

☆☆ *Bulletin* ☆☆

SEATTLE CHAPTER JACL

1414 WELLER STREET

SEATTLE 44, WASHINGTON

December 8, 1955

MEMBERS TAKE NOTE:

NEXT TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15 IS OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING. THIS WILL BE OUR SPECIAL ELECTION MEETING. IF YOU HAVEN'T MAILED YOUR BALLOT BRING IT TO 1414 WELLER THAT NIGHT. TIME: 8PM

PNDG CONVENTION

Highlights of the Pacific Northwest District Council Silver Anniversary Convention which was held in Tacoma, November 19th were the presence of Senator Warren G. Magnuson, the awarding of Sapphire pins to three outstanding JACL'ers, and the honoring of 58 newly naturalized Issai citizens from Tacoma and Puyallup Valley.

Delegates from five chapters met at the Tacoma Buddhist Church in official business sessions which resulted in the election of new officers, adoption of resolutions, reports of standing committees, and the selection of the Seattle Chapter as the chapter of the year.

New officers include:

Chairman-Dr. Kelly Yamada, Seattle  
Vice-chairman-George Azumano, Portland  
Treasurer-Ed Yamamoto, Moses Lake  
Recording Secretary-Mario Yamamoto, Seattle  
Corresponding Secretary-Amy Hatsukano, Seattle

An over-flow crowd heard Senator Warren G. Magnuson give the main address at the evening banquet which was followed by dancing. Sapphire pins signifying ten years or more of active and outstanding service in the JACL were presented to Bob Mizukami of the Puyallup Valley Chapter and to Bill Mimbu, and Dr. Kelly Yamada of our local chapter.

DEATH CLAIMS JAMES Y. SAKAMOTO

An early morning accident took the life of JACL's early organizer and strongest supporter when Jimmy Sakamoto was struck by a car while crossing the street on his way to work Saturday, December 3rd.

"Jimmy", who was born in Startup, Washington in 1902, was an active and earnest student and athlete during his Franklin High School and Princeton University days, especially outstanding in football and baseball and later in boxing. He was the first "Nipponese" to box in Madison Square Garden. It was during an elimination bout for the Junior-Lightweight Championship that he suffered injury to his eyes which resulted in losing his sight. Jimmy was the pioneer editor of the Pacific Citizen when it became the official JACL news organ and also served as JACL National President from 1936-1938.

As publisher and editor of the Japanese American Courier, the first all-English Nisei newspaper, he fought for equal acceptance and opportunity for the Nisei. His Americanization program culminated in the organization of the National JACL. Jimmy's spirit of fair play and concern for the future of the Nisei, and tireless efforts to accomplish his ideals under tremendous handicaps has made his life's purpose a challenge and inspiration to us whose paths have been made broader and freer because of men such as Jimmy.

Any JACL'ers who would like to make a tangible expression of their feelings may do so by sending "koden" to the National Headquarter at 1759 Sutter St. San Francisco, California.

EVACUATION CLAIMS

The National JACL is actively concerned about the passage of legislation expediting and liberalizing the final determination of the remaining evacuation claims. HR 7763 introduced last summer by Representative Thomas J Lane, Democrat, chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Claims, represents our general objectives for evacuation claims legislation in the way of expediting and liberalizing the provisions for settling and paying these claims.

All JACL'ers and friends are urged to write or personally contact their respective congressmen to request them to introduce on the opening day or at an early part of the next session a bill identical to HR 7763.

The advantage of having many congressmen introduce the same bill is that then it will have a better chance of actual enactment. The next session of Congress convenes on January 3rd and will adjourn in July or August. If this bill is not passed in this session it will be at least another two years before it can be acted upon according to our Washington office.