

NEWSLETTER

February 7, 1962

AT JACL OFFICE -

SECRETARY ON DUTY DAILY

A trite beginning, to say "Something new has been added," but such is exactly the case at the JACL convention and Land Law repeal office, Room 123, 318 Sixth Ave. S. The something new is an office force. And the same is personable Mrs. Dan T. Matsumoto who will be hard at work with a multitude of tasks every afternoon of the week, to render services connected with the 17th Natl. Convention, the Land Law repeal machinery which is already in the gear-shifting stage, and help everyone to keep in closer touch with the local JACL headquarters.

Mrs. Matsumoto is the former Yohko Sumida of Los Angeles, a comparative newcomer to Seattle. She is a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, a graduate of Lynchburg College in Virginia and formerly a YWCA Teenage Program Director and also a school teacher.

The phone number is MA 4-7773 and the following item is good reason to put it on our list of frequently called numbers and start dialing.

NOTED CHEF WILL INSTRUCT JACL MEMBERS

Inspiration is ever a quality that stirs within the minds and souls of talented people, and it is a word that best describes the happy reaction to the idea of internationally famous chef, Yoshio Morizawa of the NIKKO Restaurant when that energetic and public spirited individual volunteered to give some JACL-sponsored cooking demonstrations.

For the benefit of those who didn't know already, Mr. Morizawa was brought to Seattle from Tokyo for the opening of THE NIKKO some three years ago. He formerly was a chef at the Imperial household, and just prior to the time of his leaving Japan, conducted a cooking school in Tokyo.

The first class will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, March 11th, and here's where that phone number, MA 4-7773 becomes immediately useful. The first 75 members who call in (and this is strictly on the first come, first serve basis) can make reservations for the March 11 class, the number being limited because of space restrictions at the NIKKO.

The popularity of a former cookfest which filled the spacious Buddhist auditorium for two days, leads us to believe that the first 75 will be privileged people, indeed. It is expected that a second session will be held on another Sunday, with a changed menu should popular requests so indicate. There will be a "token tuition fee" of 50¢ at the cooking session.

NO SEAFAIR FLOAT THIS YEAR- BUT JACL WILL HELP A NEW SPONSOR

The overwhelming details of staging a National Convention with its many activities and great demand on the manpower of the organization has brought the matter of participation in the 1962 Seafair to serious and prolonged debate during the past three Board meetings, and the final decision is this:

The JACL will not participate in Seafair with respect to the election of a Seafair Queen Candidate or in building of a float. The regretful decision was hard to make, but this activity just cannot be undertaken in view of the many other MUSTS on the agenda for the year 1962.

The JACL will, however, give a big assist to any Japanese-American organization or special group formed for the purpose of undertaking the Seafair job. The JACL can and is very willing to give material assist to any group which will undertake this great public relations opportunity for themselves and the Community. The float chassis, costumes, and a lot of materials and equipment is available for the use of a group which will stage its own fund-raising campaign, queen contest, and designing and building of the float. Interested? Contact JACL officers.

"ACCOMPLISHED GREAT DEAL"

SAYS TAK KUBOTA

Last Wednesday, Jan. 31, six local JACLers organized a special Junket to Olympia. They were Queen Ellen Kimura, President Bill Mimbu, Convention Chairman Jim Matsuoka, 1000 Club Chairman Frank Hattori, Alien Land Law(yer) lobbyist Tak Kubota, and multiple purpose flunkey Ogawa. Toru Sakahara couldn't make it at the last moment.

Now appointed official Convention Queen, Ellen headed the delegation which called on Governor Rosellini and invited him to the July Convention. Tak and President Mimbu visited Attorney General John O'Connell on matters concerning the presentation of the Land Law Repeal referendum to the voters, and reported fine progress in that department.

Although this is an off-year election, with not so many candidates as in '60, for example, the ballot will be top heavy with a large number of propositions to be voted upon by the individual citizen. One of the most heartening bits of information from the Attorney General's office is that a State sponsored Speakers Bureau is being planned to explain officially, the significance of the many referendums on the ballot to voter groups throughout the state; all of which is something that is a most welcome aid to us who are interested in this great assist in voter education on SJR 21.

BOARD MEETINGS OPEN TO MEMBERSHIP

When general membership meetings of the Seattle Chapter have been scheduled during recent years the turnout has been disappointing to the meeting planners who go to considerable work arranging the program, speakers, etc. Mention of the matter was made at the most recent (Jan.) Board meeting.

The Board again declared its policy to the effect that such Board meetings are open to the general membership--in other words, you are welcome and do not have to be an elected board member to attend the meetings. Usual meeting

BOARD MEETINGS ... (cont.)

night is the 4th Monday of the month and sessions are usually in Chinatown at a restaurant. Here's another chance to use that number, MA 4-7773 to reserve a place at the bargain price dinner -- or come just after the dinner, and sit in on the meeting only -- for free.

ISSEI MEMBERS FUNCTION AS ADVISORY BOARD

In honor of the group, about which JACL on the National level is undertaking its biggest job, the Issei Story, the Seattle chapter has selected from its naturalized membership, a special group of Board members are: Genji Mihara, Tad Yamaguchi, H. S. Kawabe, K. Mayeno, and H. T. Kubota.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE TACKLES MULTIPLE PROBLEMS

Your 17th Natl. Convention Board is busy with so many problems at its meetings that reporting all that goes on is a full-time job.

One of the most critical situations is in the matter of housing. George Fugami, Chairman, reports. The tightness of housing is being well reported in the vernaculars along the Coast. Local committee works closely with Expo-Lodging, but inquiries about accommodations available, and the prices, can be had by calling the Seattle Office, MA 4-7773. (I'm learning that number myself now), and asking Yohko Matsumoto.

The Convention Committee is busy on the complex problem of arranging an economical package deal at the Convention. The registration fee is but a mere \$2.00, a trivial item which will be separate from the package deal. Other items are the cross-sound Sunday outing with salmon barbecue, transportation and show included at \$8.00. Other events in the package include the Sayonara Ball, Official Banquet Mixer, Whing Ding, Awards luncheon at a price of about \$30.00, give or take a buck or two on last minute changes.

Two excursion steamers are reserved for the outing -- capacity 585 persons, on which your committee has guaranteed the reservations. In addition, two more smaller boats are available on standby for the overflow.

The public relations committee under the chairmanship of Peter Ohtaki is busy on just one of its several projects - to prepare a background sketch (of several pages) of the birth and development of the JACL in Seattle, starting in 1921, and its reactivation in 1928 to inspire the National setup in 1930. Purpose is to have it read into the Congressional Record by convention time.

Chairman Min Tsubota also wants to remind you that it's time to renew efforts on the grand jackpot operation. The project is of top importance as it concerns the financing of this convention. Here's another opportunity to call that number MA 4-7773 and ask about the special deal to sellers.

And to just give you an idea of the many things we're not even mentioning, Phil Hayasaka is in charge of Registration; Tom Iwata, the Convention Ball; Tak Kubota, Official Events; Mrs. Ruth Okada, Reception; Toru Sakahara, Special Events; Johnson Shimizu, Mixer; Mrs. Nobuko

Suzuki, Youth Activities; Fred Takagi, Convention Booklet; Min Yamaguchi, Golf Tournament; Juro Yoshioka, Fishing Derby; Eddie Shimomura, Social Events; Dr. Kelly Yamada, Opening Ceremonies; Mary Fujita, Information; George Tanagi, Special Exhibits; Mrs. Mabel Shigaya, Fashion Show; and we have missed a few with apologies-- but the reader who is almost as tired as we are gets the magnitude of the job before the Convention Committee.

"DUESERDUE" SAYS AKITA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE COMMENCES

Another hard-working committee is headed by Hiram Akita -- the Membership Committee. It is gathering momentum, and will be percolating by the time this letter reaches the members. But in case the solicitors have not yet reached you -- call that phone number -- you should have memorized it by now or stop in at the office. Remember that the Pacific Citizen is included with the membership at \$5.00. (\$9.00 includes the missus). With each household the PC subscription (alone worth \$4.00) will be continued 'til March 31, 1963; so the earlier new members get in, the bigger the dividend.

READER, YOU'RE CHICKEN IF-- YOU DUCK THIS LAST ITEM

By this time it is a safe bet to assume that all local members have received the impressive brochure from national headquarters on the definitive history of the Japanese in the United States, 1860 to 1960. The Issei Story, in other words.

Don't set it down in the pile of unanswered mail, as we did couple days ago -- tonight late as it is, we're making out the check as soon as this page is finished.

The Issei Story Project aims to raise \$100,000 by popular subscription among JACL members and to raise another \$300,000 by Federal and foundation grants.

That is important to us individual JACLers-- this greatest undertaking of the League, concerns the individual and collective histories of our parents, and their contribution to the growth and development of America -- their struggles in the face of adversity, adventurous pioneers in a strange land, adjusting to strange customs and language, enduring taunts, ridicule, slights, hostility, sometimes even violence, all the time maintaining a quiet self-effacing dignity -- all the while rearing their off-spring to the loyalty of the adopted country. Those of us who are old enough in one lifetime, saw a cataclysmic growth in the status of the one-time immigrants.

Look at the circular once more, and don't set it down again -- make out the check and fill in the form, in memory and tribute to a valiant courageous generation which left as its heritage so much more than just what can be measured by paltry monetary standards.