



News in Brief

Redress gets 2 more endorsements

WASHINGTON—Joseph Zoldan, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, in a May 3 letter to JACL Washington Representative Ronald Ikejiri, communicated that organization's support for HR 4110 and S 2116.

Commander Zoldan noted that, "The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. have a long and proud history of fighting against discrimination and bigotry."

In Los Angeles, the American Psychiatric Assn. endorsed the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, including monetary redress for former internees. Passed on May 10, the resolution was presented by Rena M. Nora, M.D., of New Jersey, chair of the association's Asian American caucus.

Jackson begins information service

LOS ANGELES—A telephone call-in news service provided by the Jackson for President campaign was scheduled to begin May 17. By dialing 1-900-410-VOTE (a toll call) from any place in the country, listeners will be able to get up-to-date campaign information, said Paul Brock, program manager.

New messages are to begin at midnight each evening, Pacific Daylight Time. Brock said the service "represents the first time that a presidential candidate has attempted to bypass national media to get his message to the general public."

Utah to help minority businesses

SALT LAKE CITY—Gov. Scott Matheson announced that the state of Utah will soon have an affirmative action policy to ensure that minority businesses are able to compete for some of the state's trade.

The governor told the Asian American Small Business Conference last month that "traditionally, Asian American people have, for a number of significant reasons, been reluctant to go into business for themselves." However, he said, one of the important facets of the new policy "will provide that the director of purchasing work with minorities to identify and eliminate restrictive practices."

Nakano named mayor pro tempore

TORRANCE, Calif.—George Nakano, newly elected Torrance city council member, has been named mayor pro tem for the city. Nakano will assume the responsibilities of the mayor in his absence.

In addition, Nakano has assumed the chair of the finance and governmental operations committee.

Torrance is the third largest city in Los Angeles county and the 16th largest in the state. It is national headquarters for American Honda and Toyota of America.

S.E. Asian children malnourished

BOSTON—Southeast Asian children are two to three times more likely to be undernourished than other children, concluded a Massachusetts health survey. The survey results, reported by Doris Sue Wong in the April 17 Sampan, show that 15.7% of the 51 Southeast Asian children examined suffer from stunted growth, an indication of long-term malnourishment. In all, 1,429 low-income children aged 6 months to about 6 years were studied.

As a result of the survey findings, the Massachusetts legislature has appropriated \$600,000 in supplemental funds to address the problems of the Southeast Asian communities, including nutrition counseling, food packages, and health screenings.

Asian spirit cited in Congress

WASHINGTON—Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.), in a May 9 statement marking the sixth annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, told his colleagues in the House to join in the celebration and recognize the contributions Asian Pacific Americans have made over the past 150 years.

"They have emerged as strong, vibrant members of this Nation. As their numbers have grown, so have their contributions to American society," the Sansei congressman declared.

Tribute paid to Asian Pacific Olympians

LOS ANGELES—Fourteen of the best athletes in the world were honored last Friday evening by more than 500 persons who attended the mayor's annual heritage dinner. A "Salute to Asian/Pacific Olympians" was given to immigrant and American-born athletes living in Southern California who have competed in the Olympic games.

Among those honored was Sammy Lee, a Korean American who was barred from public swimming pools and so practiced his early dives into a pile of sand. He later won gold medals in the 1948 London and 1952 Helsinki games.

(No games were held in 1940 and 1944 because of WW2.)

Another American diver in 1948, Victoria Manalo Draves, was the only team member to win two gold medals that year. Draves won in the three-meter springboard and platform events and was instrumental in the Olympics' opening high-



Photo by Jon Takasugi

dive competition to women in the 1952 games.

One of the more well-known athletes present was figure-skater Tiffany Chin, who placed fourth in the 1984 Winter Olympics at Sarajevo. Chin expressed her appreciation of former Asian Olympians.

"I have been inspired by past champions and their persisting determination to become the best, and I hope one day I will do them proud," she said.

Chin is considered to have a good chance of winning a medal in 1988.

Boycott Discussed

Earlier in the evening, Mayor Tom Bradley told the gathering that he was working to persuade the Soviet Union to reconsider its announced boycott of the Los Angeles games.

"The games will be diminished to the extent that these athletes from around the world will not be able to compete against the very best," said Bradley, himself a former collegiate track star. "The only way you feel you really are the champion of the world in an Olympic competition is to know that everybody who could compete was there."

Judoist Steve Seck, however, member of the U.S. team that stayed home in 1980, stressed his belief that medals won in the 1984 Olympics would not be "tarnished" even if the Soviet Union did not participate. In particular, he stated that diver Greg Louganis would be a world champion regardless of who his competitors were.

Louganis, adopted by parents of Greek ancestry, is half Samoan. He, too, was on the 1980 team, but will compete this summer in Los Angeles.

Other Attendees

Also present at the tribute were Bill Tom, San Francisco-born Chinese American gymnast who made the 1956 team at the age of 33; Monty Manibog, Filipino wrestler in 1952; Pedro Valasco, volleyball player in the 1964 Tokyo and 1968 Mexico City games; Louganis; and a number of athletes who represented their home countries before immigrating to the U.S. These included Bok Shim, who ran for the first Korean team in 1948; Katsuichi Mori, Japanese diver in 1952; David Puathasnanon, member of the 1964 Thai basketball team; and Sang Nam, South Korean swimmer in 1968.

Unable to attend were Makoto Sakamoto, gymnast in the 1964 Tokyo and 1972 Munich games; and Tai Babilonia, who lost her chance for a medal in the 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympics when her figure-skating partner, Randy Gardner, suffered an injury and could not compete.

Although most of the Asian Pacific Olympians have not competed for several years, most are actively involved with the upcoming Los Angeles Summer games. Sammy Lee, for example, is a member of the Olympic Advisory Committee.



Photo by Jon Takasugi

World champions — Tiffany Chin (at left) autographs a program at the 'Salute to Asian/Pacific Olympians.' Sammy Lee (above) expresses appreciation for honor.

Monty Manibog is envoy to the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa and Fiji and Solomon Islands. Bok Shim will guide and interpret for the South Korean team, and Sang Nam will assist that country's swimmers. And among his other Olympic duties, David Puathasnanon is envoy to the Thailand and Singapore teams.

Minorities to hold conference on national defense policies

WASHINGTON — Coretta Scott King, Marian Wright Edelman and Eleanor Holmes Norton are among the featured speakers at a major convocation on the role minorities can play in helping to reduce the threat of nuclear war.

Entitled "Minorities and Arms Control," the day-long event takes place Wednesday, May 23, in the auditorium of the National Education Assn.

The JACL, through Washington Representative Ronald Ikejiri, will participate in a panel entitled "The People's Defense Budget: Shifting from Guns to Butter," with Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund; Julia Burgess, co-chair of the Jobs with Peace Campaign; and Arnold Torres, executive director, League of Latin American Citizens. Eleanor

Norton Holmes, former director of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, serves as panel moderator.

Other participants in the event are Terry Herndon, former director of the National Education Assn., and Dr. Arthur Flemming, former chair, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and former member, Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

Sponsor of the event is the Citizens Against Nuclear War, a coalition of more than 60 national membership groups, including churches, unions, professional and civic organizations representing some 20 million Americans.

At its 1982 convention, JACL adopted a resolution that directed the national organization to work towards a freeze of nuclear weapons.

Senate hearing postponed

SAN FRANCISCO—JACL headquarters has been informed that the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services has rescheduled its hearing on S 2116, the Senate redress bill.

Originally slated for June 1 in Los Angeles, the hearing has been postponed because of scheduling conflicts, according to John Tateishi, JACL redress director.

Senate staff indicated that the subcommittee does intend to hold a hearing on S 2116 this year and is considering a late summer date.



It was World Trade Week, too—Gov. George Deukerjian of California meets Koshiro Torii of the Japan Chamber of Commerce of Southern California on May 4 prior to a Bi-national Chambers of Commerce lunch. The governor officially kicked off 'World Trade Week' by delivering an address calling for the state to expand its trade with foreign nations.

'Assembly center' now official California state historical site

STOCKTON, Calif.—Japanese Americans and their friends will gather Saturday, June 2, at the San Joaquin County Fairground, site of the wartime Stockton Assembly Center, to dedicate a one-ton feather rock monument as state historical Landmark No. 934. The dedication begins 1:30 p.m. at the main entrance, Charter Way and Airport Way.

None of the facilities used for the center exists today, even the racetrack and grandstand. Area is now the fairground parking lot.

Stockton Assembly Center was one of 12 temporary detention camps established during WW2 in California. It opened on May 10, 1942, and closed Oct. 17 of that year. Official count at the end of May was 4,271 residents, almost half of whom were children. They were shipped to the concentration camp at Rohwer, Ark., for the duration of the war.

All 12 Centers Declared 'Landmarks'

In May 1980, a blanket approval was obtained from the Calif. State Historical Resources Commission to declare the 12 temporary detention centers historical sites. Individual applications are required, however, to put up the bronze landmark plaques. The Stockton plaque was approved last Feb. 3.

Six local Nikkei organizations are sponsoring the dedication: French Camp JACL, Lodi JACL, Stockton JACL, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Lodi Buddhist Church and the Stockton Buddhist Church.

For details, call Tetsuya Kato, (209) 467-9196 day, 478-1801 eve, or George Baba, 478-8917.

It's confirmed: Asian American students more likely to study hard & go to college

WASHINGTON — A higher percentage of Asian Americans attend college than any other ethnic group in the U.S., according to a recent study by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

Data from a follow-up of the "High School and Beyond" survey of 1980 high school students show that 74% of Asian American graduates attended two- or four-year colleges.

Other attendance rates were 51% for whites, 44% for Blacks, 35% for Hispanics, and 34% for Native Americans.

NCES also presented a study of 400 students at the con-

vention of the American Educational Research Assn. in New Orleans on April 24, which found that Asian American students took 1½ times as many advanced math and science courses as whites and 3 times as many as other minorities. Asian Americans also spend more time studying, and are less likely to work 15 or more hours a week outside school. They are more likely than others to join honors clubs

Asian Am. studies educators group elects officers

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—The Assn. for Asian American Studies (AAAS), a professional organization dedicated to the promotion of teaching and research in Asian American studies, recently announced its new officers.

UCLA professor Don Nakaniishi was elected president. Prof. Gary Okihiro of Univ. of Santa Clara was elected secretary-treasurer. New regional board members are Franklin Odo, Univ. of Hawaii; Ray Lou, San Jose State; Sucheta Mazumdar, UCLA; Shirley Hune, Medgar Evers College; and Roger Daniels, Univ. of Cincinnati.

Open to all individuals interested in Asian American studies, AAAS has a monthly newsletter, conducts a variety of research committees and is organizing a national convention in October at UCLA. For information, contact Okihiro, Dept. of Ethnic Studies, Univ. of Santa Clara, Santa Clara, CA 95053.

and student government, but less likely to participate in community groups, church activities, and sports.

USA Today reported that another study "suggests that the academic drive weakens the longer an Asian American family is in the USA."

APA week marked

OAKLAND, Calif. — Among the many events celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Week was the popular annual festival held Sunday, May 13, in the Oakland Museum gardens.

Live entertainment, food, and crafts have drawn crowds of 5,000 and more to the event each year.

In El Segundo, Calif., Aerospace Corp. held daily programs during the noon hour throughout the week. Among the speakers and performers were Saachiko and Dom Magwili's "On the Orient Express," an hour of music, poetry, drama and comedy; and a talk by NASA astronaut Charles Kubokawa.

Alumnae raise funds

LOS ANGELES—Chi Alpha Delta's Alumnae Scholarship Bridge Tea held April 29 raised enough funds to provide a scholarship for a UCLA student.

Bridge competition among 120 players resulted in Carl and Anna Tamaki, Ruby Chuman and Ruth Fukui among the winners.

Area merchants who donated prizes for the event were:

Yuzy's Nursery, Enbun Co., Little Tokyo Bonsai Nursery, Toyo Miyatake Studio, Restaurant Plaza, Inc., International Trading Co., Merit Savings & Loan, Rafu Bussan, Mitsui Air International Inc., JACCC, Asahi Shoe & Dry Goods, New Orient Express, California First Bank, Sumitomo Bank, Modern Food Market, Frances Bakery, Little Tokyo Cosmetics, Mikaway Confectionery, Little Tokyo Clayworks, Joseph's Men's Wear, New Japan Travel Center, Pacific Citizen, Kimura Photomart, and Alma Pharmacy.

Tamagawa reunion set for May 25

by Mari Inouye
LOS ANGELES—Former students, parents and teachers of Tamagawa Gakuen and friends of its principal, Yuzo Susagano, are invited by the Tamagawa Planning Committee to honor Sensei at his 80th birthday celebration Friday, May 25, at 7 p.m.

Promised by the committee on this evening is a tasty dinner, a grand reunion of persons well met, hilarity, and an exchange of memories reaching back at least 50 years—perhaps some memories best forgotten, but—oh, well.

Those attending are asked to bring a "then" and "now" picture of themselves. Family pictures are encouraged. An album will be created spontaneously at this reunion and presented to our guest of honor.

For full details of site and dinner confirmation, please contact immediately any of the following: Mariko (Matsumoto) Inouye, 628-4658 (days), 261-9202 (eves); Tomi Masunaka, 288-6366; Gloria (Apodaca) Monaco, 500-1021; Henry Nakano, (714) 871-8178 (eves and weekends); Goro Yamada, 280-1406 (eves and weekends).

JAL offers two new scholarships

HONOLULU — Japan Air Lines, in cooperation with the Univ. of Hawaii International Student Office, is sponsoring two scholarships to the 1984 summer session at Sophia University in Tokyo, including field trips through the country. Priority is given to college students who live here and have never traveled abroad. The July 11-Aug. 14 program includes round trip transportation, tuition and fees for two courses, tours within Japan, and room and board.

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Kabuki star—Bando Tamasaburo V makes his West Coast debut at Los Angeles' Japan America Theatre May 16-18. His solo tour of the U.S. includes an appearance at the 100th-anniversary celebration of the Metropolitan Opera House.

● Cultural events

SEATTLE—A street fair featuring acrobats, a choreographed kung fu show, several cultural dances, and 20 food and crafts booths will be held in Seattle's International District Saturday, May 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Univ. of Washington Asian Student Assn. sponsors the event as part of its Asian Heritage Week activities.

SEATTLE—Northwest Asian American Theatre Company presents Rick Shiomi's award-winning "Yellow Fever" at the Nippon Kan Theatre. Performances of the detective-story satire begin May 18 and run Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. Perhaps the most popular Asian American play to date, the plot revolves around Sam Shikaze, a Nisei private eye searching for a kidnapped Cherry Blossom Queen.

SALT LAKE CITY—Asian Assn. of Utah sponsors the 7th annual Asian festival Saturday, May 19, at Salt Palace Exhibition Hall from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Workshops, arts exhibits, entertainment and food from nine ethnic groups are featured. For more information, call (801) 486-5987.

SANTA ANA, Calif.—Kabuki dancing, tea ceremonies and crafts highlight a "Japanese cultural weekend" hosted by Bowers Museum Japanese American Council, Saturday, May 19, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 20, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Proceeds benefit the council's oral and pictorial history projects. The museum is located at 2002 N. Main St. For more information, call (714) 547-0696.

SAN FRANCISCO—Vocalist May Murakami and pianist Milton Oshiro present an evening concert Friday, May 18, 8 p.m., at Christ United Presbyterian Church, 1700 Sutter St. Tickets are \$7.50. For more information, call 567-3988.

TORONTO—"Asian Canadian Artists in the Eighties" is the focus of the latest issue of Asianadian, national magazine published quarterly by the Asianadian Resource Workshop. Featured are articles about Rick Shiomi, author of the play "Yellow Fever," and architect Raymond Moriyama, winner of 30 national and international awards. For more information, write Asianadian, P.O. Box 1956, Station Q, Toronto, Canada M5T 2P4.

● Educational concerns

WASHINGTON—Families in Hawaii are being sought to host outstanding Japanese high school students for the 1984-85 academic year, U.S. Sens. Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga announced. Interested families should contact Youth for Understanding, 3501 Newark St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016; (800) 424-3691, ext. 281.

Athletes' dreams dribble away in new play about basketball

BALTIMORE—James Yoshimura's "Ohio Tip-off," a play about the underside of national basketball, might not seem to be a "natural" topic for a Sansei playwright.

Yet, Yoshimura says, "the only Japanese American play I would ever write is my family play." And the middle child of 11 children jokes that with a cast that large, it could never play New York.

Talking with Baltimore Sun reporter J. Wynn Rousuck, Yoshimura recalled that after internment, during which his parents were converted to Catholicism, his family moved to Chicago.

"We were the only Asian family in the parish," he said. "You write from the world you come from. It doesn't matter whether you're black or white. If you write a good play, it's a good play."

"I've never been able to write living room dramas. I have no interest in writing about WASPs or the upper class," he added.

No Dreams

The characters in "Ohio Tip-off" are definitely not upper class. They are the Ohio Shakers, a fictitious team in the Continental Basketball Assn., unofficial farm system to the NBA. Players earn about \$4,000 per season.

In "Ohio Tip-off" an NBA scout comes to a Shakers game—but the other team doesn't.

Of lost opportunities, Yoshimura commented, "Nobody has prepared these guys to face facts—that's the American dream."

String of Successes

Some would say Yoshimura's own career embodies the American dream. He sent his first play 10 years ago to Yale. Three years later, "Stunts" won the CBS Foundation Prize for best thesis play.

Since then Yoshimura has been writer in residence for the Illinois Arts Council and has been named a national member of New Dramatists. His previously produced play, "Mercenaries," was nominated for an Obie.

"Ohio Tip-off" rose in one year from an initial reading at New Dramatists in New York to the Eugene O'Neill Theater last summer, to a world premiere May 4 at Baltimore's Center Stage. Performances there run through June 10.

● Community affairs

LOS ANGELES—Japanese American Bar Assn. scheduled a joint meeting for their members, the Korean American Bar Assn. and the Philippine Lawyers' Assn. for Thursday, May 17, at the Los Angeles Athletic Club, 431 W. 7th St., at 6:30 p.m. City Attorney Ira Reiner was slated to deliver the keynote address.

LOS ANGELES—Theta Kappa Phi Sorority of UCLA celebrates its 25th anniversary with a luncheon honoring Dr. Robert Kinsman, graduate school dean. Entertainment and music will add to the festivities on June 3, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Sheraton Grande Hotel, 333 S. Figueroa St. Reservations can be confirmed by sending a check for \$25, payable to Theta Kappa Phi Alumnae, to Judy Kosobayashi, 683 Hampton Rd., Arcadia, CA 91006. For more information, call Jeanne Hirata, (714) 527-9186, or Margaret Shinohara, (213) 558-3569.

MONTEBELLO, Calif.—Roosevelt H.S. class of 1954 celebrates its 30th-year reunion Sunday, May 27, at Bagramian Hall, 900 W. Lincoln Ave., beginning at 5 p.m. A donation of \$30 covers a dinner, booklet, and dance music. For more information, call Oscar Guzman, 262-6909 or Mary Ellen (Gutierrez) Lorenzano, 336-5202; or write RHS 30th Reunion, P.O. Box 875024, Los Angeles, CA 90060.

SAN FRANCISCO—A victory celebration of Merle Woo's job discrimination settlement with U.C. Berkeley takes place Saturday, May 19, from 3 p.m. at 442 Shotwell. The event features talks, music and buffet. For more information, call 864-1278.

SAN FRANCISCO—Ben Kobashigawa's talk on the history of Okinawans in North America will be given in the hospitality room of California First Bank, East Bldg., Japan Center (new location). The talk, sponsored by Center for Japanese American Studies, begins at 8 p.m., Friday, May 18. For more information, call 648-9038.

SAN FRANCISCO—Orvey Jundis conducts a workshop for Asian Americans on "Illustrating for fantasy, sci-fi, and comics publications," Thursday, May 31, at Chinese Cultural Center, 750 Kearny, 7-9 p.m. Kearny Street Workshop sponsors the program. For more information, call 441-2458.

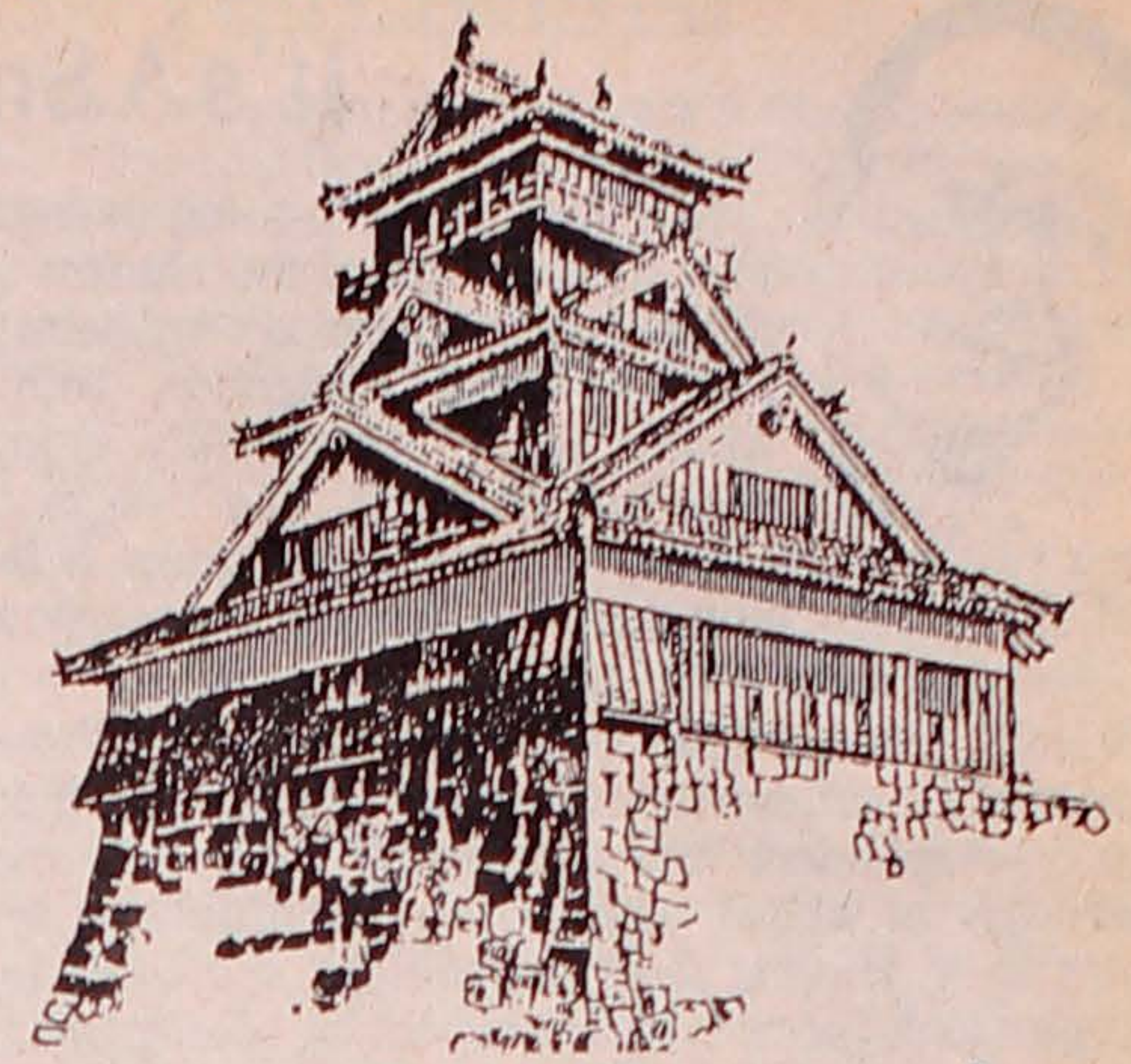
SAN FRANCISCO—Asian American women are invited to a free program on breast cancer sponsored by the American Cancer Society's Chinatown Advisory Committee and District 5 Community Mental Health. The program will be held Thursday, May 24 at Health Center 5, 1351 24th Ave., from 6:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m., and includes a light supper. Those planning to attend should register by calling Bertie Mo, 661-4400.

● Business

GARDENA, Calif.—American Independent Bank celebrated its grand opening April 24-25 with more than 1,300 invited guests. The bank is located at 1644 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. Ronald Shiozaki is board chair; William Patterson is president.

TORRANCE, Calif.—Pacific Heritage Bank will open its Little Tokyo branch in June, to be headed by Thomas Okamura. The bank also announced that Gerald Fukui, president of Fukui Mortuary, has been selected to serve on its board of directors. The bank opened its doors in 1981.

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Sample r.t. fares from point-of-origin/Honolulu/Tokyo/-point-of-origin: Washington, DC \$1580; Boston \$1580; Dallas \$1480; Houston \$1520; Chicago \$1430; Denver \$1350; Salt Lake City \$1360; Spokane \$1140; Seattle \$1050; Los Angeles \$ 990; San Francisco \$ 950; Honolulu \$730.

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_____ At the Surfrider Hotel. (Make separate check.)

Payment Plan—All deposits must be received by June 10 and final payment by June 30, 1984. Itinerary and general information will be sent upon receipt of application and deposit. Air tickets and any other pertinent information will be sent after confirmation and final payment. Make tour-flight checks payable to: Pacifico Creative Service, Inc. For new JACL memberships, checks are payable to Columbia Basin JACL and remit together with tour application/deposit.

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It's A Small World, After All

NO, WE'RE NOT going to engage in a dissertation of the charms and delights of Disneyland (Anaheim) or Disney World (Orlando), both of which we've unabashedly enjoyed with our children. The title to this week's column, as many of you will recognize, is from that lilting, charming theme-song of the puppet show of children throughout this world.

WHAT PROMPTED THE title was a note from a reader of the column from Geneva, Switzerland, that is. The correspondent was a dazzling bride of Kalmuck parentage at whose wedding we had officiated some years back. Having seen this column, she wrote to us and also took the occasion to report the blessed arrival of a son. (Geneva, Wisconsin—maybe; Geneva, Switzerland—it's a small, small world.)

IN OUR TRAVELS, readers occasionally come up and kindly express a few generous remarks. Even allowing for politeness, it's still nice to know that some people do read this column. In fact, we even welcome negative comments—and we do get them. (Including some unsigned ones, by the way.) Almost anything beats being totally ignored.

WE'VE RECEIVED VARIOUS comments. One Sansei thought the column provided a word-insight into

some facets of the Nisei experience, a sort of "curbside social history" so to speak. Perhaps. We admit that we employ this column to promote understanding, if not the adoption, of some of the ethnic and cultural values that are part of the Nisei ethic. In so doing, we do have an eye on the younger Nikkei, hoping it might trigger a deeper interest. And this explains our interspersing the column, at times, with *Nihongo* words.

SOMEONCE SUGGESTED that we submit a column to the Japan Times, the thought apparently being that perhaps readers in Japan ought to be exposed to Nisei concerns—or at least this one Nisei's concerns. We pondered over that suggestion for a while and then thought, "Why not." We did, and I think we "bombed out." We didn't hear a word, not even a rejection. (Not even an unsigned letter.) In all fairness, we do have to concede that that column—first and only—was a bit strong. We Americans have a tendency to be "up front," and one must understand the audience to whom (s)he's speaking.

AFTER ALL, THERE ARE readers right here who will tell you that sometime we come on a bit strong. If the truth be known, there are columns which never reach these pages. We look at them and conclude ourselves that "it won't play in Peoria."

Tokyo or Peoria: it's a small world.

'And Justice for All'



by John Tateishi, Redress Director

I just received the first two finished copies of AND JUSTICE FOR ALL from the publisher this week (May 10), the culmination of an enterprise which I began in January, 1982.

When I first undertook this project, I had a sense of what would be involved. But what I didn't count on was the personal journey it would take me on.

Throughout my tenure with the JACL's national Redress campaign since 1978, there have been many highs and lows. There have been some tremendous successes and also difficult times, but in retrospect, none have been personally more difficult than the interviews for the book.

I began by taping interviews of Japanese Americans—mostly Nisei but some Issei—around the country. In total, I talked to over 100 JA's, all of whom were gracious and kind in giving their time. But more than this, they each shared with me a tremendous personal pain they experienced during the Evacuation, frequently exposing their hearts and their souls.

Talking about the Evacuation would not be easy for these people. This I knew and anticipated. But what I hadn't anticipated was the raw honesty and frequently fragile emotions that emerged. I found it difficult going through those hundreds of hours of interviews, having to grit my nerves against the pain and tears because of the need to delve so deeply into the personal thoughts and emotions of the people I interviewed.

Frequently, they would break down in tears in remembering the hardships of their experiences, many recalling experiences that had long been forgotten. And always, there was heartbreak in their stories.

And yet, what impressed me more than anything, what I will always remember, is the strength and dignity with which each person took each step into his or her past. The tremendous dignity I witnessed was remarkable.

Those stories will always remain with me as a part of my personal journey through the book. I'll never forget the likes of Mary Tsukamoto, with her undaunted sense of loyalty and patriotism, or Haruko Niwa, an Issei who chose to stay in this country and recalled her first morning at Manzanar; Don Nakahata who, as a young boy, walked his father to the streetcar right after Pearl Harbor and never saw him alive again; the orphaned 16-year-old Helen Murao who brought her two younger brothers through Minidoka and resettlement in the Midwest; Tom Watanabe, who lost his wife and twin daughters at birth in Manzanar and tried for 40 years to find out where his daughters were buried; the principled defiance of the no-no's like Morgan Yamanaka and Jack Tono; the nightmare existence of Violet de Cristoforo; the so-called riot leader Harry Ueno, who exposed corruption by the administration at Manzanar; and the tremendous sense of loyalty of the 442nd vets, like John Kanda, Wilson Makabe and others.

These are only a few of the many stories that will remain etched in my memory.

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL is a collective memory of a terrible time in the lives of Japanese Americans. I am but little more than a provocateur of that memory, for while my name appears on the cover, the book really belongs to those whose stories are within the covers and to those who were kind enough to be interviewed but whose stories do not appear.

This is really their story. Not mine!

Coming Up: Comedy Skit about JACL and Women

by Irene Hirano, Women's Concerns Committee Chair

LOS ANGELES—As part of the on-going work of the JACL women's concerns committee, a special program will be presented by the Pacific Southwest District at its upcoming district council meeting, Sunday, May 20.

The program will be held at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 So. San Pedro Street, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. with a reception following.

The afternoon will open with a skit featuring "JACL Actors and Actresses." Although the committee has been keeping the names of the "stars" under wraps, PC readers get a sneak preview. Some of those who will play starring roles in the skit are: Ron Doi, Fred Hoshiyama, Patty Honda, Toy Kanegai, George Kodama, Hank Sakai, Mitsu Sonoda, Doug Urata, Midori Watanabe, and Mabel Yoshizaki. (This star-studded cast was recruited by J.D. Hokoyama and directed by Jerry Tondo of the improvisational group, Cold Tofu.)

The skit is followed by a panel discussion on issues concerning Nikkei women. Panelists are: Akemi Kikumura, author and anthropologist; Tritia Toyota, KNBC newscaster, and Floyd Shimomura, national JACL president. Issues to be discussed include the roles of women and men in Nikkei families, involvement and leadership of women, and special issues related to women in JACL.

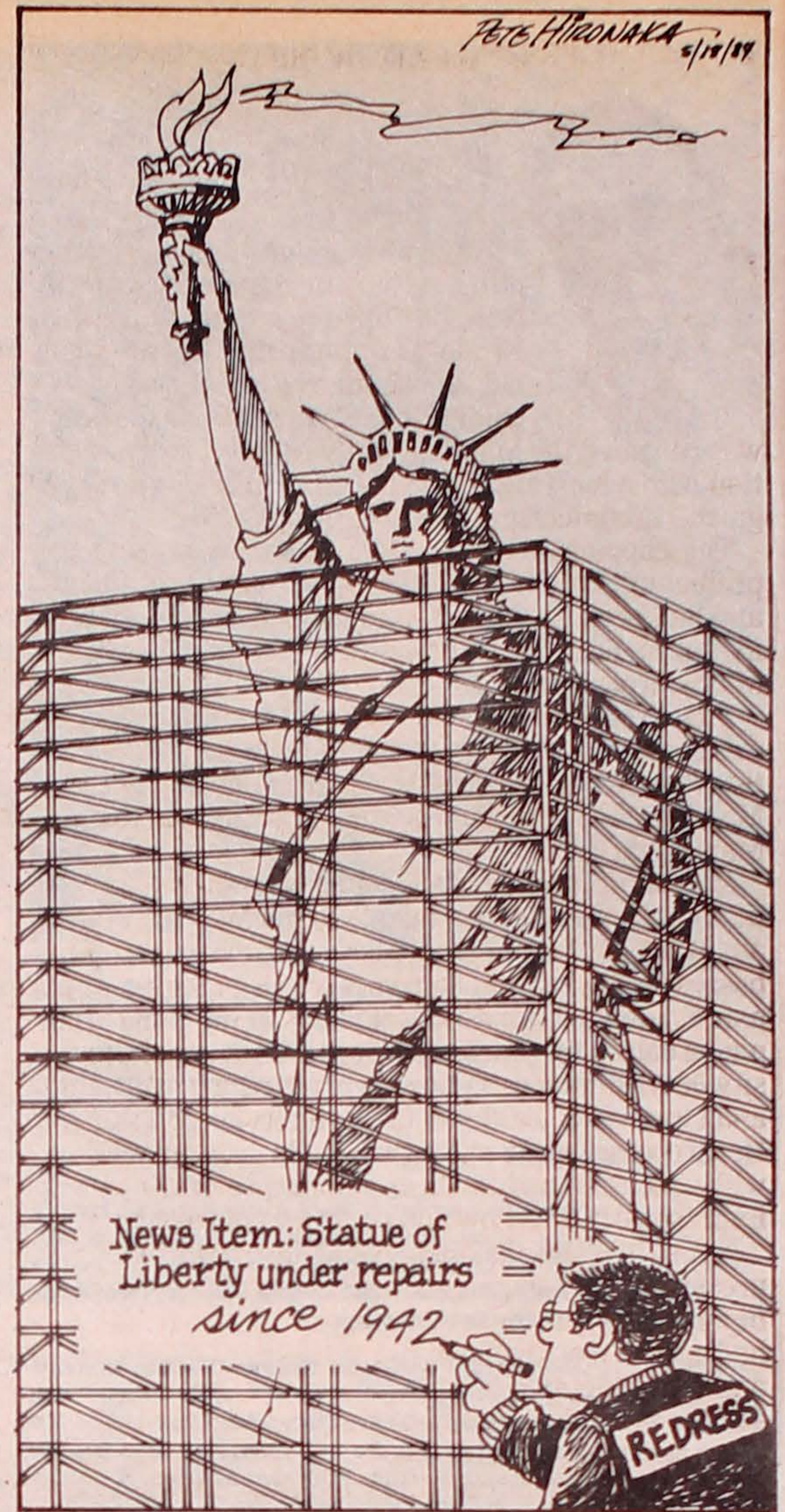
This is the first of several programs the PSW District will sponsor in conjunction with the women's concerns committee. The second program is an "assertiveness training" workshop for JACL women, scheduled for Saturday, June 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The training will focus on "effective assertiveness" within an organizational structure like JACL's.

The committee hopes that these and other activities sponsored by PSW will provide ideas and models for other districts and chapters to consider. The on-going work of the Northern California District and the Pacific Southwest District will be summarized and compiled in a kit that will be distributed to all chapters and districts later in the year.

Special thanks to members of the PSW sub-committee of the women's concerns committee: Linda Hara, J.D. Hokoyama, Patty Honda and Grace Shiba, and to PSW District Governor Harry Kajihara for this strong support of the activities of the committee.

The changes in the status of women in the organization need the involvement and support of both men and women, and the support of individuals like Harry, Floyd and J.D. is critical to the success of the committee's work. (Hope we can recruit more of the men!)

This promises to be an exciting, entertaining, educational and provocative program. Don't miss it!



Singles convention

Excitement Building

LOS ANGELES—Registrations continue to come in for the first National JACL Singles Convention, and about 150 singles are expected to attend. To date, the registered singles represent the JACL chapters of Gardena Valley, Marina South, San Fernando Valley, San Diego, Santa Maria, West Los Angeles, East Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Greater Los Angeles Singles, San Jose, San Mateo, Contra Costa, Florin, Seattle, and Salt Lake City, plus the following organizations: Sacramento Nikkei Singles, San Jose Nikkei Singles, Seattle Tomo-no-Kai, San Francisco Widowed Group, and the local organizations Megamillion, Nisei Singles, We Are One and Nikkei Widowed Group.

Tae Kaili, golf chair, has signed up 24 golfers, who will be teeing off at 9:30 a.m. Friday, May 25, at the Alondra Municipal Golf Course. The Friday night mixer chaired by Annabelle Lee has many mixers, games, and line dances in store for all. Terry Yoshimura announced that Mayor Don Deere of Gardena will be on hand to welcome the conventioners at the opening session.

Workshop chair Tom Shimazaki stated that the titles of two Saturday workshops have been revised to: "After Divorce: Opening New Doors," chaired by Grace Nagamoto; and "Sansei: Activities That Will Attract Young Single Persons," chaired by Allan Yoshimi. Members of the Seattle Tomo-no-Kai and San Francisco Widowed Group will join the Los Angeles Widowed Group on the panel.

Invitations have been sent to all local chapters, single organization members and interested friends to attend the Saturday night dinner dance at the Proud Bird. Sayonara brunch, coordinated by Lucy Yoshihara with the able assistance of Jane Yamamoto and Yosh Oshiki, has been set an hour earlier than previously planned and will start at 10 a.m. to accommodate many out-of-towners driving home. In turn, sightseers will be able to enjoy more Southern California sunshine.

Midori Watanabe will address the formation of a steering committee with representatives from different localities to assess the possibilities of a second singles convention, and invite resolutions to present at the national convention. Workshop reports are also on the agenda, and the singles hope to end on a positive note with many expectations met, especially that of the convention theme, "Getting to Know You".

Deadline for all reservations is May 18. Registration form can be found in the April 27 Pacific Citizen. For further information call (213) 541-6698, or (213) 477-6997.

FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa



Emile Masatomi

Kay Tateishi sent me a clipping the other day from the Mainichi Daily News in Tokyo reporting the death of Emile Masatomi. He was 87 years old. At one time he had been editor in chief of the English Mainichi, which was renamed the Mainichi Daily News. It is a publication with a long history and is a member of the distinguished Mainichi group of Tokyo and Osaka.

The clipping said Masatomi, a native of Okayama prefecture, had come to the United States as a youth and had been graduated from the University of Washington in 1921. He returned to Japan and joined the Mainichi newspapers in 1925.

The obituary continued that the Mainichi was commissioned to publish newspapers in three languages in the Philippines during the Japanese occupation and Masatomi was placed in charge of the English papers in Manila and Cebu.

Masatomi spoke perfect English and that was one of many reasons he was valuable to the Mainichi. It was about 1936, as I recall, that Masatomi and one of his big bosses visited Seattle. I am not sure about the big boss's name, but Shingoro Takaichi sticks in my mind. They paid a call on the journalism department at the University of Washington, as foreign press bigwigs often did, and I was one of the students who interviewed Takaichi. He, of course, spoke no English but Masatomi was able, witty, pleasant and facile as an interpreter. He was an impressive little fellow and made a lot of friends.

Not so his boss. Takaichi could have made a big impression on us aspiring journalists—after all, he was a big man at one of the world's biggest newspapers—if he had spoken frankly about the problems of publishing in a military dictatorship. But that wasn't his mission. It soon became obvious that he had been sent to the States as an apologist for the militarists. The expression at the time was "to explain the China incident," so the American press would understand Japan's "true intentions."

This was 1936, you must remember, and the prospects of getting a job on an American paper were not bright, particularly for a Nisei kid who was dumb enough to aspire to a career in journalism. The thought of going to Japan in search of employment had entered my mind, and somehow I must have gotten around to mentioning it to Masatomi.

But even before he could reply I knew I didn't want to go to work for the Mainichi, or any other English-language paper in Japan, if I had to do what Masatomi was doing. I wanted to be a newspaperman, not an escort and flunky for an apologist. As I remember, he wasn't too optimistic about chances in Tokyo for a Nisei college kid who understood little Japanese, and that was about what I had expected to hear.

Times changed. After the war the Japanese press became outspoken champions of freedom, unafraid of challenging the government.

From time to time I'd run into Emile Masatomi. But somehow the occasion never seemed right to tell him I was glad he had not invited me to come work for him because I would have had to say no. And now it's too late.

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About Our Readers (1):

Personal Profile

A 30-point questionnaire to survey the market of our 26,000 PC readers was randomly sent to some 2,000 readers in 1983. Tabulation of 728 (33% response) forms has been completed. Again the Pacific Citizen thanks them for making our first market survey possible.

The first set of figures deal with Personal Profile of PC's readership. The actual 1983 JACL Membership percentages by district is being shown at the top to compare with distribution and responses of the questionnaires.

JACL Membership Percentage by Districts	Total	EDC	MDC	MPD	IDC	PSW	CCD	NCW	PNW
Year-end	26,351	3	6	2	4	31	7	41	6
Survey Distribution/Returns									
Distribution	2,182	4	8	2	4	28	5	41	6
Returned	728	5	8	2	5	28	6	36	10
Generation (Actual Count):									
Issei	19	0	0	0	2	13	2	1	1
Nisei	317	24	4	8	23	135	30	60	56
Sansei	116	6	11	4	6	48	7	19	15
Yonsei	6	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0
Non-Japanese	37	4	6	0	4	18	0	2	3
Shin-Issei	14	1	3	0	0	6	1	2	1
Total	509	35	24	12	35	225	41	84	160
Percentage:		7	5	2	7	44	8	16	31

REDRESS PHASE FIVE: Minoru Yasui

Las Vegas Multi-cultural Conference

Wayne Tanaka, an up-and-coming Hawaiian Sansei principal of Sunset High School in Las Vegas, Nevada, prodded the Clark County school district to include topics relating to Japanese Americans in their annual multi-cultural conference in February 1984. All teachers of the district were required to attend the conference. Substantial dissemination of information was achieved, including distribution of JACL's summary of *Personal Justice Denied*.

The "evacuation" of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast during World War II, the coram nobis cases involving constitutional law issues affecting everyone, and the present drive for redress by the JACL, was discussed with some 250 teachers in the school system. For some, this information was new—and some were unbelieving that such a thing could have happened to U.S. citizens in the United States. Others vaguely knew something about these events and were eager to learn more.

We found the relating of personal experiences were best attention-grabbers. If one can talk about "what happened to me," and what one saw, and felt, and did, interest can be held. If one can talk about the sick baby that cried all night in the stall next door, or about eating messhall-style at rough-hewn wooden plank tables, or the blistering heat of summers or the bone-chilling cold of winters on the high deserts—these are the images that make camp life real to listeners.

There are almost unlimited opportunities to talk about evacuation and redress—in formal settings, or informally with acquaintances. Hopefully AJAs all over the country will be speaking out to garner support for the redress bills, HR 4110 and S 2116.

Are You Covered?

by John T. Yasumoto, chair, NC-WN-P DC/CBS health plan SAN FRANCISCO—On most popular TV police shows, this question is often posed. Today, I would like to pose this same question to all JACLers, relating it to health insurance.

With spiraling costs in general health care, a person cannot afford to be without some type of insurance coverage. Our JACL/California Blue Shield Plan is now on a renewed membership drive to ensure that all JACLers and their friends are covered.

We recently developed a new brochure which summarizes our plan and each present subscriber will be receiving a copy along with their next mailing. You, the Pacific Citizens readership, can help us by providing us leads, especially those in the younger age category. I emphasize YOUNGER since presently more than 61% of our subscribers are over 55 years old. As you are well aware, more medical problems arise as one gets older and our claims during the past couple of years show this result. To help in this new subscriber campaign, we are also interested in enrolling small businesses operated by JACLers.

If any of you can assist us in this project, please contact our office at the national headquarters in San Francisco for more details and enrolling information, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115; (415) 931-6633. Remember, by informing your friends, you may be helping both of us!

CAN I COUNT ON YOU?

The multiplier effect can be enormous. In speaking to 250 teachers, who have classes of 20-24 students, the message could reach 5,000 students. All students have parents or guardians, and another 10,000 adults could be thus indirectly reached. We could be influencing 15,250 people—and that's pretty substantial.

Today, we're in competition for public attention. World conflicts and crises grab headlines—and tomorrow's news will

Continued on Page 6

JACL IN QUEST OF JUSTICE

The History of the
Japanese American
Citizens League

J BILL HOSOKAWA

This history of the Japanese American Citizens League was written not only for its thirty thousand members but also to answer JACL's critics, notably the Sansei—third-generation Japanese Americans—many of whom believe their fathers should have resisted the Evacuation during World War II.

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Calendar

●**To MAY 31**
 San Francisco—Art exh by Michi Itami, Soker-Kaseman Gallery, 1457 Grant Ave
 ●**To June 12**
 Los Angeles—Chinese Women in America 1834-1962 photo exh, CSU John Kennedy Lib; info 224-2272
 Los Angeles—Portrait of the Orient, film/lec by Paul Lang each Tues, 1pm, 244 S San Pedro
 ●**To June 17**
 Los Angeles—Exh of netsuke, miniature carvings of Kodo Okuda, 244 S San Pedro; Tues-Sun 12n-5pm
 ●**To Sept 5**
 San Francisco—Asian Masterpieces in Wood, Asian Art Mus, Golden Gate Prk; daily 10am-5pm
 ●**MAY 18 (Friday)**
 San Francisco—Ben Kobashigawa discusses Uchinen, immigrants from Okinawa-ken, Jpn Am Assn, Cal 1st Hsp Rm, J-town, 8pm
 Contra Costa—Coram nobis prgm, E Bay Free Methodist Ch, 5395 Potrero, El Cerrito, 7:30pm; Lori Bannai, Don Tamaki, spkrs; film
 ●**MAY 19 (Saturday)**
 San Jose—Yu-Ai Kai 10th annv celeb, Ste Claire Hilton, 6pm; Sab Shimonio, gst spkr; info 294-2521
 Portland—Health fair, Epworth Un Methodist Ch, 1333 SE 28th, 10am-4pm; info 232-5253
 Riverside—Grad pot-luck dnr, 1st Christian Ch, 6pm; bring food by 5pm
 Seattle—Asian week street fair, Int'l Dist, 10am-4pm
 Salt Lake City—Asian fest, Salt Palace Exh Hall, 11am-9pm
 Los Angeles—Belmont HS Buddha-head reunion, Gen. Lee's Man Jen Low, from 5pm; info 822-6090
 Los Angeles—St Mary's Carnival, 961 S Mariposa, 12n-10pm
 Gilroy—Spring dance, Santa Clara Vly Dance Club, Morgan Hall
 San Francisco—Merle Woo victory celeb, 442 Shotwell, 3pm; info 864-1278
 ●**MAY 19-20**
 Berkeley—Buddhist Temple Satsuki Bazaar, 4pm-11pm Sat, 11am-9pm Sun, 2121 Channing-Way
 Santa Ana—Japanese cultural wk-end, Bowers Museum, 2002 N Main, Sat 11am-5pm; Sun 12n-5pm; info (714) 547-0696

●**MAY 20 (Sunday)**
 PSWDC—Dist encl mtg, JACCC, 244 S San Pedro, 8:30am; skit, panel disc 1pm; Downtown LA chpt host
 Gresham—Issei appr dnr, Chinese Village, 5pm; info Kaz Kinoshita, 665-4556
 Sonoma Cnty—All-you-can-eat pancake brkfst, Memorial Hall, 1200 Gravenstein Hwy S, 8am-1pm
 Seabrook—Buddhist Temple chow mein dnr
 Alameda—Buena Vista Un Methodist Ch bazaar, 12n-5pm, 2311 Buena Vista Ave
 ●**MAY 23 (Wednesday)**
 New England—Discrimination in Japan against Burakumin, talk with Yasumasa Hirasawa, Rm 2, Coolidge Hall, 1737 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 7:30pm
 ●**MAY 24 (Thursday)**
 San Francisco—Prgm on breast cancer, Health Ctr 5, 1351 24th St, 6:30pm; info 661-4400
 ●**MAY 25-27**
 Greater L.A. Singles—Getting to Know You, nat'l JACL singles conv, Ken Nakaoka Cmty Cntr, Gardena; info 541-6698
 JACL Nat'l Bd—Mtg, San Francisco hqtrs
 Monterey Peninsula—Ann'l Reno trip
 ●**MAY 26 (Saturday)**
 Bridgeton (NJ)—Cultural Awareness Fest, city prk
 French Camp—Parents Day, Fr Cmp Cmty Hall, 8:30pm
 ●**MAY 27 (Sunday)**
 Washington—Mem serv, Arlington Nat'l Cemetery, Sec 34, 326-A, Lt. Grant Henjyoji, 10:30am; visitations 12:05; tomb of unknowns
 Gilroy—Ann'l cmty picnic & grad rec, Christmas Hill Prk, 11am
 Los Angeles—30th yr reunion Roosevelt HS class of '54, Bagramian Hall, 900 W Lincoln Ave, 5pm; info 262-6909
 ●**JUNE 1 (Friday)**
 San Francisco—In Defense of Civil Rights, prgm to honor 3 women activists, spon by Asian Law Caucus; Calif Chief Justice Rose Bird gst spkr; Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon, 6pm

YASUI

Continued from Page 5

be mostly about elections. But we must build public awareness, because Congress will not enact redress until senators and representatives are persuaded that the people do want redress for Japanese Americans—in their own self-interest in protecting their future rights as Americans.

In such efforts, the marvellous display of the cultural background of Japanese Americans staged by members of the Las Vegas JACL was most impressive. We know that Lillian Morizono and many other Las Vegas JACLers were most generous in giving of their time and work to mount such an exhibit. George Goto as the new 1984 president of the Las Vegas JACL ram-rodged the project, and even marinated 75 chickens for teriyaki, with the help of Fred Fukumoto, another good JACLer.

Incidentally, although the big hotels in Las Vegas have Chi-

nese restaurants, as well as Japanese cuisine, those hungering for old-fashioned, home-style Hawaiian-Japanese cooking can go to the Hawaii 508 on E. Fremont St., just a couple of blocks before the Cortez Hotel, on the north side of the street. Doris Takahashi operates this little "hole-in-the-wall" place, and their *ni-tsuke* butterfish is delicious.

On a bigger and fancier scale, Sam Nakanishi operates the Osaka Restaurant, at 4205 W. Sahara Ave.—with sushi bar and all. Their sashimi, flown in daily, is excellent. Both Doris Takahashi and Sam Nakanishi are stalwart JACL supporters.

Because George Goto led a delegation of JACLers to call upon Rep. Harry Reid of Las Vegas, and because AJAs have established a good reputation as community-minded individuals, Reid came on board as a co-sponsor of HR 4110. Other JACLers and friends in other places, as constituents, can accomplish the same with their senators and representatives. Please try for endorsements and support, and please let us know the results of your efforts.

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Pornographic Introduction to Asian Civilization . . .

Following are excerpts from a letter submitted by Noriko Okamoto, a Vassar College student who has been struggling to correct what she believes is a case of racism and sexism in the teaching methods of a professor in the East Asian studies department.

I am writing this letter to enlist your advice and support. I am a student at Vassar College, and three years ago I complained to the administration at Vassar because I believed that a professor of East Asian studies was employing racist and sexist teaching methods. At this time, I was enrolled in Introduction to Asian Civilization, taught by Donald Gillin.

Prof. Gillin did several things in class to give me an impression that his methods were questionable. . . .

He had the class read scenes of explicit pornography that were excerpts from Chinese novels. The novels, *The Golden Lotus* and *The Tales of the Forbidden Palace*, gave detailed descriptions of Chinese people and their sexual exploits. He [also] presented a slide show which contains pornographic slides of Asian women. He explained that the purpose of the slides was to present the sexual stereotypes of Asian women. He believed that by presenting these slides his students can better understand the stereotypes and thereby realize that they are inaccurate. For example, he would show a picture of a naked Asian woman with a vibrator and tell the class that "they always portray Asian women with sexual instruments."

Racist and Sexist Lectures

When I questioned Gillin in class about the slide show he called me "a naive, Asian girl who has been overprotected by her parents" and ignored my protests as ravings of an overly sensitive Asian who was just upset because a white man had to teach her about native culture.

When I approached the administration, they made me feel that my complaints were silly, petty and stupid. They believed that I was overreacting and implied that I lacked knowledge of Asian history and culture for Asian culture "has a lot of sex." I was told that sex and erotica was a fundamental part of Asian society. I was also informed that this was an issue which infringed upon the academic freedom of the professor. However, I was assured that the Dean would talk to the professor. Feeling that was all I could hope for, I dropped the issue.

Then this December, I was informed by a friend that Gillin had shown his slide show again and that he had even added bondage pictures to it. Upon meeting and getting together with other concerned students, I once again approached the administration on the issue that Gillin's slide show was offensive and that some action must be taken against him. The other students also questioned Gillin's use of Charlie Chan movies and of Hollywood movies with non-Asians portraying Asians in his class. Those who have had some background in Asian history, in addition, believed that he distorts facts by not putting facts within the context of Asian society and culture.

Despite the testimony of Asian students and former students of Gillin's courses that racism and sexism permeates his lectures and that he misrepresents Asians, the administration seems wary of taking action against Gillin who is tenured and the chairman of the East Asian department.

Students' Ignorance

I believe this to be a serious situation. Because the majority of the students who enroll in the course are ignorant about Asians and Asian culture, they are easily persuaded by Gillin's representation of Asians. When he shows the slide show of nude women, he negatively reinforces the stereotype by not presenting any positive aspects of Asian women. When he shows Charlie Chan movies, he explains that the Chinese community has complained for years about them, then he adds that he personally has loved them since he was a child. Therefore, students leave these movies saying such things as "honorable Number One son" and "Confucius says" without realizing their racist undertones.

The administration at Vassar argues academic freedom prevents them from acting. I believe the rights of academic freedom need to be protected, but where are my rights and the rights of women and Asians not to be humiliated and sexually harassed? His teaching methods lack validity and purpose. Should he be protected to continue such practice? How much emphasis should be placed on erotica in Asian Civilization? Does showing pornographic slides of Asian women to illustrate sexual stereotypes that Americans have of Asian women belong in an Introduction to Asian Civilization course?

Racism and sexism permeate Gillin's lectures. I doubt if European pornography in English literature would be tolerated under the same circumstances by white people, but because of the lack of sensitivity and awareness towards Asians at Vassar, Gillin has been allowed to do as he pleases. He also has been able to use ignorance as his ally. Students consider the course "funny."

Request for Letters

To impress upon the administration and the Vassar community the seriousness of the issue, I would like to ask Asian individuals and organizations outside Vassar to write a letter of inquiry about the academic practices of Professor Gillin. Can I receive any help from you in at least bringing an awareness that such practices may be objectionable to Asians?

Letters to Vassar College can be sent to:

—Natalie Marshall, Vice President for Administrative and Students Services.

—Patrick Sullivan, Dean of College

—Donald Gillin, Professor of East Asian Studies

—Virginia Smith, President, Vassar College or any other Vassar administrator or faculty member c/o Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601 (914) 452-7000.

I can be contacted at Box 2755, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601.

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. . . or an Examination of Sexual Stereotypes?

Professor Gillin submitted his response to Noriko Okamoto's letter on May 7. Excerpts follow.

Ms. Okamoto levels a number of serious charges against me. I will deal with them by the order in which they appear.

First, she says that I "continuously told stories containing sexual innuendos." My reputation is in large part that of a social historian, having a strong bent for anthropological explanations of human behavior. As such, in a semester-long course I am bound from time to time to mention the effect of human sexuality on events and developments. If I did not there would be missing from the course an important dimension of human behavior and, in fact, important events simply would not make sense, one of these being the frequent acquisition of enormous power by wives and concubines of Chinese and Japanese rulers. . . .

To be sure, in the course of a two-hour-long lecture on the situation of women in pre-modern China I devoted considerable time to discussing the sex lives of such women, inasmuch as their sexual relationships with the men around them had the most profound influence on their lives as a whole. It was in conjunction with this lecture that I assigned the reading which Ms. Okamoto next indicts me for.

This source was the famous Chinese novel *Chin P'ing Mei* or "The Plum in the Golden Vase," sometimes translated as "The Golden Lotus."

The *Chin P'ing Mei* probably is our major source of information on the actual sexual life of persons in pre-modern China. I say this because it concerns the lives of a rich and powerful but illiterate merchant and his equally uneducated wives and concubines.

The readings Ms. Okamoto refers to describe particularly gross behavior on the part of the novel's anti-hero, but they also illustrate more forcefully than anything else I can think of the truly wretched situation of most Chinese women in pre-modern times and, especially, those who had the misfortune to be merely concubines. As I stressed in my lecture, only the practice of foot-binding rivalled the importance of concubinage as a force affecting the lives of women in pre-modern China.

This [is only part of the] information and interpretation concerning this particular passage I communicated to my students in the course of my lecture.

Sexual Sterotyping

The slide presentation, which Ms. Okamoto next attacks me for giving, dealt with sexual stereotyping. I would submit that such a presentation is very much in keeping with a basic theme of my course, which is to contrast the mythologizing

Continued on Page 8

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STEREOTYPING

Continued from Page 7

and stereotyping of Asians and Asia with the reality of Asian life and history. In this case, I wanted to show how important sexual imagery has been in this process of mythologizing and stereotyping. For example, this involved examining, on the American side, the perennial fascination with what one Asian woman has called the "erotic exotic." However, I also took pains to show how over the years the Chinese and Japanese also have sexually stereotyped Americans.

At this point it should be noted that I am widely regarded as an authority on the subject of such cross-cultural perceptions, having created for the China Council of the Asia Society a slide presentation entitled "Looking for China; Looking for America," which contrasts popular American and Chinese visual images of one another over the past century. It is being used in schools and colleges all over the country.

The idea of creating a separate presentation concerned with sexual stereotyping occurred to me after a woman who saw my original presentation remarked on the amount of sexual stereotyping already in it. Later, I solicited an invitation to show it to the group in New York City calling itself "Women Against Pornography." The first showing took place at the Univ. of Wyoming in the summer of 1978 as part of a conference on "Sex, Violence, and Censorship in the Mass Media."

[I also gave] the presentation at the annual meeting of the Assn. for Asian Studies in Los Angeles, where it was received with considerable enthusiasm and provoked no open criticism of any kind.

To be sure, I included in the presentation a certain amount of erotic and pornographic material. Together this material comprised only one-sixth of the entire presentation, which I hardly considered excessive since such material has been a common and, certainly, most effective means of communicating sexual imagery. Excluding it from my slide presentation would have left that presentation seriously incomplete.

Superhuman Powers

In her letter Ms. Okamoto says that I "would show a picture of a naked Asian woman with a vibrator and tell the class that 'they always portray Asian women with sexual instruments.'" This is a gross over-simplification of what I actually said. As I remarked to my audience more than once, what emerged from the presentation was the notion that Chinese and Japanese women are endowed with erotic skills, meaning the ability to give men sexual pleasure, which far transcend any such talents possessed by non-Asian women. I showed that this obviously persistent mythology was based in part on a ridiculous notion that Chinese and Japanese women were constructed differently from other women.

I noted that this belief in the transcendent powers of Chinese and Japanese women also was rooted in a common superstition concerning Chinese and Japanese; namely, the idea that they possess knowledge beyond the comprehension of others, as well as intellectual abilities so extraordinary that they border on the superhuman. I pointed out that such notions were a vital part of the "Fu Manchu" and "Charlie Chan" imagery.

I also noted that, especially in the pornographic material, there was reflected another idea peculiarly associated with the still pervasive "Fu Manchu" imagery of Chinese and Japanese. This involved their frequent use of instruments of various kinds, often for torture or destruction and in many instances in order to acquire control of others, but always for the purpose of enhancing their already extraordinary powers.

Unwarranted Reaction

I am prepared to argue that Ms. Okamoto's reaction to my slide presentation is both excessive and unwarranted. This feeling is shared by at least three other women who not only saw the presentation but also heard Ms. Okamoto attack it. One is Jennifer Choi, a Chinese woman educated in both Taiwan and the United States, who has the best academic record of any student to graduate in East Asian Studies at Vassar since the creation of that program 17 years ago. In a letter dated April 29 to Virginia Smith, president of Vassar, she writes:

I had taken Professor Gillin's class as a sophomore in the fall semester of 1980, and I had seen a similar presentation which had also included pornographic slides of Asian women. I understand that Professor Gillin has recently been charged with being "racist" and "sexist" for his attempt in presenting a truthful and realistic portrayal of Asian stereotypes which exist in the Western perception.

I do not contest that seeing such pornographic material in a classroom environment may be offensive to our conventions and values, but I do believe that it is the undistorted awareness of the world, its virtues and vices, which underlies the value of a true liberal arts education. Furthermore, the showing of a few pornographic slides does not immediately and necessarily imply an endorsement of sexual stereotypical biases, but may be positively translated as a constructive attempt to be open-minded and honest in the study of Asian stereotypes.



Confucius says—
'Chinese sissy always popular.'
Does watching a Charlie Chan movie reinforce one's racist stereotypes?
Okamoto and Gillin disagree.

Another woman who both saw the presentation and heard Ms. Okamoto's arguments against it is Sarah Dabney, who holds a Ph.D. in English literature from Brandeis Univ. and currently is a psychotherapist practicing in Laramie, Wyoming, where, among other feminist activities, she is counseling and doing hot-line work for victims of sexual assault and family violence.

In a letter to President Smith, dated April 13, Dr. Dabney says that not only she but likewise a number of other women present, with whom she later spoke, were dismayed by the tone of Ms. Okamoto's attack on me and felt that the attack itself was unjustified.

In her letter Dr. Dabney also recalls that after the presentation Susan Brownmiller, author of the definitive feminist work on rape, rose "to acknowledge the sincerity of Professor Gillin's effort, his attempt as a male to make a valuable contribution to feminist thought." Although several representatives of an Asian woman's group were present, as Dr. Dabney also states, Ms. Okamoto was the only Asian woman there who voiced criticism of the presentation. Dr. Dabney goes on to say that I responded to Ms. Okamoto's criticisms respectfully and with sensitivity.

In the course of that response I apologized to Ms. Okamoto for having called her, as she says in her attack on me, "a naive, Asian girl who has been overprotected."

And I categorically deny that I ever referred to her protests as, in her words, "ravings of an overly sensitive Asian who was just upset because a white man had to teach her about native culture." Anyone familiar with me and my values would know that this is an outrageously false accusation.

Finally, it should be emphasized that, together with a part of my lecture on the situation of women in pre-modern China, the slide presentation on sexual stereotyping was the only part of my course substantively concerned with human sexuality. Devoting only one and a half class sessions out of a total of 26, or 52 if one includes both semesters, to such an important aspect of the human condition hardly justifies the impression, being created by Ms. Okamoto, that throughout the course I was preoccupied with sex.

Usefulness of Films

Ms. Okamoto also indicts me for using Hollywood films in my class because they have non-Asians portraying Asians and tend to stereotype Asians. I have tried to use these films in order to combat rather than reinforce the stereotypes they contain.

A case in point is a "Fu Manchu" film produced in 1964, which I showed some time ago. Students were assigned readings in Harold Isaac's "Scratches on Our Minds: American Images of China and India," which still is the most definitive scholarly work on that subject and, before screening the film, I delivered a 45-minute lecture on its subject.

One of the women in the class, which was a very large one, told my student assistant that she had been shaken by the presentation. She said that, having come from a small town in the Middle West, she had encountered no people of Asian descent until she arrived at Vassar. Nor had she even heard of "Fu Manchu," much less read any books or seen any films containing this stereotype. Yet, she said, after doing the reading, listening to me, and then seeing it all illustrated in the film, she realized that her attitude toward the Asians and Asian-Americans she had encountered here had been affected profoundly by the prejudices and misconceptions associated with the "Fu Manchu" imagery which, somehow or other, she had come to embrace without ever having come up against that imagery per se. Comments made to me by other students suggested that many in the class had experienced this reaction. Certainly, this suggests that I must be doing something right in showing Hollywood films.

This brings up the subject of why, from time to time, I have screened for my class a "Charlie Chan" film. Before screening such a film, I always have explained to my class why Chinese-Americans dislike the "Chan" imagery, quoting my friend Mark Ong, the illustrator-son of the San Francisco author, Jade Snow Wong, to the effect that if he had to choose between stereotypes he much prefers the imagery of "Fu Manchu," who at least identified with China and stood up to the whites, to that of "Charlie Chan," whose sexlessness and subservience to the whites have humiliated a generation of young Chinese-Americans. My justification for still showing such a film is historical and has to do with the profound impact of the "Charlie Chan" imagery on American attitudes toward the Chinese and China.

Taking my own case as an example, largely as a result of the "Chan" imagery, many, if not most, American youngsters and adolescents of those decades acquired an inordinate admiration for the Chinese, whom we even came to regard as superior to us Americans with respect to both intellect and moral values and who, in our eyes, increasingly appeared to be among our best friends in an otherwise hostile world.

This helps to explain, I pointed out, the peculiarly intense bitterness that characterized American opinion toward China during the 1950s and 1960s, [and may also] account for our current eagerness to renew our friendship with China.

Thus, occasionally screening a "Charlie Chan" film is an effective way of calling attention to important aspects of the history of relations between Chinese and Americans. Of course, it goes without saying that such screenings have to be accompanied by an interpretive, critical commentary, and I have always tried to provide this.

[Gillen catalogs a number of other films he screens in his class—"The Good Earth," for example. "In spite of their obvious failings," he writes, "they also portray accurately or give insights" into the history of China and Japan.]

The Asian Civilization course is an extremely broad survey which examines the entire span of human history, not only in China and Japan but, during the second semester, in India and Southeast Asia as well. Necessarily, the students can be given only an impressionistic knowledge of that history and I have found that films and slides, if they are the right kind, frequently make the strongest and most lasting impressions. Appropriately, it was the ancient Chinese who came up with the adage about a picture being worth a thousand words.

This does not mean, however, that students enrolled in the course are not required to read. [Gillen here lists reading and examination requirements.]

I say all this in order to refute Ms. Okamoto's inference that my course is "funny." Certainly, this has not been the opinion of many of the very good students whom I have gotten to know while they were enrolled in the course and, in contrast to Ms. Okamoto's hearsay evidence, I can produce literally scores of evaluations from such students describing the course as one of the most original, exciting, and valuable they have taken at Vassar.

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National JACL to award \$52,000 in scholarships

SAN FRANCISCO—The national scholarship committee of the JACL, under leadership of J.D. Hokoyama, recently met in Los Angeles to select recipients of the 1984 scholarship program. A record number of 30 awards totaling \$52,000 in scholarships was determined.

Selection Committee

Serving on the selection committee were:

Graduate/Creative Arts—Dr. Robert Suzuki, Calif. State Univ., L.A.; Dr. Harry Kitano, UCLA; Dr. Sarah Miyahira, USC; Dr. Don Nakamishi, UCLA; and Tritia Toyota, KNBC-TV; Freshman/Undergraduate—Miki Himeno, nat'l v.p., JACL; Irene Hirano, chair, JACL women's concern; Lorrie Inagaki, Esq.; Harry Kawahara, Pasadena City College; and Dr. Izumi Taniguchi, Calif. St

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Scholarships for the California Japanese Alumni Association were awarded in San Francisco by CJAA executive board members Moe Noguchi, George Yasukochi and George Kondo.

Applicants and recipients are being notified. Formal announcement will appear in the annual scholarship year book and in the Pacific Citizen.

CL to host 32nd Jr. Olympics

HAYWARD, Calif.—San Jose JACL hosts the 32nd annual NCWDC Jr. Olympics Sunday, June 3, at Chabot College. The competition features boys and girls 10 years and younger to masters age 40 or older in a full array of track and field events.

For information, call Tom Oshidari (408) 257-5609 or Bob Setoguchi 247-1494.

PSWDC to convene in L.A. May 20

LOS ANGELES—Downtown Los Angeles JACL hosts the second quarterly meeting of the Pacific Southwest District Council this Sunday, May 20, at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 2nd floor, 244 S. San Pedro St.

Coffee and donuts will be served at 8:30 a.m. John Tateishi, national JACL redress director, will render an update on redress. Important agenda matters include redress fund-raising, member-

ship drive, resolutions for the national convention and standing committee reports.

Afternoon opens with a skit about "A Typical JACL Chapter Meeting (see this week's women's concern column), followed by a discussion with panelists Dr. Akemi Kikumura, Tritia Toyota, Floyd Shimomura and moderator Irene Hirano, national JACL women's concern chair.

Young JACLers learn how national gov't works through PCYA

WASHINGTON — Sixteen JACL chapter-sponsored youth have attended the 1984 sessions of the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans here.

This week-long conference on how federal government works has been supported by JACL chapters since 1975. Winter participants and their chapters were:

Katherine Kawase and Susan Osato, Selanoco; Jamie Sue Hirota and Keito Steimetz, Berkeley; Cheryl Ike-miya, Reedley; Richard Shimano, Lisa Kusunoki, West Los Angeles; Samuel Lee, Eden Township; Lisa Katayama, Fresno; Joni Yoshida, Cortez; Masako Tatsumi,

San Jose; Keith Uota, Tulare County; Osho Endo, Jonathan Hannel, Hoosier; Neil Kaneshiki, Seabrook; and Michelle Matsuda, Mt. Olymp-

Additional participants from JACL will also attend the PCYA summer program starting this June. For PCYA information, contact National JACL Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, (415) 921-5225.

Nisei relays entry deadline May 21

LOS ANGELES — Entry application deadline for the 33rd annual JACL Nisei Relays is May 21. Forms are available at the JACL Office or by writing to the meet registrar, James Mita, 151 W. 171st St., Gardena, Ca 90247.

The track meet is set for June 3 at Santa Ana College, 17th and Bristol.

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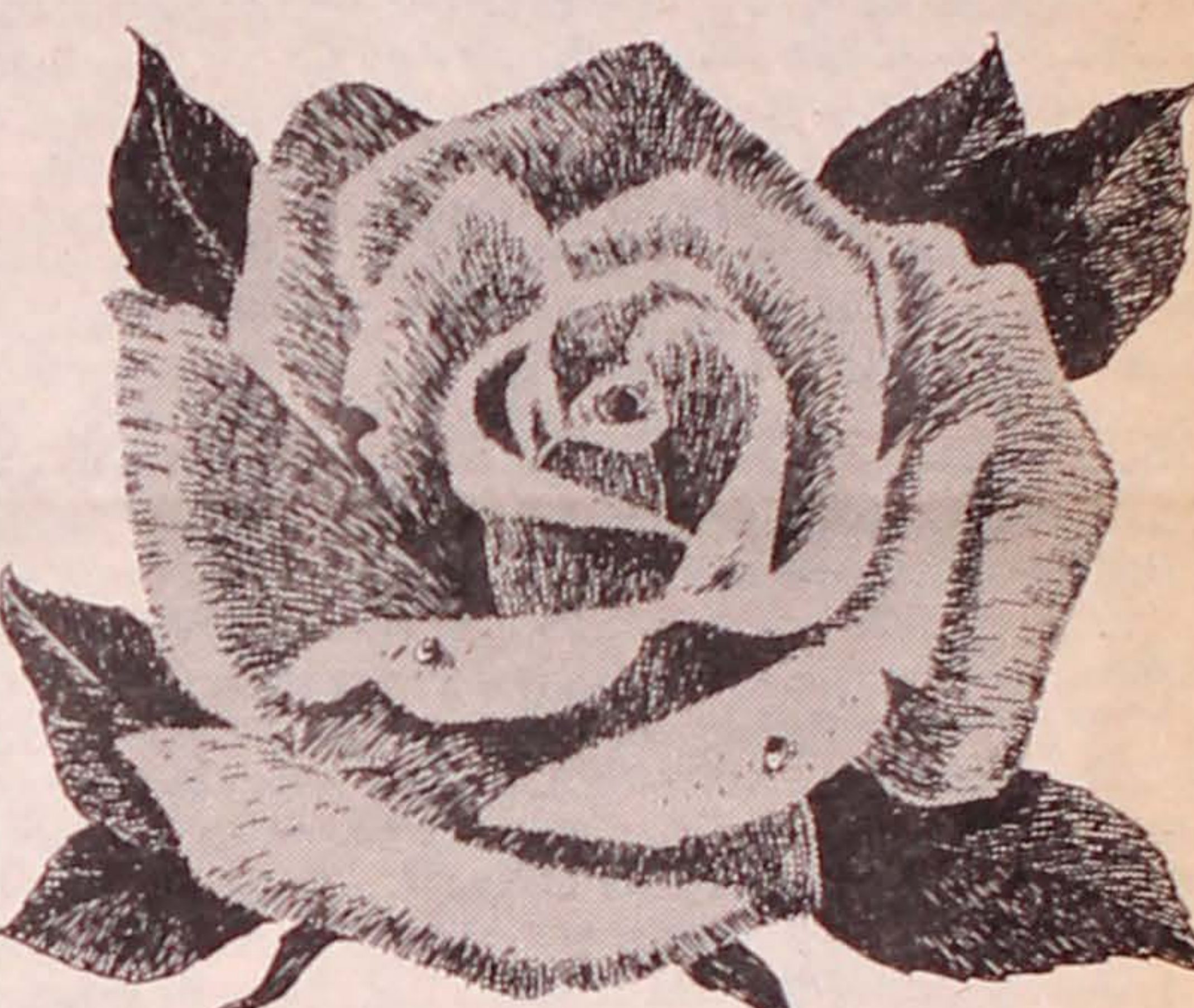
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LITTLE TOKYO LIFE (No. 17): by Harry Honda



Boyle Heights

It may be said that Little Tokyo acquired its present mold as a basically "Japanese town" around 1913 when the Jewish merchants who were doing business along East First Street between Los Angeles and Central began to abandon the

area for sites in Boyle Heights—especially Brooklyn Ave. east and west of Soto St. By 1915, Japanese businesses had moved into these store rentals which had been non-Japanese. Notable exceptions were Newmark Bros. Coffee, Tea and Spice Co. (still standing and known as Tomio Bldg. prewar, Taul Bldg. postwar, and now the S.K. Uyeda Bldg.) and the Armour Packing Plant at 1st and Central. This is our way of introducing the tale this week about one of the prewar Japanese neighborhoods outside First and San Pedro Sts. Incidentally, other neighborhoods will be covered.

Boyle Heights was the closest to J-town—no more than three miles away on the eastside of the river. It was the first Japanese American residential area in Los Angeles, as early as 1904 when you consider a Buddhist temple was established by the Rev. Junzo Izumida at 2nd and Savannah (a block away today from Evergreen Playground, where Nisei had developed their athletic prowess in football, basketball, baseball and swimming in the '20s and '30s). Curiously, there were no Japanese businesses in Boyle Heights, such as boarding houses, baths, grocery stores, pool halls, etc., which were numerous in the 1910s and 1920s. Evidently, Little Tokyo was near enough to meet such needs. In fact, Boyle Heights was seldom regarded by the Issei as another area but more of a living extension for Little Tokyo. It (Evergreen Cemetery) was and is the final resting place for many Japanese.

By 1930, the Japanese Baptists, Free Methodists, Seventh-Day Adventists and Tenrikyo members had churches in the area. Rev. Izumida had by this time built Higashi Hongwanji—an imposing Japanese edifice at 1st and Mott across from a Boyle Heights landmark no longer there, the Catholic Home for the Aged. The Maryknoll Sisters had their Japanese orphanage on Boyle Ave. near 4th (the site has been replaced by a condominium). There were kenjinkai offices, four Japanese language schools (Chuo, Baptist, Toyo, and Boyle Heights), insurance agencies, the new Rafu Japanese hospital at 1st and Fickett, a few medical offices (Dr. Hara's was on Boyle Ave. before and after Evacuation), a chiropractor (Okamura's near 1st and Boyle), a sewing school, Mrs. Ema's tea ceremony school (first one in L.A., I believe), one jeweler (Nishikawa), three laundries and six dry cleaners, three pool halls (these were in the "flats"—the lowlands between the river and Boyle Ave.—catering to Latins and white Russian emigres from the Bolshevik revolution), two baby golf courses (the Oriental at 1st and Saratoga, Las Flores on Brooklyn past Eastern Ave.—the Oriental I remember as it was accessible by street car), a few Issei-run cafes and chop suey houses . . . By scanning a 1931 directory for telephone numbers (with the ANgelus prefix denoting Boyle Heights area), we counted 14 Issei mom & pop grocery stores, 1 florist; and 1 nursery (on Mission Road).

By 1940, Little Tokyo newspapers estimated up to 40,000 Japanese were living in the 3-mile square area bounded by Boyle Ave., Indiana St., Brooklyn and E. 6th St. It produced the first Nisei high school student body president in the city (Hiroshi Neeno at Roosevelt in 1934) . . . As a neighborhood, prewar Boyle Heights was a "culturally integrated" area before that adjective was being sociologically promoted or politically recognized. The community had Jewish, Japanese, Anglos, Mexican, Russian, Armenian and Negro families as well as estates around Hollenbeck Park . . . Today, Boyle Heights is heavily populated by the Hispanics with a scattering of other ethnics and Japanese. Significantly for Boyle Heights, however, is a manifestation of the Issei spirit to sacrifice for sake of the community from the Nisei-Sansei who have founded the Japanese Retirement Home at 3rd and Boyle—the former Jewish Home for the Aged.

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