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CWRIC challenges 1942 government decisions

WASHINGTON—The first part of the long-awaited report by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians was released last week (Feb. 24), and to no one's surprise, the findings were concluded by a summary statement which said that a "grave injustice" was done to the Japanese Americans who were removed from their homes on the West Coast and detained in relocation centers during World War II.

The report also concluded that there was "no justification" for the harsh treatment that was imposed upon Alaskan Aleuts by the U.S. government during the war.

The 467-page report, entitled, "Personal Justice Denied," basically reviews the entire evacuation episode that some 120,000 Japanese Americans and resident aliens and several hundred Alaskan Aleuts underwent during the war. The findings were compiled from the testimony and documents that had been presented during the CWRIC's 1981 hearings, as well as from historical research done at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

The CWRIC document focuses on such findings as the conditions on the U.S. West Coast before the attack on Pearl Harbor; the decisions which led to the issuance of EO 9066; the implementation of the exclusion and evacuation orders; a brief summary of economic losses suffered by the Nikkei; conditions in both the "assembly centers" and "relocation centers"; the loyalty questionnaire; military service of the Nisei; the Japanese Americans in Hawaii; and the post-camp experiences of the Nikkei.

The report also focuses on the Japanese in Latin America and of course, the Alaskan Aleuts' plight.

The CWRIC faulted government leaders from President Franklin D. Roosevelt on down and said a failure of political leadership also lay behind the episode, now widely considered a blot on America's record.

The commissioners also noted that there was no rational justification for the internment, and government leaders had yielded to "political pressure and fear" by carrying out the evacuation.

'Grave Injustice'

The report's summary challenges the "military necessity" argument for the evacuation, which the government had used in their wartime Supreme Court cases against Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu and Min Yasui.



CWRIC REPORT—Joan Z. Bernstein, chairperson of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, presents a copy of the CWRIC's findings, entitled, "Personal Justice Denied," to Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento). Looking on (at left) is CWRIC Special Counsel Angus McBeth.

The CWRIC summary states:

"The promulgation of Executive Order 9066 was not justified by military necessity, and the decisions which followed from it—detention, ending detention and ending exclusion—were not driven by analysis of military conditions. The broad historical causes which shaped these decisions were race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership. Widespread ignorance of Japanese Americans contributed to a policy conceived in haste and executed in an atmosphere of fear and anger at Japan."

The summary also said, "A grave injustice was done to American citizens and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who, without individual review or any probative evidence against

them, were excluded, removed and detained by the United States during World War II."

The summary also criticized the 1942 exclusion orders which prohibited Japanese Americans from living, working or traveling on the U.S. West Coast. It stated:

"... Initially, this exclusion was to be carried out by 'voluntary' relocation. That policy inevitably failed, and these American citizens and their alien parents were removed by the Army, first to 'assembly centers'—temporary quarters at racetracks and fairgrounds—and then to 'relocation centers'—bleak barrack camps mostly in desolate areas of the West."

The summary also pointed out that the camps "were surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by military police..."

"The policy of exclusion, removal and detention was executed against 120,000 people without individual review, and the exclusion was continued virtually without regard for their demonstrated loyalty to the United States," added the report.

The CWRIC also noted that no act of espionage, sabotage or fifth column activity was committed by any Japanese American or resident alien on the West Coast and that Americans of German and Italian descent were exempt from any mass exclusion or detention order.

'Scars Remain'

In regards to what the Japanese Americans had experienced during the war, the report summary commented:

"... The wounds of the exclusion and detention have healed in some respects, but the scars of that experience remain, painfully real in the minds of those who lived through the suffering and deprivation of the camps."

It also noted that the "personal injustice of excluding, removing and detaining loyal American citizens is manifest..."

The CWRIC also acknowledged that the evacuation had stemmed from "a long and ugly history of West Coast anti-Japanese agitation and legislation."

Focusing on the U.S. government's decision to carry out the exclusion orders, the CWRIC took issue with the rationale used by Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt to justify the evacuation. DeWitt had believed that "the Japanese race is an enemy race" and their loyalty was questionable, even the loyalty of second and third generation Japanese born on American soil, because "racial strains are undiluted."

Continued on Page 6

Nikkei legislators are pleased with commission's findings

WASHINGTON—The four Japanese American legislators here all expressed their satisfaction with the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians' findings, and the lawmakers were very optimistic towards the CWRIC's upcoming recommendations, which will be released sometime in late May or June.

Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento) said in a telephone interview that the CWRIC report "was an excellent, objective report that has major historical significance, not only for the Japanese American community, but for the nation at large."

"I think it acknowledges for the first time that the federal

Continued on Next Page

JACL's Redress chair also has high hopes after CWRIC report

WASHINGTON—Min Yasui, chairman of JACL's National Committee for Redress, said he felt the recent report issued by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians was "very good" and that its release was "a very important historical event."

"The report comes out with a flat out declaration that the evacuation was not based on 'military necessity,'" noted Yasui. "In my opinion, this would then undercut the legal basis for the evacuation and it opens up the whole question (of its necessity) again."

"I think the commission did a good job in saying, 'Look, it was a failure of the democratic process under the stress of wartime.' And certainly, there's enough blame to go around starting with the Commander in Chief (during World

War II) down to the smallest guy who had anything to do with it," added Yasui.

He also noted that the report "names names" as far as pointing out government officials who were responsible for ordering and implementing the evacuation.

For JACL's statement on the CWRIC report, see Pg. 8

Yasui praised the CWRIC for its work and recommended that everyone interested should read the report.

Yasui also said the report includes the "human aspect" of the evacuation by quoting much of the testimony that was presented during the CWRIC hearings in 1981.

And In Canada... Japanese Canadians seek \$50 million in reparations

TORONTO—Canadians of Japanese origin want \$50 million from the federal government in compensation for the uprooting, detention and evacuation of Japanese in British Columbia during World War II.

The money would establish a foundation geared to community needs, racial harmony and human rights, said George Imai, a spokesman for the reparations committee of the National Association of Japanese Canadians—the umbrella group for Canada's estimated 45,000 Japanese. It links eight major community groups across Canada.

Imai said such a foundation would build a nursing home for old Japanese Canadians, "who bore the brunt of frustrations, misery and loss before and during the war."

It would also "embody the long-awaited apology and signify, at the same time, the end of a horrid chapter in Canadian history."

The compensation bid follows recent demands by Japanese Americans seeking compensation from their government.

The fund, set up for the Japanese American-Canadian community in general, would be "the wedge" in reparation settlements, since individuals will likely seek personal compensation, Imai said.

A community delegation will soon travel to Ottawa to meet with federal authorities, he said, and make their case for the \$50 million,

based on the Charter of Rights.

The disfranchisement of Japanese, including those Canadian-born, occurred shortly after Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor. At first, only males between 18 and 45 were removed from the West Coast area. Their fishing boats, short-wave radios, cameras and automobiles were impounded.

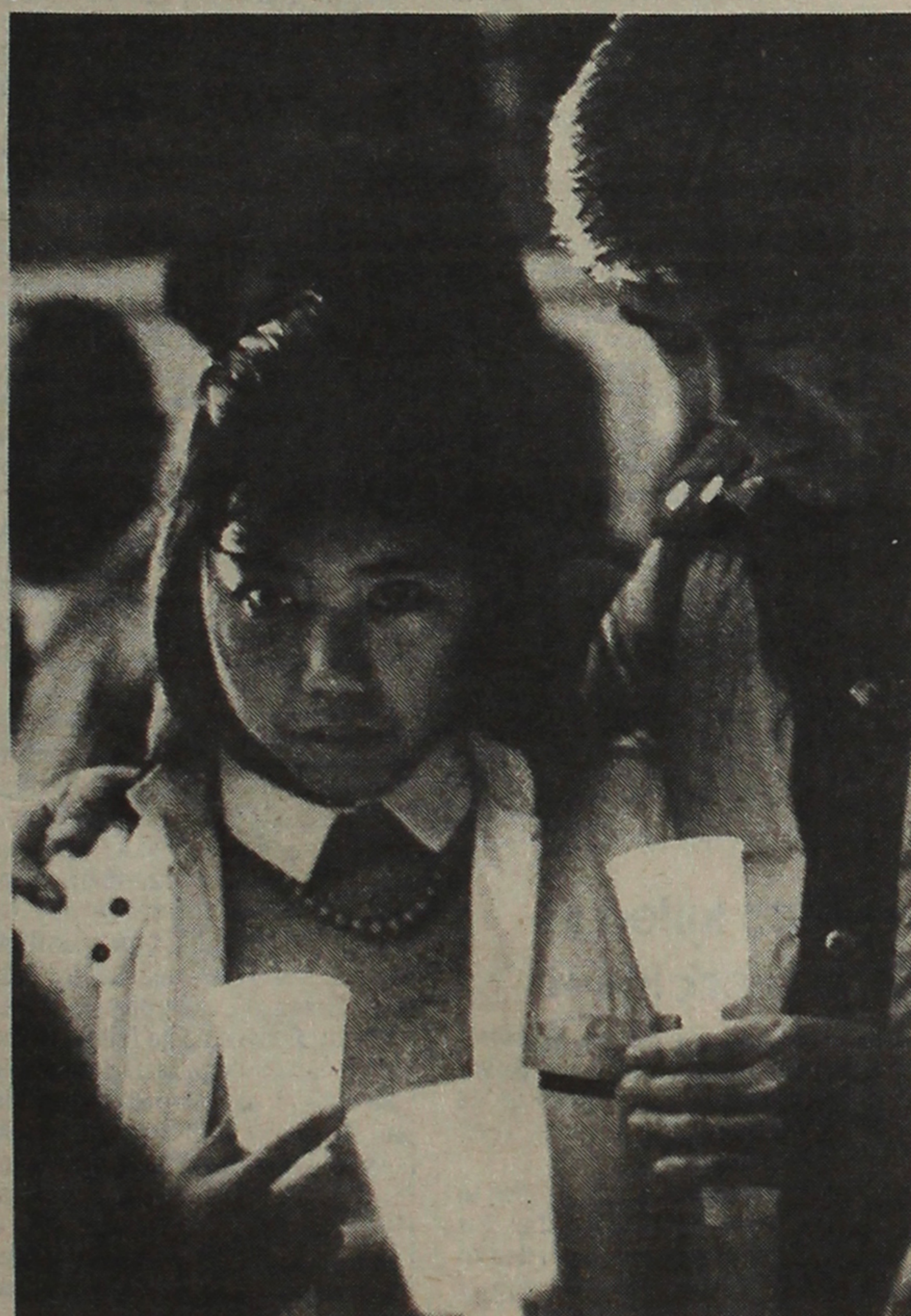
A mass evacuation was ordered Feb. 24, 1942. Soon after, 22,096 Japanese in B.C., including 17,225 Canadian citizens, were uprooted and herded inland, interned in detention camps. Families were separated and property and possessions confiscated and auctioned at bargain prices.

Imai said that action was based on racial prejudice, since Canadians of German and Italian heritage "were allowed to live out the war as normal citizens."

Justice Minister Mark MacGuigan said in January he would consider asking a House of Commons committee to study further compensation for Japanese Canadians and that he would take into account further reparations being considered by a U.S. congressional committee on wartime relocation and internment of civilians.

In 1950, a special federal commission, chaired by Mr. Justice Henry Bird, awarded \$2.5 million in compensation to Japanese Canadians but the Japanese community has never accepted that as full payment.

—The Canada Times



Kaz Takeuchi Photo

SOLEMN MOMENT—A Nikkei father and daughter were among the 200 persons who took part in the candlelight procession during the "Day of Remembrance" program held on the evening of Feb. 19 in Little Tokyo to commemorate the 41st anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of EO 9066.

BCA starts Social Welfare Fund

SAN FRANCISCO—The Buddhist Churches of America has established the Social Welfare Fund with monetary donations received from Buddhists around the world. These funds are available to organizations and/or individuals to aid those who are suffering from deprivation of basic human needs. The ultimate goal is to help sustain or attain a way of life which promotes mental, physical, and spiritual well being. Funds are not limited only to Buddhists, Nikkei, and/or Americans.

The Social Welfare Fund will be supported mainly by donations made during the BCA Thanksgiving Offering Fund Drive which was established last year. The Fund Drive began in order to provide a regular and systematic way to collect monies so that the important task of helping those who have inadequate nourishment, shelter, and care could be provided.

The BCA Social Welfare Committee, chaired by Reverend Don Castro of the Enmanji Buddhist Church, is responsible for screening and making recommendations for funding. The most recent recipient of funds was the Hawaii Buddhist Churches' Hurricane Relief Fund which received \$2,000. Past recipients have been American Hibakusha, East Bay Japanese for Action, Seattle Health Fair, Tibetan refugees in India, East Africa Operation Survival, Cambodian Camps, and the Koliya and Sakya Clans. Due to cutbacks in federal programs this year, the committee expects to receive many requests.

Organizations and individuals who wish to apply for these funds are encouraged to do so by writing or calling the Buddhist Churches of America, Social Welfare Committee, 1710 Octavia Street, San Francisco, California, 94109; telephone (415) 776-5600. #

ESGV center seeks Nisei Wk. candidate

WEST COVINA, Ca.—The East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center is seeking applicants for the title of "Miss East San Gabriel Valley" to represent the Center at the 1983 Nisei Week Queen Contest in August. In 1982, the Center's candidate, Miss Janet Midori Barnes of Covina, became the Nisei Week Queen and the Center hopes to find another winner from the San Gabriel Valley area. Application forms may be obtained from the Center office at 1203 West Puente Avenue or by calling (213) 960-2566 any weekday morning.

Requirements are that the candidates must be between 18 and 24 years of age, at least one parent of Japanese ancestry, single (never married) and a U.S. citizen.

Deadline for the local contest is April 5th and only the first seven applicants or those whose applications are received by that date will be considered. #

Japan music set at Huntington Library

SAN MARINO, Ca.—Traditional Japanese music and dancing will be presented at the Huntington Library, 1151 Oxford Rd., on Sunday, March 13, at 1:30 & 2:30 p.m. Hiromi Hashibe and Masakazu Yoshizawa, musicians, and Hanayagi Jurokumi, dancer, will perform in traditional costume in the Japanese House of the Japanese Garden. Advance reservations are required for entrance to the Huntington on Sundays. For info call (213) 449-3901.



DINNER FOR ISSEI—The Minnesota Nikkei Project, a group of volunteers who regularly provide activities for the Minneapolis community's Issei, held a dinner Feb. 6 at the Kikugawa Restaurant, attended by 121 members and 20 Issei guests (l to r): Phyllis Takekawa, Mrs. H. Noma and Helen Tanaka.

Legal defense and education fund names new board, seeks members

LOS ANGELES—The recently established Asian Pacific Legal Defense and Education Fund (APLDEF), formed to address the growing number of employment discrimination cases arising in the Asian American community, has announced its 1983 board of directors:

Irene Hirano, pres; Phillip Ow, vp; Dr. Carole Fujita, sec; John Saito, fin off; Gerald Sato, Wilma Casacang, Sam Sperling, exec

comm membs; Cres Abad, Adol Aguayon, Dr. Jack Fujimoto, Dr. Mitsuo Inouye, Paul Huang, Betty Kozasa, Rev. Peter Kwon, Kai Parker, Ben Quon, Cherry Okimoto, Ed Shiraki, Mitsu Sonoda, Baldwin Tom, Masakiyo Watanaabe, Yoneo Yamamoto, Dr. Larry Yoshioka, bd membs.

APLDEF is also seeking new members. For more info contact APLDEF, 244 S. San Pedro St., Rm. 507, Los Angeles, CA 90012; (213) 626-4471.

LTSC council to hold community meetings

LOS ANGELES—The Community Council of the Little Tokyo Service Center announces the convening of the council. The community council has been founded to help support and develop the programs of the service center by working with the board and staff of the center.

The council was formed as a requirement from different government and private funding sources

for the participation of recipients, potential recipients and any interested persons.

For all those interested, the LTSC council will meet on the last Monday of the month for the next two months, at 2:30 p.m. at the LTSC classroom, JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro Street, Rm. 410. For more info call (213) 680-3729. #

USC to hold AP Heritage Week

LOS ANGELES—Asian Pacific students at the University of Southern California will celebrate their heritage—and introduce non-Asians to their diverse cultures—during a week of events beginning Monday, March 7.

Asian Pacific Heritage Week, sponsored by the Asian Pacific Student Outreach, is designed to re-expose USC's many Asian students to their own roots and to present these cultures to others.

More than a hundred Asian students—Chinese, Korean, Japanese and others—will participate in the week's events, which are free and open to the public.

The celebration will begin with a food fair in USC's Alumni Memorial Park, Mar. 7 and 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A dragon dance and a martial arts exhibition will take place between noon and 1 p.m. each day.

For more information, call J.D. Hokoyama, director of the Asian Pacific Student Outreach, at (213) 743-4999. #

Bunraku puppets to tour three cities

NEW YORK—Bunraku, Japan's elegant and unique puppet theatre, will be presented by the Japan Society in its intimate Lila Acheson Wallace Auditorium at 8 p.m. for eight performances, March 12-19, with 2 p.m. matinees scheduled for Sunday, March 13, and Saturday, March 19. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at Japan Society, 333 East 47th Street. Telephone charge orders will also be accepted at (212) 752-3015.

The series of ten performances in New York is part of a three-city tour organized by the Japan Society. The troupe will also appear in Honolulu on March 7, 8, and 9, at the Kennedy Theatre. For more information call Richard Via of the East-West Center, (808) 944-7640. They will also appear in Boston, March 21 and 22, at Hancock Hall. For information call Betsy Howes, Japan Society of Boston, (617) 451-0726. #

Minnesota Nikkei hold dinner for Issei

MINNEAPOLIS—The Minnesota Nikkei Project, a group of volunteers who regularly provide activities for the community's Issei, held their fourth annual dinner meeting at the Kikugawa Restaurant on Feb. 6, attended by 121 members and 20 Issei guests.

Kimochi Home sets celebration dance

SAN FRANCISCO—Celebrating the completion of Kimochi Home, Kimochi will hold a celebration dance on Saturday, March 19, 8:30 p.m., at Japan Center Theater, 1881 Post Street. Kimochi will present an evening of dancing and enjoyment to the music of Opus 10, a local community band, and special guest band, "Touch".

Tickets are \$7 for students and \$8 for general public, and \$9 at the door. All proceeds will benefit Kimochi Home, and will be counted towards the Oyama Challenge. Tickets will be sold at Kinokuniya Bookstore and Kimochi Lounge. #

'Double Dutch at NYU'

NEW YORK—The New Asian American Theatre and the Asian Cultural Union/Oriental Culture Club of New York University will present a performance of "Double Dutch" by Marilyn Seven at the Loeb Student Center, 566 La Guardia Place, on Monday, March 14, 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$5.00 for the general public and \$3.00 for students and senior citizens.

"Double Dutch" is a play about what happens to a Japanese American family living in Los Angeles just prior to and following the attack on Pearl Harbor. For more information, please call Gerri Igarashi, (212) 724-7400. #



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Noguchi demotion sustained

LOS ANGELES—In a strange twist of events, the county's Civil Service Commission rejected its own hearing officer's recommendation that former chief medical examiner-coroner Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi be reinstated to his post, voting 4-1 on Feb. 23 to sustain the demotion ordered by the Board of Supervisors.

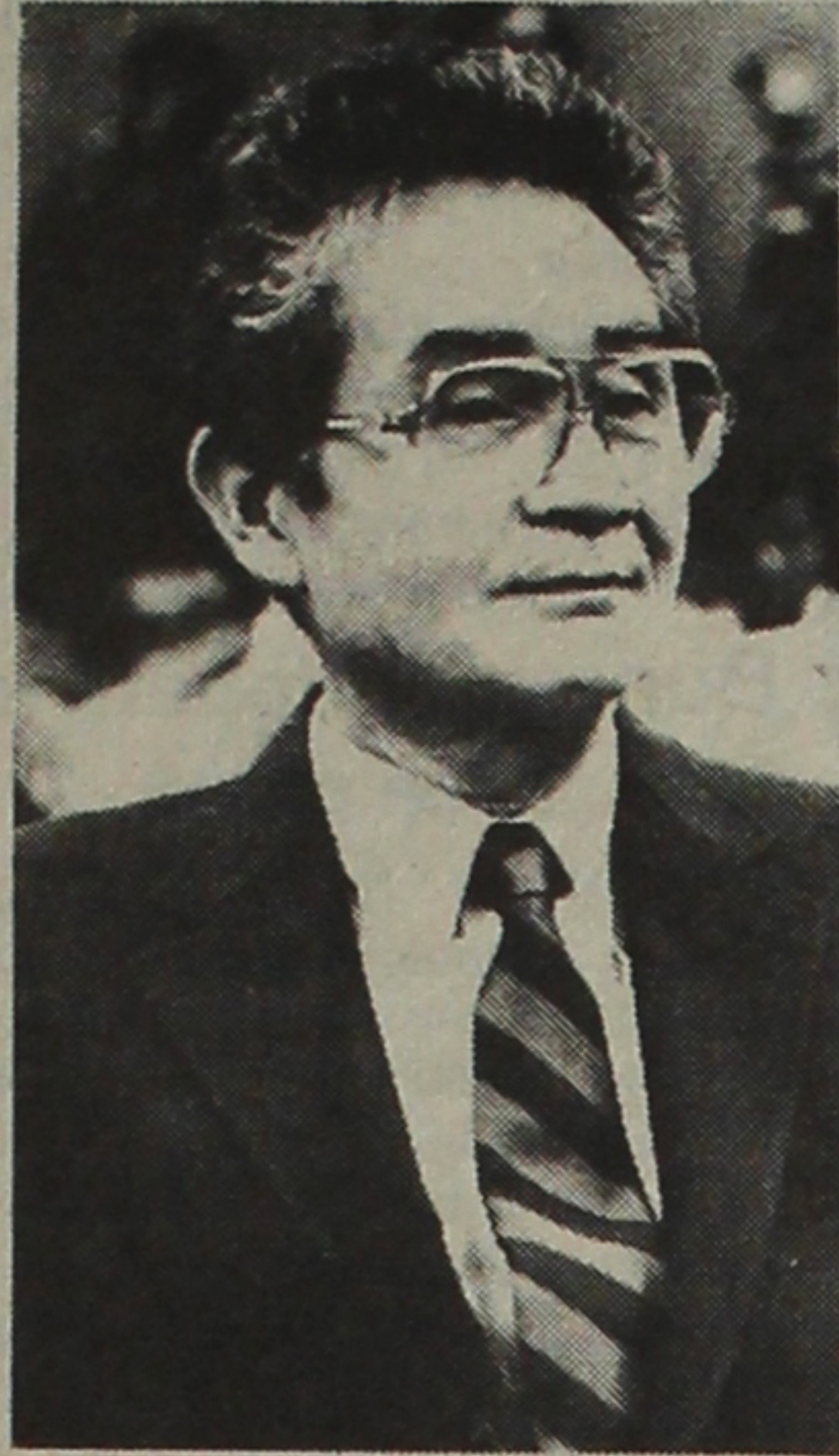


Photo by Wally Fong Courtesy Rafu Shimpo

Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi

However, with the exception of Nojima, the commissioners re-

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JACL PSWDC Governor Cary Nishimoto released a statement in reaction to the Civil Service Commission's action against Noguchi. See pg. 8.

But Noguchi and his attorney, Godfrey Isaac, have vowed to carry the fight "all the way to the state Supreme Court if necessary."

The panel of Civil Service Commissioners—John Bollens, Tom Salata, N. Keith Abbott, George S. Nojima and Ernest E. Goodman—had unanimously accepted the findings of fact by hearing officer Sara Adler, which noted that Noguchi had been a poor administrator.

Nikkei feted by historical society

SACRAMENTO—Judy Miekko Tachibana has been selected by the California Historical Society awards and honors committee and board of trustees to receive the 1983 CHS Award of Merit in recognition of her role as project coordinator of the Gardena Historical Resources Survey.

A Sansei, raised and educated in Gardena, Tachibana is currently on leave from a teaching position with the Torrance Unified School District and is working as a reporter for the Sacramento Bee.

The Gardena Historical Resources Survey, which has been cited as "a ground-breaking model for all subsequent studies to be

conducted in the state," demonstrated a need for a sense of historic roots in communities existing amid larger metropolitan areas.

"In accepting the society's Award of Merit, Ms. Tachibana will join a select and important group of Californians who in previous years have been so honored for their scholarship, research, preservation efforts and dedication to the history of our state," said society historic resources chairman Dr. Donald T. Hata, Jr. in announcing the award.

Tachibana will receive her award at the society's annual Awards Luncheon in Laguna Beach on March 13.

● Awards

Tad Ando was chosen as one of the Outstanding Adult Volunteer Leaders of the Chicago Area Council Boy Scouts of America. He has been a devoted volunteer in working and helping the youth of Buddhist Temple of Chicago and the community. His unselfish devotion to the Girls and Boys of the community and B.T.C. has been a great asset to these youth.

● Government

Dr. Ernest T. Nagamatsu was re-elected president of the California State Board of Dental Examiners during elections held in Los Angeles last month. Rodney Stine, executive officer of the board announced Feb. 8.

Nagamatsu, the first Japanese American to serve on the Dental Board, was appointed by Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr. in 1978 and reappointed in 1982.

● Business

Since Nagamatsu joined the oversight unit, the board has streamlined the examination procedures and completed review of all board regulations to eliminate obsolete regulations or regulations that were neither clear nor consistent. Enforcement has increased "substantially," said Stine, to ensure that dental licensees meet the standards established by the board.

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Seid heads APAAC for 2nd term

SACRAMENTO—Dr. Allan L. Seid, Palo Alto psychiatrist, was re-elected President of the Asian Pacific American Advocates of California (APAAC) State Board of Governors. Seid, a Stanford Medical Center Clinical Faculty Professor, California State Board of Education commissioner, and founder of Asian Americans for Community Involvement of Santa Clara County (AACI), was recently honored by the Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission for "a decade of distinguished and outstanding services in protecting the civil rights of all."

nated Assistant Treasurer. San Franciscans Helen S. Chin, member of the State Equal Education Commission, Past President of The Association of Chinese Teachers (TACT) and Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) board member, and Dr. Clifford Uyeda, Past National JACL President and longtime activist in environmental and anti-nuclear movements were respectively elected corresponding secretary and public information officer. Los Angeles physician Dr. Lina Navarro, a member of Governor George Deukmejian's Transition Advisory Council and civic leader in the Los Angeles Filipino Community was elected Legislative Liaison. Virginia Hom Fung, San Diego Chinese Community activist and a founder of the multi-service organization Union of Pan Asian Community (UPAC) was elected historian.

APAAC, in its second year, remains the only Asian Pacific American coalition supported by over 400 local and regional APA organizations and distinguished by operating an advocacy office one block from the state Capitol in Sacramento.

Lita David, prominent San Diego leader of the Consortium of Filipino American Organizations (CO-PAO) and Sherwin T.S. Chan, board member of the Los Angeles Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and President of the Asian American Republican National Association were elected Vice-Presidents. The secretary position went to Fresno's Kay Riusaki Campbell, a member of the State G.S.S.D.P. Committee and activist in Asian women and Japanese community affairs.

The next APAAC State Board meeting will be held in San Francisco in conjunction with its Second Annual Membership Meeting, Saturday, March 19. Tentative program includes guest speakers from the mainstream and ethnic newspapers on the theme: "The Press: It's Relations with the Asian Pacific American Communities in Economic Depressed Times." Location: Fort Mason; time: 9:30 a.m. - 4: p.m. For further information call (415) 327-1056 or (408) 998-1544. #

Dr. Ferdinand Galvez, member of the State Education Block Grant Committee and founder/president of the Filipino-American Group Associations of the Sacramento Area (PAGASA) was tapped for Treasurer and Jhowel Nakamura, another Sacramento leader in Asian American affairs was design-



GOOD NEWS—Christian churches and YMCA affiliates in Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka have pledged to raise \$750,000 over a three-year period to help the Centenary United Methodist Church in Los Angeles facilitate a relocation plan to Little Tokyo. Members of CUMC's Building Committee include (from left): Rev. Dr. Paul Hagiya, Senior and English Division pastor; George Yamaka, English Division lay leader; Ed Tamura, Building Committee Chairman; Matthew Ogawa, general secretary of the Japan Christian Audio Visual Center; Takeshi Minei, Japanese Language Division lay leader; and the Rev. Jonathan Fujita, Japanese Language Division pastor.

Our 1983 Escorted Tours

Table listing escorted tours: Japan Spring Adventure (April 4), Grand European (17 days) (May 22), Canadian Rockies-Victoria (8 days) (June 16), Japan Summer Adventure (June 27), Alaska Cruise (8 days) (July 9), Eastern Canada (Nova Scotia/Montreal/Quebec) (Aug. 25), East Coast & Foliage (10 days) (Oct. 3), Japan Autumn Adventure (Oct. 15).

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FROM THE NEW WAVE: By Peter Imamura

History Resurfaces

Los Angeles

Two voluminous documents now exist that will hopefully correct an error that has long been buried in history but still lives on among us.

The first document is the petition for a writ of error coram nobis for three men whose names are known well enough among Nikkei that perhaps they don't even need to be repeated.

The second document is, of course, the report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, entitled, "Personal Justice Denied."

In comparing the two, the first contains recently discovered evidence that shows the U.S. government allegedly suppressed information in order to win their Supreme Court cases against Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu and Min Yasui.

On the other hand, some Nikkei might feel that the CWRIC report really doesn't contain anything "new" since much of the information in it has been documented in several history books. But the report does contain testimony (from the 1981 hearings) which has never been recorded before.

Still, both are essential works that will contribute to practically the same goals.

It seems ironic that these two documents should surface during a time that could be described as "adverse" for Japanese Americans, due the strained relations that exist between the United States and Japan.

So what's taking place now is perhaps, history-making in itself. Just as it was 41 years ago, the Nikkei may have to face another challenge. It's been debated over and over as to whether Japanese Americans in 1942 did the "right thing" when they came under fire on the West Coast.

Of course, since the times are a bit different now, this new "challenge" should be handled differently by the Nikkei community.

At least, let's hope it will. Otherwise, history may end up repeating itself all over again.

Ed. Note: The Committee to Reverse the Japanese American Wartime Cases, the support group for the coram nobis cases, and the Japanese American Bar Association will hold a fundraising dinner March 31 at the Miriwa Restaurant in Los Angeles. More details will be published in the PC later. Since the attorneys working on these cases are doing the work on their own time, funds are needed for costs which arise to cover materials, etc. For more info on the Committee to Reverse the Japanese American Wartime Cases, they can be reached at 1322 Webster St., Ste. 210, Oakland, Ca. 94612.

Also, the PC will publish portions of the CWRIC report in upcoming editions.

Ariyoshi angry at Forbes article

HONOLULU—Hawaii Governor George Ariyoshi responded angrily Jan. 25 to a recent article in Forbes Magazine describing the state as a "veritable purgatory for business."

Ariyoshi called the article, titled "East of Eden," a "loaded piece which violated principles of fair journalism."

The article said Hawaii's political leaders, led by Ariyoshi, "could compete with the Soviet Union's bureaucrats in their rigid regulation of every facet of the Island's economic life."

Ariyoshi wrote to Malcolm Forbes, editor-in-chief of the magazine, and called the statement extravagant, reckless and totally unprofessional. He added that it bordered on slander of Hawaii's people, who choose their political leaders in free and open elections.

Japan's oldest Buddhist priest dies

TOKYO—Rev. Ryokei Onishi, Japan's oldest Buddhist priest, died of a brain hemorrhage at his temple in Kyoto Feb. 15, spokesmen at the temple reported. He was 107.

Onishi had been chief priest at the Kiyomizu Temple since 1914. He was married at age 75 and fathered two children.

Often called a "Living Buddha," Onishi was active in promoting interchanges with foreign countries and helped inaugurate a religious council during the Vietnam War to seek a peaceful end to the conflict. #

6—PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, March 4, 1983

Letters

Utah Conference

Editor:

In response to Bill Hosokawa's editorial on the Salt Lake City Relocation and Redress Conference (PC Feb. 18), your readers should know that Professor Sandra C. Taylor of the University of Utah Department of History is the originator and organizer of the conference. The Center for Historical Population Studies at the University has helped to plan and sponsor the conference, and much of our correspondence has gone out under my name as director of the Center, but Professor Taylor deserves unqualified credit for the enterprise.

Also, to clear up another question by Bill, Dean is my name and not my title, for which I'm most grateful. Deans bear a terrible burden in today's times of tight budgets and dwindling enrollments. Things were even more confusing when I was a student at Harvard during Professor Ernest R. May's tenure as Dean of Harvard College.

DEAN L. MAY
Asst. Professor,
University of Utah

NOGUCHI

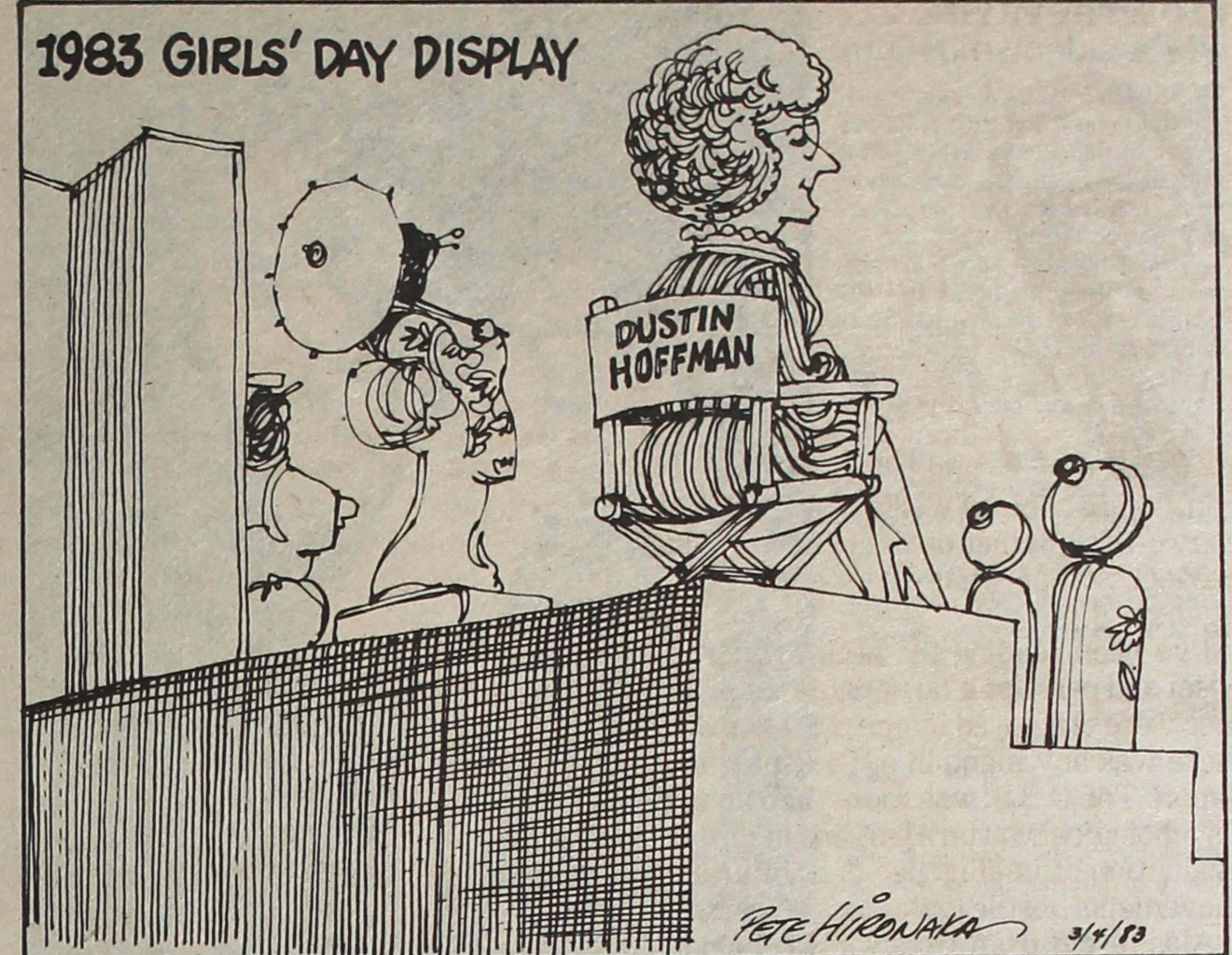
Continued from Page 4

jected Adler's recommendation (released Feb. 11) that he be given a last chance to "put his house in order" by overturning Noguchi's demotion of last April.

Nojima, the only dissenter, is an appointee of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who was the only board member who had voted against Noguchi's demotion last year.

From the Commission's point of view, Adler's recommendation "seemed to imply that given another opportunity, he would in fact correct mismanagement practices, but there is nothing to support that feeling expressed in the report," said Commission chair Abbott.

After the Commission's decision was announced at the county's Hall of Administration building, Isaac said, "I think what we're seeing here is politics over de-



centy," referring to his belief that the commissioners were apparently following the wishes of the four supervisors who sought to oust Noguchi. "I would think that a great deal of political pressure has been given (to the commissioners)," added Isaac.

Noguchi himself said he was "absolutely confident" he would win his job back, "even if it takes ten years."

The Commission gave Noguchi ten days from the date of their ruling to submit a written response to them. Isaac noted that he will ask the Commission to reverse its ruling. "If they do not do that, of course, we'll go to court," he added.

The county's attorney, William Masterson, told reporters that the Commission's decision was simply in line with Adler's findings, and he said that it would be unlikely that the commission "would reverse itself."

Confidence Abounds

Isaac said he was also "confident" that Noguchi can win his case in court, and noted, "It's a shame that in a society (Los Angeles) where they announced that the

county will have to fire over 3,000 of its employees because they don't have the money (an action that may take place July 1—Ed.), they're going to spend half a million dollars going after Tom Noguchi, recognized throughout the world as probably the finest living pathologist today."

When asked by a reporter how long Noguchi should fight to keep his job, Isaac said, "Forever."

Nikkeis react

Tom Komatsu, a retired engineer and adamant Noguchi supporter, said that the people of Los Angeles County should "change this Board of Supervisors" at the next election because of their action.

Dr. Mitsuo Inouye, a friend of Noguchi and chairman of the support group, Concerned Americans for Responsible Progress (CARP), said CARP was "very disappointed" in the Commission's decision and that the action was a "slam at justice."

He said that CARP plans to study the documents of the case and will "gear up" for the appeals case that will most likely go to the courts.

Inouye also said, "I think it's about time the Japanese American community comes out of hiding (on this matter). This is no time to hold back."

Supervisor Hahn said at a news conference that day that "money is being wasted" in this case, because the county has already spent over \$300,000 in attorney's fees in its effort to sustain Noguchi's demotion.

Hahn labelled the entire matter as "a sham at the taxpayer's expense."

Noguchi was demoted from his post as the county's chief medical examiner coroner last April on charges of mismanagement and misuse of his department. He appealed the demotion and the Civil Service Commission held hearings through the latter part of last year.

The Commission's hearing officer, Adler, recommended that while the evidence presented during the hearings were enough to warrant a 30 day suspension (imposed on Noguchi prior to his demotion) it did not sustain the demotion. Noguchi, Adler advised, should be given a "last chance" to improve his office.

practical matter, that confinement in the relocation camps continued for the great majority of evacuees for another year and a half," the CWRIC said.

Comparison to Hawaii

The CWRIC report also noted that the Nikkei in Hawaii, with the exception of about one percent of their population, were not forced into internment camps en masse. "This policy was clearly much more congruent with basic American law and values," the CWRIC summarized.

As for the Alaskan Aleuts, who were removed from their Aleutian Island homes by the U.S. military following attacks by Japanese forces in 1942, the CWRIC said there may have been good reasons for removing them, but the harsh treatment they endured during their evacuation and detention was unreasonable.

"... despite the fact that the Aleutians were a theatre of war from which evacuation was a sound policy, there was no justification for the manner in which the Aleuts were treated in the camps in southeastern Alaska, nor for (the U.S. government's) failing to compensate them fully for their material losses."

At the news conference held Feb. 24 to announce the findings, CWRIC chairperson Joan Z. Bernstein said, "Over time and with perseverance, material losses may be repaired but the hidden scars of lives damaged by this experience, remain."

She added, "No recommendation which this commission will make can undo this history. No redress to Japanese Americans can assure that we will not repeat the errors of 1942."

The conference was attended by seven of the nine-member CWRIC panel, and among them was Nisei Judge William M. Marutani of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, who said it was significant that the country "has acknowledged that a wrong was done," an admission he said was part of the rehabilitation and healing process.

The CWRIC was established by Congress in July 1980 to investigate the facts and circumstances which led to the evacuation and internment of 120,000 Japanese Americans and hundreds of Alaskan Aleuts during World War II.

The CWRIC held 20 days of hearings at major cities across the country and heard testimony from over 750 witnesses, many of whom were former evacuees.

The commission will release its recommendations for remedies at a later date. According to its mandate, the CWRIC's life will expire on June 30 of this year. #



Denver
For what seems to be an interminable period I have been reading several pounds of book titled "Wild Bill Donovan: The Last Hero," by Anthony Cave Brown. It is the 800-plus page story of Gen. William J. Donovan, combat hero of World War I, and in World War II the controversial chief of the Office of Strategic Services, predecessor of what is now the Central Intelligence Agency.

I've been reading the book primarily because a few Nisei and perhaps a larger number of Japanese expatriates were employed by the O.S.S., and I wanted to see if there was any mention of their part in the war against Japan. The O.S.S. was more than an espionage agency. Psychological warfare was one of its functions as well as evaluation of intelligence and infiltration of indigenous movements hostile to the Axis powers.

Alas, aside from Donovan's personal story, the book focuses almost totally on O.S.S. activities in North Africa, Europe, the Mediterranean and the Balkans. You'd hardly be aware from this book that a war was being fought in the Far East and the O.S.S. was involved. As for the Japanese Americans, there was one fleeting mention of Tokio Slocum, hero of World War I combat, and that

MATSUI Continued from Page 2

"It was counterproductive because it perhaps raised the expectations in the Japanese American community, that the author of the bill has no intention of fulfilling," commented Matsui.

However, the congressman doesn't think the bill will cause any problems for future legislation that will eventually be drafted after the CWRIC releases its recommendation.

"Whatever we do, we'll have to do on the basis of the consensus with the majority of the Japanese American community, in consultation with both the judiciary committee and the leadership of the House and Senate, with the idea of getting (a bill) that we can actually pass."

As far as a monetary reparations figure, Matsui said that it would be much more productive to at least wait until the CWRIC releases its own recommendation before any figure is discussed.

Sen. Inouye's Comments

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) said through his press secretary Greg Takeyama that the commission's report clearly demonstrates that the internment of Japanese Americans was "unjustified and unnecessary" and, as the commission report noted, the evacuation decision by government officials was rooted by a "long and ugly history of West Coast anti-Japanese agitation and legislation."

Takeyama said that Inouye also looks forward to reviewing the report, which he received prior to its official release on Feb. 24.

When asked how the senator feels about individual reparations for the former internees, Takeyama said Inouye didn't want to "prejudge" the CWRIC prior to its releasing its recommendations in June.

Takeyama, however, did reiterate Inouye's earlier sentiment that "no specific pricetag can be attached to the suffering" that was forced upon Japanese Americans during the war.

Inouye had presented a speech on the Senate Floor on the same day that the CWRIC announced its findings.

Neither Sen. Spark M. Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) nor Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-San Jose) could be directly reached for comment, but their aides did read prepared statements.

Matsunaga, like Inouye, had also read a speech on the Senate Floor that day, and Matsunaga said that the report "reinforces my strong belief that some form of compensation is warranted for those who were the victims of what the commission has found to be pure and simple racial prejudice and the failure of political leadership."

He added, "Justice delayed may be justice denied, but no matter how overdue, compensatory action on the part of our government would demonstrate once again the greatness of America."

Mineta said that the report shows "there had never been any reason" for the government to intern 120,000 loyal Japanese Americans.

As far as redress is concerned, Mineta said, "The commission now faces the difficult task of recommending the appropriate governmental response" to the findings it has released.

Mineta, like Matsui, also felt that the CWRIC was wise in releasing only its findings at this time, because "the commission apparently did not want to see the evidence they gathered lost in a storm of political controversy around specific recommendations" for redress.

All four of the Nikkei legislators were co-authors of the bill which established the CWRIC in July of 1980.

A Book with Missing Chapters

was all.

There is, however, substantial material with a Japanese American angle. We know from other sources that as early as 1938 American cryptographers had cracked the top-secret code Japan used in communicating with its diplomats abroad. The intercepts were called Magic. To keep Japan from learning that its code had been compromised, information produced by Magic was made available to a highly restricted list of government and military leaders.

The Donovan book reveals that President Roosevelt directed that all information gathered by the various U.S. intelligence agencies should be made available to General Donovan. But there was so much jealousy and rivalry among the various intelligence services that Donovan was never put on the list to read Magic intercepts.

Meanwhile, the officials who saw Magic had neither the time nor the training to analyze all the information that passed over their desks. It would have been obvious to any trained analyst seeing the Japanese messages captured by Magic, the book says, that attack was imminent and Pearl Harbor the apparent target.

The nature of the attack on Pearl Harbor—a treacher-
EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani



Like Old Times

Philadelphia

WE HADN'T ATTENDED one for several years, so when Mahn Suh Park, the editor of "The Korean Guardian" (an East Coast weekly printed in Korean), invited me to join everyone at the Korean New Year's party, we went. The scheduled time was 7:00 p.m., this year at the community hall of the Holy Child Catholic Church on North Broad Street, just at the edge of the heart of the Korean business community.

AS WE SAID, the scheduled starting time was 7:00 p.m., but based upon our past experiences with Asian affairs,—be they Chinese, Japanese or Korean,—the standard was "Asian time." Anyway, since it was a somewhat windy, cold Saturday evening, we simply extended the time a half hour to get to the affair. When we arrived, it was still early although quite a few people were present. The program had not started; indeed, as it turned out, it was not to start for another half hour.

THE PROGRAM COMMENCED with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner followed by what I surmised was the Korean National Anthem, both sung in a very rich voice by an elegant chanteuse. There's always something hauntingly stirring in hearing the hymn of some other nation, be it the Republic of China, Israel or the Philippines. Korea's is no exception.

AND THEN THERE are the speeches, many and long, the contents of which were lost to me since they were given in Korean. But as I sat there, I tried to imagine what each speaker was saying, all the while fascinated by mankind's myriad modes of verbalizing. My thoughts drifted back to the time that Pennsylvania Governor Milton J. Shapp attended a JAACL affair; when he got up to speak, he observed that minorities shared a trait of numerous speakers with much to say. We all chuckled over that because it was painfully all-too-true.

WE WANDERED OVER to the food table where we spied some piping hot noodles that looked very much like *udon*, complete with *kamaboko* among other things. No Nisei would pass up that fare on a cold, wintry night such as this. Then there was *bento* containing marinated beef garnished with sesame seeds, spiced *renkon*, as well as other *okazu* plus, of course, rice. We were quite at home with that fare.

AT OUR TABLE was a *hakujin* couple, and since not everyone was speaking in English, we struck up a conversation. After the ice was broken, they commented that my English was particularly good and inquired where I was from. I smiled to myself, for surely I must have blended in with the majority of the folks there and I could hardly blame my newly-found *hakujin* acquaintances. It was not long before we discovered common

ous surprise raid while peace talks were still under way—was in substantial part responsible for the bitterness toward Japan. That bitterness reflected on Japanese Americans. Thus it is not unreasonable to ask what the course of our own group history would have been if Donovan's office had been able to alert U.S. forces in time to blunt the Japanese attack.

The book also reveals, as others have done, that some serious surrender talks were under way in Switzerland between Japanese and American representatives in the waning days of the war. But such talks are delicate and move excruciatingly slowly because of the necessary caution.

Eventually time ran out. The nuclear bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki before any meaningful surrender decisions could be reached. Several hundred thousand Japanese died or were scarred for life, and the war ended.

Author Brown, a Briton, has done an astonishing job of research in providing this insight into the world of cloaks and daggers and spooks (although most of the action is left to the reader's imagination). But from this viewpoint it's a shame he didn't dig a bit deeper and tell what happened in the Asian theaters. #

acquaintances and soon we were discussing affairs of the community, the political scene and so on. It turned out that the husband was a campaign manager for one of the mayoral hopefuls. After all, it is said that there are some 40,000 Koreans in this area, even though not all of them may be registered voters.

IN ONE CORNER of the hall, I noted stacks of "Kokuho Rose" bags of rice, alongside a sewing machine wrapped in plastic, a t.v. set, and a number of boxes neatly wrapped. Undoubtedly, prizes. Then on the wall I noted Korean writing followed by arabic numerals, none of them less than 100. From my early days in attending Issei-run community affairs, I had a pretty good idea what was transpiring. Back in those days, though, the figures were 3's, 5's, 10's, and rare were the 100's. *Deja vu*.

THERE WAS ALSO one feature of the evening that the Issei never had back in those days: a combo including an electric guitarist, drummer, and such. They played with gusto. About that time, I usually call it an evening. And I did. #

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Reaction to CWRIC report . . .
JACL Statement

San Francisco

The Japanese American Citizens League is pleased that the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians has issued some 450 pages of documented findings which conclusively demonstrate that the arbitrary World War II forced military evacuation, exclusion and detention of United States citizens and their resident alien parents, who by federal law were denied the opportunity for citizenship and naturalization, were totally unjustified and unnecessary.

The Commission's official recognition of the basic injustices is an important first step toward rectifying one of the gravest and darkest blemishes in the constitutional history of our nation and preventing a repetition against other citizens in times of hatred and hysteria. The Japanese American Citizens League commends the Commission for revealing the little known facts surrounding the internment and for vindicating Americans of Japanese and Aleut ancestry whose loyalty to this country were impugned by their own government's unwarranted actions.

We regret, however, that the report does not reveal to the fullest extent possible the many tremendous economic and other grievous losses suffered by the evacuees and we are hopeful that this vital omission will be corrected, since this nation is entitled to know the total dollar costs of that tragic experience not only to the internees but also to the government and people of the United States.

We trust that the distinguished members of this Commission, in good faith and in keeping with the spirit of their findings, will now translate their recommendations to the President and the Congress in terms that are commensurate with the unconscionable deprivation of individual freedom and the enormous economic losses suffered by the innocent victims of the American style concentration camps.

Only by such recommendations can justice be served and the Congress and the President enabled to act meaningfully to assure that, never again, may United States citizens be subjected to such humiliations and loss of liberty and property as were their fellow Americans of Japanese and Aleut origins in World War II.

The Commission's recommendations will be a test of courage and integrity. #

Pat Okura to lead China study tour

WASHINGTON—Pat Okura, clinical psychologist and past NIMH international program director, and Frank M. Ochberg, M.S., president of Victimization Research and Training Institute, Ann Arbor, Mich., are educational leaders of a U.S. tour group planning to attend the Sino-American symposium on Life Changes April 20-May 4 in the People's Republic of China, visiting Beijing, Tienjin, Shanghai and Xian.

For tour information, write Professional Seminar Consultants Inc., 3194 Lawson Blvd., Ocean-side, NY 11572.

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Wakabayashi keynotes Riverside

RIVERSIDE, Ca.—The role of JACL in the area of U.S.-Japan affairs continues to be discussed by National JACL Director Ron Wakabayashi, who was principal speaker at the Riverside JACL installation dinner here Feb. 12 at the UC Riverside Faculty Club.

"While we in JACL don't have the answers, we do have trust in the perspectives and thoughts of our JACL leadership, such as national president Floyd Shimomura, national treasurer Frank Sato in Washington, and other people in pivotal positions on the U.S.-Japan issue," Wakabayashi stated. "They are trying to keep the membership informed."

(On a previous call to be main speaker at the Downtown L.A. JACL installation Jan. 29 at the Okada Restaurant, Wakabayashi dwelled on the political and social problems of concern to Americans of Japanese ancestry because of U.S.-Japan economic and trade matters.)

Riverside JACL re-elected Cliff MacNiven to his second term as chapter president. He and his board were installed by John Saito, PSW regional director. Other speakers included PSW Gov. Cary Nishimoto, Riverside City Councilman Robert Bowers, and Rev. Homer Hill, First Christian Church. Doug Urata was emcee.

The JACL silver pin was presented to Dr. Junji Kumamoto. A JACL life membership was given to Sumi Harada. Redlands High senior Keith Kobayashi, Riverside JACL's first representative to Presidential Classroom for Young Americans, in Washington, D.C., was to have been introduced but could not attend as Blizzard 1983 that weekend shutdown all flights from the Nation's capital. —HKH

Funds for Nakashima ends

MONTEREY, Ca.—The Monterey Peninsula JACL has decided to terminate the David Nakashima Fund effective February 28, since the original purpose of the fund has been achieved.

Individuals who still desire to make contributions may do so by making direct donations to either David Nakashima, 1763 Flores Street, Seaside, CA. 93955, or to Marsha Nakashima, 22996 Espada Drive, Salinas, CA. 93908.

The Monterey Peninsula JACL joins the families of David & Marsha in expressing its heartfelt appreciation to the scores of donors who contributed so generously to the fund.

Mt. Olympus picks PCYA student

SALT LAKE CITY—The Mt. Olympus Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League selected Kristen T. Kobayashi of Alta High School as the chapter's representative to attend Session VII of the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans.

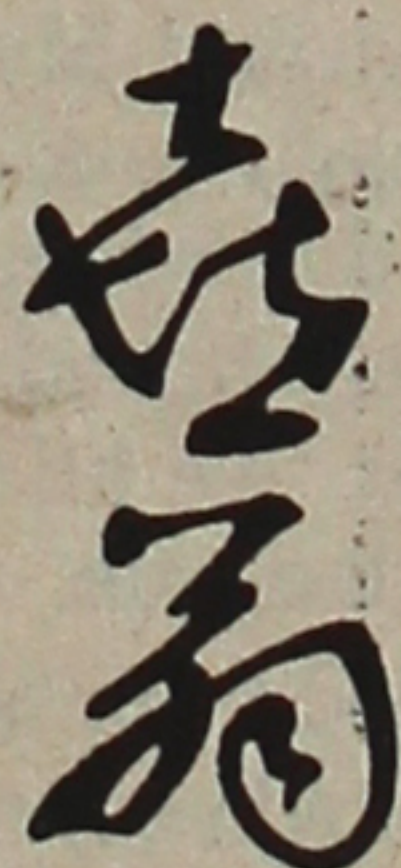
Kristen T. Kobayashi is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kobayashi of Sandy, Utah. Kristen has maintained a high academic grade-point average and has been heavily involved in extracurricular activities in and out of her high school.

The Presidential Classroom students are selected on the basis of academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular activities. The Mt. Olympus JACL provides sponsorship of its Presidential Classroom candidates by underwriting the air fare and tuition. Miss Kobayashi attended the Eighth Session which was held from Jan. 29-Feb. 5th.

The Presidential Classroom for Young Americans is a program in which senior high school students obtain a one-week concentrated study of U.S. Government through direct exposure and personal contact with institutions and people in government in Washington, D.C. Students are chosen each year to attend the classroom from the 50 States and U.S. territories. Since the program was founded in 1968, about 25,000 young people have gone to the nation's capital to observe the federal government in action.

How one Nisei survived the Evacuation . . .

JAMES IMAHARA
SON OF IMMIGRANT'S



By James M. Imahara
as told to Anne Butler Ponder

The personal recollection (as told to Anne Butler Ponder) of a charter member of Florin JACL, Imahara and his young family of 10 were evacuated to Arkansas in 1942. They begrudgingly settled after the war in Louisiana (Chicago was too cold, and to-hell with California), where he successfully ran a nursery business and saw to it that nine of ten children finished college. One of the few first-person Nisei histories to be published, the fifth daughter encouraged her dad to write what had happened to him and the community, how he felt and survived . . .

This little book may encourage other Nisei to tell the "flip-side" of their Evacuation story, the memoirs, thoughts, emotions and philosophy of life.—Harry Honda, Pacific Citizen.

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BY THE BOARD: by Cary Nishimoto

Noguchi Demotion

Los Angeles

The recent action of the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission in reversing the considered judgment of its own hearing officer acutely demonstrates that due process has been replaced by political expediency.

The Civil Service Commissioners were not present during the hearings and did not hear the evidence. They are not in a position to fairly evaluate the multitude of documents in light of evidence presented in their absence nor can they judge the credibility of numerous witnesses whose testimony they did not hear and whose demeanor they did not see. Instead, the Civil Service Commission elected to assign this important task to an experienced hearing officer who did consider and weigh the evidence presented.

No good purpose is served by putting both sides through a long and costly hearing if the Civil Service Commission lacks faith in its own choice of hearing officers.

The Japanese American Citizens League salutes the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission on a significant step backwards in the fight for credibility and fairness in County government. #

Marutani keynotes Phila. dinner

PHILADELPHIA—The Philadelphia JACL Chapter will hold its annual Installation Dinner Dance and Graduate Recognition on Saturday, March 26, 6 p.m. at the Mount Laurel Hilton Grand Ballroom, Rte. 73 at I-295, Mount Laurel, NJ.

Keynote speaker will be the Hon. William M. Marutani, Judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas and member of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. A guest oration will also be presented by Rep. Edwin B. Forsythe of the 13th Congressional District, New Jersey.

For more info call Sim Endo, (215) 844-7317.

JACL
The History of the Japanese American Citizens League
QUEST OF JUSTICE
BILL HOSOKAWA

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Sansei and the JACL

San Francisco

Some of the demographic material that has passed by my desk indicates that the baby boom population is now between 18 and 34 years of age. Most Sansei probably fit into this range, although there are a good many who are a little older. This is an age group that is just at the edge of their career paths, and represent a forecast of the Nikkei community to come.

General assumptions that might be carried are that this group is outmarrying in significant numbers, and has significantly greater geographic and career mobility than the Nisei. An extension of these assumptions might lead to the conclusion that there ought to be a decline in participation in ethnic community institutions such as the JACL, given the existing trends. It is, after all, a trend that is experienced in other ethnic communities in the American experience.

Perhaps, there is a trend in this direction. The Issei organizations such as the Nihonjinkai have rapidly diminished in number and activity, with the aging and demise of that population. It might follow that the same would occur with institutions that were Nisei in nature. The pattern of membership decline in JACL might be further evidence of this phenomena, since the average

age of the Nisei would be 59 or so.

In looking at the JACL, it strikes me that the organization was initially a very social activity. The organizational oldtimers indicate that the early JACL conventions were a lot of "boy-meets-girl" events. The environment of World War II placed the organization of that period in a patriotic frame, basing a great deal of its position and focus to demonstrate loyalty. In the post-war period, the JACL appeared to take on a greater intensity and took up much of the civil rights agenda that was laid before the nation. At present, with the aging of the membership and the status achieved by a lifetime of work, we seem to be at another crossroad. It is actually an identity crises. What is the JACL today?

The question that follows is, what will the organization be tomorrow? The Sansei population that I described has not been joining the organization in droves, although there is a steady increase in the nation's Sansei population. Perhaps, the organization would merely contract over time, and modify its role as a generalist involved with every imaginable issue of importance, to a more specific focus. On the other hand, the emerging focus on Japan and the nature of American public opinion on this subject may propel the organization into a new emerging identity that addresses another perspective of interest that touches the lives of Japanese Americans during the

BY THE BOARD: by Vernon Yoshioka



Membership Drive

San Diego

Our JACL is a national organization working for a better society. We believe in our country according to our motto "Better Americans in a Greater America". Our immediate program goals are: Redress, US-Japan Relations, International Nikkei Relations, Aging and Retirement, Education, and Social and Cultural Awareness. Our long range goals stress equality and justice, communication and our continued presence in national and world affairs. The only premise to attain our goals is that JACL must be alive and well and growing.

Membership is then the key issue for JACL as it must encompass a cross section of our Japanese American community in order to be representative. JACL's primary source of funding is generated through membership dues. And JACL must reach out to bring younger members into the organization to insure its future health.

What do we, as JACL'ers, need to do to assure our future? It is imperative that we conduct membership campaigns, and not just send out renewal notices. If we don't actively recruit new members JACL will disappear, due to normal attrition. Second, we must commit ourselves to making personal contacts for JACL as a lot of Nikkei are just waiting to be asked to join. And third, we need to distribute our literature to potential members. We have the membership brochures, the Pacific Citizen and our local newsletters to share. These materials must be given to friends, neighbors, co-workers and relatives—anyone who is not presently a JACL member.

Most important of all is how we approach this issue of membership renewal and recruitment. It requires a diligent and enthusiastic individual to organize a campaign. It requires hard work from every JACL member and a commitment of time. And perseverance, because in today's competitive market, at least three contacts should be planned for each potential or renewing member who doesn't join immediately.

Now that the need and the burden of membership has

been described, we have some relief because help is available. The total JACL staff, your national and regional officers are all committed to making our organization a success. The membership materials have been improved to facilitate your efforts—and finally if you have any questions, Emily Ishida at National Headquarters (415-921-5225), Harry Honda at the Pacific Citizen (213-626-6936) or myself in San Diego (619-461-2010) are ready to help or answer questions.

Let's work together to meet our goal this year of a 5% increase. Last year we stopped the decline with some super effort by some of our members. We can easily meet the goal of 5% if the rest of the members pitch in. Our long range goal is to reach 50,000 members in 5 years. Lets do it! #

'Fast Lane' returns to Chicago

CHICAGO—The Chicago JACL Chapter will sponsor a repeat performance of "Life in the Fast Lane," starring Lane Nishikawa of the Sansei Theater Company of San Francisco. The Chapter held a successful run of "Fast Lane" last December and Nishikawa has consented for a return engagement.

The performances will be held Thursday, March 31, Friday, April

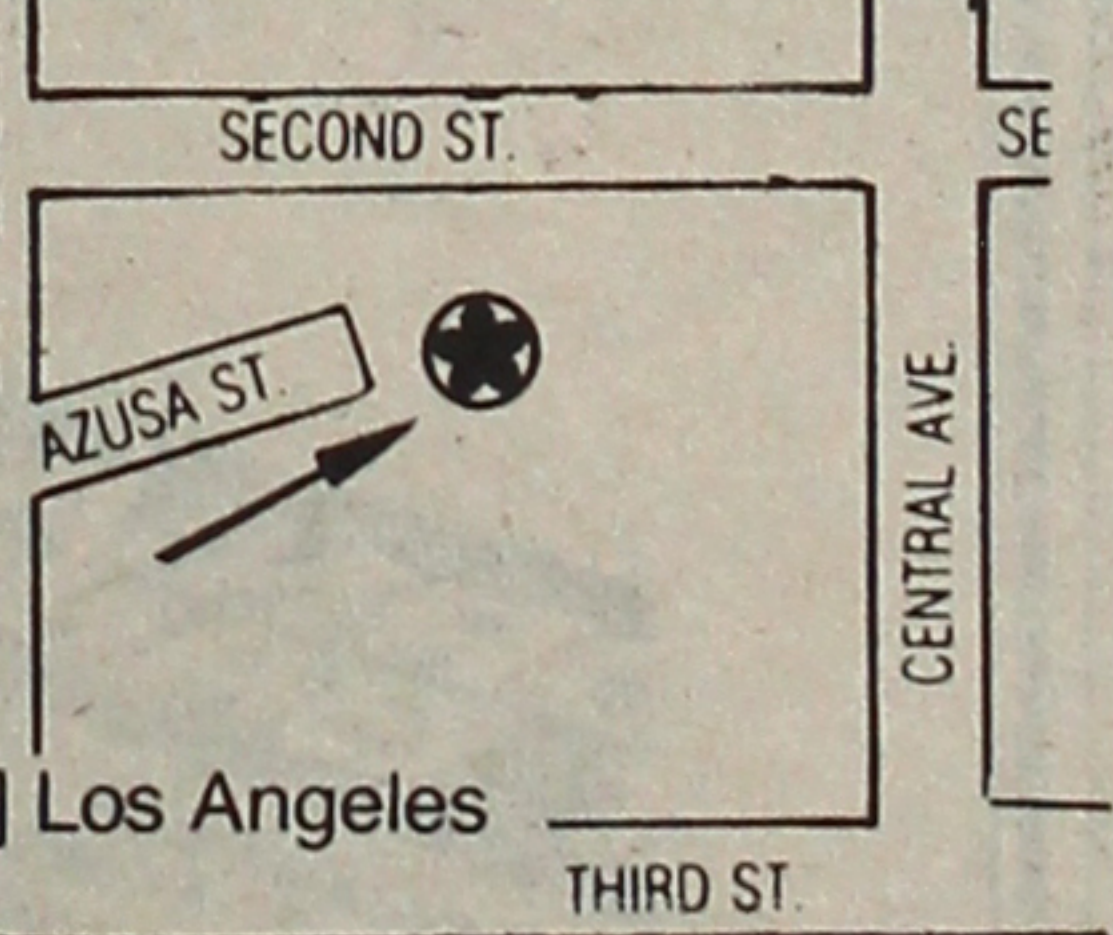
1 and Saturday, April 2, all starting at 8:30 p.m., at the Latin School of Chicago Auditorium (Clark and North Ave). Tickets (\$8.50 for the March 31 show; \$10 for April 1 and 2) will be available at the door.

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next 20 or so years.

The Sansei that are reaching their full majority will have the responsibility to contend with this changing world that will be more international and technical.

Having grown up in that generation, I am confident in the competence of my cohorts in addressing this new historical period. At the same time, I am concerned that the kinds of experience and relationships that the Nisei have cultivated over the last 50 years will not be transferred to the Sansei. This could be a step up for this generation.

The Washington Leadership Intern Program that David Nakayama has been diligently developing is a pilot effort to facilitate the development of Sansei leadership. It is structured to have a group of ten young adults spend a week in Washington, D.C. with a hands-on experience with government. By recruiting speakers and facilitators from the ranks of those familiar with both the Nikkei community and the Washington scene, the target is to provide a realistic presentation of what is required to get things done for the interest of the community. Each JACL District will be able to sponsor one young person. NCWNP, EDC, and CCDC have moved forward on this effort quickly, and I would anticipate that all of the districts will take advantage of this program which has a mid-June date. #

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Art Nishisaka	731-0758		
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Ken Ige	943-3354	James Seippel	527-5947
Mack Miyazaki	963-5021	Ken Uyesugi	558-7723
Walter E. Plegel	639-0461		
EAST LOS ANGELES / MONTEREY PARK			
Takuo Endo	265-0724	Robert Oshita	283-0337
Tak Ogino	685-3144	George Yamate	386-1600
GARDENA VALLEY			
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Stuart Tsujimoto	772-6529	George J Ono	324-4811
WEST LOS ANGELES			
Arnold Maeda, CLU	398-5157	Steve Nakaji	391-5931
DOWNEY: Ken Uyetake			773-2853
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Voting: Getting into the Act

Los Angeles

In the November General Election, California had on its ballot 15 propositions and the voters went to the polls with the task of not only electing a governor, legislators, judges and other officers but also having to make decisions on the sale of state bonds, amending the constitution and enacting special purpose laws. I wonder if many voters do not find ballot propositions overwhelming and dismiss them without serious study. Perhaps some of California's fiscal problems today might have been avoided had the public understood better the ballot propositions that might have prevented these catastrophes in the long run.

A good example is Proposition 13, of the 1978 elections. Many believed it was the best thing that happened fiscally, but others can point to this proposition as the cause of the financial problems of schools and social services today. When one votes to reduce the income into the state general fund, the result is less money to spend, and as a consequence those services thus funded must suffer. Voters thought they were cutting out "fat". There was no such guarantee, nor did it stop there. Like some politicians, ballot propositions can be different from the imagined, once the veneer is removed.

As I have repeated the JACL motto, "Better Americans in a Greater America" during installation ceremonies and asked myself how I can help make "better" Americans in a "greater" America, the thought has re-

curred that voting intelligently can qualify us as better Americans, and help to create a greater America in the process. With the large number of attorneys, professional persons, and college graduates in our midst, JACL should be a leader in intelligent voting.

Ballot propositions are not always what you think they are on initial contact. Particularly devious in wording are initiatives proposed by special interest groups because of the need to appeal to many factions for the signature-acquiring process. Even constitutional amendments proposed by the legislature sometimes are confusing although they are generally straight-forward and have a singular purpose.

A lot of the mystery of ballot propositions can be cleared by organized study. The League of Women Voters have a Voter Service branch that seeks to inform the public objectively. "The California Journal: the Monthly Analysis of State Government and Politics" is an excel-

lent source of "non-partisan, non-ideological analysis" (1714 Capitol Ave., Sacramento 96814). It has a concise summary of propositions, candidates and other valuable information at election time. Other states will very likely have similar publications. Ballot proposals themselves can be obtained directly from legislators.

To organize a local "speakers bureau," assign one or two propositions to persons who are willing to give in-depth study to them and then be able to present them in concise, understandable language. Some of this can be shared on a larger scale. To be able to review a dozen or more ballot propositions accurately and concisely in a two-hour program takes much study and planning. If manpower is lacking, focus on one or two "hot" issues. Try it among board members. You may find it demanding but rewarding, with the satisfaction that you will have helped others to be "Better Americans in a Greater America."

Portland installs its 1983 officers

PORTLAND, Ore.—The Portland JACL Chapter held its installation of officers on Jan. 15, and the new slate reflects the transition of JACL leadership from the Nisei to the Sansei. Dr. Homer Yasui, PNWDC Governor installed the following:

Robert Shimabukuro, pres; Roy Nakayama, vp; Nancy Kajitsu, sec; Mike Irinaga, treas; Sharon Ikeda, hist; Ernest Sargent, 1000 Club; Walter Sakai, off dele; Steve Iwata, Terry Akwai, William Sugahiro, Terry Yamada, Arthur Iwasaki, bd membs.

President Robert Shimabukuro, a Sansei, is a native of Honolulu. He is a graduate of Reed College in Portland. Since graduation he has been active in a wide range of work and community activities. He has served on the Portland JACL chapter board since 1981, and in 1982 served as the editor of the newsletter.

The chapter also recognized and awarded a number of individuals and local business firms who have made significant contributions to the success and welfare of the Portland JACL. Dr. James Tsujimura, past national president presented a Sapphire Pin to Dr.

George Hara for over 40 years of dedicated service at the chapter, district and national levels. Silver pins for ten years of service were presented to Earl Shinsenki, Jean Matsumoto, James Tsujimura and Walter Sakai. Bronze pins and lifetime membership to the Portland Chapter were awarded to four charter members of the chapter: Hana Yamada, George Sumida, Frances Maeda and Shigeko Yokota.

Salt Lake's Kasai chairs aging group

SALT LAKE CITY—Mrs. Alice Kasai has been elected chairwoman of the Salt Lake Council for the Aging for 1983 at the council's January meeting.

The council is an advisory body to Salt Lake County Aging Services. Its responsibilities include developing, monitoring and evaluating service priorities, goals and objectives for programs aimed at Salt Lake County's senior citizen population.

Mrs. Kasai has been a member of the council for three years. In addition to her involvement with senior citizens, she serves as a board member with Peoples of Utah, performs outreach work for the Asian Association, and is a member of the Volunteer Advisory Board for the Salt Lake City Board of Education. She is also a member of the University of Utah School of Social Work Advisory Board, is director of the State Department of Social Services Information Service, and is the program coordinator for the Salt Lake City JACL. #

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Gardena JACL to install officers

GARDENA, Ca.—The Gardena Valley JACL will install their officers and board of directors on Saturday, March 5, 6 p.m. at the Gardena Nisei Veterans Hall, 1964 West 162nd St. For more info call May Doi at (213) 329-3003 (eve) or Karl Nobuyuki 323-5426.

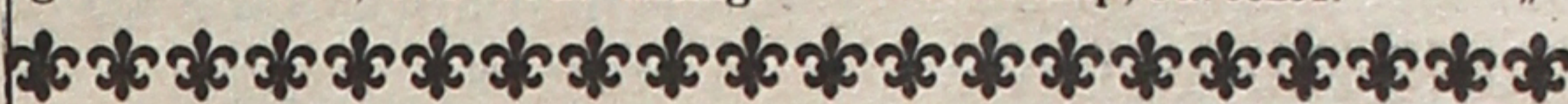
French Camp offers dance practice

FRENCH CAMP, Ca. — Dance practice has been sponsored by the French Camp JACL for the past two years with Yoshio and Bette Moriwaki as their leaders. Dancing is held three Fridays a month at the Japanese Community Hall at 7 p.m.

The chapter holds its monthly meetings on the second Friday of each month at the Community Hall, starting at 7:30 p.m. For the last two years Katy Komure, registered nurse, has been taking

blood pressure reading for members in attendance. The chapter has also published its first newsletter recently. The newsletter will be published quarterly with news of the local events and people.

The chapter is planning a great and entertaining picnic this year under the general chairmanship of Hideo Morinaka and Tom Natsuhara on April 24, at Micke Grove, in Lodi, Calif. For more info contact the chapter at P.O. Box 441, French Camp, Ca. 95231. #



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