

# Three Nisei Test Right to Return to Coast

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## Validity of Military Orders Excluding Japanese Americans Challenged in Injunction Suit

**Maj. Gen. Bonesteel Named as Defendant In Case  
Entered by ACLU in Los Angeles Superior Court;  
Noted Constitutional Attorneys Join in Plea**

LOS ANGELES—Three American citizens of Japanese ancestry, one of whom is the widow of a California soldier killed in action in Italy, filed an injunction suit in Superior Court on July 5, challenging the constitutionality of military orders excluding them from the west coast evacuated area.

The injunction suit named Maj. Gen. Charles H. Bonesteel, who last week assumed the command of the Western Defense Command, as a defendant.

The suit was filed under the sponsorship of the American Civil Liberties Union and seeks to enjoin Gen. Bonesteel and other military officials from interfering with the return of the three plaintiffs to their homes in California.

(In Salt Lake City it was disclosed that the Japanese American Citizens League has cooperated in the preparation of the suit, and that Saburo Kido, national president of the JACL, is one of the California attorneys signing the complaint for injunction. According to Kido, the JACL is prepared to enter the suit as a "friend of court.")

The suit was filed in the names of Mrs. Shizuko Shiramizu, whose husband, Sgt. Kiyoshi Shiramizu of Salinas, Calif., died of wounds received in combat with the 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy; Masaru Baba, honorably discharged from U. S. Army in March, 1942; and Dr. George Ochikubo, who said he offered his services to the army dental corps two days after Pearl Harbor.

The suit, which also names Maj. Gen. Courtlandt Parker, commander of the Southern California sector of the Western Defense Command; Col. Allen Kimberly and Lieut. Col. H. E. Beale, contends that military authorities have no legal power to enforce exclusion orders without recourse to the courts and adds that whatever military danger existed on the west coast when the exclusion orders were issued in the spring of 1942 no longer exists.

A. L. Wirin, Southern California counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, who filed the suit, said that Gen. Bonesteel and other defendants are at liberty to remove the case to federal courts if they desire.

The complaint also declared that Mrs. Shiramizu, who is at present in the Colorado River relocation center at Poston, Ariz., has a brother, Cpl. Isugio Egawa, in the U. S. Army. Cpl. Egawa is stationed in India. Baba lives with his wife in Reno, Nev., while Dr. Ochikubo is at the Central Utah relocation center at Topaz.

Wirin and J. B. Tietz are listed on the complaint as attorneys for the plaintiffs.

On behalf of Mrs. Shiramizu, the complaint declared that she "desires and intends" to return to the state of California from the relocation camp at Poston "and there to make a home for herself and child."

The acts of the defendants, in continuing to enforce, by military and physical force the said military exclusion orders heretofore issued by said Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt, as affecting the plaintiff and American citizens of Japanese ancestry, are without any sanction or authority of law, and in excess of the authority of the defendants as military officers, and in violation of the rights of the plaintiff in that: they deprive the plaintiff of liberty and property without due process of law, and more particularly, the right to earn a livelihood and engage in the occupation of her choice, the right to establish and maintain a home, the right of free movement, and the right to equality of treatment under the

law and to be free from discrimination because of her race or ancestry," the complaint declares.

The petition pointed out that "no martial law has been declared or is now in force in the State of California, or in the County of Los Angeles thereof."

Joining ACLU counsels Wirin and Tietz in filing the suit are Saburo Kido, president of the National JACL and a practicing attorney in San Francisco prior to evacuation; Arthur Garfield Hays and Osmond K. Fraenkel, national counsel of the ACLU; Wayne M. Collins, San Francisco ACLU attorney; and the following Los Angeles attorneys, Carey McWilliams, Herbert Ganahl, Jerome W. MacNair and Thomas L. Griffith, Jr. Mr. Griffith is Los Angeles chairman for the National Association for Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Judge Emmet H. Wilson, of the Los Angeles Superior Court, set July 21 as the date for a hearing on an order to show cause issued by him as to why a preliminary injunction should not issue restraining the military commanders and their subordinates from preventing the Nisei from returning to California in general and Los Angeles county in particular.

More specifically, it was stated, the complaint filed recites that there is "no clear and present danger or any danger military or otherwise in the County of Los Angeles or the State of California to national defense materiel, national defense premises, national defense utilities or at all, requiring or warranting the enforcement" of the military exclusion orders. "Nor will the return of the plaintiffs to the State of California and the County of Los Angeles create a clear and present danger or any danger to said State or County, of the military security of either," the complaint further states.

The petition declared that the plaintiffs ask "for a judgment and order" of the court "permanently enjoining" military authorities from action preventing the return of the plaintiffs to the evacuated area in the State of California.

## Sales of Evacuees' Properties in Canada Net Two Millions

OTTAWA, Can. — The sale of property and fishing vessels owned by persons of Japanese ancestry evacuated from the British Columbia coastal areas has exceeded \$2,000,000 as of June 19, it was announced in a return tabled on June 27 in the House of Commons.

Of this sum, fishing vessels sold in the sales conducted by the Custodian of Japanese Property accounted for \$196,708. The balance of \$1,809,307 came from the sales of real and personal property.

## Famed 100th Infantry Unit Joins Nisei Combat Team

**Pvt. Michiyo Mukai  
Named Editor of  
WAC Newspaper**

WRIGHT FIELD, Ohio—Pvt. Michiyo Mukai of the Women's Army Corps was recently named associate editor of the "Wright WAC," newspaper published at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio. She formerly served as make-up editor for the paper.

Pvt. Mukai is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. Mukai of Ogden, Utah, and joined the Women's Army Corps early this year.

## Eleven Granada Nisei Convicted In Draft Cases

**Sentenced to Terms  
Of 10 to 18 Months  
In Denver Court**

DENVER, Colo. — Eleven Japanese Americans from the Granada relocation center at Amache, Colo., convicted of draft evasion, were sentenced by U. S. District Judge J. Foster Symes on June 30 to prison terms ranging from 10 to 18 months.

Sentenced to 18 months were George T. Takahashi, Yoshio Takamoto, and Yoshitatsu Nakaguma.

One-year sentences were given to Noboru Taguma, Susumu Yenkida and Kazuo Kunitake.

Hideo Ito was sentenced to 10 months.

The case of George Katamori Yamazumi was continued to give attorneys time to report on a technicality in the selective service law.

Also continued for further investigation is the case of Harry Morita.

Chikara Kunisaka was acquitted when it was reported that he had indicated his desire to enter the army, and the clerk of the Prowers county draft board had testified that she had no personal knowledge of Kunisaka's failure to report.

The fourteen defendants had based their defense on the contention that their rights as citizens had been abrogated by their evacuation from the west coast.

## UNION LEADER FIRST NISEI TO JOIN VFW GROUP

Sgt. Karl G. Yoneda, now "Somewhere in India," is the first Japanese American soldier of World War II to win acceptance into the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), according to word received here.

Sgt. Yoneda, former vice-president of the Alaska Cannery Workers, CIO, in San Francisco and a member of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, holds a membership card in the Howard C. Sperry Post No. 3570, of the VFW in San Francisco. This VFW post, whose membership is composed entirely of members of waterfront unions, is named for Sperry, a striker who was killed in the 1934 waterfront strike in San Francisco.

The Japanese American sergeant volunteered for military service while residing at the Manzanar relocation center in California. His wife, the former Elaine Black, and his son, Tom Mooney Yoneda, returned last year to San Francisco from Manzanar.

## Fifth Army's Announcement Is First Official Word of 442nd's Arrival in Italy

**Communique Hails 100th Infantry Battalion  
For "Fighting Brilliantly" in Italian Campaign;  
Shelby Volunteers Now in Mediterranean Area**

WASHINGTON—The United Press reported on June 26 in a dispatch from Rome that the famous Japanese American 100th Infantry Battalion which "has been fighting brilliantly" in the Italian campaign has been incorporated into the 442nd Combat Team, composed entirely of Japanese American volunteers.

The announcement was carried in a Fifth Army communique issued in Italy.

The Communique declared:

"The 100th Infantry Battalion which has been fighting brilliantly with the 34th Division has been incorporated in the 442nd Combat Team.

"The 100th Infantry Battalion has played a major role in the campaign's fighting, having landed in Italy shortly after the invasion last September 9."

According to recent news reports, the 100th Infantry Battalion was last reported in action during the drive on Rome, having been transferred to the Anzio beachhead after participating in the attack on Cassino. A report, quoting Lieut. Young O. Kim of the 100th Battalion, winner of a Distinguished Service Cross and the Silver Star, declared that the 100th Infantry Battalion had been awarded 900 Purple Hearts, four Distinguished Service Crosses, 36 Silver Stars and 21 Bronze Stars. It has been reported that approximately 30 percent of the commissioned officers in the unit are of Japanese ancestry.

The 442nd Combat Team was organized by the U. S. Army in January, 1943, of Japanese American volunteers from the Territory of Hawaii and from the United States mainland. It has received its training at Camp Shelby, Miss.

The Fifth Army's announcement was the first official disclosure that the 442nd Infantry Combat Team, composed of Japanese American volunteers, was in the Mediterranean area.

During the past months cables and V-mail letters have been received in the war relocation centers from Nisei volunteers who left the camps early in 1943 to join the Japanese American Combat Team at Camp Shelby. All of these messages, however, reported only that the soldiers had arrived safely at an "undisclosed destination."

## Issei Leader At Tule Lake Center Slain

**Murder of Hitomi  
Under Investigation  
At Segregation Camp**

SAN FRANCISCO — The War Relocation Authority announced on July 3 that Yazo Hitomi, 44, general manager of community co-operative enterprises at the Tule Lake segregation center, was stabbed to death on the night of July 2.

Hitomi, an alien and a former Sacramento, Calif., insurance man, was stabbed through the throat, apparently with a long-bladed knife, the WRA reported. His body was found where it had fallen against the porch of an apartment adjoining his at the segregation center.

District Attorney Charles Lederer of Modoc county has started an investigation.

Hitomi is survived by his wife, two sons, 16 and 14, and a daughter, 12, all in the segregation camp.

The body was found by his niece, Fumiko Hitomi.

It was reported that Mrs. Hitomi told camp officials that the murder followed repeated threats on Hitomi's life. The WRA declared, however, that she was unable to identify the source of the threats.

Hitomi was described as a prosperous insurance agent in Sacramento prior to the evacuation in 1942. The WRA said he was a "popular and influential leader" at the camp.

## Evacuee Relocation Program Moving Forward, Says Myer

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Restoration of evacuees to normal living outside relocation centers is now on a well-established basis and moving forward at a steady pace, D. S. Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority, said last week.

"Since its modest beginning approximately two years ago the program of evacuee resettlement has developed to its present stage where a network of 38 WRA field offices and many organized groups and individuals are actively helping evacuees to relocate and become satisfactorily adjusted," he stated.

"No longer need an evacuee resident of a center wonder how he will be accepted and how he will make his living in an outside city or town. With 25,000 evacuees resettled in normal communities in all 48 states and the District of Columbia, an evacuee who now

leaves a center will probably resettle in or near a community where persons of Japanese descent are already members in good standing.

"Jobs are available in all lines of work in most localities. Housing is easier to find in some places than in others. The newspapers carry stories once in a while about the trouble an evacuee or a group of evacuees had in gaining acceptance. These are the exceptions. For every such case there are thousands of successful instances of relocation that have taken place quietly and without newspaper notice.

"The experimental stage of relocation is over. The policy, regulations and procedures are well established to enable evacuees to leave relocation centers and to resettle in communities of their choice where they can lead normal lives in every sense of the word."

## War Department Announces Two Japanese Americans Killed Recently on Italy Front

Two California Nisei Soldiers Identified Among Wounded in Mediterranean; All Casualties Presumably Were Members of 100th Infantry Unit

WASHINGTON—The War Department this week officially announced the deaths of two American soldiers of Japanese ancestry and reported that eight others had been wounded in action in the Mediterranean area. Three of the casualties were from the United States mainland, and the remainder from Hawaii. The soldiers were presumably members of the 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy.

On July 6 the War Department reported that the following Japanese Americans had been killed in action in the Mediterranean area:

KOIZUMI, Pvt. Utaka—Mrs. Hana Koizumi, mother, 1419 5th St., S. E., Minneapolis, Minn.  
SAITO, Tech Sgt. Cruji—Mrs. Moto Saito, mother, Box 139, Waimanalo, Honolulu.

On July 5 the War Department announced that the following Japanese Americans had been wounded in action in the Mediterranean area:

KOHAYA, Pfc. Terry T.—Mrs. Masai Kohaya, mother, Route 2, Box 2395, Sacramento, Calif.  
SHINTAKU, Pvt. Kiyoshi—Mrs. Toka O. Shintaku, mother, 240 East Market St., Salinas, Calif.

(The parents of the two California soldiers are now believed to be residing in war relocation camps following their evacuation from California.)

HAMAI, Pfc. Takeshi—Mrs. Mitsuyo Hamai, mother, Paia, Maui, T. H.

IMAI, Sgt. Tomio—Mrs. Tori Imai, mother, Box 6, Haina, T. H.

MORINAKA, Tech. 5th Gr. Itsuo—Masaichi Morinaka, brother, Lihue, T. H.

NISHIMURA, Pfc. Yoshito—Mrs. Suzu Oura, mother, Lahaina, Maui, T. H.

UYESHIRO, Pfc. Paul A.—Mrs. Kameko Uyeshiro, mother, 514-A Winant St., Honolulu, T. H.

YASUDA, Pfc. Keiyo T.—Mrs. Hatsue Nakazu, sister, 1212 Liliha St., Honolulu, T. H.

## Wife of Nisei Sergeant Wins Salt Lake War Bond Contest

Letter Competition Was Sponsored by Deseret News

The Japanese American wife of a sergeant serving with American forces in Italy was named the winner of a \$25 war bond in the recent contest conducted by the Deseret News, Salt Lake City daily newspaper.

"To those Americans of Axis ancestry, war is perhaps a grimmer business than to most people. For they're forced to suffer not only the worries and griefs of war, but oftentimes, the recriminations of their neighbors," the Deseret News said in announcing the award to Wuta Tsuya of Salt Lake City, whose husband, Sgt. Roy Tsuya is with an infantry outfit in Italy.

"There was no bitterness in Wuta's words, only the hope that the future would assure her and her husband the right to live a quiet American life, as in the past," the News said.

In its contest, the Deseret News had offered bonds as prizes for the best letters from the wives of men in service, telling of their reasons for wanting to buy war bonds.

The News published these paragraphs from the letter by Mrs. Tsuya:

"My reasons for wanting Americans to buy war bonds may be different, perhaps, from those of others. To me war bonds mean freedom!

"We, who are of the nationalities of the oppressors, but whose citizenship, home and loyalty are here, pray for freedom that will mean that we may live again lives above suspicion . . . that we may live without creating in our fellow men fears of distrust, or thoughts of being traitorous to this country. . . . Our country, America, is comprised of all nationalities.

"I want to walk the streets again arm in arm with my husband. . . . want to look everyone in the eye with pride. . . . to have them feel that we are true and loyal Americans—just as they are—doing our bit to help make this a better world.

"My dreams of that future cannot be realized without the loved ones of all in service returning to make every family circle complete.

"An American buying bonds will help to reunite families . . ."

## Test Case Figure Files Intent to Wed

Hirabayashi Arrested On Draft Violation Charge in Spokane

SPOKANE, Wash. — A marriage license was issued in Spokane on June 29 to Gordon Hirabayashi, 24, and Miss Esther Schmoie, 20, former University of Washington co-ed and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Schmoie of Seattle.

Hirabayashi last year served a three months term after being convicted in a test case involving the constitutionality of the military's curfew order against American citizens of Japanese ancestry in 1942. He faces a new federal charge because of his failure to return a selective service form, charging that the special questionnaire sent to him because of his Japanese ancestry involves racial discrimination.

He has been working in Spokane with the American Friends Service Committee, assisting in the relocation of persons of Japanese ancestry in the area.

Schmoie, who is northwest secretary of the American Friends group, a Quaker social service agency, was reported by the Associated Press as declaring in Seattle:

"We haven't disapproved of the engagement. We have a great deal of admiration for this boy. If they are getting married now, it is their own affair, and they have our blessing."

Hirabayashi was arrested on July 3 on the selective service law violation charge on a federal warrant.

He was freed on July 4 after \$1,000 bond had been posted after his arraignment on the federal indictment.

Hirabayashi told reporters he would be glad to serve in the Pacific war theater as a neutral doing relief work but could not bear arms because of his membership in the Society of Friends. He said he did not plan to use the present case as a test suit.

## Disabled Nisei War Veterans Visit Birthplace of Liberty

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — When the 4th of July rolled 'round in Hawaii, Sgt. Harold Gytoko and Pfc. Yoshinao Omiya helped make a great cardboard Liberty Bell to adorn a float in the annual parade.

But on June 17, 1944, the two Japanese Americans, wounded while serving with the 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy, visited Independence Hall—and stood in solemn attention before the real thing, the Record reported.

Omiya, who lost his sight, and Gytoko, who lost two fingers of his right hand and was peppered with shrapnel at Cassino, pleaded for "a little better understanding on the part of the civilian public" toward approximately 9000 other Japanese Americans now fighting for Uncle Sam.

A reception was held in their honor at the International Institute in Philadelphia on June 16. Nearly 100 Japanese Americans, the majority of them evacuees from western relocation centers who have relocated in Philadelphia, were their hosts. Gytoko

and Omiya both wear the Purple Heart.

Omiya is the wounded soldier whose picture was carried by Life Magazine last February under the caption, "Blind Nisei."

The veterans are now convalescing at the army's Valley Forge Hospital. During their visit they were guests of Mrs. Fuku Thurn. They are the first casualties of the Japanese American battalion with the 34th Division to arrive in Philadelphia.

Sgt. Gytoko comes from Honokaa, near Hilo, on the Island of Hawaii. He was an electric welder before his enlistment. Two of his cousins were among the civilian residents of Hawaii who were killed by the Japanese enemy during the raid on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Omiya was born in Honolulu and graduated from McKinley high.

Both veterans declared they had encountered no feeling against them on the part of fellow soldiers.

## President Roosevelt Signs Bill To Permit Denationalization Of Citizens at Tule Lake Camp

Testimony by Attorney General Biddle Declares "300 to 1,000" at Tule Lake Will Be Able to Renounce Citizenship Through Legislation

WASHINGTON—It was announced on July 3 that President Roosevelt had signed the administration-supported legislation to amend the Nationality Act of 1940 to provide for the denationalization of certain native-born citizens of the United States who desire to renounce their citizenship.

The measure, which had the support of Attorney General Francis Biddle, was designed to provide legal means to denationalize between "300 to 1,000" persons of Japanese ancestry at the Tule Lake segregation center who had expressed a desire to renounce their United States citizenship and have asked for expatriation.

In testifying in behalf of the bill, Biddle told Congress that if the group in question at the Tule Lake segregation center who have "expressed a desire to be recognized as Japanese nationals" could be permitted to abandon their American citizenship "they thereupon could be dealt with as alien enemies under the applicable statutes."

"Under existing law, it is not possible for a national of the United States voluntarily to expatriate himself while within the United States. It therefore is not possible, under existing law, to permit these persons to abandon their United States nationality even though they openly assert loyalty to the enemy," Biddle said.

The legislation amends the Nationality Act by adding the following subsection providing for renunciation of citizenship by a national of the United States:

"(i) making in the United States a formal written renunciation of nationality in such form as may be prescribed by, and before such officer as may be designated by, the Attorney General, whenever the United States shall be in a state of war and the Attorney General shall approve such renunciation as not contrary to the interests of national defense."

It was noted in Washington that the Biddle bill was one of several measures dealing with denationalization of American citizens which were under consideration during the present session of Congress. It was stressed that the measure signed by President Roosevelt was designed to deal specifically with a group of between "300 to 1,000 citizens of Japanese ancestry" now at the Tule segregation center who have formally indicated loyalty to Japan.

## Question Suspects In Hitomi Murder

ALTURAS, Calif.—Several suspects, whose identity was not disclosed, were being questioned on July 4 in the murder of Yaoko Hitomi on July 2 at the Tule Lake segregation center.

## Urge Canada's Senate Revise Elections Act

Protests Reported In Ottawa on Move To Disfranchise Nisei

OTTAWA, Can. Possible revision of the Dominion Elections Act, to strike out a portion which would disfranchise Canadian citizens of Japanese ancestry for the duration of the war, was predicted here this week, following strong protests from newspapers, individuals and organizations.

It was reported that "a widespread storm of protest has arisen over this portion of the bill, not merely because of its effect upon Japanese Canadians but even more because it opens the door to similar racial disqualification of many other groups."

The bill, which has already received its third reading in the House of Commons, was expected to receive searching criticism when it reaches the Senate.

First to draw public criticism to the bill was the influential Ottawa Evening Journal which scored the provision which would take away the voting rights of Canadian citizens of Japanese ancestry and suggested that action be taken to strike out the clause.

"The British people, with their fairness and political wisdom, would never commit themselves to anything remotely resembling what this law proposes. We should not either. Perhaps the Senate . . . will strike this clause from the Dominion Elections Act," the Journal said on June 19.

Similar criticism appeared two days later in two other influential Canadian newspapers, the Winnipeg Free Press and the Toronto Daily Star. The Free Press titled its editorial, "Election Act Outrage." The Daily Star urged action to amend the bill "to restore the franchise rights to these native Canadians."

A number of Senators, including Sen. Cairine Wilson, have reportedly expressed their concern over the disfranchisement proposal in the administration-backed bill, and have indicated their intention to bring the matter before the Upper House when the bill is considered.

A swelling number of telegrams and protests from various individuals, trade unions, liberal organizations and religious groups have reportedly been received in Ottawa.

The Toronto Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy has dispatched a brief to Ottawa, making representations on behalf of Canadian-born citizens of Japanese ancestry.

second wound, and campaign ribbons indicating his participation in the Pearl Harbor attack, the Pacific theater, and the African-European-Mediterranean theater, with two bronze stars.

## Suppression of Nisei Weekly Sought by Vancouver Mayor

VANCOUVER, B. C.—Mayor J. W. Cornett of Vancouver officially applied to Canadian Justice Minister St. Laurent for suppression of the Japanese Canadian newspaper, the New Canadian, or internment of its publisher, it was reported on June 29.

The mayor's letter to the justice minister, air-mailed on June 26, said that he had been accused of being a Nazi sympathizer by "a newspaper published in the interests of the Japanese in Canada."

The Vancouver Province on June 16 described "civic circles" as indignant over a paragraph in the New Canadian, formerly published in Vancouver but now printed in Kaslo, B. C., since the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry. It was stated that the paragraph in question attributed Nazi tendencies to Mayor Cornett who has demanded the deportation of all persons of Japanese ancestry in Canada.

An "ear" on the right-hand corner of the front-page of the New Canadian on June 10 had declared: "No matter what the lyrics, Vancouver's Mayor blows a Nazi tune."

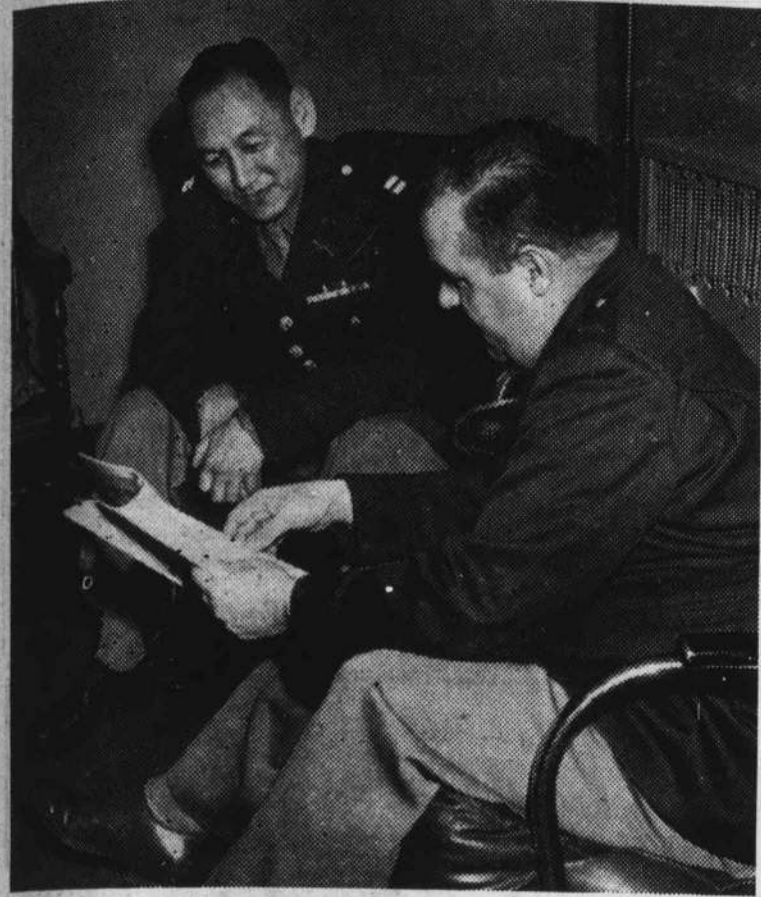
The New Canadian's comment

referred to a story in the same issue which reported that the Vancouver City Council had declined to vote on Mayor Cornett's resolution urging "repatriation" of all persons of Japanese ancestry.

The Province reported that some Vancouver Aldermen favor a protest to the British Columbia Security Commission, which has charge of the relocation of evacuees of Japanese ancestry in interior housing projects, while some others believe the mayor should sue the paper for libel. The Province said that Alderman John Bennett who has been acting mayor during Mayor Cornett's recent trip to eastern Canada, prefers to ignore the reference entirely.

Alderman Bennett was one of the members of the Vancouver City Council who believed "in fairness and tolerance" and saw no reason why the Council should repudiate a resolution passed in September, 1942, which urged Ottawa to repatriate only those persons of Japanese ancestry who were disloyal to the Dominion and urged the dispersal of the 25,000 persons of Japanese ancestry throughout the Dominion's nine provinces.

## Capt. Suzuki Convalescing



Captain Taro Suzuki, one of the highest-ranking Japanese Americans to fight in Italy, was wounded in November, 1943, and his right hand is now paralyzed as a result of that wound. Captain Suzuki is shown in the photo talking with another officer at Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington, D. C., where he is receiving treatment. Captain Suzuki's wife and two children live in Honolulu. In Italy Captain Suzuki was a member of the 100th Infantry Battalion.

## Dr. Sproul Warns Against Hysteria on Nisei Question At Coast Fair Play Meeting

Describes Los Angeles As "Powerhouse of Race-baiting Opposition"

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—In a meeting called to provide impetus for the organization of a Los Angeles chapter of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, president of the University of California, pleaded on June 29 for a "sensible" approach to the problem of Americans of Japanese ancestry. Dr. Sproul, honorary chairman of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, told members of the group that "when- ever and wherever the constitutional guarantees are violated in the treatment of a minority, no matter how unpopular or helpless, the whole fabric of American government is weakened."

He warned against hysteria in dealing with Japanese Americans now and after the war and described Los Angeles as, at times, "a powerhouse of race-baiting opposition to the Committee's efforts," and deplored a wild emotional consideration of the situation.

Dr. Robert A. Millikan presided over the meeting at the California Club. More than 100 prominent civic leaders and public officials of Los Angeles attended. Dr. Sproul explained that the Committee, founded 18 months ago in San Francisco, wholeheartedly endorses President Roosevelt's policy of resettlement for persons of Japanese ancestry from the relocation camps to which they were evacuated in 1942. The Committee pledges complete support of the Army's handling of the problem, he declared.

Dr. Sproul noted that, as far as the Committee was concerned, it was entirely up to the military to determine when the evacuees of Japanese ancestry will be allowed to return to the evacuated area. He explained, however, that the group did not believe that all persons evacuated from California should be returned to the area, but rather favors the policy of dispersal advocated by the War Relocation Authority.

In outlining the policies of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, Dr. Sproul said it desires "cool, clear thinking, especially by the west coast public, in spite of the distortions of fact and excesses of passion and prejudice inevitable in wartime." "The Committee," he said, "helps

the public to discriminate sharply between our enemies in Japan, the military criminals for whom no fate is too harsh, no punishment too cruel, and those persons of Japanese stock in the United States, two-thirds of whom are free from any blemishes of disloyalty, even under the stress of most discriminatory treatment.

"The barometer of tolerance toward the evacuees is still too low on this coast and the opposition is still vehement and unscrupulous."

The meeting was called, according to Mrs. Katherine F. Kaplan, an executive secretary of the Committee, as a step toward the formation of a chapter in Los Angeles.

Referring to evacuation, Dr. Sproul said that "the committee continues to combat the idea, now being advanced, that evacuation is proof of disloyalty."

"There is no basis whatever in any available evidence for such an inference, and there is abundant testimony in the acts of Japanese Americans and the words of other loyal Americans to the contrary."

"Moreover, the Committee now contends that, since the Army ordered the evacuation, on grounds of military necessity, the Army should likewise decide when the process is to be reversed, and the evacuees allowed to recover gradually their civil rights."

Dr. Sproul said the Committee's leadership, "in such persons as Dr. Robert Millikan, Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur and myself may be drawn from the lunatic fringe of American life, but it is not a leadership unacquainted with responsibility if unaware of the score." Dr. Millikan is head of the California Institute of Technology and Dr. Wilbur is former president of Stanford University.

The chain of American principles and fair play, said Dr. Sproul, is growing stronger day by day, but that its weakest link "is here in the city of Los Angeles."

### Malcolm Pitts Named Assistant Director

DENVER, Colo.—Malcolm Pitts, field assistant director of the WRA in Denver, has been named assistant director and chief of the administrative management division of the WRA in Washington, it was reported here.

He will replace Leland Barrows who has joined the Coast Guard.

# California Race-Baiters Fail To Get Measure on Ballot

## SENTRY INNOCENT IN SHOOTING OF TULE SEGREGEE

NEWELL, Calif.—An army court-martial on July 6 found Pvt. Bernard Goe, military sentry at the Tule Lake segregation center, innocent of manslaughter charges preferred after the shooting of a segregee at the center May 24.

The Japanese American, James S. Okamoto, 30, was fatally wounded after an argument at the camp's main gate.

## Appeal Filed For Wyoming Draft Evaders

30 Sent to Federal Penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth

CHEYENNE, Wyo.—As notices of appeal were filed in U. S. district court on July 1 in behalf of the 63 Japanese Americans from the Heart Mountain relocation center who were sentenced to three years' imprisonment on convictions of failure to report for pre-induction physical examinations, the U. S. Marshal at Cheyenne announced that 30 of the 63 convicted men will be sent to the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., and the other 33 will be sent to McNeil Island, Wash.

(It was reported on July 4 that 30 of the Heart Mountain evacuees convicted on the draft violation charge had left Cheyenne on July 3 for Leavenworth, Kan.)

A. A. Sanders, U. S. Marshal, said that a prison bus will be sent here from Leavenworth penitentiary to transport the group to Kansas, and the others will be sent to McNeil Island on a special prison car on the railroad. Sanders revealed that the day of departure depends on prison officials.

The notices of appeal, filed by Samuel Menin of Denver, attorney for the 63 defendants, alleged each defendant had been deprived of his rights as a citizen by "being confined in a relocation center surrounded by a barbed and other wire fence, guarded by the military force of the United States and restrained of his liberty without due process of law and in violation of the Constitution of the United States."

## Proposed Initiative Would Have Barred Nisei Citizens From Ownership of Land

### Hawaii Nisei Have Good Record, Says GOP Delegate

CHICAGO, Ill.—Americans of Japanese ancestry in the Territory of Hawaii have the best record of any racial group, Marguerite K. Ashford, Honolulu lawyer and member of the Hawaiian delegation to the Republican National Convention, declared in an interview with the Chicago Daily News on June 24.

Miss Ashford said that Hawaii's Japanese Americans "have volunteered for all kinds of work, bought bonds, and generally tried to prove their Americanism."

"My own stenographer is of Japanese descent," Miss Ashford said. "She is very competent."

"In fact," she concluded, "we apply in Hawaii the race equality that is preached elsewhere."

## Gen. Bonesteel Remains Mum On Evacuees

SAN FRANCISCO — Maj. Gen. Charles H. Bonesteel declined to comment on the possibility of an early return of Japanese American evacuees to the evacuated west coast area at his first press conference on June 28 after assuming command of the Western Defense Command.

Asked whether he would permit Japanese Americans to return, Gen. Bonesteel turned aside the question, declaring:

"I do not know enough about it."

Commenting on the possibility of any other changes in Western Defense Command policies, he explained:

"I will have to study the situation for a month or two. It would be very foolish anyway to make any radical changes."

## U. S. Army Officer in Italy Regrets Intolerance at Home

Cites Crosses with Japanese Names in U. S. Army Cemeteries

"There are crosses with Japanese names in the American cemeteries in the bitter Italian hills," Lieut. Thomas Riggs, Jr., wrote to Time Magazine in a letter published in the July 3 issue of Time, protesting anti-evacuee activity of farmers and townspeople of Great Meadows, N. J.

Speaking of Americans of Japanese ancestry, Lieut Riggs asked in his letter:

"These men are worthy to bear arms; how then are they not worthy to grow tomatoes?"

His letter in Time declared in part:

"It is two years and a couple of days since I left the States with a whole hatful of company on this war's leeching business. During the ten-minute breaks in Africa and Italy we have devoted a lot of effort to trying to realize in the imagination what life is like at home . . .

"Today a magazine (Time, April 24) comes to the beachhead and . . . tells a story, and these pleasant images become hideous and confused. According to the story five Japanese, including one Frank Kitagawa, are sent to Great Meadows, N. J. from an Arizona relocation center to help Ed Kowalik run his 600-acre farm . . . Ed Kowalik's neighbors mount a blind patriotism against this five-man Oriental menace within their

gates . . . A building on Kowalik's farm is burned; and Kowalik, being one man, is forced to send the offenders away. This is, as I said, a little thing. Nobody killed, nobody maimed. To show they hold no hard feelings, the farmers present Ed Kowalik with a box of cigars, and the incident is closed.

"It is the schoolhouse, I think, that sticks in my craw. Presumably the small fry of Great Meadows are taught in this schoolhouse; study algebra; and Archimedes' principle; and nouns; and learn that Lincoln called them 'the last best hope of earth . . .'

This is the schoolhouse where hundreds met to hunt down five, who had committed the crime of discarding their ancestry for the ties of a new country.

"There are crosses with Japanese names in the American cemeteries in the bitter Italian hills. These men are worthy to bear arms; how then are they not worthy to grow tomatoes?"

"Since I began, a score of shells have dolloped into the vicinity. They threaten my life, for which I have a high regard, but not the things that give my life sustenance. Now I feel that these things are threatened and I do not know where to go to find a clean picture of my country. It is not a matter of Great Meadows alone. Lord knows, that is only the latest and one of the least striking of the items on a long list. Somewhere in the confusion is the central matter of what is true and

Anti-Evacuee Group Unable to Obtain 179,000 Signatures

SACRAMENTO—The Japanese Exclusion Association has failed in its drive to obtain a necessary 179,000 signatures to place an initiative measure on the California ballot in November to prohibit the ownership of California land and watercraft by persons of Japanese ancestry and other ancestry ineligible under United States naturalization laws.

The deadline for the qualification of initiative measures for the November election passed on June 29 and Secretary of State Frank M. Jordan announced that only three initiative measures would be on the November ballot. One of these initiatives is the "right of employment" initiative which has been sharply attacked recently by both business and labor leaders. The other two concern education and pensions.

The Japanese Exclusion Association launched a vigorous campaign in May to obtain the 179,000 signatures to place the anti-Oriental initiative on the ballot. The first signature was that of Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz of Los Angeles county, a leader in the Native Sons of the Golden West. Native Sons officials co-operated with the Japanese Exclusion Association's campaign, and the aid of many civic bodies, particularly in Southern California, was enlisted.

E. A. Murray, campaign director of the Japanese Exclusion Association, reported that 60,000 petition forms had been circulated.

The People's World, San Francisco newspaper, revealed that "Benton and Benton, a firm which does business under the title of 'California Initiative and Referendum Bureau'" was handling the campaign to amend and tighten California's present anti-alien ownership law, directly aiming their campaign at persons of Japanese ancestry.

Jordan's announcement on June 30 declared that 12 propositions will be voted on by California citizens at the November elections.

## Buhl Youth Who Attacked Evacuees Paroled to Parents

TWIN FALLS, Idaho—Released in the custody of their parents under strict parole terms, four Buhl, Idaho, youths who were alleged to have assaulted various Japanese American farm workers on the streets of Twin Falls on June 22, received suspended industrial school sentences when they appeared before Probate Judge C. A. Bailey on June 30.

The four minor youths and their parents signed the agreement to the parole terms, an infraction of which would send any of the boys to the St. Anthony school. Judge Bailey stressed the seriousness of the offense.

Veadis J. Gee, 18, also of Buhl and the only one of the group who was of age, received a \$15 fine and costs on June 26 when he appeared before Judge J. O. Humphrey on charges of disturbing the peace. The youth was rearrested on June 29 on a similar charge, but one not involving a person of Japanese ancestry.

what is not true about our national life.

"This is a very personal matter, like love or good beer or dying, and I should like someone to give me an answer."

The July 3 issue of Time also carried three other letters, one from a serviceman, criticizing a letter in the June 5 issue by H. Frederick Peterson of Chicago who had expressed his hatred of all persons of Japanese ancestry because of the death of his son in battle.

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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LARRY TAJIRI

EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### The Right to Return

The injunction suit filed in a Los Angeles Superior Court this week to enjoin military authorities from preventing the return of loyal citizens of Japanese ancestry to the State of California should result in the re-examination of present restrictions enforced by the Western Defense Command in the absence of martial law on a group of Americans on the basis of ancestry alone. These restrictions affect not only the approximate 55,000 citizens in the war relocation camps, but each of the 200,000 citizens of Japanese extraction in the United States and Hawaii.

Court action to regain the rights which were restricted by the decrees issued by Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt, then commanding the Western Defense Command, in the hysteria-ridden months following the outbreak of war, has been under consideration for the past 18 months and more. The fact that such action was not initiated until this week bespeaks the willingness of Japanese Americans to wait on the integrity of the military authorities involved, since the evacuation was ordered by General DeWitt in the name of military necessity. During two years since the mass evacuation from the west coast our Pacific military strategy has changed from the defensive to an offensive. Whatever military necessity which may have existed at the time of the evacuation order, certainly does not exist today.

The injunction suit sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Union is the latest link in a chain of legal action forged to protect and to implement the constitutional rights of the Japanese American group. The Korematsu and Endo cases which will be argued in October before the United States Supreme Court test the right of the military to evacuate a group of citizens without individual hearing or trial and to detain them in assembly centers and war relocation camps. It is expected that such judicial reviews of wartime restrictions to which Americans of Japanese ancestry have been subjected will do much to clarify the civil rights of the group under consideration.

It is a notable fact that the evacuated Japanese Americans have co-operated fully with the military orders on evacuation and exclusion, though questioning the validity of some of these orders. Such co-operation was given in the interests of national security and toward the full prosecution of the war effort, as Secretary of War Stimson has acknowledged in his statement: "Great credit is due our Japanese population for the manner in which they responded and complied with the orders of exclusion."

The fact that the promised restoration of war-shorn rights has not kept pace with the changing military situation on the west coast and in the Pacific, and with the contributions of Japanese Americans to the general war effort, lends weight to the necessity of restitution by court action, the step which was taken this week in Los Angeles.

It is unfortunate that the fact of evacuation is now being interpreted in many quarters on the Pacific coast as evidence of the disloyalty of the whole group. Rather than silencing the racists, the evacuation has been followed by an orgy of race mongering, using the time-worn slogans of the "yellow

peril," which has been unequalled in a generation on the west coast.

Americans of Japanese ancestry have not lost their faith in the ultimate justice. Their concern is only that any tendency on the part of the military authorities to appease the coastal hate mongers by continued exclusion will only make more difficult the reacceptance of the evacuees in the areas from which they were evacuated. The words of Gladstone, "Justice delayed is justice denied," which is quoted by a west coast group which is working for the reintegration of the Japanese Americans into west coast life, are certainly applicable here.

### Setback for Racists

The record of west coast race-baiters thus far in the election campaign has been marked with the headstones of their failures. The most spectacular, of course, were the unsuccessful campaigns of Senator Rufus Holman of Oregon and Representative John Costello of California, but just as significant was the election day unpopularity of men like State Senator Tenney and William Bonelli who had hoped to wring votes from the "Jap issue." Both Holman and Costello, who were perhaps the loudest of the western bloc which demanded mass evacuation in February, 1942, attribute their defeats, not to their stand against the constitutional rights of Japanese Americans, but to labor's political action. It is true that their racism was only a part of the generally reactionary attitude for which they were repudiated. But if one Senator were to be singled out for the viciousness of his campaign in Congress against Japanese Americans, that man would be Rufus Holman, the west coast Bilbo who sponsored a bill to disfranchise and deport citizens whose parents were born in Japan. And it was John Costello who assumed the leadership of the Dies Committee's inquisition on Japanese Americans.

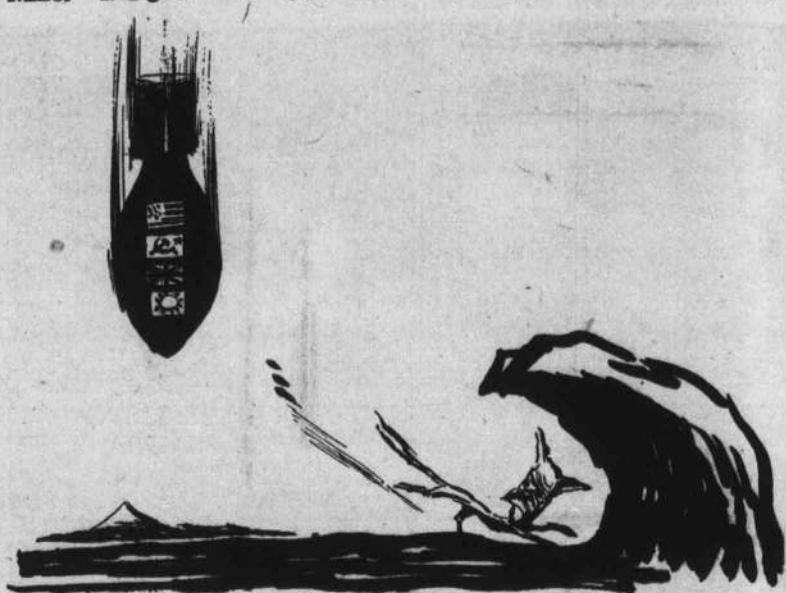
The failure of the Japanese Exclusion League of Los Angeles to qualify an initiative measure, ostensibly composed as legislation to give California's Anti-Alien Land Law a set of new teeth but so ambiguously worded as to endanger the citizenship rights of Americans of Japanese and other Asiatic ancestries, must be interpreted as a major blow to race-mongers. Although some 60,000 petitions were hurriedly distributed, the proponents of the initiative measure were unable to obtain the necessary 179,000 signatures before the June 29 deadline. The racists are thus deprived of an issue with which they would have continued until November to excite public sentiment against California's 95,000 evacuated residents of Japanese ancestry.

Since Nisei-baiters in California have attempted to blow up questions involving the evacuees into a major public issue in California, it is interesting to note that, while their initiative measure failed to qualify, three other propositions, one a vicious, union-busting proposal, did obtain the necessary number of signators. The Japanese Exclusion Association, which confined most of its activity to Southern California, gave the pretense of at least quasi-official backing to their campaign by having Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz of Los Angeles county, a leading Native Son, photographed as the first to sign the petition for the initiative. The campaign to obtain the 179,000 signatures was launched with a Biltmore Hotel luncheon to which leaders of civic organizations, including various women's clubs, were invited. The Native Sons, the standard-bearers of white supremacy west of the Sierras, who have announced that the "Japanese question" will be the recipient of their major interest in the coming year, had endorsed the Japanese Exclusion Association's efforts. Some of the petitions were mailed out in envelopes obtained from a post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. And in the face of what was represented to be widespread support, the failure of the campaign invites some interesting observations. Although smart promoters were reported to have been directing it, the campaign appears to have been haphazardly handled. It also seems that the race-baiters were fooled by their own propaganda regarding the extent of public feeling against persons of Japanese ancestry.

Having failed in this attempt, the race-baiters will no doubt find new ways to harass the American of Japanese ancestry and his law-abiding immigrant parents. And they will fail again. California is still a part of the United States.

## MR. TOJO OF JAPAN

By Taro Yashima



The Harvest of Militarism

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## Japanese Anti-Fascists

This matter of anti-fascists of Japanese ancestry may not appear at first to be a subject directly related to the problems of Japanese Americans with which these columns usually deal. But all of us, citizens of a free world, are anti-fascists, in the varying degrees in which we participate in the war against the fascist enemy. Japanese Americans, consciously or not, are anti-fascists, producing toward the victory of democracy on home production lines or taking more direct action against the Nazi fascists, like the men from relocation camps and from the Territory of Hawaii who are now in the fox-holes of Italy.

Anti-fascists of Japanese ancestry are not only in the United States and Canada where most of them, with the exception of political refugees like Taro Yashima and Ikuo Oyama, are citizens of their respective democracies. There are Japanese nationals in the China of the Chungking government and in the areas controlled by the Chinese Red Army who are actively fighting the fascist warlords of Japan, and who are attempting to revive Japan's anti-fascist underground which was broken even before Pearl Harbor by the police terrorism which was a part of the systematic campaign of the militarists to smash all vestiges of democratic tendencies.

It is not established whether any hope of a Japanese underground exists today. The militarists were very thorough, but not all of Japan's pre-war anti-fascists were sent to concentration camps in the Manchurian interior, nor were they all "converted," as some were, by the very persuasive methods of the Tokkoku, the secret police. Some managed to escape to the Asiatic mainland and make their way to unoccupied China. These men, augmented by anti-militarists among Japanese prisoners captured by the Chinese, have been active in the Japanese Anti-War League, later enlarged and named the Japanese People's Liberation League, which today calls on the workers and common people generally in Japan to rise against the warlords in Tokyo. Whether their efforts will be answered by action inside Japan is, of course, problematical. But the effort is being made.

The existence of these Japanese anti-fascists in China has been noted by Agnes Smedley in her recent great book, "Battle Hymn of China," and by Edgar Snow in "Battle for Asia." Wataru Kaji, a leading progressive writer in Japan, appeared in Chungking shortly after the Japanese militarists launched their aggressions with the July 7, 1937, attack at Lukuchiao. Kaji and Aoyama, another well-known leader of Japanese liberalism, were instrumental in initiating the Japanese Anti-War League which directs its anti-imperialist propaganda at the Japanese invasion and occupation forces in China, as well as to the people inside Japan. Another Japanese anti-fascist at Chungking is Seisaku Shiomi, who specializes in radio broadcasts. Shiomi, strange-

ly enough, as Agnes Smedley relates, was secretary of the Japanese Consulate General at Hanoi in French Indo-China until December, 1938. He had been captured by Chinese troops while on a spying tour of the frontier, and for a year refused to cooperate with the Chinese. However, after talks with Wataru Kaji, he finally decided to work with the anti-fascist. Trained in the Japanese consular service, it was a difficult decision for him to make. Shiomi is quoted as saying:

"It took a long time for me to change my whole life's training and take a step which the Japanese brand as treason. However, I see that the rulers of Japan . . . merely use the common people as sources of wealth in time of peace and as cannon fodder in time of war . . . It has become clear to me that our own militarists merely wish to take over the place of the white imperialists . . . Now I broadcast in Japanese to the Japanese troops and people, trying to explain what I believe. I work for a real peace and justice, and my mind is at rest."

Recent dispatches from Chungking by Israel Epstein of Allied Labor News, published in New York's PM, and in labor and progressive newspapers in America, confirms the existence of the Japanese People's Liberation League, and reports that Susumu Okano, a leading Japanese anti-fascist, is heading this group. A report from China also declared that a "combat team" of anti-fascist Japanese, most of them Japanese prisoners of war, has been recruited and may fight one day alongside free Chinese against the Japanese warlords.

Japanese anti-fascists in China cite reports of the great strikes of April and August, 1941, in Kobe and Nagoya as evidence that a nucleus of a people's underground movement exists. The April strike in the shipyards and factories of the Mitsubishi trust finally involved 100,000 workers. In August, four months before the attack on Pearl Harbor, more than 20,000 workers went on strike at the Mitsubishi plant in Nagoya which produces the "Zero" plane. Early in 1944, according to a copy of the Osaka Mainichi which was obtained by an Allied source, the Tokyo government issued a decree disbanding the newly organized Workers Party which held a mass meeting in Ueno park in Tokyo, attended by 40,000 workers. The Tokyo police attempted to break up the Ueno park meeting, killing 37, including seven who died from injuries. Flags used at the demonstration were confiscated and burned.

In his book, "The New Sun," Taro Yashima has graphically pictured what it meant to be an anti-fascist in Japan. His story is one of brutal repression of any pro-democratic thought by the dreaded secret police. Yashima was an artist who believed in a better world for the common people of Japan. For his beliefs in democracy, he was jailed on ten

(Continued on page 5)

## Vagaries

### Primaries . . .

The Sumner, Wash., Standard, perhaps the most viciously racist of any west coast weekly of general circulation, is advocating the nomination of Maj. Louis Wasmer of Spokane for Governor in the Republican primaries because Maj. Wasmer, a Spokane businessman who expects to be placed on the army's inactive list soon, is the only one to use the resettlement of Japanese Americans in eastern Washington as a campaign issue. Wasmer has charged that the present governor, Arthur Langlie, a Republican who is campaigning for reelection, replied to protests against resettlement of evacuees in eastern Washington with the words: "Let them come in. They have to live somewhere." . . . Maj. Wasmer's platform advocates the denial of permanent residence to any person of Japanese ancestry who cannot by law become a property owner . . . Resident aliens of Japanese ancestry can own property in most states of the Union, but cannot in Washington, California, Oregon and most other western states . . . Maj. Wasmer, one of four candidates for the Republican nomination, is the only Washington state politician to make an issue of Japanese Americans in the primary campaign. The Washington primaries are on July 11. Senator Mon C. Wallgren is unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

### Unholy Coalition . . .

It's reported a coalition of southern anti-New Deal Democrats are proposing a program of concerted action with western anti-administration congressmen on issues of mutual interest. Western race-baiters are interested in getting the support of southern Democrats on legislation affecting persons of Japanese ancestry on the coast. . . . A Nisei war hero may soon make a national speaking tour. . . . The recent employment of more than one hundred Japanese American evacuees in some of New York's biggest hotels has the full approval of the New York Hotel Trades Council, which embraces AFL locals covering virtually all non-managerial departments of the hotels. The evacuees receive union-scale wages, and in some cases better than union minimums. Three upper New York state mountain resorts are also using evacuee help for the first time. . . . Among those auditioned in Denver last week by a talent scout for USO Camp Shows, Inc., was Rubi Yoshino, Nisei soprano from California. Miss Yoshino, who has four brothers in military service, has given many concerts in California and has appeared in national network broadcasts.

### NISEI USA

(Continued from page 4)

different occasions. Oyama, who is a former leader of the Japanese Socialist party, was given refuge by Northwestern University. During a recent grave illness, his life was saved by six Northwestern co-eds who gave him blood transfusions.

The Yashimas and the Oyamas, together with the Kajis and Aoyamas in China, are relatively small in number in comparison with the refugees from fascist Europe who are actively aiding the war against fascist oppression. But their collaboration, as men who have never surrendered to Japanese militarism, will be of value in the building of a post-war Japan. The military power of the United Nations will defeat the conquest-mad warlords of Japan. But a stable peace can only be maintained by the shaping of a democracy in a defeated Japan.

In America there have been a few Nisei who fought Japanese fascism, when being anti-fascist was not yet the business of a nation, and American oil and scrap steel were being rushed to Japan. Most of these Nisei are today engaged as soldiers of the United States in the anti-fascist war. They are following in the footsteps of a New York Japanese who was one of the first to fight and die in the great war which aggressor nations have forced on the world. His name was Jack Shirai and he lies buried in a Spanish field. He died in 1937, a fascist bullet piercing his brain, a long time before Pearl Harbor.

## A Letter to the Editor: Nisei Officer Objects to Use Of "Japyanks" to Describe Japanese American Soldiers

The Editor  
The PACIFIC CITIZEN  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
Dear sir:

Soldiers of the United States Army, irrespective of their race or color, are universally known as "Yanks." But now I am astonished to read in the Pacific Citizen issue of June 17th that in our Army there is a group—the 442nd Regimental Combat Team—referred to as "Japyanks." It is my belief that members of the unit, especially the 2700 officers and men of Japanese ancestry from Hawaii, dislike very much being distinguished and characterized as "Japyanks." At least, we of the 100th Infantry Battalion do not consider it an honor or a compliment to be called thus, and the very sight and thought of the term arouse nothing but contempt and anger.

Why the author of the article coined "Japyanks" is beyond my comprehension. Up to this writing I have heard of no War Department policy or Army publication—"Yank," "Infantry Journal," "Stars and Stripes," or others—which has classified soldiers of Japanese ancestry as "Japyanks." Perhaps the word "Jap" has been used so freely on the mainland with reference to the Americans of Japanese ancestry that it has unconsciously been adopted by them, as the public has appropriated the use of the word "Swede" for "Swedish." And the term "Japyank" is admittedly ear and eye-catching. The readers of the July issue of the LINK will no doubt be attracted by this appearance of a new species of Yank.

But we of the 100th Infantry Battalion and Americans of Japanese ancestry who have been reared and educated in Hawaii react differently when we are called "Japs" or modifications thereof. "Japyank" in print presents an extremely unpleasant sight to our eyes, produces disagreeable vibrations in our ears, and certainly creates a pugnacious temperament within us. I dare not say what would have happened to the writer if the word had been used in the midst of the 100th Infantry Battalion men. In the light of previous unpleasant situations experienced by those who called our men "Japs," I am convinced that "Japyanks" would have been equal cause for like treatment.

Apparently those natives of Hawaii really understand what it is to be called a "Jap." In our thinking "Jap" is affiliated with Japan and her dishonorable methods, exemplified by the sneak and treachery of the Pearl Harbor attack, which is fundamentally responsible for the undemocratic treatment received subsequently by Americans of Japanese ancestry and their parents, especially those on the mainland. So long as we associate ourselves in any way with the word "Jap" or "Japyank," we signify resignation to and acceptance of our present position, and the American public cannot help but believe that we foster sympathy to Japan and still think along similar lines with her people whose ideals and principles are entirely different from ours.

The dramatic use of a title such as "Japyank" for its effect may serve a purpose in attracting the public consciousness to our existence, but it is also detrimental in that it creates misunderstanding, confusion, and ill-feeling, and jeopardizes our status as 100 per cent American citizens. Within our "Nisei" realm, also, its violent reactions among those of us from Hawaii is proof of the fact that it should not have been further disseminated to the general public, and least of all to the Armed Forces of our country. We "Nisei" cannot afford to quarrel with our neighbors, and especially not among ourselves. We must iron out our difficulties and keep working together toward tolerance and understanding in spite of strong opposition from certain individuals and organizations. We have a great task before us, that of winning the war so that we and our children may live in honor

and enjoy and cherish the constitutional rights and privileges which those of War Relocation centers are temporarily deprived of. To achieve that goal, we must unite and cooperate and strive together for the good of all of us. This war has brought the "Nisei" soldiers from Hawaii closer to those of the mainland, and, on a larger scale, those of all minority races have been welded into an integral American military force. All causes for drifts away from such amalgamation must be avoided wherever possible.

The fact that we and our parents were ostracized and became the "scapegoats of World War II," like the Americans of German descent and their parents during World War I, does not warrant our sitting back and looking at life with defeatism and disillusionment. Rather, we must fight with greater determination and redoubled effort to help bring this world conflict to a successful termination. Whether we contribute directly in this effort by joining the Armed Forces, or indirectly by purchasing more than our required share of war bonds, by donating to the Red Cross blood bank, or by doing volunteer work for United Service Organizations, does not matter, so long as we are doing everything in our power to help win the war in as short a time as possible and with the minimum loss of lives. Let us unite in spirit and morale with renewed faith and greater confidence in ourselves as well as in the American people, and work toward this end, and the further ends of full equality of opportunity and a fair and just treatment after the war.

Sincerely yours,  
Shigeru Tsubota,  
1st Lieutenant, Infantry  
Moore General Hospital  
Swannanoa, N. C.

## CALLING All Chapters!

By Hito Okada

### BULLETINS 16-17-18

Bulletin 16 is now going out in the mails to our general membership. It is a report from our own Cpl. Mike Masaoka of what our boys going over there are thinking, what lies before them and their hopes for those on the home front. Bulletin 17 is not a general bulletin, but members who write in for it will be mailed a copy. It is the written opinion of Judge T. Blake Kennedy in regards to the conviction of the 63 evacuees who failed to report for induction. Bulletin 18 is not a general bulletin either, but covers information in regards to the National JACL Credit Union. It is in question and answer form, and its purpose is to answer the many questions that have come to National Headquarters in regards to the Credit Union. This bulletin is being mailed to Credit Union members and also will be included in mail going out from Headquarters to JACL members eligible for membership in the Credit Union.

### CONTRIBUTIONS

We wish to acknowledge the following contributions from our members and friends: Mr. George Sakai \$25.00, Topaz; Schiziro Tsujimoto \$10.00, Magna, Utah; Mrs. Clara W. Wilson \$5.00, Newport Beach, California; Kimi Kasai 50c, Chicago; Jack Y. Nakagawa \$2.00, Chicago; Sanny Kaneko \$2.00, Hunt, Idaho; Helen Toyota \$10.00, Salt Lake City; D. T. Uchida \$10.00, Philadelphia; Noboru Arimura \$1.50, Chicago; A. D. Bonus \$2.00, Seattle; and Geo. Dekuzaku \$5.00, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

### CIVIL LIBERTIES

October seems to be a long ways off, but last week we commenced writing substantial checks in preparation for our participation in the Endo and Korematsu cases which will be heard at the fall session of the Supreme Court of the United States. Research in the preparation of the JACL brief and the printing of the brief calls for

## From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

### Major Parties Bid for Important Negro Vote

One of the spectacles to watch between now and the national election in November will be the bids of both Republicans and Democrats for the Negro vote. While many of the nation's 13 million Negroes are denied the ballot by the Deep South's poll tax laws, the Negroes have large voting blocs which can be the decisive margin in close contests in New York, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and other states.

The Republicans have been the first to bid. The Republican

party platform, which Gov. Thomas Dewey studiously avoided in his speech accepting the party's nomination for president, pledged to end the poll tax by constitutional amendment; to enact an anti-lynching law; to curb racial discrimination in the armed forces; to put the fair employment practices committee on a permanent basis. In addition the Republicans denounced all forms of discrimination because of race or religion.

These points should be of special embarrassment to the Democrats, for, as Wendell Willkie has pointed out, President Roosevelt's party has courted the Negro vote in Harlem while overlooking the solid alignment of southern Democrats against anything resembling a square deal for the Negroes.

This display of partisan politics to woo the support of a racial bloc is an unfortunate demonstration of one facet of the American political picture.

Ideally, there should be no bloc voting by any racial group. Yet the Negroes have been driven into using this weapon as a means of self defense. They can, and do get attention for their problems because of their voting strength.

In this case the cold figures of Negro voting strength is a realistic reminder to politicians of vital domestic issues. Fortunately the voting strength is large enough and attractive enough to make the politicians recognize and state their stands on issues which they otherwise might be happier to ignore.

President and Mrs. Roosevelt's attitude toward the minorities, despite the opposition of the southern Democrats, has won them considerable support from these groups. It will be of special interest to see how the Democrats will settle a family problem. An indication of the fireworks ahead in this strictly intramural controversy is seen in threats of southern Democrats to bolt the party, or at least stage a vigorous rebellion, against the liberal Roosevelt leadership.

The fact that practical political considerations are required to face critical domestic issues should be warning to some of our leaders whose heads are in the clouds of internationalism. For it is going to be mighty difficult to remain at such a lofty plane unless there is firm footing through realistic recognition of home front problems.

There can be no validity in trying to apply the principles of the Four Freedoms, or even the modified successors to the Four Freedoms, to the peoples of the world unless we can give a practical demonstration of their value—and workability—right here at home.

The Negroes have the voting power to remind the politicians of these facts. The Japanese Americans have neither the votes nor the spokesmen to demand attention for their special needs. But essentially, their problems are similar for they both require economic and social opportunity and an end to racial prejudice, all of which might be summed up in the words "an American square deal."

This need not mean that the Japanese American is helpless against his political tormentors. True, a large part of his fight is dependent upon the integrity of government leaders — and there have been many of them—but an even greater part of the fight is in the Nisei's ability to demonstrate his worth.

The military record of the Nisei is not going unnoticed. Less spectacular, but effective is the relocated Japanese American who is making new friends and demonstrating to all that he is American.

These individual Nisei can do more for public recognition of the problem than a newspaper or a columnist. In the final analysis gadflies can be irritating, but irritation in itself is not the best way to get action.

## EDITORIAL DIGEST

### On Draft Evaders

#### HT. MOUNTAIN SENTINEL

Conviction of 63 Heart Mountain youths to three-year terms for refusing to comply with Selective Service regulations brought editorial comment last week from several papers, including the Sentinel, newspaper published by the home center of the convicted men.

The Fair Play committee of Heart Mountain, which backed the 63 men, came in for strong editorial censure from the Sentinel, which said: "Certainly members of the Fair Play Committee deserve penitentiary sentences even more than many of the unwitting members of the groups who were sentenced by the court."

The Sentinel deplored the uselessness of the lives of these men for the next years and said: "Had any of the 63 held the interest of all Japanese Americans at heart they would have offered themselves, as have more than 400 other Heart Mountain youths now in the army, and relied upon proper authorities to determine their positions. Both the Korematsu and Endo cases now before the Supreme Court will determine the legality of evacuation, but in the meantime every person of Japanese ancestry carries a personal burden of which he must at all times be conscious."

#### CHEYENNE EAGLE

The Cheyenne (Wyo.) Eagle, commenting on the same case, declared the decision a "service to the public and to the defendants themselves."

"The 63 refused to report," the Eagle declared, "on the grounds that their citizenship rights had been violated by their summary expulsion from the coast and removal to confined areas far inland. They would not report, they said, until their citizenship status was clarified."

"That there were grounds for complaint that rights of American citizens may have been infringed seems probable. That they had the sympathy of large numbers of other American citizens is true. . . . It was when these 63 Japanese Americans allowed the question of their civil rights to become entangled with the entirely new and separate question of their right and duty to serve in the armed forces alongside other American citizens that the confused thinking entered in, clouding the whole picture."

"And it was this question which Judge Kennedy's opinion so fully clarified. He pointed out that the clearing up of their citizenship was accomplished effectively by orders which they refused to obey."

an expenditure of close to \$1,000. Legal retainers, traveling expenses, and miscellaneous expenses put us well on the way to expending a sum of money that will put a dent in the JACL treasury.

Our present financial situation makes it difficult to participate in these cases. However, realizing the importance of these cases, and with no other Nisei organization offering or coming to the fore to carry the burden, we have decided to enter the cases as a "Friend of Courts." A further crimp in the JACL treasury is expected as we place our support on the "Injunction" cases for the right to return to the Pacific Coast.

#### BUCK-A-MONTH-CLUB

Nice to hear from Henry Tani out in St. Louis, especially when he enclosed that buck to start him on the way as a new member in the Buck-a-Month Club. Henry is our 75th member and thanks to him, I had to start a new page in listing our members in the BAM Club.

## Ann Nisei's Column

### A Nisei Veteran Says—Write to Servicemen

Mail call comes even for the boys in foxholes at the farthest points of our army's penetration, according to Pfc. Thomas Higa, veteran of the Italian campaign, who spoke in Salt Lake City this week.

Pfc. Higa reiterated the fact that the one thing the boys over there want is a letter from home. During his talk he opened his wallet and showed his audience a letter written him by his mother, a letter which he carried all through the fighting in Italy.

Here is one point the Nisei veteran brought up that should prove of interest and helpful, as well. The boys in foxholes do not carry stationery. Therefore he suggested that in writing to boys overseas, you occasionally send an airmail letter, enclosing a return envelope and a couple sheets of airmail stationery.

We cannot write too many letters to our friends and relatives overseas. We suggest you send one airmail letter for every two or three V-mail letters, enclosing stationery for a return letter. The government, of course, encourages the sending of V-mail to speed up postal service and save cargo space. But it's a good idea occasionally to send a personal letter, written or typed by your own hand.

And Higa, who carried his mother's letter through weeks of the bitterest campaign of all, declared that the person from whom a soldier wants most to hear is his mother. So tell your mother that, if you have a brother in service. And tell her, too, that letters need not be written in English, if language difficulties have deterred her letter writing.

Pfc. Higa also suggested that in sending food packages to men in service, it's a good idea to send a box of small candies or cookies—to allow for the inevitable "passing around" of packages from home. There should be enough small candies or cookies, he said, to feed 50 fellows!

\* \* \*

### Don't Believe Wartime Rumors

One extremely distressing point was brought out by this Nisei soldier during the course of his talk. That was on the subject of wartime rumors concerning the alleged death or wounding of persons in the army.

Higa himself had received two letters concerning the "death" of a fellow serviceman. One of the letters was from the "widow" of the soldier, who declared that though the War Department had apparently been too busy to notify her of her husband's death, she knew he had died bravely, and she asked Higa to send her further details of his death.

Higa himself turned over both these letters to his friend, who, far from being a war casualty, was very much alive and very healthy.

We note in this connection that this week two center newspapers carried denials of two like rumors, one concerning the "death" of a Nisei lieutenant, who, it was rumored, had died when his ship sank in the Atlantic. This Nisei lieutenant is at the present moment in England.

The second story concerned the purported slaying of a Nisei soldier in Sanger, a story investigated by officials and found to be absolutely without foundation.

Rumors of this type are despicable. They originate sometimes from carelessness, and again from deliberate maliciousness.

We urge you to stop immediately such rumors when they are passed on to you. And should you be informed by well-meaning friends that your husband or brother has been killed in action, discount such stories.

Unless you are informed by the War Department, do not believe any stories concerning the alleged death of your husband, or your brother, or any relative.

The War Department does not allow the publication of casualties until the next-of-kin has been notified. Strange telephone calls, anonymous letters or rumors of any type should be discounted as false.

## Joe Grant Masaoka's Column: Issei Residents Show Pride In Financial Integrity

Throughout parts of the West, especially in the smaller communities, the local population has a high regard for the honesty of their residents of Japanese ancestry. In these small towns, a person with Japanese features has the hallmark of integrity. Over the years the older Japanese residents have preserved the reputation of always paying up their bills with the storekeepers. No matter how poor crops and prices might be during the year, the town business people have pridefully stated that their "Japanese" customers would always pay up their accounts before New Year's because of a tradition of starting and keeping up a debt-free year.

One manager of a chain department store related how he would always cash the check of any person of Japanese ancestry. In 15 years of his experience, he said, only one check ever bounced. That was when a young Nisei confidence man from Southern California came through this area victimizing the local tradespeople by capitalizing on the splendid reputation of the home town Japanese. Warning of the presence of this shyster came from "local Japanese" he said.

Local Nisei are quite jealous about keeping up this community regard and go to extraordinary lengths. In one eastern Idaho town, one of the Nisei leaders was approached by the chairman of the bond drive committee. "Listen," the chairman, "our town has always gone well over the quota but this year it's going to be difficult. So many of our young people have been called into the services or have moved into the defense cities that we're hard put to it. Will you give us a hand?"

"Sure," said the Nisei, "be glad to."

"Well, you know I understand that among your group the top heaviest donors or buyers should head the list that others might be guided into giving their utmost. How about you starting the list?"

"I've always come through with every drive. Now with all my money in crops, I can only buy \$100 worth."

"Our bank president," replied the bond drive chairman, "is on our committee. Suppose you go see him about details on the solicitation."

When the Nisei went to see the banker he had made a mental note

to raise his ante to \$200. The bank official confided that "the situation this year is critical. How about going to the bottom of the barrel and giving us a lift? Charley told me you were going to do your share in aiding us. How much will you start the list with?"

The Nisei vouchsafed, "Well, you know the condition of my account as well as myself—it's all been put in the ground. I'll go \$200 worth of bonds."

The banker came back with an astounding idea to the Nisei: "Tell you what I'll do. We'll loan you \$5,000 with which to buy bonds at 6 per cent. You can pay interest when harvest comes. That way the bonds will only be costing you 2 2/3 per cent interest per year. Your example will pull up the rest of the bond purchases. Okay."

The Nisei agreed, not knowing whether to be crest-fallen or elated.

In other areas where the influx of evacuees has tended to sharpen race tensions, fair-minded Caucasians have taken up the cause of justice. In Ontario, Oregon, Lee Cables, owner and operator of Cables garage, is the champion of fair treatment for Nisei.

A medically discharged veteran of World War I, he knows what it means to face hardship, privation and bad breaks. He had homesteaded in Wyoming with his wife, totally unaccustomed to the rigors of a frontier life. Perhaps, because of this background, both Mr. and Mrs. Cables can sympathize with those who face a bleak world. When none of the townspeople would hire Nisei, Lee Cables took them on in his garage as mechanics.

To those of his clients who protested, he pointed out that there were other garages in town. But he continued to retain the bulk of the patronage in the town.

It's reported that in a nearby town when a high army official's car was stalled, he was directed to Cable's garage but was warned that "Japs" worked there. Said the army officer who was anxious to get on: "I don't care who fixes my car—just so it'll keep running. Hell, man, we've got a war to win overseas."

It might well be an excellent idea if some of the fury expended against the Japanese Americans here at home could be transported yonder for its proper use and place against the enemies of democracy.

### Nisei in Uniform

## Letters From Servicemen

### Letter from England

Dr. Norman Kobayashi, now in England, writes of his newly stationed locality:

"Greetings from 'somewhere in England.' Not long after our last visit to the centers, I shipped overseas with a field hospital unit. My work will be more along the lines I'm used to. At least, there'll be less walking! Those were rugged days I spent with the boys in Shelby."

"We are still billeted in a lovely suburban English village among kind-hearted friendly people. Homes and countryside are beautiful after the manner of Beverly Hills; and the tiny, quaint, and tidy village shops surpass the dreams of a Hollywood producer. Streets are teeming with bicycles; and here and there are tiny Austins. Pubs are like informal home-ly cocktail lounges where the chief 'lubricant' is the rather dark, unenthusiastic British ale."

Lt. Kobayashi, whose family is in Rohwer, served as head doctor in both the Rohwer and Santa Anita Center Hospitals prior to receiving his commission.

### From the Far East

S/Sgt. Henry Kimura writes: "Where I am now is somewhere in the jungle of C-BI, and so far, everything is going fine. Still in one piece and doing my best."

Kimura, who came to the mainland with the 100th, transferred from Camp McCoy to Camp Savage. He went over-seas last year.

### Down Under

S/Sgt. Frank Imon, formerly a newspaperman in Los Angeles, pens: "Yep, I finally got where it's warm. Now I wish I was back in the Aleutians where life, though a trifle colder, was more informal."

"I won't even make an attempt to write about Australia as I'm sure others have mentioned all of customs, habits, etc. I'll just say that being in a foreign land for the first time is novel and after four months, am still amused at many things."

"P. S.—If you see Sam Fujimura around, tell that guy to write to me. And, oh yeah . . . Tanakatsubo is here, too."

A hurried note from his home in Webster Groves, Missouri, arrived from Chaplain George Aki: "Am on my way back from Annual Conference of Congregational Churches at Grand Rapids, Michigan. Received telegram from Camp Shelby to go to Fort McClellan, Alabama for temporary duty."

### Query

T/4 Mike Hara asks via-mail: "Would you be so kind as to give me some information? I should be grateful if you could tell me the new addresses of the following persons: Mary Yamada, Mrs. Miyasaki, Mrs. Mochizuki, Mrs. Sugiyama and Dr. Kuwahara."

(Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the above-named persons who formerly resided in Denison, please write directly to Sgt.

## TIMELY TOPICS

By SABURO KIDO

### Pfc. Higa Talks To Issei Parents

The other night we had the good fortune to hear PFC Thomas Higa, who was a member of the famous 100th Infantry Battalion until he was wounded and sent back to this country. It was a meeting scheduled on very short notice; therefore there was little opportunity of sponsoring a large gathering. Since he spoke in the Japanese language, his talk would have been most helpful for the parents of the Nisei soldiers now serving overseas.

PFC Higa answered the various questions which have been uppermost in the minds of the relatives and friends of the soldiers: how the soldiers receive mail from home; what the soldier boys want; their reactions to various things they see and experience; the relationship with other soldiers, and so forth.

All those who heard him enjoyed his humor as well as his narration of his personal experiences. He certainly made everyone shed tears when he told about the importance the soldiers attach to letters from home, especially from their mothers. We wish more friends and relatives of Nisei soldiers particularly the Issei parents, could hear PFC Higa. They have very little source for first hand information. Consequently, they are constantly worrying over the welfare of their beloved sons. A speaker like PFC Higa who has been in actual combat would be an excellent morale builder in the relocation centers as well as in the free zone.

A lecture tour by him would be welcomed by all the parents, because they want to learn about the life that their sons are experiencing on foreign soil, fighting for the land of their birth. We hope the War Department will permit the scheduling of a series of talks by Higa in the free zone as well as in the relocation centers.

\* \* \*

### Week Brings Two New Developments

Two important developments took place this week which should receive the special attention of all persons of Japanese parentage and their friends. One is the signing of a bill which would permit any citizen under war conditions to renounce his American citizenship. The other is the filing of an injunction suit to test the present validity of the exclusion orders on the grounds that military necessity no longer exists.

The amendment to Section 401 of the Nationality Act of 1940 provides that a citizen may forfeit his citizenship by "making in the United States a formal renuncia-

M. Hara, 30103892, Btry. C, 522nd F. A. Bn., APO 464, c/o P. M., N. Y. C., N. Y.)

He continues: "Italy is rich in natural beauty with many farmlands, but poor in the necessities and luxuries of life. Kids are pitiful, many begging for anything we can spare and digging in the garbage."

\* \* \*

Sgt. Nao Fuse writes from the Station Hospital in Camp Shelby: "Can you beat it. I am in the hospital again. Yes, I have been in the General Hospital at Jackson for quite a while on a broken back. That's why I was transferred from my outfit. And now I am in here for it again. I only hope I can get out of here soon and pray to go back to the good ole' 442nd."

\* \* \*

An informal close-up on Yoshinao Omiya, blind 100th Infantryman, is given through an excerpt of a letter from Terry Yeya, recently relocated to Philadelphia. "Last night I met and talked with Yoshinao Omiya at the International Institute. It was thrilling to shake his hands and to chat with him . . . about almost anything. He wore a lei made of white and red roses."

"At the beginning of the evening he was asked to say a few words, and really, his modesty is surprising. He also sang a number for us . . . Aloha Oe. Even though he's blind, he danced with us, too. I never saw anyone bubbling so with humor and jollity."

tion of nationality in such form as may be prescribed by, and before such officers as may be designated by the Attorney General, whenever the United States shall be in a state of war and the Attorney General shall approve such renunciation as not contrary to the interests of national defense."

Considerable pressure was exerted by the Pacific Coast and Southern Congressmen to make this act apply to the citizens who had answered "no" to the loyalty question (No. 28) of the now famous questionnaire of the WRA. But Attorney General Biddle questioned the validity of such a law and prevailed upon Congress to make expatriation a voluntary act under procedures to be prescribed after the passage of the act. This means that those at Tule Lake will have the opportunity of formally renouncing their American citizenship if they so desire. Otherwise, they will retain their American citizenship even though they may remain at Tule Lake for the duration of the war.

The Attorney General stated to the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization that from 300 to 1000 Nisei citizens would be involved. The language of the bill is broad, but there is no doubt that the original intention and primary objective of this new amendment is to permit Nisei citizens to renounce their American citizenship.

There are about 18,000 persons at Tule Lake today. About 10,000 have expressed their desire to go to Japan. Undoubtedly this number includes citizens who desire to renounce their American citizenship. This means that about 8,000 do not want to go to Japan. What should be done with the residents of Tule Lake is the new headache for the WRA officials in Washington, D. C. It stands to reason that it is not fair to either group to keep them together.

Those who renounce their citizenship and intend to go to Japan will be classified as "enemy aliens" according to the Attorney General.

To confine those who intend to retain their citizenship and remain in this country with those who intend to go to Japan will create a contradictory environment and lead to friction. Another segregation seems to be unavoidable under the circumstances. The WRA has the responsibility of guiding the 8,000 to regain their confidence in America so that they will be able to return to normal life once more as citizens of this country. And this task cannot be carried out under the present set up.

As to the filing of the injunction suit, the JACL and the American Civil Liberties Union have been studying this problem since June of last year. The purpose of the action is to have the courts decide whether military necessity, which would warrant the continuation of the exclusion from the Pacific Coast, still prevails or not. The complainants are all loyal citizens, but the outcome will affect everyone, since under normal conditions the military would not have jurisdiction over civilians.

It should be called to the attention of every Nisei that the American Civil Liberties Union is paying for all the expenses of the Korematsu case and the new injunction case. Also Attorney James C. Purcell and the ACLU are assuming the expenses for the Endo case. In other words, although all these cases affect the rights of Nisei as citizens, no financial support is being given.

Sometimes I question the sincerity of some Nisei who cry about the infringement of their constitutional rights. They sulk and feel bitter but do nothing to fight against the encroachment. They expect all rights to come to them on a silver platter. It is possible that they have not earned their living the hard way because their parents looked after them. In the same way, they may be looking to their Caucasian friends to do everything for them.

It is time for all Nisei, both in the relocation centers and the free zone, to wake up to the realization that they must fight for their rights. Test cases cannot be carried on without financial help. At least one would expect some response from the Nisei if they sincerely prize their rights. We would like to see the American Civil Liberties Union receive ample contributions from the Nisei to carry on the court cases.

# Resolutions on Nisei Passed By Congregational Conference

DENVER, Colo. — Delegates from the biennial general assembly of the Congregational Christian Churches at Grand Rapids, Mich., returned to Denver this week and reported that the assembly had passed a series of resolutions on Americans of Japanese ancestry.

The Rev. Leon C. Grubaugh, superintendent of the Colorado Congregational conference, said the assembly expressed its willingness "to give cordial support to policies looking toward restoration of constitutional liberties to the Japanese evacuees as may be deemed consonant with national security and with the civil rights and liberties in which we believe."

The assembly also praised the War Relocation Authority and the Farm Security Administration for efforts in assisting the Nisei to resume their normal lives.

Another resolution condemned "racial discrimination and racial

and religious intolerance."

The national assembly also expressed its approval of the army's resumption of selective service for Nisei and the granting of permits for visits to the west coast area by Nisei servicemen on furlough.

The assembly which 1,700 delegates from all sections of the United States attended, expressed opposition to the proposal to deport law-abiding persons of any nationality, whether citizens or aliens, except as they may be found by legal process to be hostile to the United States, or as they themselves may desire deportation.

The assembly assured President Roosevelt and government agencies "of the readiness of our constituents to give cordial support to such policies looking toward restoration of constitutional rights and liberties to the Japanese evacuees as may be deemed consonant with national security."

## California County Supervisors Urge Deportation of Nisei

### "Racial Differences" Stressed In Resolution At Annual Meeting

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The County Supervisors Association of California went on record at their annual meeting which ended on June 30 as favoring the encouragement of persons of Japanese ancestry, irrespective of birth or citizenship, to "return" to Japan.

The resolution, adopted unanimously by the county officials declared:

"Whereas, the present war with the Japanese nation has further widened the gap between the white race and the Japanese race, and

"Whereas, it is apparent that because of the wide difference between the two races, in so many respects, that the Japanese in this nation can never be assimilated and will always remain a people separate and apart from the white race, now therefore be it

"Resolved, That: We feel that the people of the Japanese race, irrespective of birth of citizenship, should be encouraged to return to the land of their forefathers and to work their destiny with others of like race, and be it further

"Resolved, that: We believe it to be for the best interest of California that no person ineligible to citizenship under the laws of the United States of America should be permitted to own, lease or manage land in this state, or have any interest or share in any firm, or corporation who owns, operates, leases or controls any land in this state."

### Camp Shelby Nisei Spend Week-end At Rohwer Center

CAMP SHELBY, Miss.—Forty-five Nisei soldiers from the 1st Battalion of the 442nd Combat Team returned to Camp Shelby on June 26 after spending a week-end at the Rohwer relocation center in Arkansas.

The Rohwer USO played a major part in the entertainment of the visiting servicemen with dances, informal socials and games.

The group was under the direction of Lieut. John L. Slade.

"The presence of the girls with their friendly smiles and generous hospitality was the major factor contributing to a successful week-end," a Camp Shelby soldier declared.

### Wounded Veterans To Appear at War Loan Dance

Twelve Japanese American heroes of the Italian campaign now recuperating from war wounds at Bushnell General hospital in Brigham City will be guests of honor at the Nisei Victory Ball to be held this Friday evening, July 14, at the Coconut Grove ballroom in Salt Lake City.

A reception and dinner will be held for the Nisei war veterans before the dance.

Arthur Gaeth, national news commentator, will be master of ceremonies.

Admission price will be \$1.25 per person. Tickets are being sold this week at all Japanese business houses in Salt Lake City.

### Nisei Attend Student Meet In Colorado

DENVER, Colo. — Japanese Americans from Topaz, Manzanar, Minidoka, Amache and from outside the centers attended the annual Intercollegiate Student Faculty conference sponsored by the Student Christian movement of the Rocky Mountain region at Estes Park June 22 to July 1.

Among the features was a seminar on "Evacuation, Center Life, Relocation, and the Part of Colleges in Relocation."

### Methodists Meet In Denver For Conference

DENVER — Approximately 30 Methodist ministers were scheduled to meet in Denver July 6 to 9 for a conference to be held at the California St. Community church.

Bishop Wilbur E. Hammaker was to preside at the conference. Hosts were the staff of the Community church, Rev. M. J. Fujimori, pastor; Rev. N. Yasaki, assistant pastor; Rev. Uemura, Issei pastor; and Dr. J. B. Martin, director of religious education.

### Win Scholastic Honors in Chicago

CHICAGO — Of 296 graduates from Sullivan High school in Rogers Park, Chicago, Ume Kobukata and Teru Uyeda were second and fourth in class standing.

Announcement of their high scholastic attainments at the commencement exercises was received by the audience with spontaneous and hearty applause.

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Salt Lake City

## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. H. Nozawa (2-10-A, Rohwer) a boy on June 29.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Morishige (3-10-C, Rohwer) a boy on June 29.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshikazu Furukawa (12-8-C, Hunt) a boy on June 12.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Tsuchiya (12-1-C, Hunt) a boy on June 14.

To Mr. and Mrs. Toshiichi Uno (24-2-D, Hunt) a girl on June 18.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Iwakiri (7-12-D, Hunt) a boy on June 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nishimoto (25-5-A, B, Rohwer) a boy on June 12.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yamamoto (20-10-D, Rohwer) a girl on June 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura (12-8-A, Rohwer) a boy on June 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Agano, (25-6-A, Rohwer) a boy on June 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kameyoshi Michiuye (5214-F, Tule Lake) a girl on June 19.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shoji Matsui (7715-E, Tule Lake) a boy on June 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kazuo Kushida (3313-C, Tule Lake) a girl on June 21.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masaru Hata (5714-E, Tule Lake) a girl on June 23.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kiyomi Yokoyama (905-C, Tule Lake) a girl on June 23.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Kawata (3402-C, Tule Lake) a girl on June 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hozumi Takaki (4316-B, Tule Lake) a boy on June 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shizuo Kai (503-B, Tule Lake) a boy on June 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hidenori Asano (8303-F, Tule Lake) a girl on June 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hisao Ikegame (7505-F, Tule Lake) a girl on June 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. T. Sato (6G-12C, Granada) a boy on June 26.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kikujiro Okuyama (27-1-3, Topaz) a girl on June 23.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Morishita (26-5-CD, Topaz) a girl on June 26.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kiyoshi Uchida (4-4-D, Topaz) a girl on June 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nagano (16-4-A, Topaz) a boy on June 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Katsuo Tanabe (26-6-F, Topaz) a girl on June 28.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshitake Morita (22-10-EF, Topaz) a girl on June 29.

To Mr. and Mrs. Koyanagi (37-7-A, Topaz) a boy on June 29.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Kataura (12-6-C, Heart Mountain) a boy on June 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Z. Niizawa (11E-8B, Granada) a girl on June 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. James Kondo (27-5-D, Heart Mountain) a boy on June 26.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Imai (17-13-A, Heart Mountain) a girl on June 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Fujii (24-5-C, Heart Mountain) a girl on June 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bert Murakami (28-10-D, Heart Mountain) a girl on June 29.

To Mr. and Mrs. Peter T. Akahoshi a girl, Patricia Ellen, on June 19 in Cleveland, Ohio.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshikazu Takashi a boy on June 13 in Salt Lake City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Teshima a son on June 2 in Salt Lake City.

To Sgt. and Mrs. Joseph H. Kamitsuka of Tyler, Texas, a boy, Rodney Yoshio, on May 29.

### DEATHS

Minekichi Nishio, 62, (11H-8F, Granada) on June 22.

Michael Kanaya, 10 months (19-10-D, Hunt) on June 12.

Kaiji Ikeya, 44, (4-1-A, Hunt) on June 8.

Takekichi Kawamoto, 65, (1-4-B, Hunt) on June 14.

Mitsue Nishimoto, 59, (4-9-C, Hunt) on June 18.

Ichiro Iwai, 67, (28-7-B, Hunt) on June 23.

Kunimatsu Kozawa, 66, (7-3-D, Rohwer) on June 23.

Shigeyoshi Takaki, 44, (6-6-AB, Heart Mountain) on June 25.

### MARRIAGES

Misao Akamichi to Takamori Amemiya on June 12 at Tule Lake.

## Newspapers Check Politician's Charge of Nisei Coddling

### SENATOR THOMAS TO INDUCT NEW TOPAZ COUNCIL

TOPAZ, Utah—Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah will be in Topaz July 25 to induct the fourth term councilmen to office, the Topaz Times reported recently.

Senator Thomas is expected to address the councilmen as well as the center residents.

The induction ceremonies will be preceded by a banquet to honor incoming and outgoing councilmen.

### 400 Evacuee Workers May Leave Idaho

#### Lack of Work Said Main Reason for Proposed Departure

TWIN FALLS, Idaho—For lack of available work in southern Idaho, 400 volunteer Japanese American farm workers at the War Food Administration migratory labor camps at Twin Falls, Rupert and Burley will leave the state by next week and will return to war relocation camps, it was reported here.

Ernest Palmer, head of the WRA office at Twin Falls, said that anticipated contracts with Utah canneries have failed to materialize.

The departure of the workers will leave only 100 Japanese American evacuees at the Twin Falls camp, 50 at Rupert and even less at Burley. Palmer stated that many of the men leaving would like to remain in the area and work but others are returning at their own request.

Most of the workers at Twin Falls were recruited at the war relocation camp at Poston, Ariz.

A recent attack by a gang of white teen-age youths upon a group of evacuees in Twin Falls was taken by some workers at the camps as reflecting community antagonisms, although community leaders in the Twin Falls area have promised complete protection to the workers.

### Denver Nisei Hurt In Freak Accident

DENVER—Albert S. Uji, 26, of Denver was injured in a freak accident when the boom of a towing crane on a truck attempting to move a stalled car snapped, crashed through the windshield of the machine and pinned Uji behind the wheel.

Teruko Uyeda to Ichiro Hiramida on June 17 at Tule Lake.

Grace Kuwamoto to Frank Oshima on June 17 at Tule Lake.

Sumako Doi to Kiyoshi Takano on June 17 at Tule Lake.

Michi Hoshino to Shigeru Shimazu on June 17 at Tule Lake.

Gloria Doi to Den Oshita at Tule Lake.

Mary Hori to Minoru Nakamura at Minidoka.

Kazuko Hata to Masayuki Honda on June 27 in Billings, Mont.

Aiko Kuwana to Mas Tsuruda on June 17 in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Sanae Mita to George Otsuki on June 10 in Denver, Colo.

Tomoi Noda, Ault, Colo., to Moritaka Nagano on June 11 in Denver, Colo.

Elsie Eruko Tsutsui, Chicago, to Cpl. Henry Muneo Hayashi on May 22 in Greeley, Colo.

Ayako Mizukami to Henry Imataka on June 25 in Denver.

### San Jose Supervisor Raises Issue Regarding Youth at Hospital

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Charges of Chairman Joseph M. McKinnon of the Santa Clara county board of supervisors that a "Jap" is living in an "apartment" at the Santa Clara county hospital "off the fat of the land" were refuted this week.

Supervisor McKinnon had also declared that the person of Japanese ancestry in question had been trained as a technician but that other members of the hospital staff "would not work with him."

Reporters of the San Jose Mercury Herald and the Palo Alto Daily Times visited the Santa Clara hospital and interviewed the object of Supervisor McKinnon's ire, an American citizen of Japanese ancestry, Tettero "Teddy" Hidaka, who was born in Santa Clara county 23 years ago.

Hidaka, who graduated from Live Oak high school at Morgan Hill, was sent to the county hospital in April, 1941, for treatment for tuberculosis. Following the outbreak of war, his parents and other members of his family were evacuated to a war relocation center but young Hidaka was unable to leave the hospital and was retained in custody there.

The Mercury Herald reported that by the end of 1942, the course of his illness had been arrested, and on March 19, 1943, the War Relocation Authority was given official notice that Hidaka had been discharged as a patient, according to hospital officials. The hospital report asked the WRA on three occasions to transfer Hidaka to a relocation camp.

The Mercury Herald and the Palo Alto Times found that Hidaka's "apartment" was a small room off the sanatorium's motion picture booth.

"It is neat and clean but has no plumbing," the Mercury Herald reported. The newspapers found also that Hidaka eats the same fare as other patients.

The newspapers reported that Hidaka was working in the hospital's laboratory but received no pay for his services. It was reported that he receives \$13.30 from the WRA every three months. The WRA, in addition, pays the Santa Clara county hospital \$3.75 per day for each of the three persons of Japanese ancestry under treatment. The per diem pay received from the WRA, according to hospital officials, is more than the county's per diem cost per patient.

As for Supervisor McKinnon's charge that other hospital employees refuse to work with Hidaka because of his ancestors, Dr. C. G. Scarborough, superintendent of the tuberculosis sanatorium, said that Hidaka has been working "without objection by employees of the hospital."

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## WRA Expects Many May Use Trial Indefinite Leaves

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Seasonal and short-term leave may not be converted to trial period indefinite leave according to revisions of the WRA leave regulations announced here.

"It is expected that residents of the relocation centers will make increasing use of trial period indefinite leave rather than short-term leave," the Washington office of WRA pointed out, "since it gives the evacuees a four to six months' period to make a permanent adjustment in a new community, and permits them to return to the center if such an attempt is unsuccessful."

"Trial period indefinite leave, however, may be issued only at the center, and evacuees out on seasonal and short-term leave will not be granted permission to

transfer to trial period indefinite leave."

Additional revisions of leave regulations at this time provide that: (1) each person 18 years of age or over, plus those who became 17 before May 17, 1944, must execute a separate Trial Period Agreement in applying for trial period indefinite leave; (2) an evacuee who is converting to indefinite leave from short-term, seasonal or trial period indefinite leave, who is otherwise eligible for a grant, and who has paid his own travel expenses to the community in which he is resettled, may be reimbursed for his actual travel expense including federal tax on his ticket; and (3) travel of evacuees on indefinite leave may now be authorized to points of relocation outside the continental limits of the United States.

## WRA Opens Newark Office For Relocation of Evacuees

NEWARK, N. J. — Appointment of Edward V. Berman, former relocation officer of the Inter-mountain area, as relocation officer in charge of the newly opened relocation office in Newark, the largest city in the industrial and agricultural state of New Jersey, has been announced by Harold S. Fistere, WRA relocation supervisor for the Middle Atlantic area.

Mr. Berman is well acquainted with the East through his former long residence in Pennsylvania and has become thoroughly familiar with relocation problems through having aided numerous evacuees to resettle in Montana, Idaho, and eastern Oregon since joining WRA nearly two years ago, Mr. Fistere said. He also pointed out that for seven months of that time, Mr. Berman had been assigned on several occasions to the Minidoka Relocation Center as a relocation counselor working in cooperation with the center's relocation program officer. Mr. Berman thereby familiarized himself with the needs and interests of both issei and nisei considering family or individual resettlement in the East.

After teaching school in Philadelphia for two years Mr. Berman shipped out as a merchant seaman from Pacific coast ports to Hawaii and the Northwest for two years. He then did labor relations work in Hawaii for four years. During that time he represented plantation workers of Japanese, Filipino, and Hawaiian ancestry in negotiating collective bargaining agreements, arbitration proceedings, and related labor matters. He received from the University of Hawaii the degrees of bachelor of science and master

of arts. Following his return to the mainland in 1938, he studied law at the University of San Francisco.

Many of the Japanese American soldiers now fighting in Italy with the 100th Infantry Battalion are friends or close relatives of friends made by Mr. Berman during his residence in Hawaii.

## Student from Hawaii Will Graduate from Chicago School

CHICAGO, Ill. — William Kuratani, son of Walter Kuratani, prominent Honolulu businessman, will receive his bachelor of science degree at Loyola Medical School this month.

Coming to the mainland for study after graduating from McKinley high, he attended the University of Southern California before evacuation. He was recently made an active member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

## Tule Lake Assailant Moved to California State Asylum

NEWELL, Calif.—Shigeo Okamoto, 40, who attacked two fellow segregees at the Tule Lake center on June 21, has been taken to a California state asylum where he will be under observation and will receive treatment, it was reported this week.

The Tule Lake police department reported that Okamoto surrendered himself to police immediately after attacking Sonosuke Suzuki, 51, and Haruji Tanabe, 56. Suzuki was reported to be suffering from a fractured skull, while Tanabe only received superficial injuries.

## Reverend Kitagawa Weds Miss Sugimoto

CHICAGO — The Reverend Daisuke Kitagawa and Miss Fujiko Sugimoto were married in Chicago on July 1 at St. Paul's Episcopal church, with Mrs. Vee Long of Defiance, Ohio, and Mr. Harry Mayeda as matron of honor and best man.

## Colorado Group Raps Proposed Anti-Alien Law

### Methodist Conference Protests Initiative On November Ballot

DENVER, Colo.—The campaign for the passage of an anti-alien property law, aimed at persons of Japanese ancestry now residing in Colorado, was sharply attacked here by the Colorado Conference of Methodist Churches at their annual session.

The Methodist conference passed a resolution which declared:

"We raise our voices in protest against the proposed alien property ownership law, and urge all our ministers and laymen to speak and work against its adoption, as un-American, un-democratic and anti-Christian. The prospect of the great State of Colorado denying ownership of property to the parents of American-born boys who are fighting for us in Italy is one to make all true Americans hide their heads in shame."

"If passed, this law will make a hollow mockery of the things we are professing to be fighting for, will make the sacrifices of our soldiers, sailors and marines useless and in vain, and will put into the hands of our Japanese enemies the sharpest weapon possible."

The resolution was passed without a dissenting vote.

## Caldwell Choir Wins Praise at Conference

CALDWELL, Idaho—The Japanese American choir of the Caldwell Methodist church won high praise last week for its performance before the 61st annual session of the Idaho conference of the Methodist church in Caldwell.

The choir sang two numbers, while Bill Wakatsuki of Nyssa, Ore., offered a solo "The Lord's Prayer," accompanied by Mrs. Tom Nishitani.

The Rev. Taro Goto, formerly of the California Street Church in Denver, who is now working among Japanese and Japanese Americans in eastern Oregon and the Boise Valley, spoke at the conference.

## 19 Aliens at Tule Arrested, Moved to Internment Camp

SAN FRANCISCO—It was announced here last week that nineteen aliens at the Tule Lake segregation center at Newell were picked up by Department of Justice authorities and moved on June 28 to alien enemy internment camps.

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## Tolerance Replaces Ill-Feeling In Brooklyn, Reports A. P.

NEW YORK—The controversy over the Brooklyn Heights hostel for Japanese American evacuees has ended. Tolerance has replaced

ill-feeling and all is quiet on Clinton street, the Associated Press reported on July 1.

The A. P. said that a patrolman, on special post covering the block, keeps an eye on the tree-shaded brick house at No. 168, but that is only a matter of police routine.

According to the news agency, occasionally a curious individual, from as far away as the Bronx, speaks hesitantly to the policeman.

"Where are the Jap prisoners?"

"There are no Jap prisoners here," the officer replies. "They are citizens."

The hostel was opened May 10 by the Church of the Brethren and the American Baptist Home Missions Society. The Rev. Ralph E. Smeltzer and his wife operate the hostel which provides temporary housing to Japanese American evacuees who come to New York City for a job and resettlement. The average number of evacuees housed at the hostel at one time is 12 and they stay on an average of eight days.

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## Judge Recommends Parole for Kawai After 90 Days

NEWELL, Calif. — Harry H. Kawai, a segregate at the Tule Lake center, was sentenced to serve one year in the Modoc county jail after striking a military guard with the broadside of a meat cleaver while intoxicated.

Judge Wylie of Alturas, in pronouncing the sentence, said that he would recommend to the parole board that Kawai be released after serving 90 days of the sentence.

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