

JACL REPORTER

Eira Nagaoka, editor

Seattle Chapter
Dr. Lindbergh Sata, President

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AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

June 20, 1975

Dear JACLers:

Because of the confusion regarding the Cultural Center Committee's efforts within JACL to stimulate the acquisition of a Japanese culture center for the Nikkei community and the more recent activities of the Seattle Buddhist Church in pursuing similar objectives, the following letter may help to clarify the current status of developmental activities.

The Cultural Center Committee of JACL was organized approximately 2½ years ago with the recognition that the Japanese American Citizens League could provide a neutral focus around which the cultural center concept could be pursued. It was with the clear recognition that such a center would be governed and operated by the Nikkei community, and once the preliminary work was completed, the Seattle Chapter would withdraw in its coordinative role. Furthermore, the Cultural Center Committee and the board of the Seattle Chapter are sensitive to the issues of financing, that such a center would be difficult to construct without substantial block grant support. Therefore, the Cultural Center Committee's mandate included the identification and pursuit of federal funding to underwrite a significant proportion of the construction costs.

In the event that block grant funding is not available, serious reconsideration will need to be given in readdressing the feasibility of pursuing the culture center concept. Central to this issue is the recognition that without federal support the culture center would place a serious financial liability on the Nikkei community and may be impossible to pursue further.

While the Cultural Center Committee will continue to solicit block grant funding, the committee would appreciate further comments and opinions as well as suggestions to enable us to achieve our developmental goals. The co-chairmen (Chuck Kato and Genji Mihara) would welcome your responses.

Yours most sincerely,

Lindbergh S. Sata, M.D.
Chapter President

(Ed. note: See text of Seattle Betsuin letter to JACL elsewhere this issue).

SEATTLE JACL BOARD MEETING SET FOR JULY 16

From the Board

Phil Imahara, graduate of WWSC, made a presentation for the Committee for Corrective Action Program in the International District. The group was formed last January to meet the needs for militant fighting stance against the government, according to Imahara. Housing condition is so run down and 28 out of 45 hotels in the past were closed and others "could be closed in a moment's notice." The elderly people will be left out in the cold. They stand in line now to receive meagre supply of canned foods from the site of International District Youth Council. Lack of nutrition and lack of proper medical facilities is the rule. Recently the bodies of two men were discovered in separate incident after having been dead for over a week, indicating the kind of care and isolationism.

Imahara said what we really need in the International District is a united front of all those progressive organizations for the preservation and improvement in the International District. We would like for JACL and other organizations to participate, Imahara said. Corrective action program committee will be calling a meeting in about two weeks and requests that JACL send representatives.

* * *
Kyle Kinoshita spoke in behalf of the student progressive organization Afro-Asian-Latin American People Solidarity Forum (Seattle) and the International Drop-in Center. Kinoshita is running for the slot in the Drop-in Center board of directors. Kinoshita spoke for the need in support of endorsement for the need of low-income housing in the International District. Kinoshita said, "Low income housing is in the interest of both business and residents of the community. Domed stadium will bring in influx of big business which has the effect of rising property values and rising rent and pushing the small businesses out."

His group hope to hit 70 Asian Community organizations to receive the support for the low income housing in the International District as a priority program.

In both instances the Seattle Chapter board passed the Dr. Minoru Masuda motion in support of these two presentations. Ben Nakagawa had seconded the motion.

Miss Sadako S. Reeder was married to John H. Matsumoto June 21 at the St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Reception was held at the Women's Century Club. The bride is the daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Lattimer Walter Reeder, U.S. Navy, Rtd. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Kimi Matsumoto and the late Mr. Masaru Matsumoto. Mr. John H. Matsumoto is the president-elect of the Seattle Chapter JACL. Congratulations and best wishes.

Seattle Japanese Baptist Church is the stronghold of the Asian American Baptist caucus nationally with the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Paul M. Nagano, who will be assuming the post

of part-time National Director of Asian American Ministries, of its national Northern Baptist affiliation headquarters. Yosh Nakagawa also holds a high post in the denominational organization. The Japanese Baptist Church here recognizes the interdependence of Church and community and for this year under moderator of the church Masao Tomita (also Seattle Chapter JACL board member) and social concerns committee chair Eira Nagaoka, the sukiyaki benefit fund for this year was tapped to recognize the various youth workers of the social service organizations and one JACL arm in the form of audio-visual educational project in presenting the needs for the evacuation reparation legislation at the grass root level.

Some of the checks are already delivered. Those receiving the funds are the Asian American clinic \$200, International District Youth Council \$200, Asian Family Affair \$100, and Audio-Visual project of JACL reparation committee \$200.00. We hope the figures are correct.

Councilperson John Miller has answered the Ben Nakagawa query on the status of the Japanese Teahouse in the Washington Park Arboretum. The Arboretum Capital Improvement Trust Fund has a balance of approximately \$625,000. The committeemen will be meeting soon and the reconstruction of the teahouse will definitely be among the priorities, Councilperson Miller said. As far as the Teahouse Reconstruction Donation and Gift Trust Fund established by the ordinance has a balance of \$674.00. Dr. Sata has inquired into the Japanese Torii in Seward Park and finds that plans are being made to move the long neglected piece of gift art work to the Seattle Center alongside other Japanese gifts as the temple bell and cherry trees.

The board voted down the motion 19-3 to limit the appointment of standing committee chairperson from existing rosters of officers and board-of-governors. The board felt that too many of the leaders came from outside the ranks of elected office members.

The mailout crew ran into shortage of help when the students left the campus following the finals. We were able to get the job done nevertheless. In attendance were David Wong, Mako Nakagawa, May sasaki, Kim Sasaki, and Sam Shoji. Thank you so much. The newsletter for July was scheduled for print July 3, one week ahead of schedule.

Remember to attend the monthly JACL meeting set for July 16 from 8 p.m. at the JACL office, 526 S. Jackson St. Refreshments. Dr. Lindbergh Sata will again preside.

MINORU TAMESA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Changing from the usual format three Minoru Tamesa Memorial Scholarship Awards were named due to higher current interest rates available. Chairman Chris Kato announced the following winners:

Louise Kato of Franklin High \$350.00. She is a 4.0 student and her extracurricular activities were noted. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kaz Kato (no relation to scholarship chairperson).

David Yamaguchi of Cleveland High \$250.00. He is active in Boy Scout and has received \$3,000 scholarship from Yale. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kay Yamaguchi.

Mike Chikamura \$200.00. He hopes to study graphic art and is member of the Boy Scout. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tak Chikamura.

The Rev. Emery E. Andrews Scholarship:

Ned Sato of Nathan Hale \$100.00. He hopes to study in pre-med and get into biological field. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Sato.

TRAINING SHIP CADETS FETED IN SEATTLE STOP

Kojima Maru training ship arrived June 6 on a 12,000 training cruise and visit to Seattle is the only West Coast call. Capt. Nobuo Aizawa and his officers were received by Cons.-Gen. Sono Uchida; the Port of Seattle Asst Mgr Scottie Beckwith; representative for Mayor; Genji Mihara; and Peter N. Beckett, prexy of Japan-America Society. There were rounds of sight seeing tours, parties and dinners. President Lindbergh Sata sat at the head table for the dinner and program held June 8 at the Seattle Buddhist Church. The crewmen gave a demonstration of the semblance of the Japan Festival parade and their traditional folk dance "Awa odori." The festive portable shrine was carried on the shoulders back and forth and off the stage amid shouts. The men were in full colorful costumes. This was our first experience as to the inking of the Festival parade. "Awa odori" was a picture of fascination and sheer beauty of movements of hands and feet.

The following Tuesday we were invited aboard the training ship for reception. We were able to converse freely and to compare notes on various aspects of social problems.

Kojima Maru crewmen and young cadets are equivalent to our U.S. Coast Guard.

THE REV. FUKUYAMA SUBMITS RESIGNATION

The Rev. Tom Tsutomu Fukuyama, pastor of Oberlin Congregational Church in Steilacoom, has requested termination of his pastorate effective Dec. 31. He has been with the all-white suburban church for full 12 years. Previously he has held pastorate in Midwest churches. "My plans are still in the process of formulation and will include further clinical training in counselling," said Rev. Fukuyama. He has been working in counselling in the McNeil Island prison on a part time basis.

Rev. Fukuyama is a native of Bainbridge Island and past member of the Seattle Japanese Baptist Church. He graduated from the Seattle Pacific College and Berkeley Baptist Divinity School now known as American Baptist Seminary of the West. He has continued with post graduate studies including Newton Theological Seminary.

THE TRIALS OF THE UCWA: MORE THAN 'JUST JOBS'
by Joe Wesson (Univ. of Washington Daily)

On February 12 and 13 over 80 people were arrested while demonstrating at the National Construction site on Rainier Avenue against the discriminatory hiring of operating engineers. These arrests have become the cornerstone in an attempt to break the campaign of the United Construction Workers Association for jobs.

To give a taste of the lengths the police and courts are going in an attempt to silence the supporters of the "Jobs for All" campaign, here is a short scenario of how the courts dealt with one defendant:

Feb. 13--Doug Chin was arrested for peacefully demonstrating at the Rainier Avenue site.

Feb. 14--He was arraigned in Judge Corbett's Court and his trial date was set for March 18.

Mar. 14--His trial is consolidated with the trials of two other people, the trial date changed to April 10.

Mar. 18--One hour before the original trial time Judge Corbett informs Doug's lawyer that Doug's trial is going to be held at the original time (that is, in one hour). The lawyer can't contact his client in an hour so Corbett issues a \$2,000 warrant for his arrest--"failure to appear."

Mar. 24--In the company of his lawyer and 40 supporters Doug goes to Judge's court to turn himself in. Corbett becomes hysterical as the supporters peacefully walk into the court. Corbett attempts to clear the courtroom and then finds all the supporters in "contempt of court"--for simply entering a public courtroom. Fortunately the supporters were able to leave before police could arrive. In the afternoon Doug returns to Corbett's Court and has a new trial date set, March 28.

Mar. 28--Before the trial starts two supporters are arrested in the hallway. One is arrested on another bench warrant and the other, who was to testify in the trial, is arrested for trying to prevent the arrest of the first person. Despite the fact that the police who testify contradict each other several times (and the police are the only witnesses for the prosecution), the brother is found guilty. Sentencing is postponed because of the presence of supporters in the court.

Mar. 31--Doug Chin is given a \$200 fine, five days in jail, suspended, and one year on probation.

There are 80 some defendants in all and sentences have ranged up to 90 days in jail and \$500 fined. Put all this together and you begin to get an idea of what is being done in order to silence the movement for jobs for all.

These trials contain a lesson for all of us: there is justice only for those who have money. The police, the courts, the contractors line up on one side representing the "powers that be," and on the other side is the object of their wrath, people united around the slogan "Jobs for All." And at the heart of the matter is an economy which is controlled by corporations geared only towards making profit, an economy where over 5% unemployment is normal.

The issue of "jobs for all" exposes a basic contradiction in society, the contradiction between the needs of vast majority of people, on one hand, and the rule of the profits of a few over the economic life of the country, on the other. The demonstrations of Feb. 12 and 13 and the actions in support of the people arrested have brought together both students and workers of all nationalities. These trials, which were meant to break the movement, are becoming a method of raising the real issue the courts are trying to cover up--jobs for all.

DEMONSTRATION CHARGES DISMISSED

Charges of disorderly conduct and failure to disperse against 14 persons were dismissed June 11 by Superior Court Judge Donald J. Horowitz. He ruled that police had failed to give adequate warning before citing them during demonstrations in support of minority hiring in construction. The defendants had appealed their convictions, and won dismissal on pretrial motions.

They were cited Feb. 13 for delaying work on a Rainier Valley storm sewer and sanitary drainage. They went to three locations in the vicinity of Empire Way S. and Rainier Ave. S. Members and supporters of the United Construction Workers Association were demanding that more minority persons be hired as operators of heavy equipment.

Judge Horowitz said the First Amendment right to free speech does not extend to blocking entry and exit of a public area, but affidavits submitted by witnesses indicate the demonstrators were not given sufficient warning that they were blocking access.

The ruling dismissed charges against Robert Thomas, Michael Fred Jimenez, Nemesio Domingo, Audrey Swan, Wayne Kaplan, Sabina Zegarra, Francisco Flores, Michael Steinlauf, Clarke Kido, Shari Woo, Robert Burbank, Douglas Chin, Pilar C. Bueno and Paul Zilsel.

--The Seattle Times

APPOINTMENTS MADE TO DENTAL EXAMINERS BOARD

Olympia--Five new members including Dr. Fred Hasegawa were appointed and one member reappointed to the State Board of Dental Examiners by Gov. Dan Evans.

Dr. Hasegawa is a 1959 graduate of the Univ. of Washington Dental School. He is a past president of the Washington Society of Dentistry for Children, which has twice named him "General Practitioner of the Year." The Seattle Chapter of the Washington Academy of General Dentistry gave him its "Outstanding Service Award" in 1973. He served in the U.S.

HASEGAWA APPOINTMENT (Cont'd): Army during the Korean War as a dental assistant and technician. His term will expire July 1, 1980.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SEATTLE BETSUIN COMMUNICATION TO JACL READ DURING CHAPTER MEETING

"Seattle Betsuin has been informed unofficially by the local city and federal government officials that it has been the successful bidder for the upper two-thirds of the Collins playfield. In the interest of the development of our community as a whole and the desire to promote an atmosphere of harmonious cooperation between all interested groups and organizations within the greater Nikkei community, we will like to take this opportunity to clearly make known to all concerned our feelings and concept relative to the proposed best functional use of Collins playfield once the acquisition of the playfield is successfully completed by us.

"We are fully cognizant of the magnitude of the efforts both past and current which has already been made by the Japanese cultural center committee under your organization sponsorship and hereby state the following with sincere hope that their efforts may be successfully culminated in the construction of Japanese cultural center:

1. The basic concept of Seattle Betsuin is that the best possible use of the Collins playfield would be the creation of community supported Japanese cultural center in which the Japanese community would be participating. This concept is in full accord with the basic premises of the Yesler-Atlantic Neighborhood Improvement Project formulated during 1967 to 1969.

2. Should the Japanese Cultural Center committee be amendable to build the Japanese cultural center on the Collins playfield site, the Seattle Betsuin will in full support of their project and become a contributing organization along with any and all others.

3. Seattle Betsuin will allocate the land upon which the Japanese Cultural Center building will stand to the Japanese Cultural center committee within the limits of any legal restriction under terms and conditions mutually agreeable to all parties.

4. Seattle Betsuin is fervently hopeful that Japanese cultural center building will be a cooperative community project and that the construction, development and management will be under the control of a non-profit corporation to be formed that will have equal representation from all interested groups and organizations on its board of directors or board of trustees. It is further the hopes of Seattle Betsuin and Seattle Chapter of JACL will take the leadership in the creation of such a non-profit corporation of which Seattle Betsuin will become a participating member.

"The preceding is the resume of the feeling and concepts held by the Seattle Betsuin in its effort to acquire the Collins playfield site from the City of Seattle. We hope that this resume will alleviate the major anxiety expressed within the Japanese community concerning the relationship between Seattle Betsuin interest in the acquisition of Collins playfield and the construction of Japanese cultural center building planned by JACL Japanese cultural center committee.

Sincerely yours,
Tsuyoshi Horike, chairman
Bd of Director, Seattle Betsuin

DRAMA WORKSHOP SLATED FOR CHILDREN 7 TO 14

Asian Multi-Media will be sponsoring a free summer drama workshop Mondays through Fridays, from June 23 to Aug. 30, for children aged 7 - 14 years. Classes will be ongoing and late registration will be perfectly acceptable.

Each session will include classes in creative dramatics, movement through dance, and puppetry. They will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 12 noon.

* For further information, please contact Asian Multi-Media Center 323-4100.

ASIAN COMMUNITY TO HOLD POTLUCK DINNER

Saturday, July 12th, has been selected as the date for an Asian community potluck dinner to be held at the Jefferson Recreation Center, 3801 Beacon Avenue. The dinner is being held in honor of Carver Gayton and Phillip Swain, retiring School Board members from the Central and Southeast Seattle areas. This will also be an opportunity for the community to meet the Asian candidate for the vacant School Board position.

This will be a family affair, so bring your family and your favorite dish. The dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. For further information, please call Kazzie Katayama, 725-6162 or Aki Kurose, 325-0863. This event is being coordinated by the Asian American Education Association and is sponsored by a number of Asian organizations including Seattle Chapter of JACL.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Executive secretary position for minority is available in the Supt. of School office of Mercer Island. Salary starts at \$807/month and will increase to \$942. Call 232-1600, Ext. 235.

ATTEND SEATTLE CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETING JULY 16 STARTING AT 8 P.M. EVERYBODY WELCOME.

HONTO-NI (trully)

June 20, 1975

by Stan Kiyokawa, regional director of JACL

Although the many graduates in our communities have already been bombarded with "messages" and "words of wisdom" from many sources, I would like to add one more thought that will relate to the Asian American community and you, the recent graduate.

Through the educational system you, the raduate, have acquired vast skills and knowledge, but these become useless unless a realistic attitude towards using them constructively is nurtured. The spirit and enthusiasm that you carry is extremely valuable to society for future growth and development. Constructive usage of skills relates directly towards the many needs within our community.

I was once told by my late grandparents about "giri," meaning moral obligation not only to myself but to family and community. This obligation must be taken into account as you proceed to utilize your skills and knowledge. The sacrifice that will have to be made to the community is rather small compared to the sacrifices made by the Issei and Nisei to give us, the Sansei and Yonsei, the freedom to choose our futures rather than restrictive lives that our parents were subject to.

Can we predict where we would be if alien land laws, citizenship restrictions, anti-miscegenation and outright discrimination faced by the Issei and Nisei still existed as it was in the early history of our community? Can we begin to see the poverty, unemployment and discrimination faced by members of our community today? Can we begin to relate to these problems and begin helping those needs?

It is easy to ignore these questions and satisfy yourselves by selfishly accepting success because of what you alone have accomplished and maintain a belief that you could have done it without the Issei and Nisei. I sincerely hope few people in our communities have stooped to this mentality, because the task of educating these people would otherwise take a lifetime to accomplish and future growth would be severely inhibited.

Basic practical experience can be obtained through social service agencies either through a volunteer role or paid staff positions. Exposure to many different experiences can begin to establish a sound constructive, positive attitude towards daily life.

The Need for Feedback

Completely off the subject is my current concern of communications from this office. I've learned from past experiences that feed ack is most important and the lack of it may suggest that something's wrong. For the chapter presidents in the NW-I area I've requested a monthly phone call to keep abreast of local happenings. For those chapters who have not responded I would appreciate either a verbal or written response.

There has been one individual who continually replies to all communication most promptly. I am amazed at how he can do so, with his already busy schedule. Thank you, Mam Noji, president, Mid-Columbia Chapter.

Calendar of Events

- July 12--Asian community potluck dinner at the Jefferson Recreation Center, 3801 Beacon Ave. S. from 6:30 p.m. Bring your family and favorite dish. Detail page 4.
- 16--Regular monthly JACL meeting from 8 p.m. at the JACL office, 526 S. Jackson St.
- 20--NVC sponsored picnic at Johnson's Hi-Dive Resort at Lake Surprise in Milton, 27 miles south of Seattle. Take Interstate 5 South and exit at Puyallup-Mt. Rainier off-ramp. Turn left at the first intersection and head south on State Highway 61 to Milton.
- Aug. 8--Deadline for JACL newsletter. Mail articles, news clippings, announcements and press releases to: c/o (editor) Eira Nagaoka, 2809 N.E. 54th St., Seattle 98105.
- 13--Newsletter mailing night. JACL office from 7:30 p.m. We need all the help.
- July 28-Aug. 2--The 29th Annual National JACL Bowling tournament sponsored by the National JACL 1000 Club with the cooperation of the East Bay Nisei Bowling Association and the East Bay JACL chapters at the Golden Gate Lanes in El Cerrito, CA. For the first time in the history of the JACL bowling tournament, the competition will be conducted on a handicap basis and the tournament will be open to anyone who is a JACL member of at least two months prior to the tournament and has a WIBC or ABC membership card. Official entry forms will be at the Imperial Lanes.

Seattle Chapter
Japanese American Citizens League
526 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104

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