Events

Sonoma County JACL has launched its 1976 membership campaign with renewal letters sent to those on the 1975 list. Dues are \$17 single, \$30 couple, remitting them to the chapter membership chairman, Frank Oda, 1615 W. 3rd St., Santa Rosa 95401.

Florin JACL announced the election of William Kashiwagi of Sacramento as 1976 president.



Livingston-Cortez JAY's officers: From left: Standing—David Ushio (Nat'l Director), Paul Yamaguchi, Cyndi Yamamoto, Eugene Kajloka, Grant Horuchi (NCWNYC chmn.); Seated—Charlotte Nishihara, Vicki Hamaguchi, Dawn Nakashima.

also described highlights of the week in Sacramento. Rev. Wendell Hansen, pastor of Livingston United Methodist Church, gave invocation. On the dinner committee were:

Myrtle Shibata, Nancy Yagi, Yo Kinoshita, N. Tashima, L. Kinoshita and Hiroshi Hamaguchi.

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535 S. Grand Ave., L.A.	624-1505
New Orient Express, 5455 Wilshire Blvd., L.A.	937-2146
Gardena Travel Service, 1610 W. Redondo Beach, Gardena	
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Travel meeting for all interested in any JACL Japan Flight will be held TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 8 p.m., Sumitomo Bank of California, 1251 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Gardena.

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## CALENDAR

Feb. 6 (Friday)  
Seattle—Inst dnr, Bush Garden, 7:30 p.m.; Bruce Chapman, spkr.  
Reno—Inst Dnr, Eldorado Hotel, 7 p.m.; Jim Murakami, spkr.  
Feb. 7 (Saturday)  
Chicago—Inst dnr-dance, Pyrenees Restaurant, Skokie.  
Contra Costa—Inst dnr, Silver Dragon Restaurant, Oakland.  
Rep. Norm Mineta, spkr.  
Santa Barbara—Inst dnr, Montecito Country Club.  
San Mateo—Inst dnr.  
Airport Marina, 6:30 p.m.; Dr. Paul Takagi, spkr. "Crimes in America".  
Riverside—Inst dnr, Palace of the Dragon, Rubidoux, 7 p.m.; Dr. S. I. Hayakawa, spkr.  
Feb. 8 (Sunday)  
NCWNYC—Party Sess, Sacramento JACL hosts.  
Sacramento—Inst Dnr, Sacramento Inn, 6 p.m.; Jerry Enomoto, spkr.  
Feb. 9 (Monday)  
Puyallup Valley—Bd Mtg.  
Feb. 13-15  
Nat'l JACL—Bd Mtg, Hq, San Francisco.  
Feb. 14 (Saturday)  
Chicago—JAYS Parents Appreciation.

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● Carson JACL held its first installation ceremonies in December with State Assemblyman Paul Bannai (at right, standing) as installing officer. Board members are (from left): seated—Nita Baird, cor sec; Fumi Takahashi, vp (memb); Miriam Nishida, sec; Ruth Sakamoto, treas; Rita McCormick, ways and means; standing—Ken Harada, vp (prog); Joe Sakamoto, pres; Joe Harlow, Don Watanabe, bd. Festivities included a potluck dinner and Christmas gifts for children.

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## Fujii declines post to chair '76 PBA open

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Tokio Fujii was co-chairman of the first Sacramento Professional Bowlers Assn. Open in June, doing such a great job of piecing together the details for an even-keel operation that obviously pleased PBA executives.

But he has declined to co-chair the mammoth event proposed next summer at Country Club Lanes.

Besides managing El Rancho Bowl in West Sacramento, Fujii said he had too many other outlets consuming his time with interests in two trophy businesses and serving as an officer for the local California First Bank.

Reginald Pearson, Fujii's co-chair companion, praised the Sacramento JACLER for his ability to organize a volunteer staff of more than 100 scorekeepers, tabulators and clerks to help reduce the cost of hosting the PBA event. It was also Fujii's job to line-up a record 725 pro-am entries whose fees helped local promoters guarantee \$12,000 toward the \$50,000 purse.

## Seek rest home for Seafle Nikkei

SEATTLE, Wash.—Broad support from the community is being sought by Issei Concerns Inc., which revealed plans to purchase the Mt. Baker Convalescent Home, 1700 - 24th Ave. South, for use by convalescing Japanese patients.

Issei Concerns Inc. reported there are some 80 Japanese patients convalescing in various rest homes in the Puget Sound area.

A kickoff dinner to raise \$500,000 over a five year span was being planned. Edwin Hiroto of City View Hospital, Los Angeles, recently explained the grass-roots problems to be encountered in such an undertaking.

The Mt. Baker home is two blocks north of the Japanese Presbyterian Church.

## SEATTLE STARTS KODAMA FILM LIBRARY FUND

SEATTLE, Wash. — A \$1,000 contribution from Mrs. Hosoe Kodama to develop a reference film library was acknowledged by Seattle JACL last month.

Acquisition of films will have direct benefit to the Japanese community for its informational and educational values, chapter president Dr. Lindbergh S. Sata declared in acknowledging the gift.

Mrs. Kodama, decorated by the Japanese government for her contributions to the community, is known for her promotion of flower arrangements here and is associated in the hotel business.

## 1970 Census

WASHINGTON — Census of the 1960 and 1970 population for five racial groups for each state and county (blacks, American Indians, Japanese, Chinese and Filipino) published Jan. 15. Report is published in PC-81 No. 104 (\$1.70) from the U.S. Gov't Printing Office or from Commerce District Offices in major U.S. cities.

## ECHOES: Joe Oyama

### 'Just one too many Dinosaurs'

Hoboken, N.J. The whole thing is so ridiculous that when a group of Asian Americans are together, they just can't help but laugh at the Fu Manchu image perpetrated upon them by both the movies and TV.

If it weren't so serious, they would be laughing outside of the private domiciles of their breuders, but not when the acceptance of the stereotypes has become such a serious thing that we end up dropping bombs on Vietnam, Hiroshima, and then incarcerate Japanese Americans in concentration camps as done during World War 2, while Nisei GI's were on the front line fighting a battle for democracy.

It's all a matter of degree, and Peter Ustinov is the Chinese archfiend in a Disney production appropriately called 'One of Our Dinosaurs Is Missing.' In a New York Times review of the film ('One of Our Dinosaurs Is Missing') by Richard Eder, Ustinov stands menacingly behind Helen Hayes, the many archangel.

Any Asian American child, or lover of Walt Disney, would have difficulty identifying with Peter Ustinov, and in his mind's eye, he would have no choice but to reject himself as an Asian American to be accepted by his white peers. To be really accepted, he would have to do a samurai and become anti-Asian. How would you like that?

Catherine Okada Robin To stay away from Disney films in droves, Asian Americans will be doing a service not only to themselves, but to all Asians in this country. Besides, the film reviews for this particular film have been bad. On Aug. 11 last year, Catherine Okada

## Social Security boost for Nikkei



Gary Nakamura

San Francisco JACL is headed by Gary Nakamura, operations officer at California First Bank's Japan Center office. Born and raised in Sanger, he is a graduate in public health administration and education from Fresno State University. His wife is the former Arlene Suda of Fresno.

## S.F. JACL-initiated public service on Social Security changes effective

SAN FRANCISCO — Recent publicity in the Japanese vernacular press that Japanese Americans can claim additional social security credit for time spent in any of the WRA relocation centers has generated a flurry of activity.

The change in the law was reported in early 1974 and also announced at the National JACL Convention in Portland. But not too many evacuees were aware of the amendment.

Late last fall, the San Francisco JACL decided to see what could be done to spread the news about the liberalization of the law for evacuees because it was felt many could be benefitted.

CHERRY ISHIMATSU: Coachella Valley JACLER

## Heads Calif. Women for Agriculture

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. — Cherry Ishimatsu of Coachella was elected first state president after a marathon meeting of some 50 women from throughout the state met here this past week (Jan. 20) to organize the statewide California Women for Agriculture.

The organizational seminar was hosted by the Coachella Valley CWA chapter, the first chapter in the state founded last November.

The statewide CWA board of directors approved five districts for the state and indicated their main areas of



Cherry Ishimatsu

SAN FRANCISCO—In cooperation with the Social Security Administration, the San Francisco JACL is assisting in the search for elderly Issei and Nisei who were interned in relocation centers during World War II and who are not currently drawing benefits.

George Shimizu, with the Social Security Administration, stated that "deemed non-contributory Social Security wage credits" are now provided for all Japanese who were age 18 and over during the period they were interned by the U.S. government from Dec. 7, 1941 through Dec. 31, 1946.

The special wage credits for Social Security purpose are a result of a re-interpretation of the 1972 amendments to the Social Security Act. "The new interpretation," Shimizu said, "means that any person of Japanese ancestry is eligible for these credits if interned in a relocation camp within the boundaries of the U.S. and was at least 18 years of age during any part of the time spent there."

Forms in both Japanese and English were distributed to local banks, organizations, churches and other JACL chapters. (Full story of JACL push belatedly appears in this week's issue.) Articles were published.

The JACL-supplied forms at the Japan Center office of California First Bank ran out and more copies were duplicated on the office photocopy machine. Within a month's time, over 100 forms have been received and forwarded to Washington, D.C., to check on residency within camp.

Local SSA official Tom Matsumoto urged evacuees who stayed in camps to file.

Previously, the 1972 law restricted the special coverage to the Japanese who were citizens at the time of relocation.

"The requirement of citizenship was the crusher. It did nothing to aid the Issei who need the credits the most now. It actually knocked the Issei out of everything due them unless they returned to covered employment after the war," Shimizu stated.

"We want to seek out as many individuals as possible so that the monthly benefits can be paid or Medicare coverage given. We want to ask all organizations, church groups, friends and relatives to get in touch with their nearest Social Security office and let us know who the Issei are, or Nisei who might be helped under the new law."

Shimizu also stated that it is possible for an internee to receive up to 21 quarters of free wage credits. This would enable most Issei to draw monthly payments from Social Security.

Issei in Japan If an Issei has returned to Japan they should contact their nearest U.S. Consulate and file for these benefits. Widows can file if their husbands were ever in relocation camps.

Nisei not covered by Social Security in their present or past employment can also take advantage of the change.

In the Social Security office at 1701 Divisadero, Tom Matsumoto can answer questions regarding these special wage credits and other questions regarding Supplemental Security Income (SSI). If anyone has been denied a benefit from Social Security in the past they should certainly recontact their nearest office.

JACL Forms Out San Francisco JACL has distributed a very simple form which provides all the necessary information for the Social Security office to begin the process. Forms are available here at:

California First Bank, Japan Trade Center, Sumitomo Bank, 525 Geary Blvd.; Mitsubishi Bank, 425 Montgomery St.; Sanwa Bank, 200 Montgomery St.; Hamilton Senior Center, Geary and Steiner St.; Pine United Methodist Church, 128 - 33rd Ave.; Buddhist Church, 1881 Pine St.; Konkko-kyo Church, 1909 Bush St.; Christ Episcopal Church, 2140 Pierce St.; Christ United Presbyterian, 1700 Sutter St.; Kinokuni Inc., 1331 Webster St.; National JACL Hq., 1133 Sutter St.

Forms were also distributed at the last NC-WNDC meeting in November. Anyone outside the San Francisco area should contact their local JACL chapter or San Francisco JACL, P.O. Box 24225, San Francisco 94122.

Each applicant should fill out the forms completely. The dates of internment do not have to be exact. Women filling should include their maiden name. The application should be sent to: SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE, Tom Matsumoto, 1701 Divisadero, San Francisco, Calif. 94115.

The Social Security office will then send a letter acknowledging the application. After the office has computed the figures and checked with the National Archives in Washington, any additional increase in payment will appear in the monthly check along with an explanation. The entire process may take some time to complete, but if the person has an opportunity to increase their monthly benefits it is well worth the time it takes to fill out the form and mail it.

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• Craig Kusaba

## Take Five

Craig Kusaba is a senior at UCLA in political science and history with an avocation in writing film reviews, which began to appear in the San Francisco *Hokubei* Mainichi several years ago. Here is his first review for PC readers.—Ed.

### Band of Assassins

"Band of Assassins" (Shin-sengumi), Toshio Mifune's monumental 100th motion picture, is very similar to his other recent films, "Under the Banner of Samurai," such as employing veteran samurai actor Kinoshita, and the rampant bloodshed that hasn't been seen on the far side since "The Wild Bunch."

As with most Japanese movies this one is bogged down in melodrama. Few people, including myself, leave the theatre not in a depressed state. The plot revolves around Isami Kondo, a fencing instructor played by Mifune, who leaves his wife, his baby daughter, and his farm, to protect the Shogunate, who is embroiled in a power struggle with the Loyalists. Armed with eight of his best students, he receives the Military Commissioner's help and adds more men to create the Shinsen Group in Kyoto.

However, despite their heroic valiant efforts, the Shogunate fell, and thus emerged the period of the Meiji Restoration. Whereupon, the Emperor opened Japan's gates to foreign nations. Japan's last samurai were gone, for better or for worse.

Mifune as usual mostly frowns and never cracks a smile, an "I'm too busy" expression the best he can muster, despite looking in the worst of moods throughout. Possibly, the added pressure of being producer induced it or having to kill 50,000 adversaries grew monotonous. The character Mifune portrays is a bit out of line with his regular roles as Kondo's attitude changes, softening as his exploits wear on. This is contrasted to the part of Toshio Hijikata, his second in command, played by Keiji Kobayashi, which would have much more suited his screen image, as he carries out orders promptly and with precision, to the fullest extent of the meeting, causing him to be disliked within the ranks and his humanity questioned by all.

By the way, besides having blood spurt away, cloth and flesh blown apart by rifles, hara kiri, and blood literally emitting by the mouthful, director of photography, Kazuo Yamada, must be complemented for the final scene, one that has not been matched in gore since the climax of the aforementioned, "Under the Banner of Samurai."

See you at the bloodbath.

### AAFEC newsletter

WASHINGTON — The Asian American Federal Employees Caucus has issued its first newsletter last month to promote dialogue between AAFEC members and the community. Copies may be secured from:  
Betty Lee, 4070 Battery Ln Apt 401, Bethesda, Md 20814.

# Michi and Me

By MARY Y. KARASAWA

This coming April, "Years of Infamy: The Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps" by Michi Weglyn will be published by William Morrow & Co. I think it is courageous, as well as commendable, that the editors of Morrow are publishing this story in our Bicentennial year, because "Years of Infamy" is not the kind of history of which America can be proud.

I recently read the unedited rewrite of the book, and it has

### Book Review

added new dimensions to my understanding of our (Japanese American) experience of World War II. I don't think anyone who lived through the "camp experience" will be able to finish reading this book without experiencing every range of human emotion—much of which has been lying dormant for the past 33 years.

Memories come back so vividly when we allow them to surface. Many that you will recall will not be happy memories, but the author's intent is not to rekindle painful feelings of yesterday—although this will happen.

Reflecting back over those years from the perspective of the now mature adult, each reader will sift through some vivid recollections of his own experience and may feel the need to really talk about it, just as the avid football fan feels a need to dissect and analyze a football game.

### Persistent Question

All of us have been asked by well meaning friends and others, "What was it like?" It's hard to find the "right" words to describe the camp experience. How many of us always searched for the more positive memories? There were those such as the good times and friendships from camp high school, for example. That's when my friendship with Michi began.

I feel fortunate to have a friend whose depth of compassion, devotion, and sense of responsibility to humanity is as great as Michi. She was evacuated from Brentwood, an isolated community in Contra Costa County where her family farmed. At peak periods, she and her sister worked in the fields alongside the Chicanos, Filipinos, and migrant white farmers from Oklahoma and Arkansas. At that time, she herself was "a naive, apolitical patriot, totally unquestioning," which is the consciousness most of us teenagers of that period shared. Her Issei parents never uttered a single disrespectful word about President Roosevelt. They called him "our erai President."

She was always gifted, creative and excelled (and obviously still is). When she was Girls League President in Butte High School (Gila) she organized a statewide girls league convention which was held in camp. Over 500 girls from 10 Arizona high schools outside of camp convened to participate in the conference that included panel discussions, field events, and various types of entertainment. Upon graduation she received a full scholarship to Mt. Holyoke College in Massachusetts.

### Parents Relocate

Her parents resettled at that time in Seabrook, N.J., where she worked two summers during vacations, first as a disc jockey playing polkas and marches during the midnight shift, and the second season as an assistant to the U.S.O. director.

Most people know of her 8-year association with Perry Como as the costume designer for his TV show. She "retired" when his show was moved to Burbank, Calif.

Her husband, Walter, who has been tremendously supportive, unselfish and devoted, has shared the tears, the trauma, and all the agonies that go into something like "Years of Infamy," but she has tried to spare him upsets which she thought she could bear alone.

In fact, when McGraw-Hill lost her manuscript and photo-album, and did not tell Walter until six months later when they were found! (She told me later that Edison Uno and I were the only two to share this agonizing news.)

Discovering some of the documents long kept secret was truly a painful experience to Michi. I recall her telling me that some of the revelations hurt so much that it literally made her sick and nauseated for days. This was truly a "labor of love." She had the courage, perseverance and enough concern for all of us to write this book, and tell our story.

Her documented facts and events from the National Archives can't help but cause your adrenalin to flow. You will swear you will cry, you will feel bitter, but you will surely begin to see the pieces of the puzzle come together, as you keep asking yourself over and over, "How could it have happened?" It's frightening and scary. Recent revelations of Watergate, CIA and FBI activities, and the Pentagon Papers have also called our attention to the same kind of secrecy and coverups in government.

People of Japanese ancestry were raped of their dignity and humanity, being the victims of racism who claimed internment was justified in the name of "national security" and for the "protection of those admirable people." The facts uncovered by Michi enabled me to develop further insight into racism, and also understanding of the politics and rationale of expediency in some national decision making. It really was an "Act Now, Think Later" situation.

Michi describes the secret pre-Pearl Harbor investigation ordered by FDR which was ignored. The report confirmed unequivocally that persons of Japanese ancestry posed no threat to national security. She exposes the full extent of the American government's persecutory policy towards the Kibei, the Joint Chiefs of Staff directive calling for "all Japanese residents to be concentrated in U.S. mainland camps; documents relating to high-level thinking in regards to postwar deportations, etc.

It was not a good feeling to discover after all these years that we were being "tooled" by those in power; the unfortunate fact being that we weren't even aware of it. Each of us can't help but gain a deeper appreciation, respect and pride in our heritage. My father, if he were alive, would have appreciated

## PC's PEOPLE

### Government



Mary Kamidoi

Former Detroit JACL president Mary Kamidoi was appointed by Mayor McNamara of Livonia to the Mayor's Council for a three-year term. She was named to its human relations committee.

Calif. Gov. Brown chipped away some more at the list of 600 appointments he has to make to boards, commissions and executive positions this past week. Among the 20 announced Jan. 26 was Peter Hamatani, a Courtland rancher who was renamed to the seven-member Reclamation Board. A precedent was set in selecting two from outside the central valley and asked the board to consider statewide flood control issues, rather than just those in the Central Valley, the board's mission over its 60-year period.

The Japanese Foreign Office announced Yukio Takamatsu, 57, currently consul general at Hamburg, will be assigned to Los Angeles, succeeding Keiichi Tachibana who has been named minister at the Japanese embassy in London. Tachibana has

known of Michi's findings. I thank him and my mother, and all other Issei, who had the courage, faith, and energy to survive themselves to survive against such overwhelming odds. Unfortunately, in some particular cases, the physical and emotional sufferings and pain were insurmountable.

I would hope that every person of Japanese ancestry, and especially the Nisei, would read this for probably no other book will move them as this one. I would recommend that this book become required reading for Asian American Studies Classes. I would also like to see each JACL chapter place a copy in every public library in their district.

Of all the pre-publication praises the book has to its credit already, perhaps the one which every Japanese American will appreciate the most is the Introduction by author, James Michener. His words are a tribute to the calibre and depth of Michi's book. (See 1975 PC Holiday Issue.)

It is a book that will make a deep and profound impact on any reader of any age who values the principles of justice under which our country stands.

been named minister at the Japanese embassy in London. Takamatsu had been an economic minister at the Japanese embassy in Jakarta and Washington.

San Francisco Sanel attorney David K. Yamanaka Jr. was appointed by outgoing Mayor Alioto to the San Francisco human rights commission, succeeding Ben L. Hom who had resigned in December. Yamanaka's term expires in 1978. He was former deputy director of the Economic Opportunity Council, active with Model Cities and the Japanese Community and Cultural Center of Northern California, now planning to construct a building.

### Agriculture

Among the 40 producers, processors and shippers appointed by California Food and Agriculture Director L. T. Wallace to serve as members or alternates on the Strawberry Advisory Board for the annual term which began Jan. 1 were a number of Nisei:

PRODUCERS—Mitsui (a), Orange; Eddie Nakamura, Arroyo Grande; Ray Fukutomi, Oxnard; Bob I. Okamura, Selma; George Yamamoto (a), Fresno; George Yamamoto (a), Watsonville; James A. Yamamoto (a), Fresno; George Kawanami, San Jose; Tom Iwanaga (a), San Martin; Sats Uyekubo, Modesto; Jack Ishida (a), Modesto.

PROCESSORS—Tad Tomita, San Jose; Joe H. Nakai, (a), Los Angeles.

SHIPPERS—William Yamada (a), Watsonville; Frank Shiraki, Watsonville; Harry Watanabe, Camarillo; Fred Y. Hirasuna (a), Fresno.

### Churches

Rev. LaVerne Sasaki, pastor of Mountain View Buddhist Church, welcomed Rev. Thanh Cat, Vietnamese refugee, and his group which used the Mountain View temple for special rites in Vietnamese Jan. 18.

### Education

Peace Corps volunteer Linda Mayeda, 23-year-old daughter of the Hiroshi Mayedas of Chicago teaching in a Ghana secondary school, says she's been mistaken for "Chinese" who must have ability to kill with one carefully placed blow thus explaining the popularity of Kung Fu films there. Her two-year tour of duty ends July, 1976. She graduated in chemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1973.

### Milestones

William T. Ishida, 62, of Columbus, Ohio died Jan. 18. A longtime 1000 Clubber, he was Fresno JACL president in 1937.

T. Toshiro Dri, 92, of San Francisco died Jan. 20. Arriving the U.S. in 1903, he served as executive secretary of the Placer County Japanese Assn. prewar. There were over 40 Japanese Assns. in the state and he was the last surviving executive secretary. He retired 25 years ago and lived in San Francisco. Surviving are w Ima, s Steven (PC Board member), Wesley (NC-WNDC governor), Dr. Roy (Davis), d Florence Kagata, Karen Takagishi, 14 ge and 1 ggc.

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## Local Scene

### Los Angeles

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center's fund drive in the West L.A. area is being headed by a delegation headed by Tozo Yahata, retired business-man now active with the So. Calif. Minyo Assn. and community affairs. One retired couple, the Riechi Ishikawas, has contributed \$3,000.

The L.A. Chinese Drum & Bugle Corps presents its seventh annual fashion show luncheon Feb. 8 at the L.A. Hilton Hotel. Glo Davis Pro-

### Elections

San Joaquin County Supervisor Richard Yeshikawa of Stockton, appointed by Gov. Reagan to fill a vacancy 13 months ago, announced he will seek election to his present post representing the First District, which includes South Stockton, French Camp and Lathrop. Active with the Stockton JACL and Optimists, he has been a commercial photographer since 1947 and had served for 11 years on the Delta College board of trustees. He and his wife Helen have a son, Richard, and two married daughters, Kiyoko Green and Georgene Yamamoto. Serving on his office staff is San Francisco JACL board member Greg Marutani.

### Organizations

Downtown L.A. JACLer Edie Matsuda was installed Jan. 29 as head of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Commerce of Southern California. A prewar employee at California Bank then in Little Tokyo, he relocated in Denver during WW2 and returned to organize a security trust firm. He recently became vice president of Founders Savings and Loan. A new predominantly Nikkei club, the Optimists of Eastside-Mon-Park, was chartered Dec. 9 with Walter Hayashida as its first president.

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ductions is coordinator, Mario Machado will emcee. Operatic Chinese costumes will be included.

A Little Tokyo landmark, Kawafuku Restaurant, will be moving to Pacific Square Shopping Center in Gardena. Its present site at 1st and Los Angeles will be torn down for the New Otani Hotel now under construction, according to an announcement made at the Japanese American Culinary Artists Assn., comprised of chefs trained in Japan now among some 200 Japanese restaurants operating in Southern California.

Friends of Gardens Treasurer George Kobayashi, seeking election to a full term next month, are hosting a fund-raising dinner Feb. 8, 6 p.m. at the Gung Hay restaurant. A lifetime Gardena resident, he and his brothers operate Kobayashi's Appliance.

### S.F.—East Bay

Nominations for "Outstanding Immigrant" are being requested by Mar. 12 for the International Institute of East Bay multi-national awards dinner May 8 in Oakland's Grandman Hall. Event began in 1969 to publicly recognize leadership and contribution of newcomers. The outstanding "Japanese" last year was Shigeru Jio.

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• YEARS OF INFAMY reminds us with burning reminiscences of a shameful time in our history . . . the senseless creation of concentration camps . . . (let's stop kidding by calling them "detention" camps) . . . YEARS OF INFAMY is required reading for everyone who says, "It can't happen here." . . . we can never repair the damage done to loyal and decent Americans.  
Dore Schary, playwright-author, "Go For Broke"

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Carey McWilliams, "Prejudice", and Editor "The Nation"

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Daniel K. Inouye, United States Senator

• Those of us who feel justifiable pride in fighting Japanese imperialism during the early 1940s can only feel shame at the injustices visited upon Nisei and Issei at home while our backs were turned. Michi Weglyn has ably documented this sad chapter in our history, and told it as a compelling morality play.  
William Manchester, "The Glory and the Dream"

• a well documented and compelling work which describes the plight of the loyal, and I can attest, very brave and gallant Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II. The 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd covered themselves with glory . . . I was proud to have them in the Fifth Army.  
Gen. Mark W. Clark, U.S.A. Ret.

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Raymond Okamura, Former Prisoner, American Concentration Camp (1942-45)

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