



## Report Twelve Thousand Nisei In Japan Have Applied for Repatriation to United States

**First Large Group Leaves This Week for West Coast on General Gordon; Priority Given Applicants With Relatives in America**

TOKYO—More than 12,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry have applied for repatriation to the United States during the past year, U. S. Consul Alexis Johnson reported here recently.

Johnson noted that 3,000 applications already have been processed while the other were pending. He declared the first large group of repatriates, 70 in number, would leave on March 8 for America on the General Gordon.

He declared that United States authorities in Japan recently had inaugurated a new processing system which gives priority to Nisei with friends and relatives in the United States or its territories who are willing to pay their fares home.

It was noted, however, that all applications for return to the United States must be initiated by the Nisei stranded in Japan.

Johnson said that applications received by American consular officials up to August, 1946, will keep the consulate busy until June, 1947.

All applicants, he noted, are screened carefully and none are permitted to return to the United States until they have established the fact that they "retained their American citizenship" throughout the war. Johnson said that the consulate already had a backlog of 100 Nisei who have been cleared for return to the United States and who now are awaiting shipping space.

All of the 70 who are scheduled to leave on March 8 for San Francisco have homes and residences in the western United States.

Nisei who have applied for repatriation to America consist largely of persons stranded in Japan by the outbreak of war while on visits to relatives or while attending school. Others were brought to Japan by parents or relatives while of minor age.

It was noted that the very great majority of the applicants were of minor age at the time of the outbreak of war in 1941.

## Rep. Granger Backs Bill for Japanese Wife of Citizen

WASHINGTON—A bill to permit the permanent residence in the United States of Mitsu M. Kobayashi, alien wife of an American citizen, Edward T. Kobayashi, was introduced in the House of Representatives on Feb. 27 by Rep. Walter Granger, D., Utah.

## Northern California Group Backs Oyama Land Law Test

**Revises Previous Decision Withdrawing Support of Case**

SAN FRANCISCO—Reconsidering their previous decision to withdraw support from the Oyama case now awaiting consideration by the U. S. Supreme Court, the board of directors of the Northern California Civil Rights Defense Union voted to support the case upon acceptance of the petition by the high court when they met in a special session on March 4 at the San Francisco headquarters.

It was announced last week by the Washington office of the JACL-ADC that the petition for writ of certiorari in the Oyama case had been filed.

Reversal of the CRDU stand took place in the Tuesday meeting following a stormy session. It was disclosed that James Purcell, CRDU general counsel, and Saburo Kido, representing the Northern California JACL Legal Defense Fund, both of whom attended the emergency session, urged reconsideration of the CRDU's previous decision.

Last month the CRDU directors decided to withdraw their sup-

## Paraplegic Nisei Veteran Learns To Fly Plane

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Although confined to a wheel-chair because of wounds received while serving in combat with the famous 442nd Combat Team, a Nisei veteran has refused to be grounded and has learned to fly a plane.

Shigemitsu Suyetani, wounded in Italy, is one of three paraplegic patients at Kennedy Veterans Administration hospital who have been taking flight training from a professional instructor, R. S. Weaver.

## California Bill Asks Fund for Land Law Cases

**\$200,000 Sought For Investigation Of Property Titles**

SACRAMENTO—An appropriation of \$200,000 to carry on investigation and prosecution of persons of Japanese ancestry for violation of the California Alien Land law is being sought in SB 1453, introduced in the California Senate recently.

An appropriation of \$200,000 was approved by the 1945 legislature and this fund was expended in two years of investigation of property deeds held by American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

Approximately 100 cases have been filed or are being prepared in various California counties seeking to confiscate agricultural property held by Japanese Americans on the allegation that there has been a violation of the Alien Land Law.

port from the case after hearing what was then believed to be unfavorable legal opinions as to its possibilities in the supreme court.

Information to the contrary from legal sources was introduced by Ichiji Motoki, executive secretary of the CRDU, at the Tuesday meeting when he gave a complete outline of the opinions expressed by Charles A. Horsky and Osmond K. Fraenkel, eastern constitutional authorities, in which they maintained that the case should be presented to the Supreme court.

Presiding over the emergency session of the CRDU was Toichi Domoto, president, and those attending included Kay Hamatani, Sao Sakai, William Enomoto, Yoshimi Shibata, Phil Matsumura, Robert K. Kanagawa, Takashi Koga, Sumio Hoshiko, Gunzo Miyamoto, Setsugo Sakamoto, Kikumatsu Togasaki, Kunisaku Ino, Shigenori Motoike, Iwasuke Rikimaru, Akimi Sugawara, S. Onishi and L. Motoki.

Special tribute was paid to the late Shigeichi Kubo of Penryn, who died suddenly last Sunday. He had been an active member of the CRDU board from the very start of the organization late in 1945.

## NISEI SINGER



NEW YORK CITY — Mariko Mukai, coloratura soprano, will make her Town Hall debut Sunday afternoon, March 16. Born in Seattle, Wash., the young Nisei has received all her musical training in this country. While still in her teens she sang major roles with the Lyric Opera Group of Seattle. In 1941 she was awarded a fellowship to the Juilliard Graduate School, where she studied for several years.

## Birthday Cake Served GIs in Honor of Nisei Who Died

POCATELLO, Idaho — In memory of the 23rd birthday of their son, Pfc. Kiyoshi Murakami, who was killed in Italy in action with the 442nd Combat Team on April 19, 1945, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Murakami of Pocatello sent a large, beautifully decorated birthday cake to the Hut, Pocatello canteen for GIs, to be served to members of the peacetime army passing through the city.

A number of young recruits, several reenlistees, six Japanese American soldiers and other GIs on furlough enjoyed the cake, according to directors of the Hut.

## Death of Nisei GI in Germany Reported

HONOLULU — Death of Pfc. Paul Tamotsu Yamada, 19-year-old son of Mrs. Waka Yamada, on Feb. 7 of injuries sustained in a truck collision in Germany was reported by the War Department in advices received by his mother last week.

Pfc. Yamada graduated from Farrington high school in June, 1945, and volunteered for the regular army.

## Wirin, Kido Will Discuss Restrictions in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES — Restrictive legislation affecting persons of Japanese ancestry in California will be discussed by A. L. Wirin and Saburo Kido, counsellors of the JACL Legal Defense Fund of Southern California, at a meeting of the JACL's Pacific Southwest District Council on March 8.

Henry Sakemi, chairman of the district council, reported that the group would review the present status of legislation affecting Japanese and Japanese Americans.

## Child Dies After Freak Accident

GLENDALE, Calif. — Hitoshi Mitsuno, 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Buntaro Mitsuno, was killed in a freak accident on March 1.

Hitoshi and his older brother were playing with kites when the tip of one of them accidentally pierced the left eye of the young child.

The boy was rushed to the hospital and failed to come out of the anesthetic treatment.

## California Supreme Court Hears Stockton Theatre Case On Issei Business Rights

**Case Involves Right of Japanese Resident Aliens to Lease Commercial Property in California Under Terms of Alien Land Law**

SACRAMENTO—A case which seeks to determine the right of resident aliens of Japanese ancestry to lease business property in the state of California was heard by the State Supreme Court on March 4.

The case, involving lease rights to a Stockton theater controlled by a Japanese alien corporation, was taken to the high court on appeal by attorneys for Emil Palermo from an appellate court decision which upheld the right of Japanese aliens to operate commercial property in California.

The District Court of Appeals overruled the decision of Superior Court Judge Marion G. Woodward who had declared that the Alien Land Law, barring Japanese aliens from ownership of farm property, is not limited to agricultural lands but applies equally to commercial property.

The State Supreme Court's action is the latest development in the case which has been fought in Stockton courts since 1942.

The original action was brought by Palermo, heir to the property, to void a lease with Stockton Theaters, Inc., a corporation whose majority members are resident Japanese aliens.

Judge Woodward had ruled that the abrogation of the commercial treaty between Japan and the United States in 1940 made Japanese aliens ineligible to lease commercial property in California. He awarded Palermo \$2,000 monthly damages and eviction proceedings against the theater company, which sought to have such action delayed until after a higher court ruling.

The case was then taken to the appellate court which overruled Judge Woodward.

The State of California, meanwhile, entered the case in August, 1946, when it filed escheat proceedings to obtain a leasehold interest in the property. The suit was the first escheat process initiated under the Alien Land law to involve business property.

In the March 4 hearing before the State Supreme Court counsel for the Japanese corporation argued the validity of the lease in spite of the abrogation of the trade treaty with Japan under which the commercial rights of Japanese nationals were determined.

Chief Justice Phil Gibson said the court might call for further argument before final consideration of the case.

filed in New Jersey and Texas in behalf of more than thirty Japanese still held as "dangerous enemy aliens" would be given a hearing late in March. The ACLU office added that the Texas suit may be cancelled if the Immigration Service paroles the sick enemy aliens at the Crystal City camp and sends the remaining three persons to Seabrook Farms in New Jersey.

The transfer was necessitated by Judge St. Sure's continued absence.

Judge Goodman also will hold a hearing on May 16 on cases of aliens of Japanese ancestry who face deportation orders and who are in the treaty trader or hardship categories.

The ACLU office also announced that habeas corpus suits

## Tule Lake Test Cases Moved To New Court

SAN FRANCISCO—Test cases challenging the legality of the procedure under which a number of Japanese Americans at the Tule Lake segregation center renounced their citizenship have been transferred from the court of Federal Judge A. F. St. Sure to that of Federal Judge Louis Goodman in San Francisco, the Northern California office of the American Civil Liberties Union reported this week.

The transfer was necessitated by Judge St. Sure's continued absence.

Judge Goodman also will hold a hearing on May 16 on cases of aliens of Japanese ancestry who face deportation orders and who are in the treaty trader or hardship categories.

The ACLU office also announced that habeas corpus suits

## Madera County Gets \$15,000 For Part in Land Law Cases

MADERA, Calif.—District Attorney John D. Boyle announced here last week that Madera County has received \$15,250 in settlement for two suits brought by the county and the State of California against persons of Japanese ancestry for alleged ownership and control of agricultural property in violation of the Alien Land law.

The money received by the county was one-half of the money received in settlement of two Alien Land law prosecutions, the other half going to the state. Until passage of a bill in the California legislature in 1945, which provided that counties would receive a half-share of all funds derived from the escheat of farm property under the Alien Land law, all funds derived from the escheat of farm property under the Alien Land law, all funds had accrued to the state.

District Attorney Boyle indicated that a settlement had been reached in the two cases, but said that Japanese aliens would be "dispossessed" of the properties.

The suits were settled by the state attorney general's office and the Madera county district attorney.

The suits are believed to be two of a number settled by compromise settlements under which American citizens of Japanese ancestry are permitted to retain title to the property upon the payment of stipulated sums to the state and county. These agreements were negotiated during the recent term of office of Attorney General Robert W. Kenny. The new Attorney General of California, Frederick N. Howser, has indicated that he will oppose any further compromise settlements and will seek to confiscate any property awarded to the state in escheat proceedings.

# Hawaiian Statehood Official Answers Anti-Nisei Criticism By Michigan Congressman

### Rep. Crawford's Fears of Nisei in Congress Contrasts With Rep. Engle's Report Quoting Gen. MacArthur's Advocacy of Hawaiian State

WASHINGTON—Returning from a 24,000-mile tour of the Pacific on March 5, Rep. Clair Engle, D., Calif., asserted that Gen. MacArthur "is of the opinion that statehood for Hawaii would be a step in support of a program to bring democracy to Japan."

Rep. Engle's comment, quoting Gen. MacArthur, contrasted with the recent advice of Rep. Fred Crawford, R., Mich., against immediate statehood for Hawaii on the ground that the possible pressure of Japanese Americans in Congress would hamper Gen. MacArthur's efforts in Japan.

"I completely agree that the territory (Hawaii) is ready for statehood, both economically and politically," Engle said. "Statehood is a fundamental step in our national policy in the Pacific and is one we should take."

WASHINGTON—"The loyalty of Japanese Americans is no longer questioned in Hawaii," George McLane, executive secretary of the Hawaii Statehood Committee, declared in Washington last week in answer to a statement by Rep. Fred Crawford, R., Mich., that statehood for Hawaii should be delayed because of the possibility of the election of Japanese Americans to Congress.

Rep. Crawford, head of the House sub-committee on public lands charged with territorial and insular affairs, told the United Press on Feb. 20 that statehood for Hawaii should be withheld "until Gen. MacArthur leaves Japan." He added that he wished Hawaiians "would soft-pedal the movement for a couple of years."

Crawford explained that "many persons felt MacArthur's hands would be tied in negotiating with the Japanese government, "if there should be Hawaiian Japanese in the House or Senate." This fear, the Michigan Republican noted, is based on a belief that racial ties will bind the island's Japanese population to their motherland and that some of these ties might interfere with the success of MacArthur's policies if Japanese Americans were able to air their views in Congress.

In answering Crawford, McLane said he believed Crawford's misgivings about Japanese Americans in Congress were groundless. He pointed out that in the recent territorial primary election only 25 of 187 candidates were Japanese Americans. Of these 12 were nominated and three won outright in elections. Twelve in office now, he said, represent 8.9 per cent of the 134 elected officials in Hawaii, although persons of Japanese ancestry constitute approximately 30 per cent of the population.

MacLane noted the magnificent war records of Hawaii's Japanese Americans in Europe and in the Pacific war in declaring that the matter of Japanese American loyalty no longer was a subject of question.

Rep. Crawford had told the press that he felt "almost certain" that Hawaiian statehood would mean immediate Japanese American representation in Congress.

Crawford's announcement was considered significant because it is likely that the whole question of Hawaiian statehood will be referred to his subcommittee for further study and investigation before the full public lands committee makes a final recommendation on legislation.

Hearings on Hawaiian statehood were scheduled to open in Washington this week.

The Hawaiian statehood movement received a boost this week following the return of Secretary of Interior Julius Krug from a trip to Hawaii with Reps. Norris Poulson and Clair Engle of California. Mr. Krug issued a statement strongly advocating immediate action to give statehood rights to Hawaii and declared his confidence in the loyalty of the territory's population.

President Truman also in on record favoring Hawaiian statehood.

## Boise Valley JACL Conducts Drive For Membership

NAMPA, Ida. — Membership committee members of the Boise Valley JACL are making a house-to-house canvass in their present drive to recruit new members. Ted Takeshita, 2nd vice-president, is chairman of the committee.

A drive for Pacific Citizen subscriptions is being carried on under the direction of Kaley Uye-matsu.

Members of the membership committee include Kaley Uye-matsu, Max Nishioka, Mills Okazaki, Caldwell; Mas Yamashita, George Koyama, June Fujikawa, Nampa; Henry Suyehira, Emmett; Kay Inouye, Homedale; Ted Takeshita, Parma; and Atsushi Shin-tani, Boise.

## Masaoka Discusses Nisei Problems with Maine Congressman

WASHINGTON—After hearing of the many disabilities forced upon the Japanese, citizens and aliens alike, by the discriminatory naturalization and immigration laws, Representative Frank Fellows (R) of Maine, chairman of the Standing Sub-Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the House Judiciary Committee, indicated his interest and sympathy with the general legislative program of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee, Mike Masaoka, national Legislative director, reported this week.

Masaoka explained how the various western states used the congressional classification of aliens to prosecute and persecute only those of Japanese ancestry. "I cannot believe that the Congress intended that such practices should develop out of their classification of aliens as those eligible and those ineligible to citizenship," Masaoka declared.

He also explained the evacuation and relocation program to the Maine congressman, stressing the important and vital part which so many Japanese nationals played in our war effort even though they were citizens of the enemy country.

Mr. Fellows stated that in his opinion the Japanese had conducted themselves in a manner which reflected credit upon their loyalty and deserved the utmost consideration from our government. He felt that the Standing Sub-Committee would be generally sympathetic to granting some changes in the law.

Before concluding their interview, Chairman Fellows promised Masaoka a hearing before the Sub-Committee at an early date.

## Kenneth Pettus Addresses Meeting

CHICAGO — Kenneth Pettus, former managing editor of the Tokyo office of the GI newspaper "Stars and Stripes," addressed 150 members and guests of the Chicago JACL at a membership rally Wednesday, Feb. 26.

A radio broadcast skit written by Mari Sabusawa and Mary Suzuki was the entertainment feature of the evening. Titled the "Double or Nothing" program over station JACL, the show included Bill Simms as announcer, Mike Hagiwara as Professor J. Acl and Lincoln Shimidzu and Mas Nakagawa as spotters in the audience. Helen Mayeda and Dora Sato filled in with singing commercials.

The Chicago chapter's membership drive is under the direction of Wiley Higuchi and Mrs. Dorothy Kitow.

## Amnesty Sought By Wirin for Evacuee Group

### Appeal Carried by Attorney to Special Presidential Board

LOS ANGELES — Presidential amnesty for a number of Japanese Americans now held in Federal detention for violation of selective service regulations through their refusal to accept Army induction while confined in war relocation centers was urged before a special Presidential Amnesty Board in Washington by A. L. Wirin, Los Angeles attorney, the Rafu Shimpo reported March 3.

Mr. Wirin noted that the great majority of Japanese Americans "cooperated fully with the government in the Selective Service act despite the fact that they had been denied rights as American citizens."

Wirin, who has represented a number of Nisei who had been indicted for violation of draft regulations while in WRA camps, urged amnesty in the form of a general presidential pardon. He said that the men involved had refused to answer the army call because they felt they had been unlawfully imprisoned and unjustly treated.

## Racial Minorities Victimized As Scapegoats in Time of Economic Crisis, Says Writer

LOS ANGELES — Racial minorities become scapegoats in times of economic crisis, Carey McWilliams, noted author and lecturer, said on Feb. 21 at a mass rally held by the Los Angeles JACL at St. Mary's Episcopal church.

One of the paramount issues today, the author said, is the functioning of the American economy. Economic pressures and crises bring about unrest and frustrations which in turn affect other problems and issues, he said. Under such conditions racial minorities are used as scapegoats to divert attention and becloud the real issues.

McWilliams commented upon the interrelation of ideas in the minds of individuals. Social scientists have found, he said, that there are systems of ideals, and that a man who is against the Jews is probably also against organized labor and a progressive foreign policy. McWilliams warned against a coming crisis in this country in the next decade concerning the future of democracy.

"There are forces strong enough in the United States today to develop a Fascist revolt," McWilliams said. "The trend in this direction is growing rapidly and our society seems to be turning these types of people out in mass production. These fascist groups have out-growth in economic frustrations and social and political unrest and confusion."

He warned that unless the people become politically and socially conscious of these situations and combat these groups with "dynamic democracy," these groups will undermine that democracy. As a racial minority, Japanese Americans should join with other minorities and liberal groups in a common fight for the preservation of democracy, McWilliams said. The preservation of this democracy is, he said, the "great single issue of our time."

He stated that the Nisei must organize public opinion by well-coordinated action and must show that the pressures against racial minorities are not based upon factual knowledge of the minority group members. He added that the Nisei in turn must become vitally interested in the conditions of other minority groups and aid them in their problems. He also urged that the Nisei look for support from liberal church, racial, labor and economic groups in the community to carry on an educational fight for racial democracy.

McWilliams praised the changes in community conditions that have taken place since the return of the evacuees. He stated that while before the war there was no organized feeling for racial equality, today a dozen or more groups are organized for this purpose.

# Nisei, Negro Groups Learning To Live, Work Together in Downtown Los Angeles Area

### Japanese Americans Do Not Believe in Evacuation, Says Kenji Ito in Quashing Rumors Evacuees Want Negroes to Move Out

LOS ANGELES—In the shadow of Los Angeles' City Hall two minority racial groups, Americans of Japanese and Negro ancestry, are establishing that the Brotherhood of Man is not a loose collection of words, the Daily News reported on March 4.

Returned Japanese American evacuees and the Negro workers who made the evacuated "Little Tokyo" section into "Bronzeville" are learning to live and work together, the newspaper said.

Following reports that persons of Japanese ancestry, usually aged returned evacuees, had been victimized by hold-up men, in many cases of the Negro race, a meeting of leaders of the Negro and Japanese populations in the East First and San Perdo street area was held on March 3 at which the readjustment problems facing the district's residents were discussed frankly with civic leaders, including Mayor Fletcher Bowron and members of the police department, in attendance.

Out of the March 3 meeting, the Daily News declared, has come the first step toward an organization that will represent every racial group in the area—Chinese, Mexican, Negro, Japanese, Filipino and Caucasian.

G. Raymond Booth, executive director of the Council for Civic Unity and one of the leaders in the move for increased understanding and cooperation between the district's residents, sketched the background of the problems which face the downtown Los Angeles community.

He reminded his audience how "Little Tokyo" disappeared on good Friday in 1942 when the Army's mass evacuation orders were put into effect and how Negroes from all over the country, attracted by the need for war workers, came in to take over the vacated buildings and houses left by the evacuees.

Mr. Booth said he was proud to report that when the first Japanese American business was reopened in 1945 with the return of the first group of evacuees, it was the Negroes who brought the bouquets of welcome.

Mr. Booth also stressed that he had found no resentment among the evacuees who returned to find that Negro Americans had taken over their homes and businesses in downtown Los Angeles. They learned to live side by side, he said, but as the "fountains of war prosperity began to dry up—more rapidly for non-whites—the incidence of crime began to increase in the area.

"Elderly Japanese suddenly became victims of holdup men—in many cases, the assailants were Negroes," the Daily News said. "So the Japanese Businessmen's Association employed two former Nisei GIs to patrol the area after dark.

"Very soon rumors spread among the Negroes that the Japanese were preparing to force the Negroes out of 'Little Tokyo.' The atmosphere became electric. The Council for Civic Unity stepped in, and yesterday's meeting was the result. There, responsible citizens of both groups had their say."

Among the Japanese Americans at the meeting were Kenji Ito, representing the businessmen's association which had hired the two Nisei patrolmen, and Eiji Tanabe, regional director of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Ito, an attorney who had been evacuated from Seattle to a relocation center, exploded the rumors that Japanese Americans were trying to move out the Negroes.

"Japanese Americans don't believe in evacuation," he said pointedly.

It noted that Mayor Bowron had taken the initiative to welcome back the first group of Japanese American evacuees and noted that such action took "moral courage."

He explained that the Nisei private patrolmen, both Army veterans, were appointed in the belief that the city could not provide sufficient police protection in the area and that the two Nisei hoped to qualify as regular police officers.

He stated that the Nisei appointments had been authorized by the police department.

The Rev. Harold M. Kingsley, pastor of Pilgrim House, the interracial church in the district, spoke on behalf of the Negro Americans in the area and noted that it was the Negro press almost alone which raised its voice in support of the

Japanese Americans when they were faced with evacuation.

"There must be an increase of inter-group life in our community," Rev. Kingsley added. "And we do not want four or five men, engaged in crime, to become a symbol of our life."

Assistant Police Chief Joseph Reed declared that the district was receiving better protection than other sections of the city and that "outsiders" were the ones responsible for the upsurge in crime, so that convictions had been obtained in the majority of crimes of violence perpetrated in the last 100 days.

He added that he had assigned five plain clothes detectives to the area when word reached him the returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry, particularly aged persons, were being held up with "alarming regularity." He noted that there had been 42 "jobs," usually cases of armed robbery, in three weeks in which Japanese or Japanese Americans were victimized.

Spokesmen for Negro groups at the meeting advocated the teaming of city policemen of Negro and Japanese ancestry and insisted that the city police should handle the situation. Both Reed and Mayor Bowron promised cooperation and unprejudiced application of the law.

## Seek Better Police Protection for San Francisco Area

SAN FRANCISCO—Active operation of all merchant groups in the Fillmore area of San Francisco to obtain more adequate police protection for the district will be sought by a special steering committee, it was indicated this week following the second of a series of meetings by local Buchanan-Post area citizens on March 4.

Returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry have been victimized by recent outbreaks of criminal activity.

The special committee may also make a study of the crime situation in the neighborhood, according to information from the group.

Reports of the number of recent holdups in the area were made at the community-wide meeting which was attended by businessmen of the district as well as representatives of social and civic organizations interested in community problems.

Robert L. George of the International Institute presided over the session.

## Washington JACL Holds First Social

WASHINGTON — The Washington JACL played host to 100 persons at its first 1947 social on Feb. 28 at Pierce Hall of the All Souls' Unitarian Church. Jun Hirose was general chairman of the program, which included dancing, games and community singing.

Miss Gretchen Feiker, one of the chapter's advisers and the director of the YWCA-USO, led the folk dancing and singing, while Hirose and Hal Horiuchi directed the games.

Door prizes were won by Sato Tsujimoto, Irene Kono, Tom Sumida, Shozo Shigemura and Jun Okazaki.

Those serving on the committees were: Reception, Kenko Sasaki, Mrs. Yoshiko Hino, Mrs. Tsuda, Mrs. Sue Komai, Mrs. Gladys Shimasaki and Mrs. Horiuchi; food, Sada Onoye, Tetsuo Ohara, Ann Kurimoto, Tom Kurimoto, and Janet Yasunobu; program, Don Komai, Bob Jun Okazaki. The pianists were Mrs. Hoshiye Yamada and Mrs. Shimasaki.

## U. of Hawaii Nisei Queen



HONOLULU, T. H.—Miss Mildred Odan, University of Hawaii sophomore from Kilauea, Kauai, was chosen the Japanese queen in a contest sponsored by Ka Palapala, the university yearbook, on March 25. Five other queens, representing other racial strains, were chosen along with Miss Odan.

Photo courtesy Hawaii Times.

## Discuss Amending Laws to Stay Deportation of Alien Residents

### Situation Confronting Japanese Aliens Noted by Committee

WASHINGTON—The possible amending of the immigration laws to prevent the deportation of certain Japanese nationals now in the United States was discussed during the first executive meeting of the Standing Sub-Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the House Judiciary Committee, the Washington Office of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee learned this week.

"The very fact that the members of the sub-committee were interested enough to discuss this important topic at their first meeting is indicative of a real desire to correct certain discriminatory features in our immigration laws," Mike Masaoka, national legislative director, declared. "This is a healthy sign and augurs well for a sympathetic consideration of our naturalization and immigration aims."

Under discussion were H. R. 674 and H. R. 1115 introduced by Democratic Congressmen George P. Miller of California and Herman P. Eberharter of Pennsylvania.

Rep. Miller appeared in behalf of his bill, which would grant the Attorney General powers to suspend deportations in cases where such deportations would result in serious economic detriment to citizens or legally resident aliens who are spouses, parents, or minor children of such deportable aliens or where the alien contributed valuable services to the war effort.

The California congressman recalled that last session the special sub-committee of which he was the chairman was favorably considering such a measure when the Attorney General advised his sub-committee that deportations of Japanese aliens in the so-called hardship and treaty merchant categories were being suspended pending final court rulings on the propriety of such deportations.

Speaking in behalf of his bill, Rep. Eberharter pointed out that while the deportable aliens of other nationalities could appeal to the Attorney General for the suspension of their orders the Japanese aliens had no such recourse open to them. He suggested that the passage of his bill would correct this situation by placing the Japanese on the same basis as

other groups insofar as deportation was concerned.

The Eberharter bill provides that certain sub-sections of the immigration laws dealing with deportation be amended by striking out the words: "If not racially inadmissible or ineligible to naturalization in the United States."

From authoritative sources it was learned that the Republican members of the sub-committee, all of whom are new to immigration matters, showed great interest in the discriminatory features of our laws. After having been told the story of the Nisei troops in combat and of the many Issei who served in important war work, the entire sub-committee appeared to be favorably inclined to some revision of the laws, particularly in cases involving those who had contributed to the war effort, Masaoka reported.

### L. A. City Council Considers Claims Of Blast Victims

LOS ANGELES—Formation of an official city committee to handle all claims for personal and property damages for victims of the O'Connor electro-plating plant blast on Feb. 20 was recommended to the city council on March 1 by Councilman Charles J. Allen.

Two Nisei, Akiko Otomo and Alice Iba, were killed in the blast. "The explosion, although it occurred on private property, was so extensive that it warrants official action for the protection and the rights of its victims," Councilman Allen said.

The city attorney was advised to direct the council on how the city may protect the rights of injured parties, and to contact the State Insurance Commission and the insurance company which wrote a policy on the O'Connor plant.

### Lodi Issei Reported Suicide at Hospital

STOCKTON, Calif.—Umekichi Tanaka, 61, was listed as a suicide here after he leaped to his death from a window at the Stockton hospital on Feb. 25.

Tanaka, a resident of Lodi, had been confined in the hospital for some time.

## Nisei GIs Vital to Success Of Occupation, Says Army

### 442nd Veteran Wins \$10,000 House from AVC

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Tom Takata of Sacramento, Calif., a veteran of the 442nd Combat Team, was announced as the holder of the lucky ticket for a \$10,000 house in a competition at the state convention of the American Veterans Committee in San Jose last week. Takata was notified by wire of his good fortune.

### Arizona Nisei Boy Honored For Heroism

#### Joe Yoshimoto, 13, Given Award for Saving Friend's Life

PHOENIX, Ariz.—Joe Yoshimoto, 13-year-old member of Washington School Boy Scout Troop 20, was presented with an award on Feb. 27 by Roosevelt Council, Boy Scouts of America, for the rescue from drowning of a fellow troop member last fall.

Yoshimoto, son of Japan-born parents, pulled Allen Zale from the water at Blue Point, near Granite Reef Dam, after the current of the Salt river had swept Zale off his feet, as the scouts were crossing the stream.

Diving in, Yoshimoto grabbed Zale by the hair, pulled him to the shore and administered the life-saving resuscitation technique he had been taught by A. Benzner, scoutmaster, and Nat George, assistant.

The presentation on behalf of the council was made by Frank Kenniston, field executive.

### JACL President To Participate In City Program

CHICAGO—Jack Nakagawa, president of the Chicago JACL, will be one of several participants in a city-wide interracial program, "The World Faces Youth," sponsored by the Chicago Area Council of Liberal Religious Youth on March 9.

Hosts for the evening will be the College-Age Congress. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p. m. at the People's church, 941 Lawrence, at Sheridan road.

Others on the program will be C. O. Ellison of the interracial Chicago Negro Art Theater; Dave Parke, Antioch college; and Dr. Preston Bradley, chairman of the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.

## Military Intelligence Service Starts New Recruiting Drive for Japanese Americans

MONTEREY, Calif.—Citing the Army's "critical need" for Nisei soldiers for occupation duty in Japan, the Military Intelligence Service Language School in Monterey this week announced a recruiting campaign for additional language personnel.

Recruiting teams will be sent to various centers of Japanese American population to contact prospective students directly, the school announced.

The first three teams, which are scheduled to leave this week, will be assigned to the San Francisco-East Bay area, the San Joaquin valley and the Los Angeles county area for approximately 30 days.

In their respective areas the teams will meet with Nisei and Issei organizations, with former MISLS graduates and with individuals to explain the present recruiting drives. The members of the recruiting teams will explain enlistment procedure and advantages, interview prospective students and screen and enlist students.

In announcing its present drive, the school at Monterey stated that the role of the Nisei in the occupation is equal to their role during the war, when they acted "as the eyes and ears of the combat units."

"They are needed to act as media of communications between the occupation authorities and the Japanese people," MISLS announced. "They are the only ones qualified to overcome the language barrier to bring to the suffering, disillusioned people of Japan the benefits of the democratic way of life and to visualize the phrase in the new Japanese constitution which guarantees to all 'the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.'"

"In view of the great need for and in recognition of the invaluable contribution of Nisei linguists in every field of the occupation in Japan, the Army has come up with a very attractive offer for men enlisting for the Military Intelligence Service," the MISLS report stated. Individuals enlisting for no less

### Nisei Admitted To California Bar

SAN FRANCISCO—Masatatsu Yonemura of Berkeley was among the 16 applicants admitted to practice before the California state bar March 4 in Sacramento.

Yonemura, a Nisei veteran who served in the south Pacific, was graduated from Boalt Hall of Law at the University of California. He received his bachelor's degree at UCLA.

Mrs. Toshi Yonemura, his wife, is at present employed at the university YMCA at Berkeley.

## Nisei Girl Gives Eye-Witness Account of O'Connor Explosion

LOS ANGELES—A Nisei girl chemist who miraculously escaped death in the heart of the O'Connor electro-plating plant on Feb. 20 last week gave the first eyewitness account of what occurred inside the building in the disaster in which one Nisei girl was killed and another is still missing and four other persons of Japanese ancestry, all employees of the O'Connor firm, were seriously injured.

Fifteen persons were killed and more than 150 hurt in the explosion which obliterated the O'Connor plant and damaged some 300 surrounding buildings.

Yoshi Kadota, chemistry graduate of UCLA, who had been hired as assistant to Robert McGee, chief chemist of the plant, only three days before the devastating explosion, told newsmen of her experience. She was blown out of the building with the side wall, landing 35 feet away. Her body and face were badly cut by glass.

"I was in the small glassed-in laboratory at one side of the huge room where the big vats of chemicals were," she said as she lay swathed in bandages on a cot at the General Hospital.

"I was clearing some things away, getting a place ready to test acid concentrates.

"Through the glass partition I could see workmen among the vats, 15 or 20 people.

"One moment everything was as usual in the plant. Then it came—the end of everything—the world was blotted out.

"I woke up in the hospital." Miss Kadota said she saw McGee for the last time about an hour before the blast.

"I am sure both Dr. McGee and Miss Iba (Alice Shimeta Iba, Nisei chemist who is still missing) were killed. I doubt if their bodies can ever be identified—the explosion would have blown them into shreds if they were close to the big vat which went off."

Miss Kadota lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Maruo Kadota, in Baldwin Park. She was graduated from UCLA in 1937 and was in a war relocation center during the war. Her job as assistant to McGee was the first since she returned to Los Angeles a year ago.

Her father is a chicken rancher, while her brother, Hayao, 34, is an aeronautical draughtsman for the Curtiss-Wright factory at Puento, Calif.

Doctors believe she will recover completely from her miraculous brush with death.

than a two-year period are eligible to enlist in the Military Intelligence Service for subsequent assignment to the MISLS if they have a basic knowledge of both spoken and written Japanese and English and have completed high school or its equivalent. These men will be given a period of training in language and other technical subjects at MISLS, Presidio of Monterey, before being assigned to the occupation forces in Japan.

The school announced a system of rapid promotions offered to its students. Under this system an individual enlisting for MISLS may enter the school a private and leave as a technician third grade upon completion of the course of study, which may entail 9, six or even fewer months of study.

Students enlisting for three years in the regular army will be promoted to the following grades:

1. Private first class upon enlistment.
2. Technician Fifth Grade upon satisfactory completion of half the academic training.
3. Technician Fourth Grade upon graduation.
4. A group not to exceed 10 per cent of any graduating class who classify as Grade A interpreters and translators may be promoted to Technician Third Grade.

Students enlisting for two years will be promoted to the following grades:

1. Private first class upon satisfactory completion of first three months of course.
2. Technician fifth grade if academic performance at the end of six months training or at any time thereafter indicates they will qualify as Grade B translators or Grade B interpreters or higher.
3. Technician fourth grade upon graduation as Grade B translators or Grade B interpreters.

Selected graduates of the MISLS are eligible to apply for commission as second lieutenants, it was announced. Direct commissions are available and being awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding qualities in both academic and military fields.

Individuals enlisting from civilian life under the above mentioned memorandum will be sent from the place of enlistment to the following Army ground force training centers for the completion of their required basic training prior to their transfer to the MISLS: 1) Personnel from the First, Second and Third Army areas will be sent to the Army Ground Force Training Center, Fort Dix, N. J. 2) Personnel from the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Army areas will be sent to the AGFTC, Fort Ord, California. While at AFG training centers personnel will be screened by agencies of MISLS.

Enlistees not selected as a result of screening for such language training will be assigned as follows:

1. Three-year enlistees will be given a choice of another assignment which is authorized by current War Department directives for personnel enlisting for a 3-year period.
2. Two-year enlistees will be placed in the replacement stream and assigned as any other individuals enlisting in the regular army for less than a 3-year period.

Former graduates of MISLS who reenlist for not less than two years will be enlisted as technicians fourth grade or in the grade held at the time of discharge, whichever is higher. Reenlistees are also eligible to apply for direct commissions.

Prospective students can be screened through the recruiting teams now being sent out, the MISLS report announced. This procedure will assure such students of acceptance by the school before they enlist.

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

Official Publication of the  
Japanese American Citizens League

National Headquarters: 413-15 Beason Building, 25 East Second South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Editorial and Business Office: 415 Beason Building. Phone 5-6501.

Other National JACL Offices in Chicago, New York, Denver, San Francisco, Seattle and Los Angeles.

Subscription Rates: JACL members, \$2.50 year. Non-members, \$3.50 year.

Entered as second class matter in the post office at Salt Lake City, Utah. Published weekly, under the act of March 3, 1879.

LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### Two Evacuations

Many parallels have been marked by observers in reviewing the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry by the Canadian and American governments. In the beginning the two countries seemed embarked upon similar programs for removing from the west coast areas all persons of Japanese descent to relocation centers in the interior states. A program of "dispersal" was announced by both countries to prevent a reconcentration of Japanese Canadians and Americans upon the shores of the Pacific.

With the passage of time, however, marked differences in the attitude and treatment of the two evacuated groups became apparent. These differences are pointed out by Robert W. O'Brien of the State College of Washington in a study titled: "Evacuation of Japanese from the Pacific Coast: Canadian and American Contrasts."

The fundamental difference lay in the divergent attitudes of the War Relocation Authority in the United States and the British Columbia Security Commission and the Department of Labor in Canada, says O'Brien.

From the beginning the War Relocation Authority was primarily concerned with the eventual return of the evacuees to normal American life. (As early as November, 1942, Dillon S. Myer stated publicly that the purpose of the WRA was to work itself out of existence through a program of resettlement.)

This objective was evidenced in many ways. "The War Relocation Authority," says O'Brien, "had an avowed policy of giving the best jobs and the best employment and educational opportunities to those individuals and families who demonstrated a willingness to make their future in the United States." But in Canada the reverse was true. In housing, employment and education, those Canadian Nisei who signed for repatriation to Japan were given favorable treatment. In Tashme, B. C., a prerequisite for teaching in the relocation center primary school was the signing of repatriation papers to "return" to Japan! Thus the Canadian Nisei who still held to his Canadian citizenship was penalized for his loyalty. Persons who signed for return to Japan were also given preference in lumber and highway jobs in British Columbia, says O'Brien.

The attitude of the comparable government agencies in regard to education is particularly indicative of the differing points of view held by American and Canadian authorities. In the U. S. relocation centers, schools were established from the very first as part of the centers, and every effort was made to maintain schools of high educational standards. In Canada, however, almost no provision was made for education. Elementary schools were opened in makeshift quarters with almost wholly inexperienced Nisei teachers. High school training was never given until 1944, when volunteer high school teachers were sent to the interior housing centers by the Anglican and United churches of Canada.

Also indicative of the Canadian and American contrasts in the evacuation is the question of the legality of the program. In the United States, says O'Brien, the legality of both the evacuation and the detention of American-born citizens of Japanese ancestry has been subjected to question, and the Supreme Court has avoided a definitive answer on the latter. In Canada, however, the power of the British Columbia Security Commission and the Department of Labour to keep second-generation Nisei in relocation centers has been generally unchallenged, and the chief legal issue has been whether those possessing Canadian citizenship can be deported. The Supreme

Court of Canada ruled on February 20, 1946, that the Dominion has such power.

Thus, says O'Brien, as result of its program of reabsorption of the Japanese into American life, the War Relocation Authority could report by December 31, 1946, that 42.3 per cent of the evacuees had returned to the West Coast, another 47.2 per cent had relocated in other sections of the United States or were in the armed forces, 6.5 per cent were at Tule Lake awaiting either resettlement or repatriation, and the remaining 3.5 per cent had either been repatriated to Japan or were in internment camps awaiting transportation.

At the same time the figures on Canada were as follows: 37 per cent were in interior housing centers or awaiting repatriation to Japan, 24 per cent were living in eastern British Columbia, 21 per cent in the prairie provinces and 18 per cent in eastern Canada.

Thus the Canadian government, by refusal to recognize the rights of this minority in its population, has alienated a substantial number of its citizens; the United States government, by its recognition of the rights and desires of the Nisei, has gone a long way toward restitution for the evacuation.

### Separate Posts

The organization of a separate Nisei post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars recently has been followed by reports of the reactivation of the Townsend Harris post of the American Legion in San Francisco and suggestions from Legion leadership in Watsonville Calif., that Nisei veterans form their own organization rather than join the existing post.

The pattern of segregation of minority group veterans is nothing new on the West Coast. The Legion has had its World War I posts of Japanese American veterans in Los Angeles and San Francisco for some years, although these posts were suspended by the state department of the Legion and their charters were not returned until after V-J day. In addition, both the Legion and VFW in the West Coast states have encouraged the formation of separate, segregated groups of veterans of Negro, Mexican, Filipino and Chinese ancestry. In areas in which these separate posts exist, minority group veterans are advised to join their "own" racial groups rather than affiliate with other established posts.

The argument advanced by advocates of separate posts is that such groups will give veterans of minority races an opportunity to organize their own activities and to gain experience in leadership in veterans affairs. It is also emphasized that separate posts will give racial groups direct representation and a vote in the affairs of area councils of veterans. It also is stressed that since much of the activities of a veterans' group are of a fraternal-social nature, members of minorities may be more comfortable in their own groups.

The argument against separate posts is an obvious one and one which revolves around the whole subject of segregation as a deterrent to community unity in areas where there are sizable numbers of members of minority race groups.

The history of the two Japanese American posts of the American Legion in California is perhaps the best argument against segregated posts. Shortly after the outbreak of war the Commodore Perry post in Los Angeles and the Townsend Harris post in San Francisco were summarily suspended by the California department of the American Legion. No charges were levied when the charters were taken up. The California Legion, long an active participant in anti-Orientalism in the state, then embarked on a campaign of vituperation against Americans and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry. No hand was raised on the part of the Legion leadership on behalf of the Japanese American veterans of World War I who were members of the suspended posts. The Legion's participation in the anti-evacuee movement on the West Coast diminished in fervor following reports of Nisei heroism and service in World War II and the organization no longer is engaged in such activity.

There has been no disposition on the part of the national leaderships of either the Legion or the VFW to force the organization of Nisei veterans in separate posts. It is apparent that both of these national groups are anxious to forget the past history of anti-Nisei activity which has embarrassed them, not only in their relations with Japanese American veterans, but in the reaction of a large body of World War II veterans to such actions as the removal of Nisei names from the honor roll of a Hood River Legion post and the refusal of a Spokane VFW group to admit Nisei to membership.

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## A Time For Great Courage

"This is a time for great courage," Paul Robeson told a Midwest audience the other day. "We cannot afford divisions among us."

Paul Robeson, a singer of songs to make men free, was talking about the people. Robeson, a giant of a man, is more interested in the people now, and in the causes of free men, than in his singing or his acting, although he is today established as a foremost concert artist and as one of the greatest of Othellos since the days of Shakespeare.

Paul Robeson believes in the people and it is this quality of humanity which distinguishes him most today.

He is one who loves laughter and yet there is a burning anger in him against fascism and all that it implies—oppression and race discrimination. He is angry, as John Brown was, and the causes are not unlike.

He came to Salt Lake City this week to give a concert. Before a capacity audience in Kingsbury hall he sang the songs which were on the printed program and he sang others, as encores, which are closer to his heart. He sang songs which are the echoes of the struggles of human beings against oppression, the chant of a rabbi, the song of a Negro worker, a Chinese folk song and an anti-fascist promise of vengeance to the men who betrayed the Spanish Republic. He sang Earl Robinson's ballad about Joe Hill, the migratory labor organizer who was executed in Salt Lake City, but "who went on to organize."

He told his audience that this would be his last concert tour for a while. He is giving up the stage and the concert hall and he will work for the Negro people and for other American minorities in the fight against racist discrimination. He will continue to sing, but this time, he said, there will be no possibility of any mistake about what he is singing. He has enlisted for the duration in a crusade for the people.

He will go wherever he is needed and he will sing songs the people want to hear.

After the concert he recalled his appearance last summer at a dinner in Chicago to honor Nisei war veterans. He was sharply aware of the evacuation and of wartime prejudice against the Nisei. (Back in 1942 before Gen. DeWitt's evacuation order, some Nisei were looking for a voice which would speak out for them against the anti-democracy which was mass evacuation. They asked Paul Robeson and he agreed to testify before a Congressional committee, but before the hearings, however, the evacuation orders were announced. The incident is descriptive of Paul Robeson's concern for his fellow man.)

He said he would like to include a Japanese song in his program, a song of the common people to help fight discrimination against Americans of Japanese origin. It is all part of one problem, he noted, this matter of race discrimination and it may be the foremost question facing us today in the third year of the atomic age.

Paul Robeson has been fighting fascism in the theater, in the films and on the radio for a long time. He will have no part of any roles which are tainted with racial stereotyping. Some years ago he declared that he would not make another Hollywood film until Negroes were presented in characterizations consistent with human dignity. Too long has racial stereotyping in the theater and in motion pictures been permitted to color the public mind. Negroes are portrayed as amiable buffoons, Orientals as mysterious or treacherous beings, Latins as hand-kissing romantics in the mold of Rudolph Valentino.

He long has opposed Jim Crowism and will not sing before audiences in which Negroes are segregated. Last month he was on a picket line, as he has been many times, protesting the segregation of Negroes in a St. Louis theater.

Paul Robeson will describe his political convictions simply as anti-fascist. He was in Europe during the years of the umbrella-men when fascist ideas were permitted to fester and spread. He saw the betrayal of the Spanish people and

sang for the men of the Republican army and brought back from the Jarama valley and Madrid the songs of the International Brigade. Like other anti-fascists, he can see little difference between Hitler's use of Jews as scapegoats and the use of Jews and race discrimination in South Africa, in the United States or anywhere else on the globe. The use of racism, by the men who exploit it, is the same.

In the 1930s Paul Robeson was established as a concert artist and a motion picture star in England. He faced a pleasant and comfortable future without the everyday indignities which a Negro must face in his own country. But he had a decision to make and he turned home to America. He came home to use his talent and his energies to fight for Negro Americans and for all others who had felt the whiplash of prejudice. There are no ivory towers any more.

There is in Paul Robeson a anger against the oppressors and the exploiters of men, but there is no hate of his fellow men. It is the sort of honest anger which builds a better world.

He is a defender of the rights of labor. "I am a union man," he says. "We Negroes stand with all other workers. I must take my artistic work away from its special place back to the working people."

The formal war against international fascism may have ended with V-E day and V-J day, but the fight against fascist thought and fascist action continues. It is a fight against the inequities which prevent the realization of the ideal of democracy in America. It is a fight for full employment without discrimination, a fight against lynchings and poll-taxes against Jim Crow cars, segregated seating and restrictive housing covenants.

The crusade in which Paul Robeson has identified himself is a war against economic discrimination, racial bigotry and religious intolerance.

"This is a time for great courage," he says.

### Deadline Announced For Claims Against Confiscated Property

WASHINGTON—Attorney General Tom C. Clark today announced that June 1, 1947, has been set as the deadline for filing debt claims against persons whose property was seized as alien property during this war prior to January 1, 1947.

The action was taken by the issuance and publication of Bar Order No. 1 in the Federal Register on March 1, 1947, by the Office of Alien Property, Department of Justice, pursuant to Public Law 671 of August 8, 1944, which amends the Trading with the Enemy Act.

The Attorney General said that the claims of American creditors against enemy property seized before January 1, 1947, can not be considered unless filed by June 1, 1947.

Mr. Clark also stated that under the statute, unless persons who claim return of property seized by the government file claims before July 1, 1947, the property may be reduced by the payment of valid debts of the former owners. If title or lien claims are filed within 120 days of the publication of the Bar date, the OAP is not authorized to use the property for payment of debt claims.

Creditors of persons or firms whose property has been taken over by the U. S. Government under the Trading with the Enemy Act may file claims, the Attorney General explained. The statute also provides generally, Mr. Clark continued, that claimants must be U. S. or Philippine citizens, or residents of the United States since Pearl Harbor. Claims also may be filed by corporations organized under Federal, Territorial or Philippine law.

Information about debtors and forms necessary for filing claims may be obtained from the Office of Alien Property, Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.



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Noboru Ishitani
Named Head of
Membership Drive

LOS ANGELES—Noboru Ishitani, second vice-president of the Los Angeles JACL, was appointed to head the chapter's 1947 membership drive by Frank Chuman, president, at a cabinet meeting held on Feb. 27.

The chapter has set as its goal formation of the "largest and most active chapter in the United States," and will for the first time attempt a house-to-house canvass.

Ty Saito will head a zone committee, which will lay out the Los Angeles metropolitan area into sections and set up a plan for the canvass. Kiyishi Kagawa will head a deputation committee to contact other organizations for their support.

"The JACL with its many objectives of service for persons of Japanese ancestry will launch an ambitious program to reach eligible persons for membership," Ishitani said.

Meijiro Sato, finance chairman of the Issei Naturalization Committee, explained the activities of his group and explained the committee's plans for obtaining Issei signatures on a petition for naturalization.

Yaye Togasaki Leaves
For Post in Hawaii

SAN FRANCISCO—Yaye Togasaki, who served with the U.S. Army Nurses corps during the war, left here by plane last week for Hawaii to take up her new post at Kaneohe hospital.

Before her discharge from the Army she was stationed on the psychiatric staff of the army hospital at Brentwood, N. Y.

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New Alien Land
Law Suit Filed
In California

MADERA, Calif.—A suit to escheat 66 acres of Madera County farm property, allegedly controlled by resident aliens of Japanese ancestry in violation of the Alien Land law, has been filed in the Superior court of Judge Stanley Murray and will be heard on March 29.

The suit, filed by the Attorney General of California and by Madera County, names Nobuichi Niino, Shizue Niino, Guniochi Niino, Asayo Niino, Shunzo Murakami, Yukio Niino, Hisako Niino, Yoshie Watanabe and four California corporations, Westerlic Corp., Ltd., California Western State Life Insurance Co., White Company and Black Company, among the defendants.

The complaint alleges that property to which American citizen children of Mr. and Mrs. Niino have title was obtained by the alien parents in violation of the California Alien Land law.

KALL Radio Forum
To Discuss Art
And Minorities

The KALL Radio Forum, sponsored by the JACL, the NAACP and the Council for Civic Unity, will discuss the contributions of minority groups to the arts in its program Tuesday, March 11, at 7:30 p. m.

Participants will include Larry Tajiri, editor of the Pacific Citizen, Mrs. R. C. Lewis, Professor L. C. Zucker of the University of Utah, and Elmer R. Smith, program director.

Women Cagers Open
League in Chicago

CHICAGO—Opening the women's basketball league on March 2, the Chi Sigs defeated the Stagettes 24-2 at the Olivet Institute, while the Midwest Girls defeated Dale Cleaners 27-22. High pointers for the games were L. Kaneko, 12 points for the Chi Sigs; N. Ito, Stagettes, 16; G. Kawamoto, 13, Midwest Girls; and M. Takahashi, 12, Dale Cleaners.

Fresno Fellowship
To Give Contributions
For Foreign Relief

FRESNO, Calif. — The Fresno Young Peoples Fellowship will bring items of food, clothing and notions for foreign relief to their meeting Sunday, March 9, at the Congregational church, in recognition of Missions Sunday.

Fellowship meetings throughout the month of March will be held at the Congregational church.

Ruth Kawamura will be in charge of the March 9 meeting. Yuri Matsumoto and Mary Fujimoto will participate in the program.

Fresno to Hold
Sectional YPCC

FRESNO, Calif. — A tentative program for the March 23 Fresno Sectional YPCC was released this week as follows:

Registration, 8 a. m., Velma Yemoto, chairman; orientation hour, 8:30, Velma Yemoto and Kei Kitahara, co-chairmen; morning worship, 9:15, the Rev. George Aki and the Rev. Hideo Hashimoto, co-chairmen; open forum, 10:30, Harry Hiraoka, chairman.

Luncheon at Roeding park, 12 noon, with Min Okubo, chairman; motion pictures, 2 p. m., Rev. George Aki, chairman; interest groups, 3 p. m., Chiaki Renge, chairman; business meeting, 4:30, Seichi Mikami, chairman; banquet, 5:30, Alice Osaki and Etsu Mikami, co-chairmen; and a special address by Mariel Lester, secretary of the International FOR, at 7:30 p. m.

Sacramento Pharmacy

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Harold N. Ouye and Fred M. Ouye, owners of Ouke's Pharmacy, have announced the reopening of their drug store in a new location at 4th and L streets in the former Sumitomo bank.

Both of the Ouyes are graduates of the University of California College of Pharmacy. Besides being registered as pharmacists in the state of California, Harold is also registered in Illinois and Fred in the state of Missouri.

California Fair Play Groups
Provide Pattern for Campaign
Against Race Discrimination

BOSTON, Mass.—The California Council for Civic Unity, composed of 43 "grass-roots, fair play committees," after one year of activity provides the nation with a pattern for fighting racial discrimination, says Robert R. Brunn in a report on the council's recent conference at Asilomar, Calif.

"California has a problem of a majority race relation in the wake of wartime migration," says Brunn, and the Councils for Civic Unity are "working to reduce friction and tension while the economic skies still are clear."

The state's community relations were greatly strained by the return of half the evacuated Japanese and Nisei, a heavy wartime in-migration of Negroes from the south and the presence of thousands of Mexican Americans, Brunn reports.

Examples of progress in racial relations as given at the conference include the following:

In West Riverside, Negroes and Mexican Americans overcame long-standing differences to form the Belltown Improvement league to combat racial segregation in the schools. Legal pressure resulted in a reorganization of the school district.

San Francisco's Council for Civic Unity, supported by 24 city organizations, succeeded in reversing a policy of segregation of veterans in public housing projects.

The San Fernando Valley Race Relations Council, formed to fight a restrictive covenants campaign

being pushed by the local state board, succeeded in the reorganization of a school district which had segregated Canoga Park and Van Nuys.

In Palo Alto the local Fair Play Committee was originally formed to smooth the path for Nisei. Today the Palo Alto Club, a youth group, provides special activity for Nisei, Caucasians and others in a rounded program. Original members of the group were working with a Negro vice president. Today, although they are in the majority, the Negro president, a Japanese American vice-president and an American vice-president are all Caucasian officers.

The California Council for Civic Unity hopes eventually to clear a house of legislative formation, program development and organizational material full program envisages promulgation of "action" letters for cities, long-range planning for the entire state, and field work to analyze local problems and "trouble-shoot" emergency situations.

The organization is capitalizing on increasing popular awareness of the racial problem, a unity between minority groups and the interest of liberal organizations in minorities, says.

The group is backing a California equivalent of the NEA-FEPC, naturalization of resident aliens and is supporting many low-cost housing bills in state legislature.

"This California group writes, 'is determined to help minority groups from being scapegoats for communal tensions.'"

Salt Lake Bussei
Install Officers

Newly elected 1947 officers of the Salt Lake City YBA were installed by the Rev. Kumata of the San Francisco Buddhist headquarters at a special service held here recently.

George Doi, who was reelected to the post of president for a third term, was installed with the following members of his cabinet:

Fred Toyota, men's vice-president; Rose Yagi, women's vice-president; Helen Yagi, recording secretary; Barbara Okuda, corresponding secretary; Mary Matsuda, treasurer; Tommy Seo, religious chm.; Dick Matsuda, social chairman; Fred Seo and Chiyo Nakashima, assistants to the social chairman; Grace Fujimoto, public relations officer; Mits Kojimoto, men's athletic chairman; Rose Oda, women's athletic chairman; Shig Terakawa, music chairman; and Kiyo Iwamoto, pianist.

Honolulu Veterans
Given Bronze Stars

FORT SHAFTER, T. H.—Three Honolulu veterans of the 442nd Combat Team received belated Bronze Star medals for heroism in France and Italy at a recent ceremony at Fort Shafter.

Pfc. Tatsuo Sato was cited for his capture of two Germans at Bifontaine, France, and for remaining with a wounded companion when his patrol leader ordered a withdrawal. Sato stayed behind to administer first aid to the wounded man.

Pfc. Toshio Sasaki was decorated for his capture of an enemy sniper during action in Italy.

The Bronze Star was given Sgt. James S. Oura for courageous action at Tondola, Italy.

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## Canada May Set Up Claims Commission to Review Sales Of Properties of Evacuees

WINNIPEG, Man.—The Canadian government may set up a claims commission to review the forced sales of property of Japanese Canadian evacuees from British Columbia during the war, the New Canadian reported this week.

The paper reported that Secretary of State Colin Gibson, under heavy grilling from opposition members, had told the House of Commons on Feb. 18 that a commission may be set up to deal with claims for losses sustained by Japanese Canadians whose properties were confiscated and sold.

Gibson said that he could give no details since no decision had been made but declared that the organization of a commission was under consideration by the cabinet.

"It is difficult to know just yet the extent and the number of the claims and what would be the best way of handling them," Gibson said.

M. J. Coldwell, national leader of the CCF, and D. M. Fleming, Progressive-Conservative member from Toronto, led the questioning of Gibson regarding policies of the Custodian of Japanese Property which had handled confiscated property of Japanese Canadians.

Coldwell particularly was interested in the Custodian's confiscation of property belonging to Canadian citizens of Japanese ancestry in British Columbia and cited the case of a World War II veteran whose property had been seized and sold at a loss by the government.

"Apart from the losses involved, it is questionable if the Custodian was legally and morally justified in selling Japanese property against the owners' wishes," the New Canadian said in an editorial comment.

## Chino Rotarians To Hear Forum On Nisei Americans

CHINO, Calif.—The Rotary club of Chino will sponsor a forum on Japanese Americans on March 12 at 8 p. m. in the Chino high school auditorium.

Presented by the international committee of the Rotary club, the forum will feature a talk by Frank Chuman, president of the Los Angeles JACL. Fujima Kansuma and her students will present Japanese dances.

Mr. Chuman will discuss the problems faced by Japanese Americans and by their Issei parents.

## National Nisei Bowling Meet Will Be Held in Salt Lake City

Invitations have been extended to Nisei bowlers in thirty U. S. cities to enter the first national Nisei bowling tournament which will be sponsored by the National JACL and the Salt Lake City chapter, it was announced this week by Bill Honda, tournament chairman. The tournament will be held on upstairs alleys, 1 to 14, at the Temple Bowling Alleys.

Honda declared he was contacting Nisei bowlers in New York City, Seabrook Farms, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Denver, Gardena, Calif.; San Francisco, San Jose, Brigham City, Utah; Ogden, Glendale, Ariz.; Rexburg, Nampa, Idaho Falls, Payette and Pocatello, Idaho; Ontario, Ore.; Auburn, Ta-

## Stockton Chapter Is Reactivated

STOCKTON, Calif.—The Stockton chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League was reactivated on Sunday, Feb. 23, at a meeting at the Buddhist church.

Joseph Omachi, attorney, was named president pro-tem. Jun Agari was named vice-president. Other members of the cabinet will be Elizabeth Hunbarger, secretary; Jack Matsumoto, treasurer; and Lou Tsunekawa, sergeant-at-arms.

Mrs. Masako Tabuchi Agari and George Noda were elected official delegates to the district council. Other committee chairmen elected were Frank Yokoi, finance committee; George Fujita, deputations committee.

The officers will serve for a three-month period.

The Rev. Andrew Juvinal, pastor of the Clay Street Methodist church and also the last chairman of the Stockton Japanese Resettlement Committee, spoke to the gathering on the various kinds of work carried on by the committee after the close of the WRA. He also spoke of the campaign against Proposition 15 on the California ballot.

Approximately 50 persons were present at the meeting. The next meeting has been set for Sunday, March 23, at 7 p. m. The locale will be announced later, it was reported.

## Snake River JACL Fourth in League

ONTARIO, Ore. — The Snake River JACL basketball team defeated Malheur Market, 58 to 45, to take fourth place in the Ontario City league on Feb. 24.

Saito went on a scoring rampage, netting 23 points for the JACL squad, while Tashiro had 16.

## Nisei Welterweight Considered Ready for Mainland Ring Tour

Bob Takeshita Beats Asato Before 12,000 Fans in Honolulu

## Kuroki Cancels Speaking Tour In Deep South

Concludes Series In Virginia for Methodist Group

WASHINGTON — Ben Kuroki, who has been conducting his unfinished fight for democracy under the auspices of the East and West Association, delivered his last speech for the Association on Mar. 6, thereby cancelling an extensive speaking tour that had been arranged for the southern states.

Originally, he had planned to work for the Association through the summer and enroll at the University of Nebraska in the fall, but various circumstances have forced him to cut short his schedule. Instead Kuroki will enter the University this summer.

The ex-B-29 tail gunner recently concluded a series of speeches in Virginia for the Virginia Methodist Church Commission for Peace. He spoke at Norfolk, Roanoke, Williamsburg and Fredericksburg. After a few more talks in Pennsylvania, he will wind up in New Jersey on March 6 and fly west the same day to rejoin his wife in Pocatello, Idaho.

## Washington Couple Plans June Wedding

WASHINGTON—An early June wedding is planned by Miss Susie Tsuda, recording secretary of the Washington JACL, and Mr. Joe Ichijui, whose engagement was recently announced at a party given at the home of the groom-elect's sister, Kazumae.

Miss Tsuda, who is from Cheyenne, Wyo., is employed at the Government Printing Office. She is a member of the Nisei Junior USO Hostess Club.

Mr. Ichijui, who served with the 552nd Field Artillery unit, is from Pacific Grove, Calif. He works for the Veterans' Administration and attends Benjamin Franklin University in Washington.

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## Mass Evacuation Worst Blunder, Says Thomas

Socialist Leader Expresses Views in Harper's Article

NEW YORK CITY—The country's worst blunder in civil liberties in World War II was the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast, according to Norman Thomas, leader of the Socialist party in United States.

The statement is made in an article, "What's Right with America" in the current issue of Harper's magazine.

Nothing in the first World War equaled "this departure from well-established principles of liberty" in the number of persons affected or in its danger as a precedent, Thomas says of the evacuation program.

Thomas, who says he would prefer to call the evacuation "crime" rather than a "blunder," states that the program was terms "wholly inconsistent with the finest traditions of American justice," and that the Supreme Court "unfortunately went far to validate it."

"But here again it must be recorded," he says, "that most of the evacuees have been allowed to turn to their homes; that at the last session of Congress the Senate voted partial monetary compensation for their losses; that in the November election California voters in a referendum rejected proposals for stiffening the land laws to the hurt of Japanese American communities."

## Five Nisei Veterans Form Tax Association In Chicago

CHICAGO—Five Nisei veterans who own taxicabs now operating as the Nisei Cab Livery Association of Chicago, Courier reported last week.

The ex-GIs are Chet Burt, Harry Kageyama, Max Murata, Don Moro and Fred Shigaki. The veterans were among those who were issued cab licenses by the city council last year.

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