

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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## Hundreds of Nisei in Hawaii Assisted Investigations, FBI Official Tells Congressmen

HONOLULU—Americans and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii were cleared on Jan. 16 of any suspicion of sabotage during the war by the testimony of Robert Shivers, former special agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Hawaii.

Shivers, now a collector of customs at Honolulu, told a United States congressional committee that all reports and rumors of sabotage by persons of Japanese ancestry during and after the Pearl Harbor attack were "absolutely false."

The testimony was presented during hearings by the committee on Hawaii's bid for statehood. One of the points raised by opponents to statehood has been that of the racial composition of the territory, 37 per cent of whose residents are of Japanese ancestry.

Charges that there would be a danger of control of Hawaii's politics by Americans of Japanese ancestry in the event of statehood have been presented to the committee. Other witnesses, including leading civic, business and political leaders of Hawaii, have discounted any possibility of a Japanese American bloc vote and have stressed the loyalty of the Japanese American group during the war.

Shivers told the congressmen that FBI investigations in Hawaii were aided by "hundreds of Americans of Japanese ancestry."

During his testimony, Shivers denied numerous rumors concerning the Dec. 7 attack. He labeled as false reports that downed Japanese fliers wore class rings of Honolulu high schools; that arrows were hewn in cane fields pointing to Pearl Harbor and other installations; that Japanese drivers blocked highways with their vehicles during the attack; and, that large stores of Japanese ammunition were found on the island of Hawaii.

Shivers said that three months before the attack on Pearl Harbor he told Maj. Gen. Walter Short, Hawaiian department commander at that time, that there would be no sabotage.

"Events proved this prediction entirely true," he added.

Hearings of the committee were concluded on Jan. 17 when Territorial Sen. Alice Kamokila Campbell, former Democratic national committeewoman and outspoken opponent of statehood, presented the case against Hawaii's bid to become the 49th State.

The great bulk of testimony by more than 70 witnesses strongly favored giving the rights and privileges of statehood to Hawaii.

The opposition to statehood centered its arguments chiefly on the racial problem and the contention that the people of the islands as a whole "are not ready for statehood."

Sen. Campbell told the congressmen that "the Japanese situation in the territory is a serious menace to good American government."

In the throne room of Iolani palace, before the largest crowd to attend a daytime session during the hearings, Mrs. Campbell testified that racial prejudice has existed in Hawaii for several years and has been "gaining momentum" since the end of the war.

Referring to Hawaii's population of persons of Japanese ancestry, she said "they are only in the second and third generation here" and "Shintoism still is deeply ingrained."

## Sergeant Reunited With Father on Okinawa Island

OKINAWA — Staff Sgt. Kenzo Miyashiro of Honolulu, U. S. Army interpreter, recently was reunited with his father and aunt who were found hiding in the hills on Okinawa.

Sgt. Miyashiro brought them back to their home on Itoman.

Goichi Miyashiro, a resident of Honolulu and father of the Nisei sergeant, was visiting his sister on Okinawa at the time of the outbreak of war.

## Renunciants Get Continuance of Court Action

Delay Granted As Hearings Under Way At Tule Lake Camp

SAN FRANCISCO — Because loyalty hearings are being conducted at the Tule Lake relocation center, a continuance to Feb. 11 was asked and granted in Federal court on Jan. 20 for 985 persons at the segregation camp who had renounced their American citizenship but now wish to regain it and avoid deportation to Japan.

Judge A. F. St. Sure granted the continuance asked by Wayne Collins, American Civil Liberties Union attorney representing the segregates, after Collins explained that "mitigation" hearings at Tule Lake are in progress and many are resulting in removal of deportation orders.

The petitions which were filed on Nov. 13 contended that individuals named had renounced their citizenship under strong pressure from "fanatically pro-Japanese" in the relocation camps who often administered beatings and other violence to those who opposed them. They asked habeas corpus writs to halt deportation and in separate suits for a cancellation of their citizenship renunciation.

## Tenny Introduces Resolution Against Payments to Evacuees

SACRAMENTO—State Senator Jack B. Tenny of Los Angeles, chairman of the California "Little Dies" Committee, on Jan. 15 introduced a legislative resolution in the State Senate asking that Congress compensate American civilians detained in Japanese prison camps before paying reparations to persons of Japanese ancestry who lost homes and properties as a result of the forced evacuation of 1942.

Tenny added that Secretary of Interior Ickes had said such payments were under consideration.

## Gen. Stilwell Named as Chief Of Western Defense Command

Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell is the new commanding general of the Western Defense Command, the Army announced last week.

Gen. Stilwell, who was most recently in the news when he made a special trip from Washington to Talbert, Calif., to present Staff Sgt. Kazuo Masuda's posthumous Distinguished Service Cross to his sister, Mary, will succeed Major General Henry C. Pratt who has been transferred to Washington.

Major General Frank D. Merrill of Merrill's Marauders, who was Gen. Stilwell's top aide in Burma, also has been assigned to the Western Defense Command.

In recent public statements Gen. Stilwell has proposed the formation of a "pick axe club" to protect returning veterans of Japanese ancestry from "barroom commandos" and he declared at the ceremony at the Masuda home on Dec. 8 that

## Army Will Act to Protect Nisei GIs in Philippines

### First Nisei Wins Lieutenant Colonel Rank in Army

HOUSTON, Tex. — The promotion of Robert Saibara, veteran of three major offensives in Europe, to the rank of lieutenant colonel was disclosed when Col. Saibara returned on leave recently from his post with the First Army at Fort Bragg, N. C.

He is believed to be the first Japanese American to be promoted to a rank above that of major.

In civil life Col. Saibara, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. Saibara of Webster, Texas, is a geo-physicist. He has held a reserve commission in the Army since his graduation from Texas A and M in 1931.

## Mike Masaoka Returns to Post With JACL

After 18 months of overseas duty in the European theater, Mike Masaoka returned to the national headquarters of the Japanese American Citizens League in Salt Lake City this week to resume his work as executive secretary of the JACL.

Masaoka was on leave to the armed forces from June, 1943, till his discharge on Dec. 30 at Camp Grant, Ill.

During his army service he acted as chief of the Public Relations Office of the 442nd Combat Team. Shortly after the end of the war he was awarded the Legion of Merit for meritorious service. He returned to the states on Christmas Day in New York City.

He will be temporarily in Salt Lake City. His future post will be announced following the national JACL convention in Denver on Feb. 28-March 3.

He was accompanied to Salt Lake City by his wife, the former Etsu Mineta of San Jose, California.

## Assault Attempt Denied by Evacuee

YUBA CITY, Calif.—F. Yamada, 28, pleaded not guilty to charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to commit murder in a plea entered before Superior Judge Arthur Coats in Sutter County Superior Court on Jan. 11.

The trial was set for Feb. 7. Yamada allegedly stabbed Rieheigh Miyasaki in the head and arm at a camp in the Sutter Basin several weeks ago.

## Japanese Americans Request Transfer; Misguided Civilians Threaten Acts of Violence

Morale of Nisei Soldiers Reported "Extremely Low" by Times Writer; Documented Instances of Public Insult, Humiliation Told Authorities

American soldiers of Japanese ancestry, whose services have been declared by U. S. Army authorities to be "invaluable" in the recapture of the Philippines and in the preparation of war criminal trials of enemy Japanese, this week expressed a desire to be transferred from Manila because of the "hostile attitude" of the Filipino population.

Japanese American troops employed by the War Crimes Commission in Manila held a meeting last week in which they

listed instance after instance of public insult and humiliation by Filipinos, whose hatred of persons of Japanese ancestry, the Nisei GIs contended, may be understandable but in these cases misguided.

The New York Times reported in a delayed Jan. 11 dispatch from Manila that "even Philippine Army men, who wear the same uniform as the Nisei except for a shoulder patch, and girl clerks in the United States Army post exchanges have insulted Nisei soldiers. Nisei have been jeered on streets and in restaurants and frequently threatened with violence."

"These cases, which are documented," according to the Times report, "have aroused in Nisei soldiers here a hesitancy to appear on the streets, especially at night."

"Worse than the fear of oral or even physical abuse is the Nisei's deep sense of being wronged by a people they helped liberate," the Times dispatch added.

The morale of the Nisei GIs was said to be "extremely low."

Following the meeting of the Nisei troops in Manila, most of whom are serving as interpreters and translators, their executive officer, Marine Major Harry Pratt of Los Angeles, carried the problem to Maj. Gen. Leo B. Donovan, president of the Homma war criminal trial commission, and Maj. Gen. Basilio Valdes, former chief of the Philippine Army, who is a member of the commission.

The Times said "Major Pratt's Nisei crew of about sixty officers and enlisted men has been of invaluable assistance in investigating Japanese war crimes and interpreting trial proceedings."

Generals Donovan and Valdes assured Maj. Pratt that they would take action to ameliorate what the Japanese American soldiers find to be "an almost intolerable situation."

"About all that can be done is publicizing in Manila the patriotic work on the battlefield as well as in noncombat areas, of these American soldiers," the report declared. "The Nisei, mostly from Hawaii and California, have earned the respect of troops who served with them on every battlefield of the Pacific theater. Their work went far beyond the interrogation of Japanese prisoners in the command posts. Nisei repeatedly went alone into caves and gulleys filled with armed Japanese soldiers."

The Times writer said that the Japanese American troops saved "many American lives by persuading the desperate enemy to surrender instead of fighting to the death against overwhelming forces, as happened so frequently, and always at the cost of American blood, in the fierce campaigns of the Gilberts, Marshalls, Marianas, Iwo, Okinawa and the Southwest Pacific islands."

Relating the effect of the "hostile attitude" of the Filipino population, Maj. Pratt declared:

"It has come to a point where the Nisei do not want to go out any more. They stay in their quarters because they do not want to face hostile and antagonistic feelings of some Manila

residents. It is dangerous for Nisei to walk around at night. When the men are on the streets they are on guard, and it has almost come to the point where they are carrying chips on their shoulders. Their morale is extremely low."

Another report from Manila added:

"There are many Nisei in the Army here as interpreters. They command the highest respect from their American conferees, both because of their own abilities and personalities and because of the combat record of Nisei units in Europe. But to the Filipino 'man in the street,' they are still simply 'Japs'."

One case of public insult and assault upon a Nisei soldier by a Filipino policeman was reported to the Provost Marshal, with the request, signed by three Japanese Americans, that he "find some means to eliminate this friction of misguided hatred."

The Nisei soldiers in Manila also reported that Filipinos in the United States Army show no such discriminatory attitude as do civilian Filipinos. However, there have been "unpleasant incidents" involving Philippine Army military police.

Generals Donovan and Valdes have promised to enlist the aid of the Army Public Relations Office in educating Filipinos in the part the Nisei have played in liberating the Philippine Islands and other countries.

## Demurrer Filed for Dismissal of Case Against Fukuharas

LOS ANGELES—A dismissal in State escheat proceedings filed against Takaye Fukuhara, K. Fukuhara and Kiyoshi Fukuhara of San Luis Obispo county is being sought through a legal demurrer entered by A. L. Wirin, attorney for the Fukuharas, this week in San Luis Obispo County Superior court.

In the Fukuhara case the State has sought to escheat the farm property of the Fukuharas, charging violation of the State Alien Land Law.

In his demurrer Attorney Wirin declared:

"The Court is requested to take judicial notice that the Alien Land Law has been enforced unfairly against persons of Japanese descent in that such enforcement has been the direct result of, and has immediately followed in the wake of, race-baiting and prejudice-agitating anti-Japanese groups in California."

## Nisei Participate in Cudahy Picketing

Twenty Japanese Americans, members of the CIO Packinghouse Workers, were participating this week in the picketing of the Cudahy Packing plant in North Salt Lake following the nation-wide strike called by the CIO union on Jan. 16.



## Widespread Opposition Rises Against Dominion Attempt To Deport Japanese Canadians

**Toronto Group Issues Writs, Seeking Judicial Determination of Legality of Deportation Program; Deputation Will Go to Ottawa**

WINNIPEG, Man.—Plans of the Canadian government to deport certain groups of Japanese Canadians are meeting strong and widespread opposition, the New Canadian reported on Jan. 5. Formation of a voluntary citizens' committee in Toronto has been followed by the issuance of writs against the attorney general of Canada declaring that the three orders-in-council, under which the government is carrying on its deportation program, are "invalid, illegal and beyond the powers of the governor-in-council."

The Toronto committee of citizens is sponsored by a group of leading Canadians liberals, including B. K. Sandwell, editor of the Toronto Saturday Night; J. E. Atkinson, president of the Toronto Daily Star; George V. Ferguson, editor of the Winnipeg Free Press; Prof. George Tatham, president of the Civil Liberties Association of Toronto; Mrs. W. K. Fraser of Toronto and, Andrew Brewin, noted attorney.

The writs have been issued in the names of Mrs. Yae Nasu, a naturalized Canadian and a widow with six children, and Utaka Shimoyama, a Canadian-born citizen of Japanese ancestry, and seek a court declaration that the orders are invalid to deprive them of their Canadian citizenship or secure their deportation from the country.

A deputation composed of Messrs. Brewin, Tatham, Sandwell and Col. David Croll, member of Parliament, is expected to meet Minister of Justice Louis S. St. Laurent in Ottawa and will request the latter to refer the order to the Supreme Court of Canada for a ruling as to its validity.

A separate court action along the same line as in Toronto is being contemplated by the Civil Rights Defense Committee in Winnipeg.

Meanwhile, Dr. Norman Black, president of the Consultative Council for Problems of Citizenship, announced in Vancouver that his group will support the action started in Toronto.

"We are watching the whole case with great interest and anxiety," Dr. Black declared. "Under the present regulations there will be great injustice done which we don't believe the conscience of the Canadian people will condone."

### March of Dimes Fund Will Be Used to Treat Evacuee

AUBURN, Calif.—Placer county supervisors recently were informed by Mrs. Belle Wilson, county welfare director, that the March of Dimes fund, earmarked for Placer county, will be available to treat a Loomis man of Japanese ancestry if an examination in Mercy hospital in Sacramento shows that his is not a custodial case.

Mrs. Wilson had been requested to investigate the possible use of such funds in treating the returned evacuee of Japanese ancestry. The man became ill in Colorado after being evacuated from Placer county.

The supervisors voted to permit Mrs. Wilson to "use her own judgment" relative to issuing cash or grocery orders to needy persons of Japanese ancestry returning to the county.

## WRA Office to Place Stress On Permanent Relocation

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles district office of the War Relocation Authority will place its emphasis during the remaining months on more satisfactory permanent relocation of persons now in temporary quarters in barracks and other quarters provided as an emergency measure when the movement from the centers was at its peak during the fall months, according to Rex Lee, chief of the relocation division of WRA in Washington.

It was during this period that the bulk of the 16,000 persons who have returned to Los Angeles county moved here. Approximately 2,000 are still living in temporary barracks provided through cooperative efforts of the War De-

## Some Evacuees Will Remain in Tule Lake Camp

**Justice Department Will Manage Center After February 1**

NEWELL, Calif. — Some evacuees of Japanese ancestry may remain in the Tule Lake camp of the War Relocation Authority after the WRA's closing date of Feb. 1 and responsibility for the welfare of these persons will be turned over to the Department of Justice, Project Director Ray R. Best declared on Jan. 12.

Mr. Best said that 7,300 persons are still in the Tule Lake camp but that several hundred of these are expected to leave within the next few days.

He added that it is expected that details necessary to the permanent closing of the camp cannot be completed before June 30 by the WRA.

Farm land totaling 1,200 acres used during 1945 for producing hay, vegetables and grain for the center has been returned to the Bureau of Reclamation.

All buildings, water and lighting systems will go to the bureau with the closing of the center.

No surplus commodities except food will be sold to individuals and the government will handle all machinery, equipment and other supplies through the regular surplus commodity channels.

### China Needs Peace, Nisei Officer Writes To ILWU Leader

SAN FRANCISCO — "China's millions need peace," Lieut. Koji Ariyoshi, a member of the U. S. Army's Yen'an Observer Group, declared in a recent letter to Harry Bridges, president of the ILWU.

Ariyoshi, a member of the CIO union, described some of his impressions of the Chinese Communist areas.

"Ever since the Japanese capitulation I have not felt the atmosphere of peace here in China," the Nisei officer wrote. "China's millions need peace. This is the truth, the deep impression one gets both in Kuomintang and Communist China."

"Not so long ago I visited a civil war area and witnessed hundreds of peasants and their family members spiritually crushed. Old and young cried unashamedly and trembled with anger, through shame and fear from want, as they related their stories."

## Evacuees Asked to Apply for Removal of Properties in Warehouses Before Feb. 1

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Resettled evacuees with property still in WRA warehouses must request its removal on or before February 1, 1946, according to the WRA in Washington.

Evacuees with property still in warehouses may secure it through March 15, but not at government expense after Feb. 1, it was indicated. After March 15 unclaimed property will be sold according to law and the proceeds turned over to the treasury department.

Registered letters advising of the February 1 deadline have been sent to the last address given by evacuees whose property is still in government storage. However, some persons to whom the letters were sent have made no response, and ownership of some property is uncertain. Persons who have received no notice regarding removal of their property are asked to write the WRA relocation office in the city nearest their pre-evacuation homes, identifying their stored goods and giving shipping instructions.

WRA also reported that property stored privately by evacuees will not be shipped to owners at government expense after February 1.

The agency announced also that on February 1, it will discontinue all property management services, including rental collection and sale or lease of evacuee's property. Individuals whose property is currently under WRA management, the agency added, will have until the first of February to assume responsibility.

All deadline dates are in line with WRA's announcement, made at the time the exclusion ban was lifted, that it would be necessary for evacuees to remove their property within sixty days after relocation. The authority has made adjustments to this ruling when it appeared that strict compliance with the regulation would work hardships on individual evacuees.

Only exceptions to those regulations will be cases concerning present residents of Tule Lake and persons who have relocated from that center and evacuees in temporary housing projects who are classified and individually approved by the WRA relocation supervisor as hardship cases. Tule Lake residents and former residents of Tule Lake will have until March 1 to request property shipment.

Meanwhile, in Salt Lake City, the War Relocation Authority through Ray Haight, area supervisor, announced that considerable evacuee property now held at the various relocation centers must be moved before the centers are turned over to the disposal agencies.

Some of this property, it was reported, has been held for over a year. Arrangements for shipping this property must be made immediately, said Mr. Haight.

Arrangements to ship evacuee goods from the West Coast to this area can be made until the first of February, he said, while goods from this area can be shipped to the West Coast at government expense until the end of February.

### Many Nisei Elected To Offices in Los Angeles School

LOS ANGELES — Many Nisei were elected to class offices recently during elections held at the Virgil Junior high school in Los Angeles.

Among them were Keiko Kikuchi, president, clothing class; Sally Shimizu, secretary, ceramics class; Michiko Masukawa, president, science class; Thomas Kunisaki, president, math class; Mildred Iwanaka, secretary, history class; Toshiko Hishiaki, president, math class.

Nisei appointed to school committees included Ami Oku, Michiko Masukawa, Keiko Kikuchi, Mildred Iwanaka, Toshiko Hishiaki, Ikuyo Yoneyama, Thomas Zaiman and Thomas Kunisaki.

### Fort Snelling Five Defeats Eau Claire

FORT SNELLING, Minn.—The Fort Snelling All-Stars defeated Eau Claire State Teacher's College, 49 to 46, with Johnny Okamoto scoring 17 points.

George Mizuno also played a sterling game for the all-Nisei GI team.

### New Travel Grant Procedure Reported By WRA Official

A new procedure for payment of cash grants for automobile travel to relocated evacuees returning to the evacuated area was announced this week in Salt Lake City by Ray B. Haight, area supervisor.

An applicant for cash grant for such travel must make an application on Form WRA 303, to the nearest relocation officer, who will approve the application if it is in order.

The original application will be mailed to the relocation officer on the West Coast nearest to the evacuee's destination, and the evacuee must report to this officer upon arrival.

This application will be completed when the applicant arrives at his destination and reports to the relocation officer, who will indicate on the original form the address to which the check is to be mailed. This approved application will then be forwarded to the Finance and Supply Officer, WRA, for payment, and the check covering the grant will be mailed by the Washington office to the evacuees at the address specified.

No applications will be accepted after February 28, 1946, and no payment will be made unless the application is endorsed by the West Coast relocation officer on or before March 30, indicating that the travel has been performed before that date.

### Evacuees Returning To Hawaii Meet Housing Difficulty

HONOLULU, T. H.—Evacuees of Japanese ancestry who have returned recently from mainland war relocation centers are having difficulty obtaining permanent housing, it was reported here.

Four families which were unable to locate housing were given shelter by the Army at Holiday House, an Army rest home in Honolulu.

The Army housed the evacuees free of charge and played Santa Claus to the children on Christmas day.

### GI Veterans Form Student Group at Hawaii University

HONOLULU—A student veterans' organization to be known as Gamma Iota Alpha — its initials standing for GI Association — has been formed by service discharges at the University of Hawaii to help provide its members with opportunities for livelihood and further education.

Officers are George Hagiwara, president; James Tani, vice pres.;

## Alien Fighting Deportation Is Denied Writ

**Point at Issue Is Passed On to Higher Federal Courts**

LOS ANGELES—Sannosuke Madokoro, Japanese alien fighting a deportation order, was this week denied a petition for writ of habeas corpus by Federal Judge Ben Harrison, who at the same time expressed his sympathy for Madokoro and all victims of the evacuation.

Judge Harrison, stating that he saw no reason why Madokoro should be imprisoned by the immigration department pending his appeal, set bail at \$1500. The writ was promptly paid by Madokoro.

Madokoro's petition for writ of habeas corpus was based upon his plea that his deportation hearing held at a detention center, was a denial of due process of law because of his detention and because he was unable to secure an attorney to represent him at the hearing.

In denying the writ, Judge Harrison passed this point on for decision to the higher federal courts.

In the opinion handed down by Judge Harrison, he recognized the claim of Madokoro's attorney saying that "due to the removal of all Japanese from the Pacific Coast shortly after Pearl Harbor and their detention in camps under guard and the mental confusion in the petitioner's mind by the hysteria of that period, the petitioner ceased to be a free agent and was incapable of legally waiving the advice and aid of counsel."

He added, however: "The court takes judicial notice of the hardships attended upon the evacuation of the Japanese from the West Coast but does not see wherein a hearing held during that period in a camp where the petitioner was confined precluded him from asserting of waiving any rights to which he was entitled."

Madokoro came to the United States in 1915, but entered illegally by abandoning the ship on which he was serving as a seaman. Under the immigration laws persons who entered the country prior to 1924 may not now be deported for illegal entry. Madokoro, however, in the course of operating a trucking business in Southern California, took many trips to Mexico. According to the immigration authorities, these trips prevent him from claiming the immunity from deportation which he would be entitled to, had he not left the United States.

Madokoro's attorney claims, however, that since he had a border permit to go and return from Mexico, he is not now subject to deportation.

Madokoro is represented by L. A. Wirin of Los Angeles.

Shigeru Nakata, sec.; James Moran, treas.; Daniel Yamashita, chaplain, and Tooru Arizumi, sergeant-at-arms.

## Halo Hirose May Be Ohio's Next Nisei Swimming Star

COLUMBUS, O. — Ohio State University students, who cheered themselves hoarse for four years over the aquatic antics of Keo Nakama, will get more lung exercise if Halo Hirose regains the touch that won him national swimming honors from 1938 to 1942, according to Tom Keys in the Columbus Citizen.

The swim honors were won before Hirose volunteered for the army, says Keys. Hirose won almost as many honors for his outstanding work with a Nisei division in France and Italy as he did during his swimming days at Hawaii, South America, Germany, Australia, Hungary and in the states.

Hirose, who was discharged on July 19, 1945, after three years of action, was with a machine gun platoon through some of the heaviest fighting in Italy and France. His most cherished possession is the Presidential Unit Citation badge. He won five battle stars and the combat infantry badge.

Maybe the 23-year-old Hirose was too fast for Axis bullets, but he wasn't fast enough to escape

the dreaded trench foot that hospitalized many members of his outfit, Keys says.

Hirose was paralyzed from the hips down for some time. In cold weather or during a sudden change in temperature he still feels the effects of trench foot. This led to his medical discharge in July after he spent six months in an Army hospital.

His coach, Mike Peppe, aware of Hirose's long "vacation" from competitive swimming, still calls him the newest pupil from the Island "one of the best freshman prospects I've ever had."

Peppe adds, "We don't know what he can do this year, but we know what he did before entering the service."

Hirose won the National AAU outdoor championship in the 100 yard freestyle at St. Louis in 1941. He won the same event in the Pan American games in 1939. Peppe was his coach for the latter meet.

Punnene, whose citizens are swimming ahead of football in swimming, is the home town swimmer. Both Hirose and Nakama, who learned to swim as boyhood pals



## Wirin Seeks Dismissal of Draft Cases

LOS ANGELES—A. L. Wirin, attorney for seven leaders of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee whose convictions on charges of conspiracy to evade the selective service act were upset by the Tenth District Court of Appeals on Dec. 26 at Denver, has urged Attorney General Tom Clark to dismiss the cases and "avoid the expense and hardship" of a retrial, it was reported here.

Mr. Wirin indicated he had been informed that one of the justices of the appellate court, Judge Huxman, took the view in the verdict on the appeal of the seven Heart Mountain evacuees that the prosecutions ought now to be dismissed and the cases ought not to be retried.

A majority of the Court of Appeals, in upsetting the convictions, ruled that the instructions to the jury by the trial judge, Eugene Rice, were erroneous because they failed to instruct the jury that the evacuees had a legal right to advise refusal to comply with draft board orders as a test case, in order to test the rights of persons of Japanese ancestry detained at relocation centers.

Judge Huxman went further and stated:

"In my opinion the evidence was wholly insufficient to establish a conspiracy to evade the act, or aid or abet others to do so."

Mr. Wirin quoted Judge Huxman as saying:

"I would reverse and remand the cases with directions to dismiss."

The seven Heart Mountain leaders, now serving terms of two to four years in Federal prison, are Frank Seichi Emi, Kiyoshi Okamoto, Paul Takeo Nakadate, Tsutomu Wakaye, Minoru Tamesa, Isamu Horino and F. Kubota.

## Kido Will Confer in Denver on Plans For JACL Conference

Saburo Kido, national JACL president, left on Friday of this week for Denver, where he will confer with chapter officials on the forthcoming convention of the Japanese American Citizens League, to be held in that city Feb. 28 to March 3.

Kido stated that the first post-war convention will be a work-shop convention, at which delegates will work upon the problem of bringing JACL back to its pre-war status.

During the war the JACL was operated by the national headquarters of the organization under special emergency powers granted by the national council meeting held in San Francisco in March, 1942.

The first day of the conference will be taken up by national board and committee meetings. Official delegates will then be in session from March 1 for three days.

The Denver chapter, convention host, has announced that a banquet and dance have been slated for the delegates. Convention headquarters will be at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Because of housing problems, the Denver chapter has requested member chapters to send in reservations as soon as possible.

## Joe Masaoka Will Speak on Nisei at Labor School

SAN FRANCISCO—Specific action on local problems of minority groups will be discussed at the Minorities Workshop of the California Labor School, 216 Market Street, during the term which opened on Jan. 7.

Among the lecturers at the workshop will be Joe Masaoka, regional representative of the Japanese American Citizens League.

## Col. Spencer Tells Of Trip to Japan

WASHINGTON — Lieut. Col. Robert Spencer, who recently returned from Japan where he served with the U. S. Strategic Bombing Survey, gave a talk on his experiences at an informal gathering of Washington Issei at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Take-shita.

Before the war Col. Spencer was pastor of the Fukuoka Methodist church.

## Distorted Hearst News Story About Evacuees on Relief Rolls Challenged by L. A. Officials

**Herald-Express Reported 4,000 Getting County Aid But Welfare Official Says Only 84 on Relief with Thousand Cases Reported Pending in Los Angeles**

LOS ANGELES—A story in the Los Angeles (Hearst) Herald-Express on Jan. 15 to the effect that 4,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were on Los Angeles county relief rolls was sharply challenged this week by county welfare officials and the War Relocation Authority, with one county official setting the actual number at only 84.

The original figure was given by County Manager Wayne R. Allen, who told the Board of Supervisors that the 4,000 persons were costing the taxpayers half a million dollars a year over the ordinary relief load cost.

County welfare officials subsequently elaborated on the statistics to the effect that only about 1,000 persons are dependent on the county, the 4,000 representing the total numbers quartered in emergency public housing. Those in emergency public housing, it was later pointed out by the WRA, are not on relief and pay their own expenses, including rent.

The figures were also challenged by the WRA, whose figures failed to confirm any such staggering proportion of unemployed.

The Santa Monica Evening Outlook quoted a county welfare official as stating that actually only 84 persons are on relief, though close to a thousand cases are now pending.

The L. A. Times also reported on Jan. 17 that the report had brought a "deluge of telephone offers" of employment.

Walter Christian, Los Angeles manager of the United States Employment Service, said 365 persons of Japanese ancestry had applied for work during the past month, of whom only 50 accepted jobs, mostly in the domestic field. The WRA, it was also reported, gets more requests than it can fill for domestic work, but that few openings are for skilled labor.

Nisei are reversing the "traditional Japanese concept of par-

ental authority" and are influencing their alien parents also to abandon the agricultural pursuits which 70 per cent of the county's Japanese followed before Pearl Harbor, the Times said.

The Times declared that the citrus industry during this season will require at least 2,000 pickers who average \$6 a day, according to the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of California.

The Times, however, credited Ellis S. Corman of Citrus Emergency Harvest with stating that most Japanese will not accept work in the groves, which are located from 20-50 miles from their temporary residences, unless housing is provided by the growers for whole family units.

Several Southern California newspapers editorialized on the situation.

The Hollywood Citizen-News on Jan. 16 declared that "Four thousand people are on relief here because 'public antipathy' toward them makes it difficult for them to obtain jobs."

"They are ready and willing to work. They are good workers. Many of them lost sons on our battlefields. Other sons came back with rows of ribbons on their chests. Their sons belonged to the most decorated unit in the United States armed forces."

"These people find it hard to get jobs because their parents or grandparents came from Japan. Their loyalty was doubted. They proved their loyalty."

The Hearst L. A. Herald-Express, however, which originally carried the story of "4,000 Japanese" on relief rolls, declared that "these Japs returned from relocation centers claim they are unable to obtain 'suitable employment.'"

The Herald-Express suggested they be put at work building roads.

"If that isn't 'suitable employment' ship them back to Japan," the Herald-Express said.

## Secretary Wallace Hails Action To Encourage Japan Democracy

**Congressman Coffee Will Speak at Rally in New York City**

NEW YORK—Japanese who are sympathetic to American ideals must be used in reconstructing a democratic Japan, Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce, stated in a letter to the Japanese American Committee for Democracy, sponsors of a "Rally for a Democratic Japan," to be held Thursday, Jan. 24, 8 p. m., at the Manhattan Center, 311 West 34th St.

The message read: "It is highly gratifying to know that efforts are being made by a representative group of Americans to encourage and strengthen the democratic elements within Japan. In attempting a cultural and political reconstruction of a defeated Japan, the best help we can have is the influence of those Japanese who are sympathetic to our ideals. And we will not have won the war, in the broadest sense, until this moral conquest has been made."

The JACD, in releasing the Wallace letter, declared that "American workers cannot be assured full employment at fair wages as long as there is a cheap exploitable labor pool anywhere in this world. A democratic Japan is our assurance in America that we will not have to compete with workers receiving coolie wages."

Rep. John M. Coffee, main speaker at the Rally, stated his reasons for appearing at the Rally: "I want the Indonesians to have their independence, the Annamese to throw off the French yoke in Indo-China, the people of India to achieve independence, the people of Japan to secure a democratic government, the Chinese to work out their own destiny, without interference from the Occident, in a government which will pro-

vide them long overdue democratic reforms."

Other participants in the Rally are Dr. Hugh Borton, representing the U. S. State Department; Andrew Roth, author of "Dilemma in Japan"; Sgt. Ben Kuroki, Nisei holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross; and Canada Lee, who will narrate "How Do You Spell Democracy," a dramatized presentation written by Gilbert Lawrence.

The Chinese People's Chorus with Liu Liang-Mo, Michi-Ko and her Japanese dance troupe, and Mariko Mukai, Nisei coloratura, will also appear.

Endorsing this Rally are many foremost progressives in every sphere of activity. Among them are General Joseph W. (Vinegar Joe) Stilwell; Senator Claude Pepper; Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas; Sen. Sheridan Downey; Rep. Hugh De Lacy; radio commentators Johannes Steel and Lisa Sergio; Bishop Francis J. McConnell; Max Yergan, National Negro Congress; and Abner Green, Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born.

## CHICAGOAN KILLED IN TAVERN FIGHT OVER NISEI GIRL

CHICAGO—One man was killed and two others were held by police this week after a fight on Dec. 28 which the Chicago Sun reported had started over attentions paid to a Japanese American girl.

The fight took place in a tavern and a bartender, Anthony Wagner, was dead from injuries received when he was slugged with a baseball bat.

Those arrested were Otto M. Androvich, 20, and Herbert Sheur, 21. They said another man started the fight and that Wagner came over with the bat, which Sheur took away from him.

## Fresno County Ready to File Fifteen Cases Charging Illegal Ownership of Property by Nisei

FRESNO, Calif.—Fifteen cases charging violation of the California Alien Land Law and involving nearly \$500,000 worth of property owned by Americans of Japanese ancestry are ready for filing in the Superior court, District Attorney James M. Thuesen announced on January 15.

All of the defendants are of Japanese ancestry.

In the majority of the cases the State is expected to charge that property was placed in the name of American-born children by alien parents who, according to the Alien Land Law, are ineligible to own or control property in California.

## Shinohara Case Dismissed in San Diego Court

**State Drops Escheat Proceedings Against Evacuee Family**

LOS ANGELES—The first case of a dismissal of escheat proceedings against farm property owned by an American citizen of Japanese ancestry was reported this week as the State dropped its suit against Mansaku Shinohara and his son, Hajime. The property involved is a 40-acre farm at Otay in San Diego county.

With the trial slated to start this month, Duane Carnes, representing State Attorney General Kenny and District Attorney Thomas Whelan of San Diego, assented to the dismissal of the case in the face of evidence and legal points in favor of the defendants, according to the Rafu Shimpō.

John Maeno, representing the Shinoharas, contended that the State charges of violation of the California Alien Land Law were not applicable in view of the statute of limitations and the changes and modifications of the Alien Land Law itself had intervened in the case.

The elder Shinohara had purchased the property on April 15, 1938, for his son, Hajime, who was then 12 years of age. Guardianship provisions were set up. The State contended in its case that the whole procedure was fraudulent and was entered into for the purpose of evading the Alien Land Law, which prohibits the ownership of property by Japanese aliens.

In a statement Maeno declared that he had found the District Attorney's office in San Diego "fair-minded and acting without any racial prejudice."

"These Alien Land cases are not to be feared if an honest effort to comply with the law is made as was done by Mr. Shinohara," Maeno said.

## First Group of Nisei WACs To Leave for Duty in Japan

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — The first group of Nisei WACs assigned to serve in Japan will leave Fort Snelling on Jan. 19 for San Francisco, where they will take off by plane for the land of their ancestors, according to Janet Russell, staff writer for the Minneapolis Tribune.

The 12 young women, all of whom have graduated from the Fort Snelling language school, expect to do translation and clerical work for the army in Tokyo, though exactly what their duties will be is still a secret.

Most of the girls were making last-minute visits to the beauty parlor and buying shoes, hose and cosmetics in the belief such feminine necessities won't be available where they're going, Miss Russell said.

Most of them have had some previous experience with the Japanese language in Hawaii or Japan, but a few, such as Pfc. Atsuko Mori of Magna, Utah, have only the brief training at Fort Snelling as a background.

"I'm so excited I'm speechless," Pfc. Mori said Monday.

Pfc. Marie Mickey Minato, who attended school in Tokyo in 1940 and 1941, is looking forward to finding her uncle who has survived imprisonment by the Japanese army.

"He was a physician and a strong Christian, firm in his belief that war in conquest for more power is not right," she said. "When I left in early 1941 he knew

he was being watched closely. While he was in prison he lost his whole family and all his belongings."

Cpl. Matsuko Kido also will be making a return trip to Tokyo, where she worked as a stenographer from 1935 to 1939.

"I'm looking forward to seeing how the Japanese feel about women in uniform who have the same rank and rights as men," she said. "Before the war there were several short-lived flurries to introduce women's suffrage in Japan."

"Perhaps, seeing us, the Japanese women may start the ball rolling again toward suffrage — and maybe keep it rolling this time."

Nearly all the young women have brothers who have served in the United States armed forces. Most of these were in the much-decorated Nisei infantry battalions in Italy.

Others scheduled to go to Japan are Sgt. Rhoda Knudten, Cpl. Shizuko Shinagawa, Cpl. Bertha Chin, Cpl. Edith Kodama, Sgt. Miwako Yamamoto, Cpl. Mary Nakamura, Sgt. Chito Isonaga, Sgt. Fumiko Segawa, and Cpl. Harriet Hirakawa.

Another WAC, still uncertain as to whether she will go, but more anxious than any of the others, is Cpl. Terry Nakanishi.

The trip to Tokyo would be a honeymoon for her. Her husband whom she met at the language school, now is an intelligence officer stationed in Tokyo.



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### Evacuees and Relief

Typical distortions of the news by the Hearst newspaper, the Los Angeles Herald-Express, and the Los Angeles Times are evident this week in the handling of stories and editorials on the purported "4000 Japanese" on Los Angeles county relief rolls.

The 4,000 persons, it later turned out, were the number of persons residing in emergency public housing. These persons are not relief cases, though no such clarification was made.

And the Los Angeles Times declared that the estimate was based "on the expectation" that the majority of those now homeless will become public charges.

The War Relocation Authority had a tremendously difficult job in moving 50,000 persons out of its wartime camps, and in no mass movement such as this can wage earners be transferred directly into jobs.

The Los Angeles Times, too, is guilty of interference and insinuation in its news story of Jan. 17 concerning the "flood of jobs offered Japs" following the report.

"Tight family loyalties among the Japanese prevent them from accepting employment which cannot provide living accommodations for their kin and from taking jobs at any distance from their present emergency shelters," said the Times, crediting the remark to the WRA but not directly quoting a WRA representative.

"Tight family loyalties" prevent most American husbands from abandoning their children and wives to accept jobs that separate these men from their families.

The Times also reports that the USES reported 365 persons had applied for work during the past month, but that only 50 "accepted" jobs, inferring that the Nisei and Issei applicants refused to work.

The report did not give figures on the number of Nisei and Issei that had been offered jobs, nor did it give any indication as to whether the jobs offered had been suited to the past experience and training of the applicants. The United States Employment Service is by presidential order required to be non-discriminating in offering jobs, and to report cases of employers refusing to accept applicants because of race. This has unfortunately not always been the practice of certain branches of the USES. In one intermountain city, for example, no Nisei are referred to any but the most menial jobs. There is no effort to direct Nisei into jobs fitting their training.

Again, the Times reports that 2,000 jobs in the citrus industry will be opening up shortly, but infers again that most of the persons of Japanese descent will not accept these jobs, "unless housing is provided by the growers for whole family units." It is our understanding that the WRA does not demand that husbands and fathers separate from their families to accept work, and again that the WRA does not expect trained specialists and professional workers to accept this type of work.

The Times article, which is blandly presented as a "news" article, concludes with this paragraph:

"In the relocation centers, the maximum amount a Japanese could earn was \$19 a month, the average being \$12. A typical county assistance payment to a family of three is \$135."

The reader is thus asked to conclude that these "Japanese" should not expect the usual wages and working conditions offered persons of other descents.

The Los Angeles Herald-Express, how-

ever, makes no attempt to be subtle in its portrayal of distorted news.

In its editorial on Jan. 17 it merely resorts to time-worn phrases appealing to the emotions of the race-biased:

"Ship them back to Japan," says the Herald-Express, if they don't like road-building and such county projects.

Such attempts to make a major issue out of the difficult readjustment problems of a group of persons who suffered evacuation and detention through what has been called "our biggest wartime mistake" are typical of the efforts of the irresponsible section of our country's press to make race-prejudice a paying, headline proposition.

The postwar adjustment of our country can only suffer from attempts to divide the country's population into racial groups. Our international prestige as a leader in the democratic tradition can only suffer as we continue to present a spectacle of a country divided. We must demand of our nation's press the honest, unbiased presentation of the news that it pretends to give.

### Hostility in Manila

One day recently a train bearing more than 200 American soldiers of Japanese ancestry moved through the streets of Manila in the Philippines. The Nisei GIs were among the hundreds of Japanese American soldiers who were assigned to the Philippine capital to participate in the preparation of war criminal cases against enemy Japanese.

The Nisei GIs were made the objects of hooting and jeering by the Filipino population who mistook the Japanese Americans for enemy Japanese prisoners.

In the hands of American military authorities in the Philippines today is documented information relating to the mistreatment of Nisei soldiers by members of the Philippine constabulary.

As a result of open hostility toward them by the people of a country toward whose liberation they have made an invaluable contribution, the morale of Nisei troops in the Philippines is described as "extremely low."

In the fields of translation and interrogation, in which they were specially trained, Japanese American soldiers have played an integral role in the victory of American forces in the Philippines. In addition, the military records of the Philippine campaign are studded with instances of Nisei courage in combat. According to Lieut. Col. Wallace Moore of G-2, Nisei volunteers who preceded American forces into the Santo Tomas camp in Manila were responsible for the saving of countless civilian lives. And the lives of thousands of American soldiers and Filipino guerrillas were saved by the presence of Nisei intelligence specialists on Leyte, Mindanao and on Luzon. In all of the campaign for the Philippines, however, the work of the Nisei was regarded as a top drawer secret and no effort apparently has been made to inform the people of the Philippines on the contributions of the Japanese American soldiers. As a result many Filipinos have misguidedly expended their hatred of the enemy Japanese upon the Nisei from America.

Nisei intelligence troops translated the entire Japanese plans for the naval battle of the Philippines which were captured with Admiral Koga, then commander-in-chief of the combined Japanese fleets when the plane in which he was hurrying to join his fleet made a forced landing in the Philippines. In addition, the complete Japanese plan for the defense of the Philippines was also made known through the work of Japanese American specialists long before our forces landed on Leyte. In the words of one observer, "many (Japanese Americans) have paid with their lives and many more have been wounded. They have done an outstanding job and their heroism should be recognized."

Until the transfer of ATIS (Allied Translator and Interpreter Section) to Tokyo, nearly one thousand Japanese soldiers were assigned to duty in Manila in that one unit alone. There are still a large number of Nisei GIs in the Philippines and without them the work of prosecuting war criminals and repatriating enemy troops would be severely hampered. It is to be hoped that decisive steps will be taken by American military authorities to inform the people of the Philippines regarding the contributions which the Nisei have made to Philippine independence. There is little doubt that such information will help to dispel the present hostility of the people of the Philippines toward the Nisei.

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## A Song About Evacuation

Last week in the Pacific Citizen Woody Guthrie, singer and writer of people's ballads, urged the Nisei to compose their own "singing history." The great evacuation of 1942, so often called "the largest forced migration in American history," already is celebrated in a number of fine paintings by evacuee artists and the saga of the displaced Nisei and Issei may one day be recorded in books. But there is little chance that it will be remembered in song.

It may be that the Nisei do not have a musical tradition, at least one upon which they can draw. The musical culture which the immigrant parents of the Nisei brought to the American shore lies across a linguistic chasm which only a few Nisei have been able to bridge. The gap which always has separated the two generations, as it has separated other immigrant and American-born groups, has been widened by an obvious attempt on the part of the Nisei group to renounce their Oriental heritage in an effort to incorporate themselves more comfortably into the American scene. This effort has been intensified by successive waves of anti-Orientalism which have been generated by West Coast racists who have looked upon any remnants of Oriental culture, whether in the arrangement of a few flowers or the lingering notes of a song, as something faintly disloyal and, therefore, un-American.

The Nisei, of course, are as musically literate as any other American group but they have added little to the music which they play and sing and to which they dance. They have accepted the hodge-podge heritage of the music of America. They sing the ballads, whose origins are mainly Anglo-Saxon, and the spirituals which have come from Negro slaves and freemen of the bayous, the plantation lands and the red clay hills of the South. They dance to the jive which was born in the Storyville district of New Orleans and in the honky-tonks of Kansas City, Chicago and Harlem. And they have paid homage to the classical tradition which is still mainly European, of Beethoven, Mozart, Tchaikowsky and Brahms. Of all the folk music which is considered American, the Nisei, and these particularly from Hawaii, have won most recognition in their interpretation of the Hawaiian. Musicians in the 442nd Combat Team have introduced the lyrical strings of Hawaiian ballads to countless Italian, German and French villages and towns. But here again they have been interpreters rather than composers.

Incidentally, Woody Guthrie is a veteran of another great evacuation which preceded General Dewitt's Japanese evacuation by less than a decade. Woody grew up in the Dust Bowl among the farmers whose farms dried up and blew away, who were tracted out by expanding absentee landlords when they were not dusted off. He joined the great trek of the Dust Bowl migrants down Highway 66 which John Steinbeck has memorialized in his "Grapes of Wrath." The Okies and the Arkies found vigilantes and State police, hard work and hunger, at the end of Highway 66. Woody made up songs as he went down the road (his Dust Bowl ballads were recorded in two albums by Victor) and his "Ain't Gonna Be Treated This Way" ("I'm going where the dust storms never blow") is a musical accompaniment for Steinbeck's saga of Ma Joad and her family who were evacuees, too.

The evacuation of 1942 may not have its musical literature but it is assured of a record on canvas and in books by the evacuees and by the personnel of the War Relocation Authority. Many paintings from artists in the relocation camps are included in the traveling exhibit sponsored by the Japanese American Citizens League and other organizations which has been shown in Boston, Rochester, Ann Arbor and other cities. Henry Sugimoto, whose paintings are on exhibit in the Legion of Honor in San Francisco and in other California galleries, recently had a show in New York of the canvases from his barracks studios at the Jerome and Rohwer camps in Arkansas. Chiura Obata is back at

his teaching post at the University of California after an evacuation experience during which he conducted art schools at the Tule Lake assembly center where he had 800 students and at Topaz. One of Prof. Obata's paintings of the Topaz camp is now the property of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Among other well-known California artists who worked in the relocation camps were Hideo Date and Benji Okubo.

Mine Okubo's paintings of relocation center life were exhibited in New York last summer and have been sent on tour to other American cities. Miss Okubo, who illustrated the "Issei, Nisei, Kibei" article in the April, 1945 issue of Fortune, is the artist and author of a book which will be published by Columbia University Press in the near future and which is expected to be mainly concerned with the evacuation. Miss Okubo's drawings were a feature of the Topaz Trek, probably the best of the literary magazines to be published by Nisei in the center. One of the writers for Trek, Toshio Mori, whose stories have been published in New Directions and in various magazines, is working on a series of novels, one of which is titled "Send These, Homeless." Taro Katayama, another Trek writer, returned last month from service with the 442nd Combat Team in Italy and France and hopes to continue writing.

It is expected that the evacuation will continue to be a favorite topic for social historians. Carey McWilliams' "Prejudice: The Japanese Americans" was the first in the field. Alexander Leighton's "The Governing of Men," study of the reaction of the evacuees to relocation center conditions, has provided valuable material for the treatment of other interned populations. Bradford Smith, now preparing a book of Japanese Americans which will be a part of the "Nation of Nations" project which is under the general editorship of Louis Adams, is now obtaining material on the Nisei and Issei with particular stress on personal experiences. Wallace Stegner's "One Nation" shows, with the graphic assistance of photographs, of the reaction of the Nisei to relocation living. Rackham Holt, noted biographer of "George Washington Carver," is believed to have completed the biography of a Nisei to be published under the title, "The Golden Door." A number of other books, including some from a West Coast university study, are expected.

The evacuation will be well documented—but we could still add with a song, the kind that Woody Guthrie and other folk artists can sing and play. It would be a song about the evacuation train and the MPs, the barracks, the barbed-wire and the blue desolate sky overhead, about the dust storms and the mess halls and the road out again toward freedom.

## JACL RECEIVES SUGGESTIONS FOR NISEI RELOCATION

Relocation suggestions came to the JACL office this week from Athens, Ohio, and Tallahassee, Florida, inviting the resettlement of Nisei in these cities.

The Rev. Fred Luchs, minister of the Presbyterian church in Athens, writes, "We need a dentist and a surgeon in this university town. We would accept any one but would of course prefer someone who would fit into a college community of eight thousand citizens."

A letter from J. Velma of Keokuk and O'Kelley, Tallahassee, Florida law offices, says:

"I am in receipt of your letter and it has occurred to me that there might be a place for some of your people in Leon County, Florida.

"We are essentially a rural community and certain types of truck farming are profitable. If any of your people are interested in investigating the situation, I know that our Chamber of Commerce will be glad to give you some assistance."



# Vagaries

## Headline Edition . . .

Bob Iki, an editor at Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service in Washington, spoke on the ABC network's Headline Edition's program last week, discussing the relocation of evacuees in Washington . . . A choir composed of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry was presented in a special broadcast on Christmas day in Tokyo, Japan. The soldiers were all former members of the Fort Snelling, Minn., choir which gave a similar recital at the Minnesota army camp on Christmas day, 1944 . . . Kiyoshi Nakama, Hawaiian Nisei swimming star, was named champion of the year in the 200-meters free-style in the annual compilation of Associated Press features.

## Kuroki's Book . . .

Tech. Sgt. Ben Kuroki is doing a book which will be published this year. His collaborator, according to the Rocky Shimp, is Ralph Martin, formerly of the staff of the GI newspaper, Stars and Stripes . . . Now that the war is over the Metropolitan Opera company's new season will feature the revival of "Mme. Butterfly" with James Melton as Pinkerton and Licia Albanese as Cho-Cho-San. Hizi Koyke who was featured in the Puccini opera for many seasons with the San Carlo Opera company is now reported married to a noted impressario.

## Gardener . . .

In the MGM film "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" Van Johnson, playing the role of Captain (now Major) Ted Lawson, tells a fellow pilot on the night before the Doolittle fliers hop off for the raid on Tokyo: "My mother used to have a Japanese gardener. He seemed to be all right." Recently the real-life Major Lawson, now the housing chairman of the active American Veterans committee, purchased a home in the Baldwin Hills district in Los Angeles and hired a Japanese gardener to take care of the lawn.

## Repatriates . . .

Department of Justice regulations that voluntary repatriates returning to Japan could take only \$60 in American currency plus the amount earned by them in relocation centers and internment camps found the U. S. customs room at Seattle overloaded with war bonds and currency turned in by the repatriates before the first group left on the General Marshall for Japan. One of the repatriates, Yuzo Nozan of Stockton, Calif., turned over to inspectors an envelope containing \$3,425 in U. S. war bonds. Other repatriates also turned in large sums.

## Extras . . .

Tsuyoshi Matsumoto, now in Chicago, is the author of an article on "Japan's Election" in the Jan. 14 issue of New Republic . . . After a long absence because of evacuation Nisei extras and bit players are getting back on the rolls of Central Casting in Hollywood . . . "American Guerrilla in the Philippines," the 20th-Fox production which was to be made from Ira Wolfert's book and for which 25 Nisei were tentatively signed, is now definitely off the studio's production calendar as a result of the present Hollywood policy of deemphasizing war films.

## Yule Greetings . . .

Jack Maki, Nisei author of "Japanese Militarism," is believed en route to Japan on a mission for the Army. Maki, a graduate of the U. of Washington, served in an important U. S. psychological warfare post during the war . . . Anky Hoshijo, a veteran of the 100th Infantry Battalion, recently made his pro boxing debut in Honolulu as a featherweight. Hoshijo fought in GI rings in Italy . . . The Christmas week issue of the magazine New Yorker carried the following lines in a poem by Frank Sullivan which was titled "Greetings, Friends!":  
" . . . frame a warm Yule trochee  
In honor of Sergeant Ben  
Kuroki  
And all the gallant Nisei Yanks  
To him and them, their country's thanks."

## NISEI GI



Photo by Pfc. Hank Harada

## Washington News-Letter Battle Royal Looms in Senate Over Fair Employment Bill

By JOHN KITASAKO

Washington, D. C.

A battle royal looms in the Senate over attempts by the liberal forces to pass legislation to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee. Both sides have lined up their artillery for a fight to the finish.

At this writing, sponsors of the bill are planning to bring the bill, which passed the Senate Labor Committee last year, to the floor for debate soon after the Senate reconvenes. Southern Democrats, united as one to kill the bill, are threatening to filibuster, something which they are very adept at doing, having such long-winded champs as Bilbo and Eastland.

A filibuster would be extremely unfortunate because it would hold up debate and action on other extremely important legislation. But if one does develop, sponsors of the FEPC bill hope to secure enough votes—two-thirds of the Senate membership—to shut off debate. However, this appears like a tough proposition, for the southern Democrats are solidly lined up against the bill, plus a number of northern conservatives.

In the House of Representatives a companion FEPC measure is neatly bottled up in the Rules Committee by the southern reactionaries, and efforts to have the bill discharged from the committee have so far proven fruitless.

The endeavors to set up a permanent FEPC have the strong endorsement of President Truman. Last June he pleaded with the House Rules Committee to release the measure for action on the floor, but the committee members just monkeyed around, and the bill had to be pigeonholed.

As proof that he means to fight for equal rights for the minorities, the President several weeks ago ordered all government agencies to abolish discriminatory practices in hiring personnel, and specially charged them to cooperate with the FEPC in matters affecting the employment of minorities in government service. He also gave the FEPC authority to investigate discrimination in those industries engaged in reconversion production.

In battling for a permanent FEPC, the President is not just carrying out the pledge in 1944 of his predecessor for fair treatment of minority groups. He and the liberals in Congress realize that an FEPC, armed with adequate funds and broad powers, is imperative to forestall race disturbances in the great struggle for survival in the post-war era.

Racial relations are already tense. The GI's of all minorities have a pretty good idea of what they fought for, and they are not going to take discrimination sitting down. They want a fair chance to work; they want assurance of equal consideration. The Nisei who has a college degree does not want to go back to the strawberry patch. The Negro who is equipped to do a special type of work does not want to be a porter or a bootblack. The Jew who has studied business law doesn't want to operate a one-counter grocery store.

And if these veterans and oth-

ers don't get that chance, there is going to be trouble. Too many people have already forgotten the race riots which followed the last war because America was not prepared to take care of its minorities.

Wendell Willkie once said, "The equitable treatment of racial minorities in America is basic to our chance for a just and lasting peace. We, as Americans, cannot be on one side abroad and on the other at home."

Peace in America in the post-war period rests on the shoulders of Congress. The enactment of the legislation for a permanent FEPC will insure this peace, and America can show the other nations of the world who are closely watching its treatment of its minority citizens that it is a democracy in fact as in name.

## Chico School Board Refuses to Sponsor McWilliams Lecture

CHICO, Calif.—The Chico Board of Education on Jan. 10 refused to give its support to a series of forums at which Carey McWilliams, noted authority on minority problems, will be one of the speakers, on the ground that it does not want to be responsible for any ideas presented at the meeting.

Board Member N. A. Christensen specifically objected to Mr. McWilliams on the ground that the board might be inviting criticism.

The forum series is sponsored by service clubs. Other speakers will be Walter Duranty and Bruce Blivin.

## Noguchi Provides Settings for Martha Graham's Dance Works

NEW YORK — Isamu Noguchi, noted sculptor and designer, is listed as "artistic collaborator" for Martha Graham's new dance work, "Dark Meadow" which will be presented for the first time on Jan. 23 at the Plymouth theatre as part of the Graham dance repertory.

Mr. Noguchi, according to the New York Times, has "created the bits of decor and the properties which replace formal setting in Miss Graham's stagecraft." He has also designed the settings for two

## From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

## What Would Gen. Stilwell Have Done in 1942?

Des Moines, Ia.

One of our favorite generals is Joseph Stilwell. He has held that position ever since he trudged out of the Burma jungle and admitted we had taken one dickens of a beating.

A few days ago the war department assigned General Stilwell as chief of the Western Defense Command. Perhaps the transfer is purely coincidental, but it is significant in view of General Stilwell's well-known stand in support of the Nisei.

Now is as good a time as any to get General Stilwell's proposed Pickaxe Club into being.

Its membership, if you recall, would consist of former servicemen ready to wield a pickaxe handle on barroom commandos who think objective Tokyo means setting fire to a Nisei veteran's farmhouse.

We can't help but wonder what it would have been like had some officer with General

Stilwell's present knowledge of the Nisei, headed the Western Defense Command on Dec. 7, 1941.

## Barber's Topic

Our barber's favorite topic used to be his son in the army. That son is back now after 18 months of shooting at, and being shot at, by Japanese in the jungles of New Guinea and the Philippines.

Recently the father decided to retire and sold his business to the son, so now the one-time jungle infantryman gives us the one over, lightly.

"Yep," he said as he ran the gleaming straight-edge razor over the strop preparatory to a neck shave. "We lost 500 men going up that one hill."

"But we would have lost a lot more if it weren't for the Nisei boys with us."

Fortunately he's such a good-natured fellow it probably wouldn't make a whoop of difference to him even if I told him my name was Fumimaro Tojo.

## Traffic West

There's a lot of traffic of black-haired passengers westward across the Pacific. Some are Japanese prisoners of war. Some are civilians being either deported or expatriated from the U. S.

Still others are U. S. combat veterans going home to Hawaii with a chestful of ribbons. And a fourth group is made up of young Nisei servicemen bound for the occupation army in Japan.

We'd like to sit in a ship's cabin with one man—preferably about 25 years old—from each of the four groups and start an uninhibited bull session.

The four men would have only ancestry in common. Their experiences and philosophies—except perhaps those of the two servicemen—one a vet, the other a rookie—would be vastly different.

It looks like the makings of a good short story or perhaps even better, a novel.

## Newspaper Fillers

Newspaper fillers traditionally are a source of interesting, but hardly significant information. We ran into one the other day which read:

"The recently-closed Heart Mountain, Wyo., relocation center converted some 2000 acres of sage brush land into a high state of cultivation."

After getting over the surprise of seeing such an item, we sped back through time and space to Heart Mountain, which was home for 14 months.

Yes, there it was, the benchland. Arid, sandy, spotted with dwarfed sage brush. And there it was again a year later, green now with row crops irrigated by snow water brought down from the Shoshone. We are proud to have been a member of the community which accomplished the job.

We had a part in the development of that land, a tiny part. It was a race against time and manpower was scarce. So they put this city-bred pencil-pusher atop a huge, sputtering tractor.

They said push this lever to make it go and pull it back to stop, and shove this pedal to turn a little and shove the pedal and yonk this other lever if you want to turn around sharp.

And so for a couple of thrilling shifts we were a tractor operator.

There was a sense of triumph about sitting alone atop this powerful steel beast and guiding it as it crawled tirelessly over the flat, ripping out sagebrush, filling in the hollows, shaping a billiard-table field out of desert.

We aren't made of the stuff that goes with operating a tractor for a living. But we feel every man ought to try it once. It's good for his ego.

## Jersey Group Formed to Aid Resettlement

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.—The New Jersey Council on Japanese Americans was organized on Jan. 16 at a meeting at Wood Lawn, New Jersey College for Women.

Among the organizations which have been invited to participate in the new organization are the New Jersey State Federation of Women's clubs, the State Chamber of Commerce, League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women.

Mrs. Stephen J. Francisco, president, State Federation of Women's clubs, presided.

Dillon S. Myer, national director of the War Relocation Authority, Miss Marion Glaeser, director of students at the New Jersey College for Women, and Kiyoshi Yamashita of New York City were the chief speakers at the organizational meeting.

Approximately 2,300 Japanese Americans who were evacuated from the West Coast in 1942 are now living in New Jersey. Of this total some 1,700 are residing at Seabrook Farms in Bridgeton.

The main purpose of the new organization will be to assist the resettlers to become adjusted in their new communities. The Council proposes to work with and through existing agencies and organizations throughout the State.

## Captain Crowley

## Will Speak to

## Chicago JACL Group

CHICAGO—Capt. Thomas Crowley, formerly attached to the 442nd and now with the legal department of the Chicago Motor Club, will be guest speaker at the first meeting of the year of the Chicago JACL on Jan. 25, 8 p. m., at the International House.

Capt. Crowley was assigned to the West Coast on a War Department speaking tour after his return from Europe. He spoke in many of the "high prejudice" areas of the state of California, including Placer county.

The 1946 cabinet of the Chicago chapter will be installed. Members are President Noboru Honda, vice president Togo Tanaka, Recording Secretary Rose Kokubu, Corresponding Secretary Mary Matsuura, Treasurer Dixie Ishida, and Delegates-at-large Nobumitsu Takahashi, Mrs. Dorothy Kitow, and Dr. William Hiura.



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### Engagement

The engagement of Akiko Nishimoto of Lancaster, Calif., to Kaoru S. Yagi, formerly of Salinas, was announced this week. Mr. Yagi recently received his discharge from the Army after more than four years of service, including overseas duty in the Aleutians, the Pacific and in Japan.

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## Intermountain JACL Chapters Pledge Fund

The sum of \$5,000, to be raised by Feb. 15, was pledged by the Intermountain District Council of the JACL for the national headquarters of the organization at a meeting held Jan. 13 in Salt Lake City.

Quotas allotted to each chapter were set as follows: Salt Lake City, \$1,000; Boise Valley, \$525; Idaho Falls, \$525; Pocatello, \$525; Snake River, \$525; Mt. Olympus, \$475; Davis County, \$375; Ogden, \$375; Rexburg (Yellowstone), \$375; and Magic Valley, \$300.

The resolution to raise the pledged amount was passed unanimously by the twenty-nine delegates present at the meeting. Nine chapters were represented.

Shigeki Ushio of the Mt. Olympus chapter was elected chairman of the council for the coming term. Mrs. Alice Kasai of the Salt Lake chapter was elected secretary, and Paul Okamura was elected treasurer.

The delegates were entertained at the Capri Restaurant after the meeting by the Salt Lake chapter.

## JACL President Participates in Panel at Midvale

MIDVALE, Utah—Saburo Kido, national president of the JACL, participated in a panel forum on racial attitudes on Jan. 14 at the Midvale school. The forum was sponsored by the Jordan School District PTA and the University of Utah Extension Division.

Other speakers were Dr. Charles Dibble of the University of Utah, Rabbi A. S. Luchs, Mr. Wallace Leong, Mr. D. H. Oliver and Mr. Kido.

The participants spoke of the need for legislation in correcting racial attitudes, pointing out that the long range program of correction through education would be too slow.

The panel members pointed to the need for a permanent FEPC, civil rights in public places and legislation to declare invalid restrictive covenants.

Dr. Dibble spoke of the problem from an anthropologist's viewpoint.

Over 250 persons heard the discussion. The panel members were guests of the Midvale Kiwanis club at a dinner preceding the meeting.

## Farewell Dinner Will Honor Mormon Worker to Hawaii

A farewell testimonial dinner honoring Elder and Mrs. Melvin A. Weenig and family, who will leave in the near future for Hawaii where Elder Weenig will preside over the Central Pacific Mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, will be held in the Ogden 4th Ward, Monday, January 21, at 8 p.m.

The program for the evening will consist of speakers and musical numbers, followed by a dance in the amusement hall. Nisei have been tendered a special invitation to see Elder Weenig. The 4th Ward Chapel is located at 21st street and Jefferson avenue in Ogden.

The Central Pacific Mission is the former Japanese Mission of the LDS church in the Hawaiian Islands. President Weenig, who has been a guest speaker at several JACL meetings, asks the Nisei to visit him before he leaves for his Hawaiian mission.

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## Scholarship Honoring Dead GI Will Go to Japanese Student

### Nakama Will Receive Australian Medals After Six Years

HONOLULU — Kiyoshi (Keo) Nakama, Hawaiian Nisei swimming star, will soon receive the medals which he won in Australia six years ago.

E. L. Damkroger, director of athletics for the Alexander House community association, recently received a letter from W. Berge Phillips, honorary secretary-treasurer of the Amateur Swimming Union of Australia. The letter indicated that with the advent of peace in the Pacific the Australian championship medallions which were won by the Japanese American swimming star during his tour of Australia in 1939 would soon reach him.

"We in Australia all remember Keo's visit with pleasure as he endeared himself to everyone by his gentlemanly manner and good sportsmanship and he proved an excellent ambassador for your country," the letter declared.

Mr. Damkroger, who helped arrange Nakama's tour in 1939, assured the Australian official that the medals would be properly presented to the Japanese American champion who is now on the faculty of Farrington high school.

(Kiyoshi Nakama was last week voted as one of the outstanding American swimmers of 1945 in the official All-American AAU swimming team selections announced by Clyde A. Swendson. Nakama was named the outstanding U.S. Swim-

EASTON, Pa. — A scholarship for a Downingtown, Pa., soldier killed on Luzon last May was established at Lafayette College on Jan. 9 with the provision that a Japanese student be given first consideration for the award.

Funds for the unusual scholarship, created by Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Johnstone in memory of their son, Robert S., will come from the \$10,000 government insurance carried by him. The parents intend to make additional gifts.

The parents explained that their son, a former Lafayette College student, was internationally minded, deeply sympathetic with peoples of other nations and believed that the causes of most wars would be removed if a better understanding could be achieved.

## Claims Against Bonding Companies Will Be Paid Soon

LOS ANGELES — Persons of Japanese ancestry with claims against bonding companies of produce commission merchants can now receive payment for these claims, according to the Los Angeles WRA.

The California State Department of Agriculture is ready to pay claims filed against these companies for produce shipped to now-defunct produce merchants, the WRA reports.

mer in the 440-yard free-style and also was placed on the all-star 880-yard free-style relay team.)

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Room 19, Oakland Hotel, 3856 Cottage Grove, Chicago, Illinois



# Nisei GI in Japan Meets Grandmother in Okayama

SACRAMENTO — Occupation duty with the 6th Army in Japan enabled Staff Sgt. Minoru Namba of 504 O Street to see his grandmother who lives in the outskirts of Okayama on Honshu Island, according to a Sixth Army report.

Namba, a translator and interpreter with the 178th Language Detachment of the 24th Infantry Division, was on occupation duty on Shikoku but was given permission to go to Okayama.

The Sixth Army reported that the grandmother poured tea after hugging and admiring her grandson and the two talked for hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Senzo Namba, the sergeant's parents, left Japan 45 years ago to live in the United States and settled on a small farm near Sacramento. Sgt. Namba was born in California and was educated in local schools. Prior to entering service in March, 1941, he was a cannery employee.

His army duty has taken him to Camp Roberts, Fort Bliss, Minnesota, Australia, Dutch New Guinea, Buna, Finschafen and Hollandia before he was assigned to Japan.

He has been overseas since April, 1943, and is being returned to the United States with 97 points.

His wife, Patricia, resides in Sacramento.

## Nisei Cage League Started in Arizona

GLENDAL, Ariz.—Nisei basketball players will start their new league tournament on Jan. 12 at the Alhambra School gymnasium under sponsorship of the Showa Shoyu Brewing Company.

Six teams are entered in the league, and the refereeing will be done by Ken Sakato, according to Yukio Hino, chairman.

League play will last for five weeks, and a double-elimination tourney is slated for February 13, 14 and 15. The winner of the tourney will receive a trophy donated by the Showa Shoyu Company and may have the opportunity to engage in an intersectional game with the "Marusho Miks," champions of the Denver Nisei Basketball League.

## Nisei Student Named To Honor Society

FAIRFIELD, Ia. — Ida Nakashima, one of the five Nisei students attending Parsons college, has been made a member of Phi Kappa Phi, national honor scholarship society.

Miss Nakamura, a native of Winston, Calif., will be graduated this month and plans to enter medical school.

## Shelly Named WRA Supervisor for South California District

LOS ANGELES — James L. Shelly, formerly assistant director of the Gila River, Ariz., project of the War Relocation Authority, was named supervisor of the Southern California area of WRA on Jan. 17, and E. Price Steiding was named relocation officer in charge of the Los Angeles district, which comprises all of Los Angeles county.

Shelly succeeds Paul G. Robertson, who is returning to private business after heading the Southern California area since it was opened when the exclusion order was lifted more than a year ago. Mr. Steiding, who was formerly in charge of the New York district office and served as a special assistant to Mr. Robertson for several months, succeeds Earl L. Kelley, who is also leaving the authority.

The changes were announced in Los Angeles by H. Rex Lee, chief of the relocation division of WRA in Washington, in connection with a revised program looking to the liquidation of the Authority within the next few months. Lee said the Los Angeles district office and other district offices within the area, at Santa Barbara, Santa Ana, San Diego and El Centro, will close on May 1, and the area office on May 15. The entire Authority will pass out of existence on July 1.

## Captain Nakadate Promoted to Major

EAST CHICAGO, Ind.—Promotion to major in the Medical Corps, U. S. Army, has been announced for Capt. Katsumi J. Nakadate, formerly of Portland, Ore.

Major Nakadate served as a battalion surgeon during combat with the 17th Airborne Division, receiving the Bronze Star for heroism and Purple Heart with clusters.

Major Nakadate is now on terminal leave to be released on points to inactive duty and will resume the practice of medicine and surgery in East Chicago, Indiana, where he was practicing before being called to active duty. His wife, Mary Nakadate, and son, Neil Edward, have been living in the Indiana city during the war.

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## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Bill Koga, Salt Lake City, a girl, Florence Sachiko, on Jan. 2.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tadeo Tanabe, 44 South State Street, Salt Lake City, a girl on Jan. 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fred Yoshioka, a girl in Denver, Colo.

### DEATHS

Matsuke Mikami, 67, of Orillia, Wash., on Dec. 31.

Umeko Yoshida on Jan. 4 in Seattle, Wash.

Kitaro Hayashi, formerly of Portland, Oregon, on Dec. 25, 1945.

Akijiro Nakano, formerly of Alameda, California, on Jan. 2 in Chicago.

Seitaro Inouye, formerly of Woodland, Calif., on Jan. 5 in Denver.

Takeo Terakawa on Jan. 5 at Tule Lake.

Jujiro Hishinuma, formerly of Hood River, Ore., on Jan. 3 at Ontario, Ore.

Rev. Baba, 91, on Jan. 10 in Los Angeles.

Kazuto B. Kawaguchi, 13-months, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kawaguchi, Meridan, Wyo., on Jan. 10.

Mrs. Lillian Ota in Denver, Colo. Akijiro Nakano, 75, on Jan. 1 in Chicago.

Uichi Miyamoto, 68, formerly of San Diego, on Jan. 9 at Pasadena. Shimekichi Kogetsu on Jan. 16 at Hawthorne trailer camp, Calif. Mosaji Fujiwara on Jan. 14 at Chino, Calif.

Mrs. Yuki Mimura on Jan. 17 in Los Angeles.

### MARRIAGES

Kikuyo Handa to Shiro Handa on Jan. 5 in Denver.

Emiko Masai to Shinichi Yonemura on Dec. 27 at Chicago.

Mitsuko Kawasaki to James Hasuiki on Jan. 10 at Ontario, Ore. Michi Shiratori to Shigeru Nii on Jan. 8 in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Nobuko Ikeuye (La Jara, Colo.) to Mr. Soichi Kukita (Alamosa, Colo.) in Denver on Jan. 11.

May Morikawa to Hidemi Yoshiwara in Denver, Colo., on Jan. 12. Setsuko Okamoto to Fred Okimoto in Chicago, Ill.

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Haruko Migaki and Mike Kitano in Denver, Colo.

### Marriage in Chicago

CHICAGO—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kinoshita gave their daughter, Imelda in marriage to Pfc. Henry I. Kiga, Thursday, Dec. 27, 1945, 8 p. m. at the St. Clement's Rectory.

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## New, Old Cabinets Of Chicago JACL Hold Meeting

CHICAGO—The old and incoming cabinets of the Chicago JACL met Jan. 11 at the home of William Minami to discuss plans and policies for the coming year. President-elect Noboru Honda was delegated to be one of the official delegates to the national conference to be held in Denver.

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## Assimilation in Community Is Goal of Relocated Iowa Nisei

DES MOINES, Ia.—Japanese Americans in Des Moines have declined to pursue a policy of segregation and wish to become assimilated as an integral part of their community, Bill Hosokawa, president of the Des Moines Coordinating Council, told a meeting of the group on Tuesday of this week.

Hosokawa said at present no pressing problems face Japanese Americans in this city. He explained that the 371 Nisei who have moved here since 1941 were chiefly family groups that intended to settle here permanently.

"A lot of us liked California," Hosokawa said, "but you can't eat climate. Here we have a chance to earn three meals a day."

"The reception we have received in Iowa has given us faith."

Mae Ideta, Drake university student, spoke warmly of the reception given Nisei students at the school.

Miss Florence Ross of the WRA

in Chicago emphasized that in the middle west, where hundreds of Japanese Americans have resettled, there has been a laudable absence of race discrimination.

Representatives of the following civic organizations pledged their aid in solving the problems of Nisei Americans: the Iowa Children's Home society, the Family society, the state department of social welfare, the Polk county welfare agency, the USES, and the YWCA.

### Discuss Formation Of Legal Rights Group In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES—Prospects of the extension of the Legal Rights Defense Committee, organized with the assistance of the JACL in Northern California, to the Southern California area were discussed at an invitational meeting on Jan. 16 under the auspices of the Los Angeles office of the JACL.

## Nisei Veteran Gets California Liquor License

LOS ANGELES—Haruo Okamoto, 29, a veteran of World War II, was recently issued the first distilled spirits license to be granted a person of Japanese ancestry since the return of Japanese American evacuees to the West Coast.

Okamoto and his partner, Shinichi C. Miura, will operate a store in Sacramento.

Previously the Board of Equalization had authorized the issuance only of beer and wine sale licenses to persons of Japanese ancestry.

George M. Stout, state liquor administrator, told the board Okamoto was a staff sergeant with the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 442nd Combat Team.

## Tooele Army Depot Withdraws Job Offer

TOOELE ORDNANCE DEPOT, Tooele, Utah—Due to transition from wartime activities to peacetime operational schedule Tooele Ordnance Depot at Tooele, Utah has withdrawn its previous job offers to the general Issei and Nisei public.

## Disclose Nisei Prepared Many Floats in Rose Tournament

### Terminal Isle Fishermen File Damage Claim

LOS ANGELES—Seeking "fair compensation" from the government for the taking by the U. S. Navy of its buildings and for its forcible removal from Terminal Island, the Southern California Japanese Fishermen's Association, through Attorney A. L. Wirin, this week filed a claim in the Federal Court at Los Angeles for damages in the sum of \$7,500.

The claim was filed in the form of an answer in condemnation suits brought by the government against a large number of former residents of Terminal Island, most of whom are of Japanese ancestry.

According to the Association, it had built two buildings on a parcel of land at Terminal Island leased from the Board of Harbor Commissioners. Under the terms of the lease, the Association was entitled to thirty-days notice for the removal of the buildings. The U. S. Navy ordered the buildings vacated upon two-days notice, whereupon it took over the two buildings and occupied them and forbade all persons from remaining on Terminal Island, the suit charges.

Other residents of Terminal Island are expected to file similar claims.

### Memorial Service Held for S. F. Pioneer

SAN FRANCISCO—Friends of T. Z. Shiota, pioneer resident of San Francisco, joined with Mrs. Shiota in a memorial service on Jan. 13, 1946.

Mr. Shiota, well known importer of Oriental art objects, passed

LOS ANGELES—More than 125 persons of Japanese ancestry, recently returned to the West Coast, worked on many of the prize-winning floats in the recent Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena, according to Ted Lutes of the War Relocation Authority.

"Insofar as the decoration of the floats is concerned, a surprising amount of work was done by Nisei from the Pasadena and Los Angeles areas, of which fifteen of twenty were veterans of the 442nd Infantry," Lutes said.

He estimated that more than 3000 man hours of Nisei labor went into the decoration of the floats.

He said that the floats entered by the Los Angeles Times, the City of Los Angeles and that of the Queen of the Tournament were 100 per cent decorated by Nisei workers. The Times float won a special award and the Los Angeles city entry placed third in its class.

Japanese Americans also worked on the floats entered by the Standard Oil company of California and the Balian Ice Cream company. The Standard float placed first in its class and the latter received the grand prize in its class.

Many Nisei also worked on the decoration of the cars ridden by Admiral Halsey, grand marshal of the tournament, and by the president of the Tournament of Roses.

The Lockheed, Ben Hur and Helms Bakeries floats also were prepared in part by Nisei floral experts.

away at the Colorado river relocation center at Poston, Ariz., on Jan. 13, 1944.

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