

# Jon Chinen's Story of 100th Battalion

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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## Week Housing for Evacuees in Trailer Camp

840 Returnees Still Occupy Units at Winona FPFA Camp

LOS ANGELES — Imminent closing of the Winona FPFA trailer camp, emergency home of nearly 1000 persons, including 850 returned evacuees of Japanese ancestry, spurred efforts this week to gain stop-gap and permanent housing facilities for the camp's residents.

It was reported that a one-year lease under which the Federal Housing Agency obtained the land which the camp is located will expire on April 30.

Scotty Tsuchiya of the Southern California JACL regional office indicated this week that the board supervisors of Los Angeles County and the Bureau of Public Assistance were considering action on the proposed relocation of Winona residents and were conferring on the matter with Stanley Abel, head of FPFA.

The owner of the property involved reportedly seeks its use for industrial purposes, but it was indicated that there was some hope that an extension may be arranged until the returned evacuees can be settled in individual housing units.

## Cpl. Morioka Faces Years in Prison for Extortion

TOKYO—Cpl. Kenneth Morioka of Berkeley, Calif., was sentenced March 25 to eight years at hard labor in Leavenworth Federal penitentiary after his conviction on the charge of extorting more than 100,000 yen from Japanese construction companies.

The firms from which he extorted the money, according to evidence at the court-martial that convicted him, were engaged in construction in Tokyo of a women's hotel.

Cpl. Morioka was custodian of the hotel.

## Idaho Falls Legion Post Supports Nisei Citizenship

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho—At the request of the Idaho Falls chapter of the JACL, the American Legion's Bonneville Post No. 56 last week agreed to contact the Idaho Department of the Legion on a move to support legislation which would grant naturalization rights to legally resident aliens of Japanese ancestry and the suspension of deportation proceedings against Japanese aliens in hardship cases involving American citizens.

Several Nisei veterans were among the 100 new members sworn into the Idaho Falls post.

## Elmer Ogawa Wins Post as Commander of VFW Group

MERRICK, N. Y. — Elmer Ogawa, a veteran of World War I, was elected commander of Merrick Mariner's Post No. 1310 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at the annual post elections on March 20.

Ogawa defeated Dr. Jack G. Lustergarten in a close election. Lustergarten was later elected post surgeon.

Ogawa replaces Arthur Miller as post commander. He will be installed on April 17 in ceremonies at the Empire fire hall.

## The Saga of Frank Fujino: Nisei Survived Death March On Bataan, Lost a Leg In Rescue of Lost Battalion

*Ed. Note—The story of Frank Fujino, who survived the Death March on Bataan and escaped from a Japanese prison ship and later lost a leg during the 442nd Combat Team's rescue of the Lost Battalion, is a true story which reads like a dime thriller. The experiences of this California Nisei GI make one of the most dramatic sagas to come out of World War II.*

By JOHN KITASAKO

Washington, D. C.

Frank Fujino has seen plenty of action all right—all the way from Bataan to the Vosges Mountains. This former La Canada, Calif., youth is one of the few who survived the Bataan Death March in 1942. And to our knowledge he is the only Nisei who fought as an infantryman in both the Pacific and European theaters, and he is the only Nisei not in the regular army who's been in service nine years.

Frank, who is currently convalescing at the Forest Glen section of Walter Reed Hospital, has plenty to show for his years of fighting for democracy. He won a Silver Star, which was belatedly awarded to him at Walter Reed early in 1946 by his former regimental commander in the Philippines. He has earned four combat unit citations, two in the Pacific and two in Europe. He has seven stars, four in the Pacific and three in Europe.

Some day when Frank hangs up his khaki for good, he can put away his many medals and ribbons as reminders of the years of war. They are colorful and pretty. But he has other reminders which are not pretty, and which he can never put away. He has an artificial right leg. He lost his leg in the rescue of the Lost Battalion in the Vosges. In his left leg he has plates of silver to strengthen his fibia shattered in the Philippines. In his mouth he wears silver braces to hold together jaws that were busted by Japanese gunfire in the Philippines.

Yes, for Frank the war will never be over, and the same is true with the other fellows at this Forest Glen hospital, who are fighting their greatest battle. It is a battle which he must fight alone—a gruelling battle against boredom, frustration, and loneliness. But Frank is making out alright; he still has plenty of scrap left in him.

Frank's full and legal name is Frank Fujino O'Connor. When he was eight, his parents, three sisters, and brother were killed in an automobile accident in Pasadena. The only reason Frank is alive today is that he had a cold on that fatal day and had to stay home. The Thomas O'Connors of La Canada, a suburb of Pasadena, adopted Frank. But he dropped the O'Connor when he joined the 442nd because he had to take so much ribbing about having an Irish monicker.

He went to school at UCLA and Stanford. As a ROTC man, he applied for a commission as a second lieutenant in 1938, but was turned down because he was Nisei. So he enlisted as a buck private and when the war broke out he was in Luzon, in the Philippines, serving with the coast artillery.

When this unit was blasted by the Japanese, the remnants joined up with a company of Filipino scouts. Early in 1942 he was captured by the Japanese. He thought surely it was curtains for him. He says he was grilled mercilessly by the Japanese who were suspicious of his dark hair and features. He insisted he was not Japanese but Korean-Hawaiian extraction. Fortunately for him, because he had been shot in the jaw, his face was bloody and grimy, making his features less distinguishable. Altogether he was questioned six times.

The Japanese finally decided not to bother with him and so he was thrown into line for the march to the stockades, which later became known as the infamous Bataan Death March. He was in the second of four batches of prisoners forced to march that road to hell. For 10 torturous days, Frank and other prisoners trudged along the dusty hot roads. They were given no water or food, and were constantly beaten with rifle butts by the arrogant Japanese guards. He saw those who fell by the wayside shot or bayoneted. Frank didn't figure he would ever come out alive, and to this day he says it seems like a miracle that he managed to survive.

Along the route of the Bataan march, he shuddered when he saw a Japanese-Caucasian youth hanging by the neck from a tree. He was an Eurasian who had served with general headquarters, says Frank. That was the fate that would probably have been Frank's had the Japanese discovered his identity.

The prison ship on which Frank was heading for Kobe was torpedoed off the Philippines. He jumped into the water and headed for the shore. The Japanese guards fired on the prisoners, and many who were too weak to swim or couldn't swim fast enough were killed.

Frank swam mostly underwater until he was out of range. Fortunately for him, his experience as an underwater swimmer during the days he hunted abalone off the coast of southern California saved his life.

When he reached shore, he was rescued by Filipinos who, he said, declared their willingness to take him through the Japanese lines to a U. S. unit deep inland. The Filipinos put him in a huge bamboo basket which they used to carry fruits and vegetables to market. Crouched in this basket suspended on a pole between two strong Filipinos, Frank began his risky attempt to reach the American outpost at Delmonico.

When they reached the Japanese lines, they were stopped by sentries. When told the Filipinos were carrying vegetables, a Japanese sentry jabbed a bayonet into the basket several times. Each time, said Frank, he could see where the sentry was prying for an opening before thrusting the bayonet in and thus Frank was able to squirm away from the bayonet.

When he finally arrived at Delmonico, he was taken aboard the

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## Rep. Michener Introduces Bill In House to Create Three-Man Evacuation Claims Commission

WASHINGTON—A bill to create an Evacuation Claims Commission to investigate and adjudicate certain losses sustained by persons of Japanese ancestry in the West Coast evacuation of 1942 was introduced in the House on March 27 by Rep. Earl C. Michener, R., Mich., chairman of the Judiciary committee.

The bill, which is supported by a recent letter sent by Interior Secretary Julius A. Krug to Speaker Martin and Sen. Vandenberg, Senate president, is identical to one introduced in the 79th Congress by Rep. Hatton W. Sumners, D., Tex.

It was designated as HR 2768 and was referred to the Standing Subcommittee on claims of the House Judiciary committee.

Members of the subcommittee which will consider the bill are: John Jennings, Jr., R., Tenn.; Raymond S. Springer, R., Ind.; Clifford P. Case, R., N. J.; Albert Reeves, R., Mo.; William T. Byrne, D. N. Y.; Fado Craven, D., Ark.; and Michael Fegihan, D., Ohio.

A companion bill is expected to be introduced in the Senate shortly.

Mike M. Masaoka, Washington representative of the JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee, said that his group was supporting passage of the legislation as a measure of compensation for the accountable business and property losses suffered by evacuees as a direct result of the evacuation or exclusion from the West Coast.

## Wounded Nisei GI Weds Relocation Camp Sweetheart

MIAMI, Fla.—Both the bridegroom and the best man were on stretchers last week at the wedding services in Pratt general hospital, Miami, in which Dorothy Oshio was married to Richard Ishisaki, wounded veteran of the war in Germany.

The couple met while both were in a war relocation center in California during the war.

Ishisaki, still undergoing treatment for combat wounds, and his best man, William Anell, were carried in to the chapel on stretchers. Miss Lily Matsuda was maid of honor.

## Two Die, Several Reported Ill At Walla Walla Labor Camp

### Deaths Attributed To Food Poisoning By County Coroner

WALLA WALLA, Wash.—Two persons of Japanese ancestry were dead and several others were seriously ill this week from food poisoning at a farm labor camp near Walla Walla.

A Navy plane arrived from Seattle on March 23 with a supply of botulism anti-toxin following the deaths of Juti Kiriara on March 21 and Sam Yamada, who was found dead on March 23.

The anti-toxin was secured from Seattle stocks by Dr. Arthur L. Ringle, state health director, after an appeal for serum by a Walla Walla druggist.

Walla Walla Coroner F. L. Simmons said on March 23 that post-mortems on Kiriara and Yamada indicated they had succumbed to food poisoning. A chemical analysis is being made to definitely determine the cause of their deaths.

Several other residents of the camp were reported seriously ill. Several days after the first cases were reported another Japanese resident of the farm labor camp was taken to Walla Walla hospital on March 23, believed stricken with the same poisoning.

Walla Walla Prosecutor Al Bradford said a case of home-canned goods used at the camp is being analyzed to ascertain if it contained botulism germs.

## Seek Appropriation To Continue Canada Dispersal Program

OTTAWA, Canada—The Department of Labor, the government agency in charge of the dispersal of Canadians of Japanese ancestry, will ask for \$900,000 this year for the relocation, maintenance and welfare of the evacuees from the coastal areas of British Columbia, it was reported last week.

Last year the estimates for the same purposes were \$4,300,000.

## REPORT DEATH OF SAM HOHRI AT HILLCREST

LOS ANGELES—Sam Hohri, 30, died after a long illness at Hillcrest Sanatorium, La Crescenta, on March 19.

Hohri was a member of the editorial staff of the Japanese American News in San Francisco in 1941 and was evacuated to the Manzanar relocation center.

(He contributed several book reviews to the Pacific Citizen in 1945.)

A memorial service was held at the All People's Christian church on March 24.

## Dr. Ishimaru, Prominent Nisei, Dies in L. A.

### Optometrist Was Active in Community Affairs Before War

LOS ANGELES—Dr. Tetsuya G. Ishimaru 42, prominent local optometrist and civic leader before the evacuation, died on March 24 of a heart ailment at the Japanese hospital after a long illness.

Funeral services will be held on March 28.

Dr. Ishimaru, a native of California, was one of the first Nisei to win recognition in athletics in Southern California, receiving all-city mention in basketball at Los Angeles high school.

Before the war he was prominent in civic activities in the JACL, the YMCA and as a director of the Japanese Children's Home.

He was evacuated in 1942 to the Santa Anita assembly center and later to the Colorado River relocation camp at Poston. In both centers he was active in administrative affairs.

He is survived by his wife, Seiko, and three children.

### Sen. Thomas Hits Wartime Treatment Of Nisei Group

WASHINGTON—Sen. Elbert D. Thomas, D., Utah, declared here last week that if persons of German and Italian ancestry were given the treatment accorded in wartime to persons of Japanese descent in the United States, "we would have had the equivalent of a civil war on our hands."

"There is no place for inter-racial or interdenominational prejudice in America," Sen. Thomas told a service of the Interchurch Fellowship.

"Having broad theories will not overcome various prejudices," the Utah senator, once a Mormon missionary in Japan, declared. "This was shown so much in America's hatred of the Japanese in the last war. We assumed that anyone who was a Japanese was an enemy regardless of that person's acts, feelings or experience."

"It has never dawned upon the American people that if we had tried to cover up all of the Germans and all of the Italians in America, as we did all of the Japanese, and make them live in camps, we would have had the equivalent of a civil war on our hands."

### Denver JACL Will Fete Hood River's Fighting Pastor

DENVER—Recognized as "one of the five men in the country who contributed most to the principles of democracy," the Rev. W. Sherman Burgoyne of Hood River, Oregon, will be a guest of the Denver JACL chapter at 6:00 p.m., April 4 in the Mauchu Grill, George Masunaga, president, announced this week.

The recognition was accorded the pastor by the Council Against Intolerance for his battle on behalf of the returning evacuees in Hood River. Enroute to New York City to receive an award for his work from the Council April 13, Rev. Burgoyne also is scheduled to confer with Chicago JACL members during his visit there April 7-11. Interested Denver chapter members and friends are asked to make their reservations for the dinner at the JACL office. The dinner will precede a meeting in the Trinity Methodist church, sponsored by the chapter and the Denver Unity Council, Masunaga reported.

### Midwest JACL Council To Be Organized In Mid-April

CHICAGO—Tentative dates for the initial meeting of the Midwest District Council in Chicago have been set as April 19 and 20, according to Tats Kushida, JACL representative.

The council will be the first east of the Mississippi and will be comprised of chapters in St. Louis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee and Minnesota.

"I feel that the midwest area can play an important part in advancing the national legislative program of the Anti-Discrimination Committee," Kushida said in announcing the meeting.

Mike Masaoka, ADC director, has been invited to the meeting.

### Easter Dance Will be Held by Denver Chapter

DENVER—The Denver JACL will present its first dance of the year Easter Sunday in the Silver Glade ballroom of the Cosmopolitan hotel, according to Dr. George Kubo, dance chairman.

Committee member assisting are Pete Furuta, master of ceremonies; Sab Tani, posters; Roy Takeno, publicity; and Tosh Ando, tickets.

Highlight of the evening will be the awarding of many valuable prizes, including a refrigerator and a combination radio-phonograph with automatic record changer.

Either formal or street dress may be worn.

### Marriage

CHICAGO—Miss Atsuko Yano, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hamachi Yano, was married to Mr. Samuel Y. Hokari Sunday March 23, in Chicago.

## Negro Legislator Honored at Reception



CHICAGO—Three representatives of the Chicago JACL were among the thousand guests who met Dr. Charles S. Johnson, president of Fisk University and noted social scientist, at a reception at Chicago's Parkway ballroom last week. Greeting Dr. and Mrs. Johnson are Mari Sabusawa (center), vice-president of the Chicago

JACL, and Gladys Ishida and Jiro Yamaguchi. Dr. Johnson has taken a keen interest in the group problems of Japanese Americans. The Summary on Race Relations, published at Fisk under Dr. Johnson's direction, contains a monthly report on the problems of the Nisei group.

—Continental News photo by Scott Tyler

### Nisei Veteran Held For Investigation On Assault Charge

RODEO, Calif.—Winston Itsuo Nakagawa, 31, an honorably discharged war veteran, was booked at the Contra Costa County jail on March 21 for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon after near-fatal attack on his sister, Mrs. Marjorie Akahoshi, 33.

The attack was made at 3:30 a.m. in her apartment at the Bayo Vista housing project while her five children, ranging in age from 18 months to 12 years, slept near by.

She was reported in a critical condition on March 21 at the county hospital with a possible skull fracture, a possible fracture of the left shoulder and four deep lacerations of her scalp. Her condition was complicated by extreme shock.

Before she lapsed into unconsciousness, Mrs. Akahoshi reportedly told Deputy Sheriffs Walter Young and Robert Miller that she awakened to find her brother leaning over her with a hammer.

The woman's screams awoke neighbors, who called the sheriff's office and Nakagawa, a veteran of the Italian campaign, was taken into custody. He would not tell what provoked the attack and would not admit he had hit his sister, saying only: "Maybe I did."

### Section YPCC Held in Fresno

FRESNO, Calif.—Two hundred delegates attended the 17th annual Fresno Sectional YPCC Sunday, March 23.

An open forum, "The Christian Nisei in American Life," was conducted by Rhoda Nishimura, Jesse Hiraoka and Harry Hoegh. Harry Hiraoka served as chairman.

Most popular interest group in the afternoon was "Christian Nisei Marriage and Home." Other interest groups were on "Christian Nisei in the American Community," "What We Believe," and "The Universal Church Movement in Today's World."

The evening banquet was highlighted with guest talent, including John Yakligian, xylophonist, and D. J. Crawford, Negro spiritual singer.

"Twilight Melodies," an organ recital by Kazuye Sekiya, was enjoyed prior to the evening worship.

Muriel Lester, international secretary of the FOR, was the main speaker for the evening. She emphasized the great need for the young people of the world to put into action the teachings of Christ.

Newly-elected officers for the 1946 conference are Velma Yemoto, chairman; Chiaki Renge, 1st

## ACLU Supports Bill to Stay Deportation of 200 Japanese

### Nisei Participant To Be Heard on Interracial Forum

CHICAGO — Masamori Kojima, Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Haverford College, will be among the participants of an inter-racial forum conducted by the American Jewish Congress at the Hamilton hotel on Easter Sunday, April 6, at 8:00 p.m. The subject will be "Sociological Problems of Racism." Others in the forum include an American Indian, a Negro, and a Caucasian.

Kojima, a resident of the world-famous settlement, Hull House, is at present on the editorial staff of the Chicago Shimpo. Appearing on this program at the request of Tats Kushida, midwest director of the JACL, Kojima stated, "I have always felt a keen interest in discussions of problems of this kind, and am happy to participate in this forum."

While president of the student council at Haverford Kojima, who was in demand as a speaker, frequently teamed up with Hu Ssutu, son of the former Chinese Ambassador to the United States and world-known philosopher, Hu Shih. More recently, Kojima has been active in a Chicago local of the CIO Union.

The public is invited to attend the forum.

### Judge Withholds Sentencing Youth In Pocatello Case

POCATELLO, Idaho — Shigeo Sakurada, Blackfoot, Idaho, was arraigned on March 14 on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon against Elaine Digge Edmo, 23, in Pocatello on Dec. 15.

Judge I. E. McDougall withheld Sakurada's sentencing for one year and paroled the defendant to H. H. Kasai of Idaho Falls.

Police testimony at the arraignment indicated that Sakurada attempted to commit suicide as police entered the house in which the assault took place but that the bottle containing poison was knocked out of his hand.

vice-chairman; Julia Goto 2nd vice-chairman; Seichi Mikami, 3rd vice-chairman; Koko Yemoto, recording secretary; Ethel Otomo, corresponding secretary; and Frank Sakohira, treasurer.

This cabinet will be supported by an executive board composed of representatives from Hanford, Reedley, Selma, Dinuba, Cortez, Livingston and Bakersfield.

NEW YORK—Supporting a proposed bill which would enable the attorney general to exercise clemency powers to stay deportation of some 200 Japanese aliens, where their departure would cause hardship to their American families, the American Civil Liberties Union last week sent a memorandum to members of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the House Judiciary Committee.

The memorandum points out that under present laws the Attorney General is prohibited from exercising discretion in cases involving persons ineligible to citizenship. "Beyond the small number of Indonesians and other persons similarly ineligible to citizenship, there are at present about 200 illegal entrants, treaty merchants whose status has now changed and students of Japanese ancestry whose deportation to Japan has been ordered. Almost all of these have dependent citizen wives and children, some of whom have served in the armed forces. All have been loyal to the United States. Their departure now would cause much hardship and in some cases actual suffering to their American families.

"Under the present law were they of other than Oriental stock, the Attorney General would have power to suspend deportation. As an act of simple justice such discrimination merely because of race should be eliminated."

The Union also supports two other proposed bills which would similarly assist those aliens "who made valuable contributions to our war effort and loyally aided this country during World War II."

The memorandum was signed by Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel for the Union, and Edward J. Ennis, chairman of the Union's Committee on Alien Civil Rights, and formerly chief of the U. S. Enemy Alien Control Unit.

### Regional Office To Handle Issei Citizenship Forms

LOS ANGELES—The Office of Immigration and Naturalization, under Albert Del Guercio, district director has announced that Eiji Tanabe, regional representative of the JACL in Los Angeles, will handle declaration of citizenship forms N-300 for use by Issei applicants.

"It will be the responsibility of the JACL to see that competent advisors are available to give assistance in preparing these forms so that their distribution is carefully supervised," Mr. Del Guercio said.

## Sen. Watkins Backs Bill for Wife of Nisei

### Special Legislation Sought for Japanese Wife of Officer

WASHINGTON—A private bill to permit the entry of Mrs. Yone Hayashi Kurisaki into the United States for permanent residence has been introduced by Senator Arthur V. Watkins (R-Utah), the Washington Office of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee reported this week.

Mrs. Kurisaki is the Japanese wife of Second Lieutenant Lt. Kurisaki, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Eyle K. Kurisaki of Salt Lake City, Utah. Lt. Kurisaki is now on occupation duty in Japan, where he is the Assistant Operations Officer of the Sugamo Prison in Tokyo.

Designated S. 951, the bill was introduced at the request of Mike Masaoka, national legislative director.

Born in Los Angeles, Kurisaki received most of his education in the public schools of Berkeley, Calif., although he graduated from the East high school in Salt Lake City after relocating here with his family in 1942. A star athlete in high school, he also played on the local Police Department basketball team.

In October, 1943, he volunteered for the Army, but was rejected because he was under-age. Upon reaching his 18th birthday, he was asked for immediate induction. Sent to Camp Shelby, Miss., trained with the 442nd Central Postal Directory, but was not shipped overseas with the Japanese American troops because he was young for combat duties. On more occasions he was scheduled to be sent overseas as a replacement for the 442nd, but on each occasion he was turned down at the last moment because of his age.

He was finally sent to Fort Houston, Texas, to train with the 770th Military Police Battalion. On October 3, 1945, he received an appointment to the Military Police Officer Candidate Provost Marshal General's School at Fort Houston. He was a member of the 39th class and is believed to be the youngest student to have completed the school and to receive a commission in the Corps of Military Police. He is also one of the MP commissioned officers of Japanese ancestry in the United States Army.

He was sent overseas April 1946, and assigned to the MP detachment at the Sugamo Prison. He was married to Miss Hayashi at the American Embassy in Tokyo. The young couple was introduced by Lt. Kurisaki's cousin Staff Sergeant Shigeo Imamura, now a discharged veteran.

A member of the Salt Lake City chapter of the JACL, his father is one of the few Nisei who served in the American Army in World War I. His father was a Private Sergeant in the First Hawaiian Infantry. He was a produce dealer and broker in Imperial County, California, for many years prior to the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the West coast in 1942. He was a chapter member of the Brawley chapter and once served as Southern California District Council chairman. At the present time he is a member of the board of directors of the Salt Lake chapter.

### Two Canada Nisei Honored for Rescue Of Girl From River

TABER, Alberta — Two Japanese Canadians, Dick Mizuno and Tommy Yamamoto, were honored last week by the Royal Canadian Humane Association for their rescue of one swimmer and the attempted rescue of another on March 28, 1946, in the Oldman river near Taber.

Dick Mizuno was picnicking with friends on the bank of the river when they heard cries for help. Two swimmers, Ruth Mervyn Jensen, were in difficulty about 100 yards from shore. Mizuno dived in fully clothed, reaching Ruth Jensen, who was sinking and nearly drowned. He managed to get her ashore and immediately swam back to Tommy Mervyn Jensen. Tommy Yamamoto, who was swimming on the other side of the river, also heard the scene and after repeated attempts managed to find the swimmer brought him to shore, but artificial respiration proved futile.

# Issei Amputee Asks For FEPC in Illinois



CHICAGO — Tats Kushida, Midwest regional representative of the JACL (left) and Takiji Goto (third from the right) Nisei amputee veteran, are shown with members of the veterans' delegation which recently testified before the House and Senate judiciary committees of the Illinois legislature, urging passage of fair employment practices legislation. Others in the picture include a representative of the American Veterans' Committee and two Negro and two Mexican American veterans. The auto in the background is the amputee car given to Goto by the government and which he and Kushida drove to Springfield.

Goto, a member of the 442nd Combat Team, lost both legs in action in the campaign in the Vosges mountains. Kushida said that Goto made a "terrific impression" when he spoke from the speaker's rostrum on behalf of FEPC. "I think there should be equal rights for everyone in this nation," the 24-year-old Nisei declared. "That goes for guys like me. I lost two legs in France. They were good American legs." Besides Kushida and Goto, who represented the JACL, one other Nisei, Morse Saito, a divinity student at Illinois Wesleyan, testified on behalf of FEPC.

## Kuniyoshi Leads U.S. Artists in Security Move

### New Group Will Protect, Advance Economic Interests

NEW YORK CITY—A hundred and fifty painters, sculptors and graphic artists this week formed the Artists' Equity Association under Yasuo Kuniyoshi, president, in a move designed to "protect and advance" their economic interests. Kuniyoshi said the association would function under a temporary executive committee until the membership reached 400 or so at the end of the year, when an election would be held. Headquarters of the group are in New York and regional groups are being formed in Chicago, San Francisco and other large cities. Kuniyoshi said the group would seek to encourage institutional and private patronage and legislation to help the fine arts; to set standards to protect artists and reputable dealers and agents; to aid in solving copyright and royalty problems; and to set up a clearing house for information and promote a welfare fund and other social security benefits.

## Civil Rights Expert to Discuss Issei Status With MacArthur

### Will Negotiate on Problems of Nisei Stranded in Japan

LOS ANGELES—Roger Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union, will discuss the problems of granting naturalization rights to Issei in the United States with General Douglas MacArthur in Tokyo. Speaking at a sukiyaki dinner held in his honor on March 23 in Los Angeles, the celebrated director of the ACLU stated the primary object of his forthcoming tour of the Orient will be to evaluate the occupation policies in the light of civil liberties. He will represent the JACL and the Equality in Naturalization Committee in his talk with General MacArthur, he said. He added that he was confident that the leader of the occupation "will support us" in the matter of Issei naturalization. Baldwin revealed that he will also negotiate with officials in Japan on the problem of Nisei stranded in Japan. He will seek to facilitate their return to the United States, he said. Baldwin will also seek increased mail service, including the sending of magazines and newspapers, between the two countries.

## Roger Baldwin To Represent JACL on Trip

WASHINGTON — Roger N. Baldwin has consented to represent the Japanese American Citizens League during his trip to Japan, Korea and neighboring territories, the Washington Office of the JACL announced this week. Mr. Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union and one of the outstanding world leaders in this field, was originally invited by the War Department and the Supreme Allied Commander in the Pacific to visit Japan and other near-by territories to serve as a consultant in civil liberties, but he is now en route to the Orient on an unofficial mission. In Japan and elsewhere, he will represent the American Civil Liberties Union, the International League for the Rights of Man, and the World Federation of United Nations Associations, in addition to the JACL, it was announced. A national sponsor of the JACL, he is well acquainted with the problems and the aspirations of the Japanese in the United States. While in Japan, he will investigate the situation of the Nisei and the Issei stranded there during the war as well as the status of real and other property in Japan owned by persons in this country. Hito Okada, national JACL president, in commenting on Mr. Baldwin's acceptance of the JACL invitation, declared: "This will enable us to know of the real conditions in Japan insofar as Nisei and Issei are concerned, as well as of property held there by our members and contributors in the United States. On the basis of Mr. Baldwin's findings and recommendations, we will adjust and alter our national program of service."

100th Infantry Battalion, known as the "Purple Heart Battalion," Masaoka said, and Company K, which was almost annihilated in the 442nd's rescue of the "Lost Battalion" was comprised substantially of Okinawans, he said. "Near-normal conditions in Okinawa justify the reopening of mail service," Masaoka stated. "Japan, Tinian and Saipan receive direct mail, but not Okinawa."

## Hawaii Veterans Seek Mail Service to Okinawa Area

WASHINGTON—Possibility that mail service to Okinawa will be resumed in the near future was seen here this week following representations to the Postoffice department by the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee.

## Farmer Worker Killed in Fall From Rig

WATSONVILLE, Calif. — Tokuro Sato, 62, a farm worker, was killed almost instantly when he fell from the rear of a spray rig truck and his head was crushed beneath the wheels on March 21. Sato was employed on the N. M. Travers ranch in Green Valley. Driver of the spray rig was Raymond Travers, son of the ranch owner, whom Sato had been aiding in spray operations. Sato had been standing on the back of the truck when he apparently lost his balance and fell, Deputy Coroner Carl Mehl said.

The ADC, after conferring with Postoffice authorities reported that "assurances" have been made that such service will be resumed. The ADC acted upon a request from Joe Grant Masaoka, special regional representative, who said the move was desired by "30,000 Americans of Okinawa ancestry" in Hawaii. Masaoka stated that these former Okinawans had asked for the resumption of direct mail and parcel post service upon the same basis as mail to Japan. Masaoka pointed out that 1000 American war veterans were of Okinawan ancestry, among them Masao Awakuni, who was among the first Nisei to receive the DSC. Many Okinawans were in the

# Wat Misaka Acclaimed as Hero Of Utah's Upset Victory Over Kentucky in National Tourney

Wat Misaka, the Nisei star whose sensational defensive play was a major factor in the University of Utah's underdog victory over the University of Kentucky in the New York invitational tournament on March 24, was given a tremendous ovation upon his return to Utah this week with members of the victorious Ute basketball squad.

Arriving at Salt Lake airport with others of the champion Utah team, Misaka was given a rousing reception and hoisted on the shoulders of the crowd.

Misaka received another ovation from 10,000 people on Salt Lake's Main Street, when he was introduced at the downtown welcoming ceremonies which followed the parade from the airport. Later he and other members of Utah's Cinderella Kids, who won national basketball honors by three straight upset victories over Duquesne, West Virginia and Kentucky, considered by experts to be the nation's top squad, were honored by Utah students at a rally at Kingsbury Hall. Misaka's integral role in Utah's 49 to 45 victory over Kentucky was noted in New York this week by Clair Bee of Long Island University, one of the country's leading coaches. "I sort of wish the little guy, Wat Misaka, had been picked as the tournament's most valuable player," Bee said. "Misaka stopped Ralph Beard, star of the Kentucky team, and held him to one point, the first foul shot in the game. He stopped the mainspring, and that stopped the watch. It was the greatest job of guarding I've ever seen."

Utah's defeat of Kentucky before 18,500 howling fans at Madison Square Garden was called by Lawrence Robinson of the New York World Telegram as "one of the finest games ever played in the Garden." The Utes used only six players, Misaka, Vern Gardner, Arne Ferrin, Fred Weidner, Leon Watson and Lyman Clark, against a taller and heavier Kentucky team which was loaded with stars. Coach Vadal Peterson said following the fame that Misaka's wonderful control of Beard, who previously had been awarded the Gold Star as the "visiting player of the year" by New York sports writers, was the key of Utah's strategy. "We figured if we could stop Beard we could hold Kentucky," Peterson said. Misaka held All-American Beard to one point and the Utes won. Following the Kentucky game, Misaka received a great ovation from the New York crowd when he stepped up to receive the watch which is given all players taking part in the tournament. He also was the sentimental favorite of the fans for the "most valuable player" award and there were some boos when it was announced that he was ranked fourth in the voting by New York coaches. Vern Gardner of Utah won the cov-

eted trophy. Arne Ferrin of Utah and Wah-Wah Jones of Kentucky were tied for second. Alez Groza of Kentucky was placed fifth.

The New York press hailed Misaka's part in Utah's triumph. The New York Sun headlined: "Misaka Stops Beard Cold to Check Kentucky Attack. Tiny Japanese American Firebrand Turns in Finest Guarding Job of Season Here as Underdogs Win Invitation Tourney."

The New York World Telegram had a headline: "Misaka Hero of Utah's Victory."

Time after time, Misaka, 5 feet 8, took the ball away from the Kentucky players who average 6 feet 4.

The city commissioners of Ogden, Utah, home town of Misaka and Ferrin, adopted a resolution on March 25 commending them for "their achievement, their courage and good sportsmanship . . . which reflect honor upon themselves and upon our city."

Misaka also was honored at a dinner on Wednesday night by the Nisei Basketball Association of Salt Lake City and was presented a trophy at the Intermountain Nisei basketball tournament as "the outstanding Nisei basketball player of 1947."

Misaka also was the subject of editorial accolades in the Salt Lake Tribune and Telegram and the Deseret News. The papers noted that all members of the Utah team were veterans. Misaka who served two years in military intelligence in the Pacific, was on duty with the Fifth Air Force in Japan.

## Radio Broadcast Will Feature Tats Kushida

CHICAGO—Tats Kushida, mid-west representative of JACL, will appear on the International Program, a fifteen-minute interview, over F. M. station WGNB on Thursday, April 3, at 8:45 p.m. The International Program, designed to promote brotherhood and greater understanding of minority groups, is rebroadcast to the public schools of Chicago under sponsorship of the Chicago Board of Education. Kushida's interview will highlight information concerning the Japanese in the United States.

# Commissions Offered to Nisei Enlisting in Army Intelligence

MONTEREY, Calif.—Chances of recommendations for direct commission as an officer for discharged graduates and qualified enlisted students at the Military Intelligence Service Language School, Presidio of Monterey, Calif., have never been better than at the present time, it was announced this week by Tsutomu P. Tekawa, technical director of academic training. Shortage of linguist officers in Japan at present, and recognition by SCAP of the value of Nisei officers in handling Japanese nationals were given as reasons for the new high in opportunities for commissions. In order to fill openings caused by discharges, the MISLS has adopted a policy by which potential officers are divided into three groups. "Those standing the best chances for recommendations for commissions are the MISLS graduates with overseas experience, whether they have been discharged or are still in service, because of their actual operating experience in linguistic work," Mr. Tekawa said. Discharged graduates, he pointed out, under new Army regulations may re-enlist in their former grade, or in grade of T/4, whichever is higher, at any time for direct assignment to the MISLS, provided they re-enlist for a period of not less than two years. Because of their superior Japanese background, enlisted instructors are second in priority; and lastly, highly competent enlisted students who are considered to be officer material by instructors, company commanders, and others are recommended for direct commissions upon graduation. At present there are seven enlisted men from all three categories who have been recommended for commissions and are now awaiting final approval from the War Department in Washington, Mr. Tekawa said. T/Sgt. Spady Koyama and T/3 Harry Kubo, veterans of South Pacific campaigns, were selected from the graduates' group. M/Sgts. Stanley Fukuchi and Toshio Suzuki were chosen from the instructor group; and from the student group, S/Sgts. Michio Uno and James Boyce and T/4 James Haratani were recommended. Tekawa added that opportunities for direct commissions of MISLS graduates after they have been shipped to Japan are also good for qualified linguists. He cited, as an example, the promotion of T/4 Haruo Kumamoto to a second lieutenant after about four months of service in Japan; Lt. Kumamoto graduated from MISLS in November, 1946, and received his commission last March. He is presently attached to a SCAP mapping service group.

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### Naturalization Law

Exhibit A for an Asia looking toward the democracies for leadership is equalization in naturalization for persons of all descents.

That is the belief of Roger N. Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union, who leaves March 28 for the Orient, where he will spend three months contacting leading political, educational and social figures of the countries of the Far East. The ultimate goal of his trip will be to aid in the creation of agencies for future planning and assistance in the development of truly democratic governments in the Orient.

Speaking in San Francisco on the eve of his departure, Baldwin said:

"When America is trying to win allies to her political way of life, she cannot afford to label certain races as undesirable."

He stated that the designation of the Issei as persons "racially inadmissible and ineligible to citizenship" should be wiped off the statute books. Many of these Issei, he pointed out, are parents of servicemen and veterans.

"If we talk democracy to the Far East, the Far West had better begin practicing it," Baldwin said. Equality in naturalization, he said, would be "tangible evidence of our good faith in Asiatic peoples and in the United Nations organization."

Baldwin was invited to make his three-month tour of the Far East by General MacArthur's Tokyo headquarters and the War Department and was asked to investigate civil liberties in the Orient. He will, however, travel in an unofficial capacity as a representative of the JACL and the Committee for Equality in Naturalization.

He already has stated his intention of discussing the question of Issei citizenship in his talk with General MacArthur.

Roger Baldwin, in his effort to correlate inter-U. S. actions with our relations with the world, is looking beyond the selfish interests of the few who would keep up our bars against persons of Oriental ancestry. He has related the rights of the Issei in this country with the ultimate democratization of Japan.

### Two Artists

The outmoded nature of our immigration and naturalization laws is brought home clearly in the cases of two "aliens" of Japanese ancestry who have been in the news in recent weeks.

Yasuo Kuniyoshi, who was born in Japan, but who is today an outstanding exponent of American art, was honored by his fellow artists last week when he was named temporary president of the Artists Equity Association, an organization which will protect and advance the economic interests of painters, sculptors and graphic artists in the United States. It is the first organization of its kind in the country and all professional artists will be asked to join. In addition to Mr. Kuniyoshi, other prominent artists who are officers in the group include Leon Kroll, Paul Manship, Eugene Speicher, Thomas Hart Benton, Millard Sheets, Waldo Pierce, Arnold Blanch and others.

Mr. Kuniyoshi's selection as president of the group comes as a signal honor and is a tribute to his integrity as an artist and as a human being. He has been accorded a position of trust and the highest honor his fellow artists can bestow but, under the law at present, he is not eligible for naturalization.

Taro Yashima, another "alien" artist of Japanese ancestry, came to the United States with his wife in 1940 as a refugee from Japanese militarism. He is the author of "The

New Sun" and of a forthcoming book, "The Horizon Is Calling." Taro Yashima served in the war with OWI and later with the top-secret OSS. Yet because he is an alien of Japanese ancestry who has come to the United States since the passage of the Exclusion Act of 1924, he is considered ineligible for permanent residence and has been served with a deportation order. Despite the fact that Yashima made a valuable contribution to American victory in the war, the Attorney General under the law has no discretionary powers to stay deportation and the only remedy lies in the passage of a private bill by Congress.

### Hawaiian Statehood

The recent Congressional hearings on Hawaiian statehood have resulted in a reaffirmation of belief in the integrity of the territory's population of Japanese ancestry by Admiral Chester Nimitz, Interior Secretary Krug and other witnesses. In the light of the war record of Hawaiians of Japanese ancestry, the fact that approximately 30 per cent of the territory's population are of Japanese parentage no longer is a deterrent to serious consideration of Hawaii's request for statehood.

The war record of Hawaii's Japanese Americans has scattered the opposition to statehood and has destroyed the base of racist emotionalism upon which this opposition was founded. Rep. Fred Crawford, chairman of the House committee which heard the testimony, had hinted darkly before the hearings that he would raise the question of the territory's large Japanese American population in opposition to the approval of the proposed enabling legislation for Hawaiian statehood. The unanimous vote of the House committee in favor of the Farrington statehood bill indicates that Rep. Crawford undoubtedly was impressed by the convictions expressed by Admiral Nimitz and Secretary Krug on the subject of Hawaii's Japanese Americans.

### Soldier's Story

Since a day in September, 1943, when the 100th Infantry Battalion first went into action in the hills beyond Salerno, thousands of words have been written about the unit, which today is perhaps the most famous American battalion of World War II. In this and subsequent issues, the Pacific Citizen will publish the first literary record by a member of the 100th Battalion, Jon Chinen. It is a true story of men in battle, a flesh and blood story which cannot be told in the cold and sparse language of military communiqués nor even in the livelier dispatches of newspaper correspondents.

Jon Chinen's story is published in the hope that it may bring home to those who read it a sense of the nature of war as felt by men who must fight in it and die in it. Wars are fought by the people and, as a song from a previous war declares, "only the people die."

### Un-American Law

As Americans, Californians should be in the lead in doing everything possible to preserve American rights. Yet our legislature today is considering a bill to appropriate \$200,000 for enforcement of an un-American law in California.

We refer to the Alien Land law, which prohibits Japanese from ownership of property and at the same time prevents American citizens of Japanese descent from owning property if the state claims that the Japanese aliens have an interest in the property.

The efforts of Attorney General Fred Howser in California to confiscate Japanese American property under the Alien Land law act is actually in opposition to the desires of most of the voters of the state who defeated Proposition 15 in the last election. Proposition 15 was designed to tighten and strengthen the land law and a majority of 300,000 voted against the proposal, which was considered a test of the land law itself.

It seems ridiculous for us to be worrying about what Russia is going to do in Greece and Turkey and other points in the world when we are running counter to American tradition and law in California. Let's clean up our own state and our own nation before we start sending money, men and implements of war to other lands.—An editorial in the Santa Ana, Calif., Register on March 22, 1947.

## From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

An international milestone was passed last week, when papers published an NEA Service editorial cartoon depicting Japan in a favorable light. Nothing like that has happened since 1932 when the Japanese marched into China, and they have been in a similar position since the 1932 Manchuria fracas, when the Tokyo militarists tipped their hand.

The NEA cartoon, published locally by the Scripps-Hornbeck Rocky Mountain News, depicts Japan as a rotund, grinning, spectacled schoolboy standing on the steps of a place labeled "School of higher education — Democracy and how to get along with your neighbors."

He is offering an apple to an ample woman marked United Nations. She has a quizzical look and is holding Japan's primary school report card, on which General MacArthur has written: "Excellent on all counts."

If they are capable of understanding such things, the old sabers-rattlers like Tojo must be amazed at this turn of affairs.

### St. Paul Festival

For the four days from April 24 to 27, St. Paul, Minn., will be the scene of a gala Festival of Nations reminiscent of happier years.

Some 8000 performers in the costumes of their forefathers will dance, sing Old World songs, exhibit art treasures, heirlooms and ancestral costumes from all over the world.

National games and sports will be performed, and in an Old World market place the descendants of 39 nations will serve food "like grandmother used to, make across the sea."

For the first time Japanese Americans will be represented in the festival on a large scale. Mrs. Ruth Tanbara of the St. Paul Y. W. C. A., formerly of the San Francisco bay region, is head of a committee which is planning:

A series of exhibits to be collected by a committee headed by Mrs. George Rokutani. Toys, festival dolls, art treasures and other items will be included. The committee also plans to have Mrs. Tomoko Yamamoto of Des Moines, Ia., come up to demonstrate flower arrangement and "bonseki."

Ondo dances in kimono to be staged by 50 Nisei girls from the Twin Cities.

A food market staffed by Issei and Nisei women to serve sukiyaki and tempura to an expected 200 guests on each of the four festival nights.

A sports exhibit of kendo, judo and archery to be staged by a com-

mittee headed by Frank Yamamoto. As an indication of the length to which the committees are going to get up a complete exhibit, Mrs. Tanbara writes that a jirikaba has been borrowed for the occasion from friends in California. In the committee is still in need of parasols, tabi and kimono, which it would like to rent.

It is a healthy indication, indeed, that these aspects of Japanese culture are being welcomed at the St. Paul festival. And it is a good bet that ex-GIs who find their way to the Japanese land, and there first discover Japanese folkways, will be among the most interested visitors at the exhibits.

The Nisei, in their anxiety to become "Americanized," have often have deliberately suppressed the culture of their forefathers and they and their associates are the losers for this neglect.

Perhaps the same is true of varying degrees in the case of children of other immigrant groups. St. Paul's efforts to rekindle an interest in Old World customs among the American descendants of immigrants is an encouraging sign of a broader outlook in the country.

### Visitor from Japan Speaks in California

LOS ANGELES — Democracy-minded people in Japan are grateful to Americans and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry in the United States for their outstanding loyalty to the American cause during the war, the Rev. Tada Ujemura, the first woman to come to the United States from Japan since the outbreak of war in 1941, declared in a talk at Pilgrim Hall on March 12.

"If it weren't for the help of Nisei soldiers, we might not have been treated so well in occupied Japan," Rev. Ujemura said. "I know now the value of democracy and the freedom it gives."

## Frank Fujino's Story Is One Of Amazing Saga's of War

(Continued from Page 1)

last plane to be flown out from that field. This plane carried nurses and the wounded. Because of the loss of blood, Frank said he passed out after the plane took off. When he came to, he found himself in a hospital in Australia. Army nurses later told him that the plane had been forced down by a Japanese Zero near some South Pacific islands and the occupants had been picked up by an Allied submarine and brought to Australia.

After a period of convalescence in Australia and California, he was assigned to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, for temporary duty. Then he was sent to the officers training school at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he was washed out, he says, when it was learned that O'Connor was a Nisei. Another brief stay at Fort Sheridan, he was sent to Sheppard Field, Texas, to train as a bomber pilot, but again, he was washed out this time one day before graduation because he was a Nisei.

Frank's escapades in the Philippines and his battle against discrimination after his return to the States were dramatized for various radio shows originating from Walter Reed hospital in 1945-46. After one of these broadcasts, he says, Lt. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, who was present, questioned Frank about his encounters with prejudice.

Gen. Doolittle told him that he himself had nothing to do with Frank's not qualifying as a bomber pilot. "The fact that I led the first raid on Tokyo," said Gen. Doolittle, "had nothing to do with my feelings toward the Nisei. I was only a major at that time, and I certainly had no say about air force policies."

Seeing he could get nowhere in OCS or in air force schools, Frank volunteered for the 442nd. He fought in Italy and southern France, and lost his right leg in the fall of 1944 in the rescue of the Lost Battalion. He was sent to Walter Reed hospital in May of 1945 and has been there ever since.

Altogether, 24 operations have been performed on his right leg. That leg has been plagued by infections because the suturing was not done properly when his leg was amputated. All that remains of his leg now is a short stump.

Frank sees a strong need for Nisei to unite in the battle against discrimination. He deplores the indifference of so many Nisei who are sitting back while a few leaders are beating their brains out to secure civil rights for all Nisei and Issei. The Nisei who fought together during the war on the battlefronts must continue to work shoulder to shoulder.

He would like to see the Nisei get behind the JACL and support its program to the hilt. The JACL, he feels, is equipped to do the job but it needs the full encouragement of all Nisei.

Frank's face was eager and serious as he told us these things across a table in the Forest Glen commissary. This Nisei amputee has suffered the worst there was in the war on two battlefronts, and he got a nasty taste of discrimination on the home front. One can easily understand his desire to see some tangible gains made for Nisei and Issei as a result of the sacrifices made in the war.

## Vagaries

### Legislator . . .

West Coast legislator who proposed several restrictive measures against Japanese Americans during the war now admits privately that he was wrong and was cured by war hysteria . . . The American Legion's legislative representative in Washington may defy soon in opposition to bills that stay deportation of Japanese veterans who have served the United States during the war. Legion officials indicate that the group is opposed to any easing of present immigration restrictions.

### 2d Division . . .

The Second Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Wash., which includes the 500 Hawaiian Nisei soldiers, may transfer its operations to the Okinawa theater later this year . . . Edmund D. Soper's important new book, "Racism—World Issue," published by Abingdon-Cokesbury, contains a discussion of the war-time treatment of Americans of Japanese ancestry . . . Taki Domoto, former president of the Denver JACL, has been serving as a juror in the Smith murder case in Denver. He is one of the first Nisei to be called for jury duty in the mainland U. S.

### Wives . . .

It's only a coincidence, but all of the private bills introduced in Congress to permit the entry of "Japanese" wives of Nisei veterans servicemen are for people whose names start with the letter "K." These are the Kitajima, Kawagoe and Kawakami bills in the House and the Kawakami and Kurihara bills in the Senate, according to Mike M. Masaoka, legislative director of the JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee . . . Masaoka, incidentally has been highly commended by Washingtonians for his able presentation of testimony before a House subcommittee last week on bills affecting Japanese veterans.

### Engineer . . .

Nobie Tashiro of Lamar, Colo., who had a commission in the Army Air Corps during the war, now has an important War Department job as civilian engineer in charge of operations at four Japanese airfields. Tashiro is a graduate of the Colorado School of Mines . . . Several well-known Nisei dropped completely out of sight during the war. One of them came back and resumed his business. Now that the war was over, he could reveal that he had been with the super-secret OSS at an advanced post in India.

### Reglers . . .

Bowling: Saku Takata hit a record 289 game for a new house record at San Jose's Valley Bowl last week. Takata had a spare in the last frame and then threw eleven straight strikes . . . John Aoki of Salt Lake City hit a three-game series of 721 in open play at Ogden's Paramount alleys recently, including a high game of 279 and others of 241 and 201.

### Legion . . .

The legislative representative of the American Legion in Washington will probably oppose the passage of legislation eliminating race restrictions against persons of Japanese ancestry in the immigration laws on the basis that amendment of the laws is contrary to the intent of the Legion's national executive committee on immigration matters . . . In Utah, however the Legion endorsed the move to repeal the Alien Land law and the Idaho Legion department now is considering a request to support legislation which will permit parents of Nisei servicemen to become eligible for naturalization . . . Many AVC groups and at least one PW council already are on record in favor of Issei citizenship.

### Southwest Council To Hold Meeting

LOS ANGELES—The Pacific Southwest District Council of the JACL will meet Saturday, March 29, at the Kow Nan Low in an all-day meeting starting at 10 a.m. Henry Sakemi of Indio, chairman, will preside. Discussions will center around legislative needs of the Japanese American group.

# They Were So Young

## THE STORY OF THE 100TH BATTALION

By—Jon J. Chinen

"JOHNNIE! Johnnie!" Faintly I heard someone calling my name. "Johnnie!" I opened my eyes and stared into the darkness. In the dim light, I saw someone leaning close. "It's me—Robert. Com'un. We're coming into Anzio. Let's go up deck."

I glanced around the small room and saw several others busy dressing themselves. "O. K.," I whispered and jumped down from my bunk, which was the third up of a four-decker. Since I had slept with my uniform on, I quickly put on my boots and followed S/Sgt. Robert Takeo up the narrow steps through a hatch to the deck of our LCI—the "Lucky Angel."

"Gee, it's crowded," I said. "Hope we can find a place."

"Yeh," answered Robert. "Looks like the whole Charley Company is here. They're all studying our new battleground!"

It was before dawn, early in March, 1944, and the cold wind was driving hard. I noticed that everyone had his combat or field jacket zipped up all the way. Some even had their wool-knit caps on—covering their eyes. Pfc. Sadao Matsumoto of Waimanalo, Oahu, and Pfc. Joseph Milne of Chattanooga, Tennessee were next to Robert and me.

"Look, Matsumoto. There's a plane down there. See it?" Joe Milne was pointing in the water.

Heavy dark clouds covered the sky and there was a light drizzle. In the distance we could occasionally see a flash from our artillery on shore. In the water, we saw hundreds of ships—from the all-purpose "ducks," rushing all over, to the huge freighters—out in the deep—waiting to be unloaded.

Our convoy's trip from Naples was supposed to have been a secret one. But, the Germans, somehow, learned of our movement and came forth to greet us. One screaming shell that missed an LCT by 50 yards was their "key" to the beachhead. It was immediately followed by a ferocious artillery shower that sent the water shooting high into the sky. Our friends on shore threw a heavy smoke screen on the mountains where the Germans stood—to blind and confuse them; but, the shells kept coming in—faster and faster—with blood-curdling screams. "What shall I do?" I was wondering, when "All below deck!" came the order from the captain of the ship.

It was terrifying to "sweat-out" the barrage in the stuffy compartment. There was no place to hide, no place to run. We felt like clay pigeons in a shooting gallery. We could not see the enemy. And, we could not fight back—for our rifles, mortars, and machine-guns were inadequate. We could only pray and pray as we had never prayed before.

As the ship zig-zagged through the water, our compartment was tensely quiet. There were ten of us huddled close together—two combat veterans and eight recruits. The veterans were S/Sgt. Robert Masaru Takeo of Kualapuu, Molokai and Sgt. William Yamada of Paia, Maui. The eight of us who had joined the 100th Battalion at Benevento, Italy, only a week before leaving Naples were Pfc. Edward Ogawa from Idaho, Pfc. Peter Tanabe from California, and Pfc. Richard Tengwan, Mamoru Imano, Stan Miyamoto, Davis Shimada, Toshio Okada and myself—all from the Hawaiian Islands.

The LCI skipper used all his skill to dodge the screaming shells. Several times he made sharp turns that threw our equipment all over the place. Robert and Bill, sitting on their duffle bags, appeared calm and cool; but, we recruits were nervous and scared. I watched Davis Shimada button and unbutton his shirt—over and over. Facing him, Mamoru Omano was furiously biting his finger nails. Any second I expected him to bite his fingers off. I wanted to talk to Toshio Odaka, who was next to me, trying to hide between two duffle bags; but I was afraid that he would notice my trembling voice.

Some of the artillery shells whistled high overhead, seeking the supply-loaded freighters farther out in the water. Others came hissing in close—rocking our ship with tremendous blasts. These left my joints loose and weak. How I wished that this was only a nightmare, from which I would soon awaken! How I wished that I were back home in Hawaii.

"Everything will be . . ." Robert started to assure us of safety when our LCI gave a terrific quiver as though about to explode. Then, it stopped moving. Everyone jumped to his feet. No one said anything. But, the wild rolling eyes showed the dreadful fear. We wanted to get off the ship before it went down. We did not want to die, yet. Was it an artillery shell? A bomb? Robert and Bill, too, were puzzled. We were ready to rush up on deck, when an officer yelled down from the hatch, "O.K., men! Get ready to move ashore!"

There were heavy sighs of relief. Everyone relaxed. The set jaws gave way to smiles and the twinkles came back into the eyes. I removed my heavy steel helmet and wiped away the perspiration from my forehead. The sudden jolt was not a hit. It was the result of our LCI running into the half-wrecked deck. "Boy, what a relief," I managed to whisper to Toshio.

"Hurry up. Get moving!" was not a necessary order. Though many were sea-sick and tired, everyone ran off the ship. But, the sight that greeted us on the beachhead made us wish that we were back on the LCI, sailing for somewhere far-away.

Except for our GIs stripped to their waists, racing against time to supply the "dough-boy" up-front, there was no other sign of life. The expensive and once lovely Italian villas, the shabby hovels, and the little stores were all deserted. Everywhere, there were rubble, mud and more rubble. Torn steel girders and smashed

concrete blocks lay across the sidewalks. The streets were full of bomb and shell holes; and, along the sides, there were piles of burnt and twisted vehicles. Trees were uprooted and the branches littered all over. Nearly every other building was half crumpled to the ground; not a window or door remained intact. Here and there, we saw the skeletons of dead animals. Some may have been those of human beings, I am not sure.

"What a good place to stay away from," suggested Toshio.

"Yeh. Hell of a place!" I agreed.

Anzio, located thirty miles south of Rome, had been the pride of Benito Mussolini—for he had developed the place by reclaiming some swamp land from the Pontine Marshes, thereby, accomplishing something Julius Caesar and the Romans had failed to do. Before the war, Anzio must have been a wonderful place, with all the little red, white, and yellow stone farm-houses dotting the country-side, and the growing wheat swaying in the breeze, while the cattle and sheep peacefully grazed in the green pastures nearby. And, too, the beach had been a growing summer resort, where the rich Fascists used to spend their vacations—basking in the sun and drinking vino to their hearts' content.

But, Anzio was now a "Valley of Death." It was a unique fighting ground—a small piece of land that was almost completely flat—measuring less than ten miles wide and eight miles deep, surrounded by mountains. If we should go to a football field, break down one of the bleachers and bring the Mediterranean Sea to take its place, the surrounding bleachers would represent the mountains where the Germans stood. Then, if we should go to the playing field and plant some trees, raise some mounds and dig holes all over—it would represent the place we held.

For a few days, the 34th Division, of which the 100th Battalion was a part, remained in the rear—to check up on our equipment and to orient ourselves with the terrain. Life was not too bad at this time. Hidden in the forests, we were able to move about quite freely—even during the daylight hours. We had three hot meals a day. With a small stream near-by, we were able to get enough water to bathe and to do our laundry everyday. Only the reconnaissance planes and harassing artillery fire disturbed our sleep. We did not have to sleep with one eye and one ear open—on the alert for enemy infiltrators. We even had time to gather in small groups and sing the songs of Hawaii we loved so dearly.

There were five hundred strong in our battalion—but, far less than the 1200 men who had hit Salerno Beach on September, 1943. Many of the boys who weren't with us were sleeping under white crosses on the windswept hills of Cassino, the beach at Salerno, and along the banks of the Rapido and Volturno rivers. Many more were in hospitals—recovering from wounds and illness. Those of the original 100th who managed to survive so far urged the recruits to take full advantage of the "break." And, we did—sleeping as much as possible.

But this soft life was too good to last. One dark, moonless night as we were talking of the wonderful days back home—wondering what our friends and families were doing, "Pack up! We're moving!" came the order. Within half an hour, we were ready. We felt our way along a shell-marked dirt road and sneaked into our supporting positions behind Mussolini Canal and River Jordan.

The whole battalion made use of Italian homes and our platoon occupied three of ten buildings which were assigned to our company. These three were a hundred yards apart, 200 yards behind the front-lines; and, each was connected to the other building by means of field telephones.

Our squad was assigned a huge shell-shattered Italian farm home that was barely standing—fifty yards north of Purple-Heart Cross-road, where nearly every day someone was wounded. Though the building originally had six rooms, only two on the first floor were still usable. Our squad was divided in two, S/Sgt. Robert Takeo, Pfc. Ogawa, Odaka, Shimano and I occupied the northern room; Sgt. Yamada, Pfc. Miyamoto, Omano, Tanabe and Tengwan called the "sun-set view" room their own.

Robert Takeo, our squad leader, was one of the two men left from the original second squad of the first platoon of Charley Company, formed a year and a half ago. He was 32 years old, stood 5-ft.-6-in. and weighed 140 pounds. He was a picture of physical perfection—with broad shoulders, tapering down to a slim waist. His dark wavy hair was trimmed short—GI style; and, he was nearly always cleanly shaved. His eyes—bright and alert—and the dimples in his rosy cheeks added greatly to his Adonis features.

Robert's first contact with the United States Army was in 1940, when he was drafted into the 298th Hawaii National Guard. In early 1941, Robert received his discharge. But when Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, Robert was called back to active duty—to organize the 100th Infantry Battalion.

After grueling training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi, the 100th Battalion was sent overseas in August 1943, to join the 84th Division, which was then resting at Oran, North Africa. After a month of reorganization, the 34th was sent into the Battle of Salerno—to secure the beach for the Allies. And, from then on, Robert participated in every major battle in which the 100th was engaged. For brilliant leadership, he was rapidly promoted. And, for gallantry in action above and beyond the call of duty, he was awarded the coveted Silver Star and the Bronze Star medals.

(To Be Continued.)

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**Ex-GI Edits Paper  
At Business School**

Ernest Seko was elected secretary of the Alpha Lambda chapter of Pi Rho Zetas international commerce fraternity of the Henager School of Business in Salt Lake City in elections held last week at the Hotel Newhouse.  
Seko, an ex-GI, is also editor of the school paper, The Dynamo.

**New York JACL  
Holds Victory Dance**

NEW YORK CITY—In celebration of the successful conclusion of its membership drive, the New York JACL held a "Jamboree" victory dance March 15 at the Manhattan McBurney YMCA.

Almost 150 new members were added to the chapter's enrollment as the result of its drive, which was carried on through four recruiting teams. The team headed by Ken Hayashi, assisted by Harry Kuwada and George Nishikawa, was named the winners with 66 new members to its credit. Second was the team headed by Yuki Takami with Florence Abe, Alice Sato and Ida Otani, who secured 65 members. Several cabinet members assisted the drive by securing new members separately. President Hayashi was credited with signing up 23 persons.

The two leading teams were tied at the beginning of the dance and memberships were taken up to intermission time to break the tie.

The drive was conducted under Mitsu Takami, membership director.

Everett James Starr acted as master of ceremonies for the dance. Awards for the JACL community bowling tournament on March 9 were given out during an intermission period.

**Telegraphic Bowling  
Tourney Considered**

SAN FRANCISCO—Bill McGowan, league director at Downtown Bowl, indicated this week that a national Nisei telegraphic bowling tournament may be sponsored here soon.

**Seek Whereabouts**

The address of Miss Sakamoto, formerly of Los Angeles, is sought by George Fukukai, Route 3, Caldwell, Idaho (phone 190-J2), who has a message for her from her brother, Takayuki Sakamoto, now in Japan. Miss Sakamoto is believed to be a resident of Chicago.

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**Racism and Land Laws**

By Elmer R. Smith

(Continues from last week)

Because of the powerful political and economic ties of the anti-Japanese groups in California, a number of anti-Japanese bills were introduced into the state legislature. In 1909 17 anti-Japanese bills were introduced, and an anti-alien land bill aimed directly at persons of Japanese ancestry was defeated when it was amended to include all aliens. In the legislature of 1911 the attempt to secure the passage of a bill barring Japanese from owning and operating land in California was unsuccessful primarily because of the intervention of President William Howard Taft.

The State of California in 1913 did pass an Alien Land Law, called the Webb-Heney Bill. It was directed at persons of Japanese ancestry and as such was and still is primarily a race law. This contention is supported by the following statements selected from many of like caliber.

"The fundamental basis of all legislation upon this subject (including the Alien Land Law), State and Federal, has been, and is race undesirability. It is unimportant and foreign to the question under discussion whether a particular race is inferior. The simple and single question is, Is the race desirable?"

"Senator Caminetti when asked the purpose of the Alien Land Law said: 'To keep out people we don't want, particularly the Japanese.'"

"Then why not say so in the Bill?"

"Because the experience of this State with Chinese exclusion showed that laws directed against a particular nation would not be upheld in the Supreme Court."

The above mentioned California Alien Land Law and the Initiative measure approved at the state election in 1920 and the Land Act of 1923 all have the same basic pattern ultimate goal, discrimination against aliens and their offspring, but primarily against persons of Japanese ancestry. This can be shown to be true by representative statements taken from various promoters and supporters of such laws. A few examples will suffice for the present.

"California was given by God to a white people, and with God's strength in us we must keep it as He gave it to us."

"In my opinion the present agitation (against the Japanese) in California was inspired by candidacy for office . . . The dominant factors in the movement are actuated by their desires for political preferment."

"I would be very much opposed to the Japanese who are born in this country becoming American citizens, but to exclude them entirely, I think we need them for some labor. I am perfectly willing that they should come here as laborers. I am not willing that they should come here as landowners."

"But with all this the people of California are determined to repress a developing Japanese community within our midst. They are determined to exhaust every power in their keeping to maintain this state for its own people."

The anti-Japanese sentiment during the 1920's spread from California to her sister states to the north and east, ultimately giving rise to the passing of Alien Land Laws in Washington, Oregon, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, and finally Arkansas. The same racist thinking dominated the passage and the agitation of such bills in these states as in California. The state of Washington is a good example of the anti-Japanese feeling and force behind the passage of the Alien Land Law in that state. The following statements will give the basic features of this racism.

"The state Senate deserves the gratitude of the people of Washington for passing the Anti-Jap Land Law. This action of this Senate is one of its few scattering good deeds to date. The Jap Land Law is one of the most vitally important measures placed before this session. While the bill will not eradicate the Jap from Washington farm lands, it will, if properly and strictly enforced, prevent further extensions of the Jap invasion, and go a long way to keep this a white man's country."

"This is my day in court," Senator Taylor said. "I have waited a long time for this opportunity to express my feelings on the deplorable situation in this state and my district especially, created by the invasion of the Japanese."

"Who are the men who do not want this bill passed? They are the same selfish group of Seattle commercial interests that have threatened

me both personally and politically in an effort to make me recede from my position on this bill."

"But I'll go to hell first before I will change my sentiment on this bill. These interests who have come down here to threaten and harass this legislature think more of the Jap dollar than they do of the American children."

The same basic pattern of discrimination developed in the states of Utah, Wyoming, and Arkansas after the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast states to relocation centers within these states. Each of these states passed a land law in 1943 similar to that of California. Its avowed purpose in each state was to "protect the state against the Japanese." The hysteria, rumors circulated by vested interests and campaigns carried out by such papers as the DENVER POST parading rumor and negative criticism of the War Relocation Authority Centers, especially at Heart Mountain, Tule Lake and Manzanar, aided the passage of such legislation aimed at persons of Japanese ancestry. During the discussion of the bill to repeal the Utah Alien Land Law in the Utah State Senate on February 21, 1947, the President of the Senate, Mr. Alonzo F. Hopkins, the sponsor of the 1943 Land Law said: "This bill was introduced specifically to keep Japanese from owning land in Utah. However, it now seems as if this law is no longer needed. I vote Yes for its repeal." The Utah State Senate by a unanimous vote.

The Arkansas Statutes, 1943, Act 47 brings discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry to the fore when it states: "An act to safeguard the real property of the State of Arkansas and the Citizens thereof and for other purposes on account (sic) the standards of living of the Japanese people a white person cannot profitably compete with the Japanese either in agriculture or business; and therefore be it enacted

"No Japanese shall ever hold title to any lands . . ."

The social and psychological analysis of anti-Japanese agitation in California and neighboring states shows a definite pattern, the pattern being one of specific ups and downs. The demand for legislation and its enforcement shows the same general trend. After the Alien Land Laws were passed they became more or less a "dead letter" issue until the opportunity arose to make an issue of race for economic gains with the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast. The Senate Fact Finding Committee of California stated that "the Alien Land Law has not been properly enforced in California at any time since its adoption in 1913." The present Attorney General made the same admission when he stated: "Escheat proceedings lagged during the late '30's and prior to Pearl Harbor. However, with the movement of persons of Japanese ancestry away from the Pacific Coast by the Army and other government agencies, a wave of anti-Japanese hysteria swept over the area and the enforcement of the Alien Land Laws against persons of Japanese ancestry was inspired by the anti-evacuation forces of California, Oregon, and Washington. Escheat proceedings are now being undertaken and have been fulfilled in a number of instances."

The escheat proceedings do not only affect alien but also American citizens of Japanese ancestry, many of them returned service men who served their country with honor and distinction in the 44th Regimental Combat Team in Europe and with the U. S. Intelligence forces in the Pacific. These young Americans stand to lose their basic economic resources in these respective states as well as their status in the society of which they are an integral part. The criticisms that they are undesirable and are not able to assimilate into the American society have by their records in the armed forces, in war factories, and in the harvest fields been proved to be groundless.

The type of legislation conceived and brought forth by the racism of specific states in the form of Alien Land Laws cannot comply with the statement of Mr. Justice Murphy when he said: "Distinctions based on color and ancestry are utterly inconsistent with our traditions and ideals." Nor can such laws comply with our avowals to the United Nations Charter when it states that our concerted world over must be for "human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinctions as to race, sex, language or religion."—From Proceedings of Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters

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# Twin Cities JACL Hears Talk On State of Japan Democracy

## Military Intelligence Veteran Wins Car at JACL Dance

CHICAGO—Masao Yazaki, 21, a veteran who served 15 months with the Military Intelligence Service, the winner of a 1947 Chevrolet for the Chicago JACL benefit "Drive the Wheels."

Yazaki, who lives at 5237 So. Harper, was not present at the JACL Spring dance on March 22 at the International House on the Chicago university campus when the award was announced and was informed of his good fortune by wire.

Second prize, a Philco console radio combination, went to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph C. Smith, 11335 Central Park. Third prize was an Elgin de luxe wrist watch, won by Nancy Joane Logan, 13, of 2706 Montrose avenue.

Virginia Wald, popular Chicago pianist, helped entertain the capacity crowd of JACL members and friends who overflowed the International House ballroom. Music was furnished by Benny Sharp's orchestra.

## Negro Educator Urges Minorities To Know Each Other

LOS ANGELES — "Minorities don't know each other except through the hysteria of the majority," Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, noted Negro educator and writer, told a luncheon group at Pilgrim House last week.

Speaking to an audience consisting of Los Angeles residents of Japanese, Chinese, Negro, white and Mexican ancestry, Dr. DuBois said that it was his opinion that the minority race problem was not altogether an emotional one and that the solutions "depend a good deal on reasoning."

"We are brought up with the idea that the nation should be one," he declared. "We must come to the place where we recognize that the nation is composed of mi-

By PETER OHTAKI  
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Mary Proal Lindeke, formerly with General Douglas MacArthur's Civil Information and Education section in Japan, described the growth of democracy in that country under the occupation in a talk to the United Citizens League at the Minneapolis YWCA.

Although the Japanese seem eager to embrace democracy, Miss Lindeke said, they have not fully grasped the impact of its significance. To them it appears through the abolition of certain traditions, such as not having to bow to or kneel before anyone, and through such liberties as freedom of speech.

She cited an incident on a street-car, wherein two Japanese women rose to give their seats to two disabled Japanese soldiers. When two officers of the U. S. Army got on the car, the soldiers arose, saluted and offered their seats to the officers, who promptly led the veterans of the defeated army back to their seats. The passengers were deeply impressed by the scene, Miss Lindeke said.

The speaker lauded the work of Nisei intelligence men, who are doing a "wonderful piece of work" in the re-education of a destroyed nation.

Miss Lindeke said that many Japanese go to MacArthur's headquarters every day and thank him personally for the food and clothing that is being distributed.

"Japan, a nation which previously never had lost a war, is also a country which greatly admires a victor, in this case, the Allies," Miss Lindeke said.

A native of St. Paul, Miss Lindeke went to Japan last year for the Red Cross and later joined the Civilian Information and Education section. She worked with Lt. Col. Paul Rusch in establishing a Christian Democracy leadership training school in Tokyo. Col. Rusch was personnel procurement officer at the MISLS at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling.

minorities and that the minorities are the nation."

"If we are going to have freedom in individuality, it is a matter of minorities knowing each other, and we've got to see that they do," he concluded.

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# Tomorrow's Heirs

By Sachi L. Wada

Minneapolis, Minn.

### WISDOM OF A SORT . . .

From Sandy, Utah, comes a letter with wisdom of a sort. The writer, whose name is being withheld upon request, says, "Every thinking Nisei, agrees as you say, I'm sure, about that star up there, for which we all must strive. It's a goal to which there's not just a single path, but several paths and methods of travel. The ultimate goal is the same, whether you work as a part of more occidental groups or all Nisei groups."

So here we get another controversy. Maybe I'm being dogmatic, but I am inclined to stick to my theory that you progress more through working with an occidental group. Taking for example, campus life. Of course, Nisei have many things in common because of past experiences. I often find myself wishing that I could be content among Nisei alone . . . and yet, downright common sense tells you that after college you enter a real life, where some of the gayety and security fades. There, you're on your own. There, too, is another world, a larger world, where your associates, your neighbor-laborers are of all pigments. When I entered the University almost two years ago, I came here with all kinds of lofty illusions. Time and the distance which has segregated me from my family and other friends has made me change my mind about many things . . . among them, about all Nisei groups. Fine, if the world were made so that we could drift along in an area labeled, "For Nisei Only," but things don't work like that. And so, to Sandy, Utah, my thanks for a nice letter and for letting me read some of your wisdom, but the same unchanged attitude that all-Nisei groups belong to an ancient past.

### SPEAKING OF SCHOOL . . .

Speaking of the University, today I am wracking my head over schedules and such things required for the spring quarter registration. I must be mad to think that I'll have the stamina to go through summer session here. But then, there's something about old Folwell Hall which lessens the ordeal of preparing for the days when one will have to earn a living.

Strange, today I feel the same as I did when I came here, standing in awe of this institution. Stranger still are the yet unfound solutions to vague questions like "Why aren't all men created equal" or "How does every man make his contribution for the advancement of society?" A thousand questions and the thousand dreams which run through my mind. I thought by coming to school, I would find enlightenment . . . but all they have here are the dusty documentary records. That is not enough. Maybe after all the academic rigamarole is over with I'll start on a quest of my own.

It is such an elusive thing. Sometimes I find it when the rays of the sun break through the clouds for a single moment of radiance. And then there comes over you a delirious drunken feeling of infinite peace. But it is only for a moment that you capture such perfection. It makes you feel all the emotions so simultaneously that if it were raining you would not know which were the tears and which were the rain. They are so intermingled.

I remember, too, out there on the Arizona desert, we used to climb the butte at the hour of the sun's descent. And for an elusive second, the world would stand still. It felt almost as though Heaven had come to earth. Inside yourself you can feel as though you were dying . . . but you didn't really care.

College, people say, often make cynics out of students. I don't think they mean cynicism, but merely an incapacity to express without appearing soft. There is so much groping within, so much bewilderment and wonder. It is only a transitory period. Some grow out of that stage and yet the chosen few stumble and stagger through the arches of life, with a thirst almost drunken, looking for the drink perfected.

I wonder, if five years from now I will still feel the same, if I will still be seeking that basic goodness which is the greatness of man. That, only time can tell . . . and distance.

## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Shiozaki a girl on March 23 in Chicago.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Kazuo Ishimoto, Del Rey, Calif. a girl on Feb. 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Noboru Sakai, Del Rey, a boy on March 8.  
To Mr. and Mrs. K. Nakamura, West Los Angeles, a boy on March 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Nishimoto, Riverside, Calif., a girl on March 11.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masuo Masuda a girl on March 8 in Newcastle, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Akiri Ochi, San Deigo, Calif., a girl on March 1.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Sunao Nishio, Sacramento Calif., a boy on March 18.

To Mr. and Mrs. Keiichi Kimura a girl on March 12 in Los Angeles.

To Mr. and Mrs. Benji Iguchi a boy on March 12 in Los Angeles.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Y. Yagi of Sacramento a girl on March 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. S. Namba a girl on March 21 in Denver.

To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tatsuro Wakasa a boy on arch 3 in Fresno.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tokio Nomura a boy on March 11 in Kingsbury, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Haru Yoshimoto a girl on Feb. 28 in Fresno, Calif.

### DEATHS

Dr. Tetsuya G. Ishimaru on March 24 in Los Angeles, Calif.

Sam Hohri on March 20 at Hillcrest Sanitarium, La Crescenta, Calif.

Yutaka Fujimoto, 50, on March 17 at Encinitas, Calif.

Taroichi Nishikawa, 62, on March 21 in West Los Angeles, Calif.

Kotaro Kawaguchi, 60 on March 19 in Monrovia, Calif.

Mrs. Natsu Togami, 59, on March 18 in San Jose, Calif.

### MARRIAGES

Setsuko Mayeda, Grand Junction, Colo., to Kiyoshi K. Otaguro on March 16 in Denver.

Hanako Yasuda to Akira Yagi, Walnut Grove on March 23 in San Francisco.

Fumi Tomita, Illiff, Colo., to Julius A. Otsuki on March 16 in Illiff.

Dorothy Shigemura to Sam Morimoto, Pueblo, Colo., on March 5 in Denver.

Fumi Asakawa, Fresno, Calif., to Tsutomu J. Mochizuki on March 16 in Los Angeles.

Akiko Kodama of Reedley to Tatsumi Kimoto of Parlier, Calif., on March 16.

Kazuji Okubo of Selma, Calif. to Junji Shiroyama on March 16.

Kaoru Matsumoto to Sijiro Takahashi of Denver on March 16.

Sakiko Kato to Jisaburo Kasa on March 16 in Sacramento.

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## Melvyn Douglas Backs Move For Naturalization of Issei

### Defer Action On New JACL District Group

DENVER — Formation of the Tri-State JACL District Council, to be comprised of Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming chapters, will be deferred until the fall, it was decided here at a conference held March 22 and 23 by the Denver and Fort Lupton chapters.

The decision was made because of the fact that several JACL chapters, including those in Greeley, North Platte and Pueblo, are still inactive. Observers from Scottsbluff, Neb., however, attended the conference in an unofficial capacity and expressed their intention of starting a chapter in that city. Nisei in San Luis Valley, Colorado, who were unable to send delegates, sent a donation of \$400 for the Tri-State financial drive.

Hito Okada, national president, and Masao Satow, acting national secretary, represented the National JACL.

A special meeting with several Denver Nisei was held Saturday evening at the Manchu Grill. Okada and Satow gave a summary of the work of the JACL and the ADC and discussed legislation that was still needed for the benefit of the Nisei and the Issei. The Issei representatives pledged support of the program and promised to hold an intensive financial drive for the JACL and the ADC.

Satow and Okada also spoke at a meeting held by the Denver chapter Sunday afternoon.

"Station JACL," a radio skit written by Ina Sugihara of the New York chapter was presented under the direction of Yoshiko Arika.

Ray Uyeshima, who recently returned after five years in Shanghai, told of wartime conditions in that city. He told his audience of the experiences faced by Nisei in the Far East during the war period. Uyeshima told of his return to the United States, citing the aid of the National JACL, and pleaded for understanding for the difficult position in which Nisei stranded in Japan found themselves during the war.

Roy Takeno, special assistant to the Denver office, reported during the Saturday afternoon session that a total of \$1705 has been collected for the JACL and the ADC. Takeno stated that a portion of that sum donated by Caucasian firms in Denver.

### Screen Star Aids In Securing Resolution At Hollywood Meeting

LOS ANGELES—The noted screen star, Melvyn Douglas, aided in securing passage of a resolution endorsing the Issei naturalization bill at a conference of Americans for Democratic Action at the Brentwood Country club on March 23.

The resolution was introduced by Saburo Kido, past national president of the JACL, who stated that law-abiding Japanese residents in the United States should be given the privilege of citizenship. He asked the ADA to pass a resolution asking for passage of the naturalization bill now in Congress.

A move was made by some delegates to turn the resolution over to the legislative committee for further study.

Melvyn Douglas, however, urged "immediate" action on the resolution and announced his support of the bill.

The ADA, by majority vote of the 200 representatives present, passed the resolution.

### San Mateo JACL Surpasses Goal in Membership Drive

SAN MATEO, Calif.—The San Mateo County chapter of the JACL has surpassed its membership drive goal of 150 new members, it was announced this week by Joe Ishida, publicity chairman of the group.

Ninety-five members were signed up in San Mateo, 44 in Redwood City and 11 in East Palo Alto in the campaign which ended on March 15.

More new members are being signed up by the committee headed by Sally Kawakita, vice president of the chapter and head of the membership committee.

The following members participated in the membership campaign: San Mateo—Haru Sugishita, Howard Imada, Tomo Kashiwagi, Kiyoshi Nosaka, Hiroshi Ito, Sam Kariya, Jack Fujiki, Shig Takahashi, Mae Tanaka, Sayo Yoshifuji and Sue Asai; Redwood City—Hirotsuke Inouye and William Enomoto; East Palo Alto—Shozo Mameda and Kiyu Yamane.

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### Twin Boys Born To French Wife Of Nisei GI

CHICAGO—Twin boys have been born in Paris to the French wife of Tech. Sgt. Robert Chino of Chicago, according to information received by relatives here this week.

Sgt. Chino, a member of the famous 442nd Combat Team, met his wife while the Nisei unit was in southern France in 1945. He has been awarded the Army's Silver Star, Bronze Star and the Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster. He is now operating a hotel for the Army in Paris.

Sgt. Chino is a younger brother of Franklin Chino, Chicago attorney.

### Plan Formation Of ADC Unit In Chicago

CHICAGO — Jack Nakagawa, president of the Chicago chapter of JACL, announced this week a drive is now under way in Chicago to set up a strong Anti-Discrimination Committee here in cooperation with the efforts being made to secure Federal legislation in Washington to eliminate restrictions on persons of Japanese ancestry.

Mike Masaoka, representing the organization in Washington, is lobbying for the passage of bills now pending which would grant citizenship to Issei and for the payment of evacuation claims.

Togo Tanaka and Harold R. Gordon are serving temporarily as co-chairmen of the Anti-Discrimination Committee. Franklin Chino, Chicago attorney, will continue as chairman of JACL's Legislative Committee, Nakagawa said.

The ADC is an organization whose membership is open to all. A special effort will be made to recruit the membership of as many Chicago Issei as possible. Heads of all Chicago churches and organizations are being contacted and are being requested to lend their support to this organizational drive, according to Nakagawa.

A large organizational meeting is tentatively set for the third week in April and arrangements

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## Civil Liberties Union Supports Appeal in Alien Land Law Case

NEW YORK—Urging the U. S. Supreme court to review a decision of the California Supreme court upholding the Alien Land law of California, the American Civil Liberties Union last week filed a brief as a friend of the court in support of the petition by two persons of Japanese ancestry.

The brief supports the appeal of Fred Y. Oyama, an American citizen, and Kajiro Oyama, an alien, who have lost their land to the State of California on a declaration of escheat. The Alien Land law of California forbids the ownership or use of lands by aliens ineligible for citizenship. "At present," the brief declares, "the only ethnic group whose members reside in this country in a substantial number and are ineligible for naturalization, is the Japanese."

The petitioners argued that the Alien Land Law, under which the land was escheated, is an unconstitutional racial discrimination under the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

The brief states: "The constitu-

tionality of the Alien Land law is of great current significance from a broader aspect as well. This law was enacted as an anti-Oriental, and primarily as an anti-Japanese measure. Its purpose was 'to reserve the state for American labor and American landlords.' 'To keep out people we don't want, particularly the Japanese,' and to express 'the feelings of the people of the coast towards Orientals.'"

The California Supreme court's decision in this case rests on an earlier decision of the U. S. Supreme court, in which the California Land law was upheld. The brief states that the decision "should be reconsidered and overruled because of its inconsistency with doctrine this Court has developed in the interim since its promulgation."

The brief was signed by Nanette Dembitz, Edward J. Ennis, Osmond K. Fraenkel, Walter Gellhorn and Arthur Garfield Hays of the New York bar; Reuben Oppenheimer of the Maryland bar; and Harold Evans, of the Pennsylvania bar.

## Masaoka Seeks Rescinding of "Enemy Alien" Classification

WASHINGTON, March 25—Repeal of the wartime "enemy alien" classification for Japanese nationals was urged upon President Harry S. Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark by Mike Masaoka, national legislative director of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee, in letters sent to them last week.

"We respectfully urge that the time has long since passed when the designation 'enemy alien' should be used to describe aliens of races with which we were at war," Masaoka wrote the President.

"While we believe that others classified as 'enemy aliens' should receive the same consideration, we are specifically interested in the resident Japanese national who, through no fault of his own except that of the accident of birth, is classified as such. Unlike the aliens from other once enemy countries, the Japanese resident alien legally in the United States did not, and have not now, the right to become a naturalized citizen of the United States. The Japanese alien, then, through no choice of his own or lack of interest in becoming a citizen of the United States, is automatically classified as an 'enemy alien.'"

"We believe," Masaoka said, "that the record of loyalty achieved

by our resident Japanese aliens and their citizen children in World War II entitles them to every possible consideration, the least of which is the removal of this arbitrary and now indefensible classification."

### Hawaiian Runners Place in Coast Distance Race

SAN FRANCISCO—Two Nisei distance runners from Honolulu took fifth and sixth places among the 34 men who finished in the annual San Francisco cross-city race on March 23.

Norman Tamanaha placed fifth and was followed across the finish line by Takeo Takushi.

The Hawaiians are en route to Boston to compete in the famous 26-mile marathon.

are being made to obtain speakers from California and Washington, D. C., to outline the purposes and work of the ADC.

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