VOL. 26; NO. 4

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH,

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1948

Price: Seven cents

Oyama Case Decision Upholds Nisei Rights

Fresno Authorities Believe **Dyama Verdict May Result** n Voiding 15 Escheat Cases

FRESNO, Calif .- The United States Supreme court's deision reversing the California Supreme court in the Oyama case nay throw out of court approximately 15 such cases pending in Fresno county involving approximately 750 acres of land valued t from \$500,000 to \$750,000, the Fresno Bee reported on Jan. 20.

The Bee said local legal opinion was that while the Supreme ourt did not declare the Alien Land law unconstitutional, it oids the statute by ruling that alien Japanese can purchase property in the names of their

San Joaquin Officials May Continue Cases

\$100,000 in Property Involved in Eight **Escheat Cases**

STOCKTON, Calif.-Despite the upreme Court's ruling last Monay reversing the California Sureme Court's decision in the yama case, the Stockton Record ported on Jan. 20 that it is beeved that the decision will not ffect eight escheat proceedings gainst persons of Japanese ancesy in San Joaquin County.

The Record said that District ttorney Chester E. Watson de-ared that although he has not ad a copy of the decision to study, is his belief that from the press eports of the court ruling the Calfornia Alien Land law was not eclared unconstitutional and that he decision was based on the maner of the escheat proceedings used the Oyama case in San Diego.

Decision on proceeding farther with the local cases, which involve nore than \$100,000 worth of property in San Joaquin County, will be made after the court decision as been studied and after Deputy Attorney General Everett W. Mat-oon, who argued California's case efore the Supreme Court, returns rom the east.

Watson and James I. Harkins, ho handled the eight cases for the ounty, have been working with Mattoon in the prosecutions under the Alien Land law. Former Dep-uty District Attorney Robert Sullivan, now justice of the peace, prepared a brief for San Joaquin and eight other counties in the Oyama case when it was presented to the State Supreme Court whose deci-

American-born children. Deputy District Attorney Arthur H. Drew, who has worked on all of the local escheat cases, declared he will await policy instructions from State Attorney General Fred N. Howser before proceeding

with pending suits. Several cases have been successfully prosecuted in Fresno county and more than \$40,000 has been recovered in settlements under the Alien Land law, the Bee reported. The paper said it was regarded as questionable whether those who have made settlements can legally recover any of the money.

Superior Judge Ernest Klette, who recently decided three Alien Land law suits in favor of the state, said on Jan. 20 he is "in-clined to think the Supreme court decision will knock out all the suits now pending."

Judge Klette pointed out the high court, while not declaring the law unconstitutional, in effect did

"It at least makes the act a nullity," the jurist asserted.

It was noted that the pattern of litigation in the Oyama case is similar to that for all the actions filed in Fresno county where there has been considerable ownership of agricultural lands by persons of Japanese ancestry.

Drew said the evidence in the Oyama case was not as strong as that presented in cases tried in Fresno county and said that this may make some difference in the final disposition of the 15 Fresno

sion upholding the lower court ruling was reversed this week by the Unieed States Supreme Court.

Five escheat proceedings now are pending in San Joaquin Coun-

Masaoka Discusses Program Of ADC With U.S. Counsel

WASHINGTON, D.C.—With the ACL Anti-Discrimination Comittee pressing for early Congressional action to reimburse persons who suffered losses in the evacuation.

The Nisei legislative director in the congressional action to reimburse persons who suffered losses in the evacuation. JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee pressing for early Congressional action on various legislative issues affecting the well-being of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States, Mike Masaoka met with Frank Chambers, legislative counsel to the Attorney General, and members of his staff to discuss these questions on Jan. 13.

The Washington JACL ADC office reported that Mr. Masaoka, the national legislative director of the Anti-Discrimination Committee of the JACL, had explained the background of the three major pieces of Nisei legislation—evacuation claims, naturalization for Japanese aliens, and deportation matters involving the Isseito Justice Department attorneys.

Pointing out the growing re-sponsibility of the Justice Department in the enforcement of civil rights statutes, Mr. Masaoka called attention to the recent recom-mendations of the President's committee on Civil Rights which advocated the removal of restriccivil rights report had urged a later date.

also conferred at length with Dillon Myer, wartime head of the War Relocation Authority and now president of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, on matters regarding evacuation and naturaliza-

California Buddhists To Hold State-Wide Confab in March

LOS ANGELES-The first postwar conference of the Young Buddhist League will meet in Los Angeles on March 27 and 28, for the definite purpose of laying plans for fostering Buddhism, with the Southern District Young Buddhist League as the host chapter.

Albert Hirota, past Los Angeles YBA president, and Bill Kitayama, Los Angeles YBA public relations chairman, have been selected as conference co-chairmen. Committee tive legislation aimed at Japanese appointments have been made and aliens. He noted further that the

OYAMA COUNSEL



DEAN ACHESON, (above) former Undersecretary of State, and A. L. Wirin, special counsel for the National JACL and the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, gave the arguments on behalf of the appellants when the Oyama test case on the California Alien Land law was presented before the United States Supreme Court on Oct. 22.

Mr. Wirin, Charles A. Horsky and Ernest W. Jennes of Wash-ington, D.C. signed the brief to the Supreme Court as counsel for the petitioners, while "friend of court" briefs were entered by Saburo Kido, Fred Okrand and Frank Chuman, as counsel for the Japanese American Citizens League, and by James Purcell, William Ferriter, Guy C. Calden of San Francisco and Henry Taketa of Sacramento as counsel Taketa of Sacramento as counsel for the Northern California Civil Rights Defense Union. Many other organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Lawyers Guild, also filed briefs on behalf

Lopez Found **Guilty of Assault** On Two Nisei

WINTERS, Calif.—Pete Lopez of Esparto, Calif., was found guilty on Jan. 19 of two charges of assault and battery in the Winters Justice court by Justice of the Peace Charles R. Jameson of Woodland township.

beating two Japanese Americans when he met them on the Monticello road west of Winters while driving cattle. At the first trial his jury disagreed.

The case was reset and was heard on Jan. 19 without a jury. The complaining witnesses were Henry Akao and Tairo Matsushita, a war veteran who served in combat overseas.

Justice Jameson fined Lopez \$50 on each count and placed him on probation for one year.

FUNDS OF DAVIS COUNTY'S JACL DONATED TO ADC

Representatives of the Davis County chapter of the JACL which was disbanded last year visited Hito Okada, national president of the JACL, and turned over the balance of the chapter treasury, amounting to \$442.95, to the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee.

Henry Fujiki, last president of the Davis County chapter, and Henry Kawaguchi, treasurer, said that it was the wish of the membership that the funds be given toward the work of the ADC in combating legislative, economic and social discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry.

U. S. Supreme Court Majority Avoids Ruling on Validity of California Alien Land Statute

By TOSUKE YAMASAKI

WASHINGTON-In a 6-3 reversal of a California Supreme Court judgment in the Oyama test case, the U.S. Supreme Court on Monday, January 19, ruled that the provisions of the California Alien Land Law had been applied unconstitutionally against Fred Oyama, but the high court refused to invalidate the whole statute despite the insistence of four concurring justices.

The opinion of the court, written and delivered by Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, conceded the argument of the petitioners that California had discriminated against the Nisei land holder in escheating his property to the State-tracts which his alien Japanese father had deeded to him 14 years ago—but added "we do not reach" their other contentions that the land law denies ineligible aliens the equal protection of the laws.

Chief Justice Vinson held that the issue was citizen's rights—namely, whether California in barring ownership of land to Fred Oyama had deprived him of the equal protections of the laws guaranteed by the 14th Amendment and of his privileges as an American citizen. The Chief Jusice thought a ruling on that was sufficient to settle the Oyama case.

"The only justification urged upon us by the State (California) is that the discrimination is necessary to prevent evasion of the Alien Land Law's prohibition against ownership of agricultural land by inelegible aliens. This reasoning presupposes the validity of that prohibition, a premise which we deem it unnecessary and therefore inappropriate to re-examine in this case," he declared, adding:

"But assuming, for purposes of argument only, that the basic prohibition is constitutional, it does not follow that there is no constitutional limit to the means which may be used to enforce it. In the light most favorable to the State, this case presents a conflict between the State's right to formulate a policy of land holding within its bounds and the right of American citizens to own land anywhere in the United States. When these two rights clash, the rights of a citizen may not be subordinated merely because of his father's country of origin."

However, four concurring justices, in two separate opinions, one delivered by Justice Hugo Black and joined in by Justice William O. Douglas, and the other written by Justice Frank Murphy and shared by Justice Wiley Rutledge, insisted that the whole structure of the land law should be invalidated. They declared the controlling issue is whether the statute is consistent with the U. S. Constitution, noting, with detail, the racist features of the anti-Japanese California

"The California statute in question, as I view it, is nothing more than outright racial discrimination. As such, it deserves constitutional condemnation. And since the very core of the statute is so defective, I consider it necessary to give voice to that fact even though I join the opinion of the Court," said Justice Murphy in a 25-page attack on the land law. He described the land law as an "unhappy facsimile, a disheartening reminder, of the racial policy pursued by those forces of evil whose destruction recently necessitated a devastating war. It is racism in one of its most malignant forms."

Justice Black said he should prefer to reverse the judgment on the ground that the provisions of the California statute violate the equal protection clause and conflict with federal laws and treaties governing the immigration of aliens and their rights after arrival in this country. In a blistering condemnation of the alien land legislation, he declared: "That the effect and purpose of the law is to discriminate against Japanese because they are Japanese is too plain to call for more than a statement of that well-known fact."

He pointed out that despite the sweeping prohibition against Japanese ownership or occupancy of land, it is no violation of the law for a Japanese to work on the land as a hired hand. The law thus puts all Japanese aliens within its boundaries on the lowest possible economic level, he said, adding that he would overrule the previous decisions of the Supreme Court that sustained state land laws which discriminate against one group of people.

Justice Felix Frankfurter joined in the majority opinion which was limited to the more restricted issue discussed by the Chief Justice.

The three dissenting Justices-Robert H. Jackson, Stanley Reed and Harold Burton—attached the court's failure to decide the constitutionality of these land laws, arguing that the judgment against Oyama should not be reversed unless the court was prepared to invalidate all the provisions of the laws.

Justice Jackson, giving his own dissent, declared that while he thought California has pursued a policy of "unnecessary severity" in the Oyama case, "I do not see how this court, while conceding the State's right to keep the policy on its books, can strip the State of the right to make its Act effective. What we seem to be holding is that while the State has power to exclude the alien from land ownership, the alien has the constitutional right to nullify the policy by a device we would be prompt to condemn if it were used to evade a federal statute."

Justices Reed and Burton said that unless the California laws are to be held unconstitutional, the presumption of intent to evade the law and its resulting effects must be accepted as legal.

In rendering the court's opinion, Chief Justice Vinson remarked that in approaching such cases as the Oyama case, in which federal constitutional rights are asserted, "it is incumbent on us to inquire not merely whether those rights have been denied in express terms, but also whether they have been denied in substance and effect."

The Chief Justice traced the entire history of the Oyama case The Chief Justice traced the entire history of the Oyama case pointing out how an alien Japanese, Kajiro Oyama, had in 1934 purchased six acres of farm land in southern California in the name of his son, Fred. The deed was duly recorded. On two occasions, in 1936 and again in 1937, the father as guardian sought the court's permission to borrow money on the land. In each case the court approved the act. Again in 1947 he purchased two more acres, adjoining his first parcel of land.

In 1942, the Chief Justice went on, Fred and his family were evacuated from the Pacific coast along with all other persons of Japanese ancestry, and in 1944, when Fred was 16 and still forbidden to return home, California filed a petition to declare an escheat on his property. The California trial court found as facts that the father had had the beneficial use of the land and that the transfers were subterfuges

(Continued on Page 3)



A. L. WIRIN
—Photo by Toyo Miyatake, Los Angeles.

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDER

A. L. Wirin Jeopardized Career In Backing Japanese Americans

By ALICE SUMIDA

A. L. WIRIN, DEFENDER of civil liberties, reached one of the highlights in his long career this Monday with the U. S. Supreme court decision in favor of the citizen rights of Fred Oyama, Japanese American.

But Wirin, counsel with Dean Acheson in the successfully defended case, gives you his word for it: he will not rest until every phase of the mistreatment of persons of Japanese descent in the United States has been declared illegal by the courts.

Since the war evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry, Mr. Wirin has been tremendously interested in racial discrimination, and has made a personal commit-ment to strike at racial discrimination everywhere, to challenge in the courts every phase of the evacuation program which deprived aliens and American citizens of Japanese descent of fair treatment and equality under the constitution

At the time of the evacuation Mr. Wirin was attorney for all CIO organizations in southern California. At that time the official position of the CIO was not to question the legality or fairness of the evacuation, fearing that to question a military decree might inter-fere with the war effort. Wirin was given the choice of remaining the CIO attorney or handling Japanese evacuation cases and leaving the CIO. He chose the latter.

The legal fight to give to persons of Japanese ancestry full rights guaranteed under the constitution will not be over, in the opinion of Mr. Wirin, until the supreme court is induced to reverse its rulings up is induced to reverse its rulings upholding the evacuation. Wirin feels that with the war pressures over there is a strong likelihood that the court will reverse its ruling in the

court will reverse its ruling in the Korematsu case.

"Of course the fight will not be over," he adds, "until we win on the legislative front and bills proposed by the Anti-Discrimination Committee of the JACL become law, including the naturalization and evacuation claims bills."

It was during his college days that Wirin developed his sympathy for the underdog and had first a vision of being a "people's lawyer." Thus it is not incongruous to find him now with a basic affinity with groups and persons in the minority. Not only does Wirin handle cases involving diverse racial minorities, but for many years he has been handling cases involving the right of members of minority political groups to talk and be free of discrimination.

And while he believes that liberals have a right to free speech, and therefore is deeply interested when members of labor unions are mistreated, he is just as firm in his belief that conservatives also have a right to speak. Therefore, when the Los Angeles Times was prosecuted for criticizing judges in Los Angeles, Wirin was counsel for the

Because of Wirin's specialization in constitutional law, particularly as it applies to minority racial groups, he has been called in on cases involving racial discrimination throughout the country.

He also participated in a successful case before the federal court of appeals, holding that segregation of Mexican school children by school authorities is unconstitutional. At the present time he plans to leave for San Antonio, Tex., where he will be counsel in a similar case in the Texas federal court.

geles in the case of Elmer Yama-moto and Dr. George Ochikubo, restraining the military authorities from continuing to enforce evacuation orders. He also participated in the oral argument of the Hirabay-ashi curfew case and supervised the preparation of the JACL briefs as friends of the court in both the Hirabayashi and Korematsu cases.

Vigorous Mr. Wirin has on amazing past. Coming from a poor Jewish family who lived in a Jewish ghetto near Boston, Mr. Wirin, at the age of twelve, used to get up the age of twelve, used to get up at two in the morning to go to work. He was hired by an old man who delivered milk. He would fill the bottles and then deliver the milk in a push cart, arduous activities which took until six o'clock. He also sold newspapers. At Harvard university, where he completed the four undergraduate years in three he also managed to do some three, he also managed to do some private tutoring on the side and tutored football stars. He graduated cum laude. He received his law degree in 1925 from the Boston

university law school. It was in 1933 that Wirin was

kidnapped in Imperial valley.

He was the attorney for the ACLU. It was a time when the rights of labor unions were not always recognized, and the local authorities had refused striking Mexican vegetable workers the right to hold a meeting of any kind, Wirin filed a suit in federal

court and secured an injunction against the sheriff of Imperial City and the chief of police of El Centro to prevent them from inter-

fering at the meetings.

On the night of the meeting in El Centro, before Wirin began his dinner in a hotel, a number of men wearing legion caps and some highway patrol officers grabbed him. They took his shoes and his money and threatened to kill him. He was blindfolded. The men started a fire and threatened to brand him with a branding iron.

Close to midnight, Wirin was taken by the vigilantes in an automobile to a spot on a near-by desert and beaten up. The

vigilantes then left.
Fortunately for Wirin, some children were having a weiner bake some distance away. As he walked back through the desert, he came upon the group. The young fellow who had driven the children to the picnic spot agreed to take Wirin back to town.

The vigilates surrounded the hotel at which Wirin was staying, and at three o'clock in the morning Wirin was escorted by the sheriff from El Centro to San Diego. The entire matter was investigated by the federal government, which subsequently severely criticized the conduct of the Imperial valley vigilantes.

He plans to go to Japan in con-nection with the problem of Nisei strandees and has already made application for passports. His beautiful wife, who was a model and appeared in fashion magazines like Harper's Bazaar and the Cali-

Saburo Kido:

Supreme Court Decision Marks Great Legal Victory for Nisei

THE LONG AWAITED Oyama escheat case denouncement pertaining to the property rights of
citizens of Japanese ancestry in California. It will
stand out as one of the most important legal victories in the annals of persons of Japanese descent
in the United States, especially for those on the
west coast. The 90 million dollars worth of real
property which the Nisei purchased with money
given to them as gifts by their parents is now
secure.

The facts of the Oyama case briefly are these. An alien Japanese father, Kajiro Oyama, purchased a six-acre tract of agricultural land for his son, who was six years old. The father applied for letters of guardianship and obtained an order of the superior court appointing him as such. Later on, he went to court twice to obtain permission to borrow money on the real property of his son. Another small tract of land was purchased for his son from another guardianship estate. The thing he failed to do was to file the annual reports as required by the California alien land laws. the California alien land laws.

When the escheat trial was held, the judge of the San Diego superior court held that all the things the father did to show that he was not the owner but that the real property belonged to his son were proof of the fact that he was trying to evade the alien land law.

As to the constitutionality of the Alien Land Law itself, the judge brushed it aside on the grounds that it was not for him to decide; it was up to the higher courts.

The case was appealed to the California Supreme Court. The justices devoted most of their deliberations on the question of the constitutionality of the alien land law. Regarding the rights of citizen Fred Oyama, the opinion merely stated that since the father had nothing to give, the son received nothing. An appeal was taken to the United States Supreme Court on three points: first that it denrives Fred. An appeal was taken to the United States Supreme Court on three points: first, that it deprives Fred Oyama of the equal protection of the laws and of his privileges as an American citizen; secondly, that it denies Kajiro Oyama equal protection of the laws; and thirdly, that it contravenes the due process clause by sanctioning the taking of property after expiration of the applicable limitations period.

The case was decided with six justices in favor of reversing the California decision and three for sustaining it. The majority opinion was written by Chief Justice Vinson with Justices Frankfurter, Murphy, Black, Rutledge and Douglas assisting. The three who were in the minority were Justices Jackson, Reed and Burton.

In the thirteen page majority decision, Chief

In the thirteen page majority decision, Chief Justice Vinson stated:

"We agree with petitioners' first contention, that the Alien Land Law, as applied in this case, deprives Fred Oyama of the equal protection of California's laws and of his privileges as an American citizen. In our view of the case, the State has discriminated against Fred Oyama; the discrimination is based solely on his parents' country or origin; and there is absent the compelling just-tification which would be needed to sustain discrimination of that nature."

He reviewed the law by stating:

"By federal statute, enacted before the Four-teenth Amendment but vindicated by it, the states must accord to all citizens the right to take and hold real property. California, of course, recognizes both this right and the fact that infancy does not incapacitate a minor from holding realty. It is also established under the the California law that ineligible aliens may arrange gifts of agricultural land to their citizen children. Likewise, when a minor citizen does become the owner of agricultural land, by gift or otherwise, his father may be tural land, by gift or otherwise, his father may be appointed guardian of the estate, whether the father be a citizen, an eligible alien, or an ineligible alien. And, once appointed, a guardian is entitled to have custody of the estate and to manage and husband it for the ward's benefit. To that extent Fred Oyama is cortonsible or property with minute of 100 manages. is ostensibly on a par with minors of different lineage.

The court then proceeds to show how "the California law points in one direction for minor citizens like Fred Oyama, whose parents cannot be naturalized, and in another for all other children—for minor citizens whose parents are either citizens or eligible

"In the first place, for most minors California has the customary rule that where a parent pays for a conveyance to his child there is no presumption of a resulting trust, no presumption that the minor takes the land for the benefit of his parent. When a gift is thus presumed and the deed is recorded in the child's name, the recording suffices for delivery, and, absent evidence that the gift is disadvantageous, acceptance is also presumed. Thus the burden of proving that there was in fact no completed bona fide gift falls to him who would attack its

"Fred Oyama, on the other hand, faced at the outset the necessity of overcoming a statu-tory presumption that conveyances financed by his father and recorded in Fred's name were not gifts at all. Something very akin to a resulting trust was presumed, and at least prima facie, Fred was presumed to hold title for the benefit of his parent."

"In the second place, when it came to rebutting this statutory presumption, Fred Oyama ran into other obstacles which, so far as we can ascertain, do not beset the path of most minor donees in California.

"Thus the California courts said that the very fact that the transfer put the land beyond the father's power to deal with it directly—to deed it away, to borrow money on it, and to make free disposition of it in any other way-showed that the transfer was not complete, that it was merely colorable. The fact that the father attached no In connection with the evacua-on, Wirin secured two injunctions om a federal judge in Los An-



SABURO KIDO, Los Angeles at-torney and past national president of the JACL, discusses the significance of the Supreme Court's decision in the Oyama case and notes that the majority verdict is a clear-cut affirmation of the rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

citizen sons to take gifts of agricultural land from their fathers, regardless of the fathers' nationality. Yet, as indicated by this case, if the father is ineligible for citizenship, facts which would usually be considered indicia of the son's ownership are used to make that ownership suspect; if the father is not an ineligible alien, however, the same facts would be evidence that a completed gift was intended."

The court drew attention to the fact that there was "no other case in which the penalty for a guardian's dereliction has fallen on any one but the guardian."

"In Fred Oyama's case, however, the father's deeds were visited on the son; the ward became the guarantor of his guardian's conduct.

"Fred Oyama lost his gift, irretrievably and without compensation, solely because of the extraordinary obstacles which the State set before

him.
"The only basis for this discrimination against an American citizen, moreover, was the fact that an American citizen, moreover, was the fact that his father was Japanese and not American, Russian, Chinese, or English. But for that fact alone, Fred Oyama, now a little over a year from majority, would be the undisputed owner of the eight acres in question."

"As between the citizen children of a Chinese or English father and the citizen children of a Japanese father, there is discrimination; as between strangers taking from the same transferors, there appears to be none.

tween strangers taking from the same transferors, there appears to be none.

"In the light most favorable to the State, this case presents a conflict between the State's right to formulate a policy of landholding within its bounds and the right of American citizens to own land anywhere in the United States. When these two rights clash, the rights of a citizen may not be subordinated merely because of his father's country of origin."

Justice Murphy wrote a twenty-five page opinion

Justice Murphy wrote a twenty-five page opinion and Justice Rutledge concurred. He stated that the controlling issue was "whether the California alien land law on its face is consistent with the Constitution of the United States. Can a state prohibit all aliens ineligible for American citizenship them acquiring country of the Constitution of the United States. from acquiring, owning, occupying, enjoying, leasing or transferring agricultural land? Does such a prohibition square with the language of the Fourteenth amendment that no state shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection

"The California statute in question, as I view it, is nothing more than outright racial discrimination. As such, it deserves constitutional condemnation."

nation."

To disprove the contention of the State of California that the alien land law is not racist in its origin, purpose or effect, the entire history of the anti-Oriental agitation in California was reviewed. He stated that "the California alien land law was spawned of the great anti-Oriental virus which, at an early date, infected many persons in that state." that state.

"The Alien Land law, in short, was designed to effectuate a purely racial discrimination, to prohibit a Japanese alien from owning or using agri-cultural land solely because he is a Japanese alien. It is rooted deeply in racial, economic and social antagonisms."
His concluding remarks were:

"And so in origin, purpose, administration and effect, the alien land law does violence to the high ideals of the Constitution of the United States and the Charter of the United Nations. It is an unhappy facsimile, a disheartening reminder, of the racial policy pursued by those forces of evil whose destruction recently necessitated a devastating war. It is racism in one of its most malignant forms. Fortunately, the majority of the inhabitants of the United States, and the majority of those in California, reject racism and all of its implications. They recognize that under our Constitution all persons are entitled to the equal protection of the laws without regard to their racial ancestry. Human liberty is in too great a peril today to warrant ignoring that principle in this case. For that reason, I believe that the penalty of unconstitutionality should be imposed upon the Alien Land law."

Justice Black wrote another concurring opinion and Justice Douglas agreed. He stated that he believed in reversing the judgment of the California courts on the grounds that the provisions of the California Alien Land law violate the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth amendment and con-flict with federal laws and treaties governing the immigration of aliens and their rights after arrival in this country.

These are some of the significant phrases in the opinion: "That the effect and purpose of the law is to discriminate against Japanese because they are Japanese is too plain to call for more than a state-

ment of that well-known fact." "If there is any one purpose of the Fourteenth amendment that is wholly outside the realm of doubt, it is that the amendment was designed to bar states from denying to some groups, on account of their race or color, any rights, privileges, and opportunities accorded to other groups. I would now overrule the previous decisions of this Court that sustained land laws which discriminate against peo-

ple of Japanese origin residing in this country."

Justice Jackson dissented. He claimed that he was "unable to see how this court logically can set aside this judgment unless it is prepared to invali-

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Nisei Killed In Italy to Be **Buried** in Japan

Army Will Honor Request of Parents Of Corp. Haita

YOKOHAMA, Japan—An American soldier of Japanese ancestry, a native of Montana and a former resident of Seattle, who was killed in action with the 442nd Combat Team in Italy, will be buried in the soil of Japan, a country which he never saw.

This news was disclosed on Jan. 17 by the United States Eighth

The dead soldier is Corp. Eiichi Haita who was born in Harvess, Montana in 1915. When his parents returned to Japan a few years later, the boy remained in the United States, living most of the time in Seattle.

When war came he joined the famous all-Nisei 442nd Combat Team. Haita was killed in action in Italy and was buried at the U.S. military cemetery at Castelfioren-

The Eighth Army disclosed it recently received a request from Haita's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dunusaku Haita, of Kokura, that their son's body Japan for burial. be returned to

"Our declining years would be made much happier if your gov-ernment returned the body of our son, who was killed in the war on foreign soil," the parents wrote the Eighth Army.

It was the first such request re-ceived by the U.S. Army from a resident of Japan since the policy to return the bodies of war dead from military cemeteries in com-bat areas was instituted last year.

Army officials said the policy of returning the bodies of Amercan war dead to any burial point designated by next of kin would be served, even though the kin be an ex-enemy.

St. Louis JACL Plans Inaugural Dinner Dance

ST LOUIS, Mo.—The second an-ual installation dinner dance of the St. Louis JACL will be held on Jan. 30 in the Colonial room of Melbourne hotel, starting at 7 o'clock. Joseph Tanaka will preside is toastmaster.

Arrangements for the dinner vere made by a committee headed by Betty Uchiyama and Sam Na-kano. Tickets may still be purchas-ed by calling Nakano, FI 0541 or Fred K. Oshima, FO 8196. Col. E. B. Meissner, head of St.

Louis Car company, will be the evening's main speaker. Meissner is chairman of the Mayor's Race Relation Commission of St. Louis.

Tats Kushida, JACL's Midwest regional representative, will install

the Missouri chapter's 1948 officers. Members of the new cabinet ane Henry Tani, president; Sam Nakano, vice president; Betty Uchiyama, recording secretary; Martha Toyama, corresponding secretary; Jimmie Hayashi, treasurer; Jo-seph Tanaka; Fusa Doi, historian; and James Kahei, delegate.

Members of the chapter's executive committee who will be introduced are: Eddie Tanaka, veterans; Fred K. Oshima, nomination; Dan Sakahara, Issei; Jean Otani and Florence Okuyama, program and social; Yuki Kato, resolutions; been and Susan Yamashita, recognition. fect."

Legal Authorities Believe Oyama Decision May Force Cancelling of California Cases

By TOSUKE YAMASAKI

It is still too early to know what effect the Oyama case ruling will have on the nearly 50 other escheat cases pending in California courts. Attorneys express the opinion that California will cancel pending cases where citizen sons and daughters hold property deeded them by their parents and against whom escheat actions have been instituted.

Most attorneys hold it still a moot question as to whether any state may lawfully escheat property in which aliens ineligible

to citizenship deed land to citizens who are not blood relatives.

The physical result of the decision was in itself unusual. Here was a 6-3 judgment rendered on a narrowed restricted issue with four of the concurring justices insisting on a ruling on a much broader basis. Even the dissenters were split. The judicial prose in the opinions ran to 66 pages or about 20,000 words.

But one fact stands out. The court did not invalidate the whole land law. There was some dispute, however, among court observers just how far the court went. One group asserts that the high tribunal had not specifically, or even generally, upheld the California law even though it failed to make a general condemnation of the statutes. They declare that the court's decision "came close to throwing out" a provision of the California laws which sets up a presumption that an alien Japanese parent acts with the intent of evad-ing the law in deeding property to his children.

Many are agreed that the question could come up in the Supreme Court again. They point to the dis-senting opinion of Justice Reed who suggested that "on remand to the courts of California" the case could be tried again.

The majority ruling apparently disappointed many who believed that the U. S. Supreme Court, in the face of its record of the past few years, was fully ready to re-solve the whole question of the law's constitutionality. Agreement by the high tribunal last April to hear arguments on the Oyama case was taken as a happy omen. It will be recalled that the California Supreme Court, in upholding the validity of the alien land law, based its decisions upon early rulings of the U. S. Supreme Court which held the laws were valid. Since then these decisions have been subjected to severe criticism.

Justices Murphy, Black, Douglas and Rutledge definitely thought the court should determine the constitutionality once and for all. But the deciding voices were those of Chief Justice Vinson and Justice Frankfurter, of the so-called conservative majority of the court, who held that the Oyama case could be settled without going into the constitutionality issue.

pointed out in his reading of the opinion that in approaching eases such as the Oyama case, in which federal constitutional rights are asserted, "it is incumbent on us to inquire not merely whether those rights have been denied in express terms, but also whether they have been denied in substance and ef-

Cincinnati JACL To Hear Sakata On Citizen Bill

CINCINNATI, O.—The Cincinnati chapter of the JACL was off to an early start in 1948 with plans for more interesting and educational meetings throughout the year.

The first general meeting, to be held Friday, Jan. 23, will have Mas Sakata, national 2nd vice president of the JACL, as guest of honor. Sakata will discuss the latest aspects of the Issei naturalization bill.

The meeting will include a movie, business meeting and social hour.

A membership drive is now underway with plans for a district canvass for new members. It will be climaxed with a Valentine social in February, at which time new members will be welcomed into the chap-

newly-elected cabinet held its first meeting on Dec. 30. Members are Tom Kanno, president; Kaye Watanabe, 1st vice president; Florence Suzuki, 2nd vice president; Katsu Oikawa, treasurer; Frances Yoshikawa, corresponding secretary; and Mary Kubota, recording secretary.

Milwaukee Chapter **Schedules Meeting**

MILWAUKEE, Wis .- Frank C Okada, newly elected president of the Milwaukee JACL chapter, announced this week that the first general meeting of his chapter would be held on Jan. 30, at the

With "Membership" as the theme for the initial meeting of the year, the speaker will be Mari Sabusawa, president of the Chicago JACL chapter for 1948, and past chairman of the JACL Midwest district council. Miss Sabusawa, a gradu-

ate of Antioch college, is on the professional staff of the American Council on Race Relations and is formerly of Long Beach.

Koyama Elected JACL President By Boise Group

NAMPA, Ida.-George Koyama of Nampa was elected president of the Boise Valley JACL at the first meeting of the year, held at Midway Lunch Jan. 16.

Other officers elected are Mana-At the outset, the Chief Justice bu Yamada of Nampa, first vicepresident and social chairman; Kay Inouye of Homedale, second vicepres. and membership chairman; Bette Arima of Homedale, recording secretary; Henry Suyehira, of Emmett, official delegate; alter-nate, Edson Fujii of Nampa.

The chapter pledged to contribute \$1 per member to the March

Oyama Case Decision Moral, **Legal Victory, Say Attorneys**

SAN FRANCISCO .- San Francisco lawyers who have worked in defense of Nisei rights in alien land law cases in California this week joined with Americans of Japanese ancestry in expressing their jubilation over the Oyama case decision in the U.S. Supreme court.

Guy C. Calden, counsel for the CRDU of Northern California and veteran land law lawyer, stated that the decision "must be of great comfort to all constitutional law-

William E. Ferriter and James C. Purcell, who participated in the Oyama case for the CRDU, called the decision "not only a moral vic-tory but a legal one as well."

Calden's comment, sent to Ichiji Motoki, executive secretary of the CRDU, added:

"This decision is consistent with many previous decisions of the court and must be of great comfort to all constitutional lawyers. The law of the land still prevails, for which all Americans can be thankful."

Ferriter and Purcell issued a joint statement on the Oyama decision, saying that their law firm "was always confident that the rights of American citizens of Japanese descent would be ultimately upheld."

The California land law was a vicious piece of legislation," the lawyers said. They added that if the constitutionality of the law can be presented to the court, "there is a strong likelihood that the law will be declared unconstitutional as a deprivation of due process of law and equal protection of

the laws."
The court "indirectly" upheld the constitutionality of the act, Ferriter and Purcell said, by not declaring the law unconstitutional. The court "did state that it was not necessary to pass upon the constitutionality of the law when the case must necessarily be reversed upon other grounds,"

they added.
"In the Oyama case four justices of the Supreme court of the United States expressed the opinion that the law should be declared unconstitutional," the CRDU counsel said, "When a proper case is presented, the vote of one additional justice is all that will be necessary to inall that will be necessary to invalidate the law.'

Ferriter and Purcell declared their belief that Justice Jackson dissented from the majority report "because the majority opinion did not go far enough." Justice Jackson dissented upon grounds that he was "unable to see how the court logically could set aside the judgment unless it is prepared to invalidate the Cali-fornia Alien Land law," the CRDU lawyers said. "He concludes by stating that California has pursued a policy of unnecessary severity."

Supreme Court Upholds Nisei Rights in Oyama Case Ruling

(Continued from Page 1) effected with intent to prevent, evade or avoid escheat, and accordingly,

the court vested the land to the State. He pointed out how the trial court filed no written opinion in the Oyama escheat proceedings but indicated that its findings were based primarily on four inferences, the two most important being: (1) statutory presumption that any conveyance is with "intent to prevent, evade or avoid" escheat if an ineligible alien pays the consideration; (2) an inference of similar intent from the mere fact that the convey-(2) an inference of similar intent from the mere fact that the convey-ances ran to a minor child. The California Supreme Court, he added, relied upon the same four inferences in holding the trial court's findings of intent justified, ruling further that California could con-stitutionally exclude ineligible aliens from any interest in agricultural land, and that Fred Oyama was deprived of no constitutional guar-antees since the land had passed to the state without ever vesting in him.

The Chief Justice showed how the California law had set up a father-son relationship between an alien Japanese father and his American-born son which differs from the relationship between citizen fathers and their sons. "Fred Oyama ran into other obstacles which, so far as we can ascertain, do not beset the path of most minor donees in California," he declared.

More important to the issue of equal protection, he added, is the fact that "our attention has been called to no other case in which the penalty for a guardian's derelictions has fallen on any one but the guardian * * * the whole theory of guardianship is to protect the ward during his period of incapacity to protect himself.

"In Fred Oyama's case, however, the father's deeds were visited on the son; the ward became the guarantor of his guardian's conduct * * * the cumulative effect, we believe, was clearly to discriminate against Fred Oyama."

Pointing out that the Nisei was saddled with an onerous burden of proof which need not be borne by California children generally, he emphasized that statutory presumption and the two ancillary inferences, which would not be used against most children, were given such probative value as to prevail in the fact of a deed entered in the public records. * * * the only basis for this discrimination against an

lic records. * * * the only basis for this discrimination against an American citizen, moreover, was the fact that his father was Japanese and not American, Russian, Chinese, or English. But for that fact alone, Fred Oyama, now a little over a year from majority, would be the undisputed owner of the eight acres in question."

In conclusion, the opinion stated: "The only justification urged upon us by the State is that the discrimination is necessary to prevent evasion of the Alien Land Law's prohibition against the ownership of agricultural land by ineligible aliens. This reasoning presupposes the validity of that prohibition, a premise which we deem it unnecessary and therefore inappropriate to re-examine in this case.

"But assuming, for the purposes of argument only, that the basic prohibition is constitutional, it does not follow that there is no constitutional limit to the means which may be used to enforce it. In

stitutional limit to the means which may be used to enforce it. In the light most favorable to the State, this case presents a conflict between the State's right to formulate a policy of land holding within its bounds and the right of American citizens to own land anywhere in the United States. When these two rights clash, the rights of a sitten may not be subordinated merely because of his father's assured. citizen may not be subordinated merely because of his father's country which now bars Japanese from the fishing industry."
This may foretell how he will decide when the Takahashi fishing case is presented to the United States Supreme Court.

A. L. Wirin of Los Angeles handled the Oyama case from its inception. He received the cooperation and support of Attorneys Ferriter and Purcell

or origin.

"Since the view we take of petitioners' first contention (that it deprives Fred Oyama of the equal protection of the laws and of his privileges as an American citizen—Ed.) requires reversal of the decision below, we do not reach their other contentions: that the Alien Land Law denies ineligible aliens the equal protection of the laws,

Land Law denies ineligible aliens the equal protection of the laws, and that failure to apply any limitations period to escheat actions under that law takes property without due process of law."

The decision climaxes a three-year-old fight of the Japanese Citizens League, the JACL Legal Defense Fund of Southern California and the Northern California Civil Rights Defense Union to obtain a Supreme Court ruling on the validity of the alien land law. The California Supreme Court on October 31, 1946, upholding the judgment of the San Diego Superior Court, ordered the Oyama property escheated to the State. Two of the seven justices in the California decision did not take part in the final ruling, while one more concurred solely on to the State. Two of the seven justices in the California decision did not take part in the final ruling, while one more concurred solely on the ground that the decisions of the California court "are controlling until such time as they are re-examined and modified" by the U. S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court in 1923 in the Terrace versus Thompson case held that the alien land law was constitutional

Thompson case held that the alien land law was constitutional.

The case was argued before the highest tribunal on October 22,
1948, at which time Dean Acheson, former Undersecretary of State,
and A. L. Wirin, legal counsel for the national JACL, represented the
Oyamas. The Washington office of the JACL Anti-Discrimination
Committee have requested attorneys Acheson, Wirin, and Charles
Horsky, counsels for the Oyamas, and the JACL, for their interpretations of the legal, implications of this decision.

tion and support of Attorneys Ferriter and Purcell and Guy C. Calden of San Francisco in the proceed-

ings before the California Supreme Court and the

ings before the California Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court.

Before the California Supreme Court, Wirin argued the unconstitutionality of the Alien Land law and Purcell pressed the point that the statute of limitations was applicable to escheat proceedings. Charles Horsky of Washington, D. C. assisted Wirin in preparing the appeal to the United States Supreme Court. Former under-secretary of state Dean Acheson argued the rights of Fred Oyama and Wirin undertook the difficult task of trying to persuade the justices to repeal a former decision which declared the alien land laws constitutional. The favorable decision which reversed the California courts and the concurring opinions of four justices courts and the concurring opinions of four justices declaring that the alien land laws are unconsitutional speak highly of the presentations made by the attorneys who handled the case.

Saburo Kido: Legal Victory for Nisei

(Continued from Page 2) date the California Alien Land Laws, on which it is based." His reasoning seemed to follow closely the arguments made by the California attorney general. He thought that a reasonable presumption to make the enforcement of the law should be valid.

Justices Reed and Burton also filed dissenting

opinions on the grounds that unless California land laws are held unconstitutional, the presumption and its resulting effects must be accepted as legal.

The interesting thing to note after reading all the opinions is that four of the justices declared without any equivocation that the California alien land law was unconstitutional. The Chief Justice, who wrote the majority decision, stated that it was not necessary to decide this question since the first point was sufficient to reverse the judgment of the California courts. Justice Jackson stated that since the majority of the court had agreed that the first point was sufficient, he did not deem it necessary or helpful to enter into a discussion of the constitutionality of the Alien Land law themselves.

Justice Black stated that "by this Alien Land law California puts all Japanese aliens within its boundaries on the lowest possible economic level.

And this land law has been followed by another



Official Publication of the

Japanese American Citizens League

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

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

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

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

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

LARRY TAJIRI....

EDITOR

EDITORIALS: Oyama Case Decision

The shameful record of anti-Oriental legislation by the State of California was exposed this week by the United States Supreme Court in its majority and concurring decisions in the Oyama case.

The court's favorable decision in the Oyama escheat case marks a significant milestone in the gradual restoration and recognition of the rights of Japanese Americans.

The effect of the court's action, for all practical purposes, will be the invalidation of the California Alien Land law, although the Supreme Court sidestepped the question of the law's constitutionality by confining its ruling to the affirmation of the rights of Fred Oyama, an American citizen, under the restrictive law.

Chief Justice Vinson struck the keynote of the civil rights issue in the Oyama case when he declared:

"In the light most favorable to the State, this case presents a conflict between the State's right to formulate a policy of landholding within its bounds and the right of American citizens to own land anywhere in the United States. When these two rights clash, the rights of a citizen may not be subordinated merely because of his father's country of origin."

It is difficult to follow the reasoning of the dissenting opinions filed by Justices Reed, Burton and Jackson. Simply because an original law may be constitutional, it does not and should not follow that everything done to make the law effective should be declared valid. The fact that extreme means, which ordinarily should be an infringement of civil rights must be used to make enforcement possible, betrays the injustice of the law itself. There are innumerable instances, such as that of illegal search and seizure, in which constitutional protection curtails the activities of peace officers.

Aside from the rights of Japanese Americans directly affected, the Oyama case will remain as a judicial landmark in the crystallization of a concept wwhich has been taking place in this country. A new role was charted by the Supreme Court when the court declared that where Federal constitutional rights are asserted, "we must review independently both the legal issues and those factual matters with which they are commingled." No longer will the findings of a timid or prejudiced state court be binding upon the highest tribunal fo the land, This is a significant pronouncement for the future, particularly in reference to the civil rights of individuals, especially of minority groups.

The Oyama case decision has clarified the status of millions of dollars of real property which Japanese Americans have purchased in California since 1920 with money advanced as gifts by their alien parents. When the California Supreme Court in its Oyama case verdict, upholding the restrictive law, stated that Fred Oyama, the citizen son, had nothing to lose since his father, an alien ineligible to citizenship, had nothing to give, the ruling reversed prevailing legal opinion that a title vested becomes absolute. The generally accepted view since the Yano guardianship and the Fujita secheat cases of the 1920s had been that an alien ineligible to citizenship can make a gift of money to purchase real property that the law would accept for a minor; that the recording of the deed constituted delivery.

Under the California Supreme Court decision, it had become impossible for an "ineligible alien" to make a gift for the purchase of real property. Every action of the father which attempted to indicate and to

establish the fact of an absolute gift was construed as evidence of evasion and subterfuge. As a consequence, title insurance companies refused to issue policies guaranteeing ownership of real property to Japanese Americans. Purchases could not be consummated unless the deal was a cash transaction.

Until the California Supreme Court's decision was reversed this week by the Federal court, Japanese Americans could not have assurance of clear title to real property in California. Sales of properties owned by Nisei could not be made because no buyer would pay for property which title insurance companies would not guarantee as to valid ownership. Loans could not be placed on real property owned by Nisei because title insurance companies refused to issue policies.

It is a matter of regret that the United States Supreme Court, in its forthright avowal of the rights of Japanese Americans, did not decide the validity of the Alien Land law itself. Four of the justices, in separate concurring opinions, expressed their conviction that the Califronia Alien Land law, the parent of restrictive legislation based on "ineligibility to citizenship," was unconstitutional. However, Chief Justice Vinson and Justice Frankfurter, who were joined by Justices Murphy, Black, Rutledge and Douglas in the majority opinion, deemed it unnecessary for the court to dwell on the constitutionality of the Alien Land law since they felt that the discrimination against Citizen Fred Oyama was sufficient grounds on which to decide the case.

Justice Murphy's ringing concurring opinion, in which he was joined by Justice Rutledge, is the longest of the five separate opinions delivered in the Oyama case and projects the discriminatory nature of the Alien Land law against our national concepts of democracy and freedom.

"The California Alien Land law," Justice Murphy recalls, "was spawned of the great anti-Oriental virus which, at an early date, infected many persons in that state."

In his opinion, Justice Murphy traces the history of anti-Oriental and anti-Japanese racism in California and notes that the Alien Land law, the statutory anachronism from the Yellow Peril campaigns, was a product of racial perseution. He stresses the "racial prejudices underlying the Alien Land law" in his review of the circumstances which attended the passage of the law.

"A spirited campaign was waged to secure popular approval, a campaign with a bitter anti-Japanese flavor," says Justice Murphy. "All the propaganda devices then known—newspapers, speeches, films, pamphlets, leaflets, billboards and the like—were utilized to spread the anti-Japanese poison."

Justice Murphy's concurring opinion presents the Alien Land law within its ugly framework of rampant racism.

"The Alien Land law," he declares, "was designed to effectuate a purely racial discrimination, to prohibit a Japanese alien from owning or using agricultural land solely because he is a Japanese alien. It is rooted deeply in racial, economic and social antagonisms. The question confronting us is whether such a statute, viewed against the background of racism, can mount the hurdle of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Can a state disregard in this manner the historic ideal that those within the borders of this nation are not to be denied rights and privileges because they are of a particular race? I say that it cannot."

The Oyama case decision marks the first time that the Supreme Court has incorporated the obligations of the United States under the United Nations charter "to promote respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language and religion." In the opinions of the four concurring justices, the California Alien Land law stands as barrier to the fulfillment of that national pledge.

The Oyama case decision has made secure the rights of citizens whose parents are "aliens ineligible to citizenship." Thus most of the immediate problems posed by the California Alien Land law have been solved. The reaction of the State of California to the decision may determine whether another case, which will place the question of constitutionality of the Alien Land law squarely before the Supreme Court, will be necessary.

By its decision in the Oyama case the Supreme Court has closed the door on an era of shameful racism. In affirming the rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry, it has made more secure the rights of every other American under the law.

Impact of Increased Housing Restrictions Upon Minorities Stressed Before High Tribunal

Effect of Racially Restrictive Covenants On Negroes, Jews, Orientals Noted at Two-Day Hearing Before Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The impact of the increasing used racial restrictive covenants on the lives, health and well being of millions of America's minorities—the Negroes, Jews, Oriental and other non-Caucasians—was brought out in force during the two-day U.S. Supreme court hearing on the validity of restrictive housing deeds which ended on Jan. 15.

While the four cases argued dealt principally with covenant as they affect the Negro, attorneys for the petitioners as well a

as they affect the Negro, attorner for the Government, which intervened, made sufficient reference to show how these restrictions hurt other minority groups. The strongest argument for the anticovenant interests was advanced by Solicitor General Philip B. Perlman, who represented the government.

Noting that residential restrictions based on race, color, ancestry, or religion have become a "familiar phenomenon" in almost every large community of this country, he explained Government intervention in the covenants cases, asserting that discriminations created by these private racial contracts have grown to such proportions as to become detrimental to the public welfare and against public policy.

He said that covenants are responsible for the creation of isolated areas in which overcrowded racial minorities are confined, and in which living conditions are "steadily worsened." He disclosed in the opening of the covenants debate that records show the "substantial use" of racial covenants a gainst Armenians, Japanese, Mexicans and others, adding that the "unmistakable trend is toward increasing use of racial covenants primarily against Negroes but also, with accelerating expansion, against other minorities."

Before winding up his argument, the Solicitor General predicted that if the present trend toward covenants continues unchecked, almost all new residential sections of our cities will be barred, within 10 or 20 years, from occupancy by Negroes, and to an increasing degree by other groups. Attorneys for the Negroes shared the Government's position, pointing out that covenants force millions down to the level of "second-class citizens."

Counsel for the petitioners expressed disappointment that the court had not acted upon petitions for writs of certiorari in the Amer and Kim cases in time for last week's debate. But during Friday's hearings, Phineas Indritz, counsel in one of the cases, called attention to the harm done by discriminatory provisions of covenants to U.S. veterans of minority groups.

He specifically mentioned the cases of Tom Amer, a Chinese American veteran, and Dr. Yin Kim, a Korean American veteran, both of Los Angeles, who after serving honorably and with distinction for the U.S. Army overseas returned home to find they were unable to live in homes of their choosing. Indritz said these were only two of hundreds of other cases involving veterans, and, as an example, pointed to the brief of the Japanese American Citizens League which listed the names of a score or more Nisei veterans who were prevented from buying homes because of the covenants. The JACL was among the first of 23 organizations to file amicus curiae briefs in the covenants cases.

The JACL brief asserted that while the Japanese American Citizens League is primarily concerned with assisting persons of Japanese ancestry it sees only too well that discrimination or unfair treatment against any minority redounds to the detriment of all minorities and that while the cases concern the Negroes directly the problem is the same for all minority groups.

Veteran court observers interviewed by the Washington office of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee believe that while there are many possible outcomes to this debate, it will be some months before any decision is rendered. The strong interest in the cases is reflected in the unusual attendance of lawyers and spectators at the court hearings. On Thursday, hours before the argument began, long lines of people formed in the

corridors awaiting admittance.

The fight of the anti-covenar interests to obtain a decisive rulin on this explosive issue has be filled with drama and suspens ever since Attorney General To Clark announced his decision tenter an amicus curiae brief. Ear in December the court ordered postponement of the hearings of January because of the illness of Associate Justice Murphy.

On the day the argument began, as soon as Chief Justia Vinson called the cases three of the nine Justices—Reed, Jackson and Rutledge—left the bend disqualifying themselves and leaving a bare quorum of signidges, Frankfurter, Burton, and Vinson of the so-called conservative majority, and Murphy Black and Douglas of the secalled liberal minority of the court to decide the issue in volved and made possible a 3 to 3 tie on the final decision.

The Washington Star said the development made possible and favorable decision for the anticovenant interests, for an even divided vote, by historic preceder would mean the upholding rulings of the lower courts, writer for the Washington Pobelieves that a 3-3 tie might late to the case being argued on again or leave in force the low court orders upholding the connants, whichever the court orders. He points out that a 4-2 decision would be enough to swing the ruling one way or the other, he such a decision by less than a majority would be sure to be attack on that ground.

One observer told the JAC

One observer told the JAC ADC office that the justices idisqualifying themselves "cost id anti-covenant petitioners two votes" though Negro counsel a peared a little hopeful of the fin result. Some observers express the opinion that while the correspondenced only the Negro case the decision may be broad enough to cover the whole question of a strictive covenants.

No Deadline Set For Applications to Language School

Persons in the intermount area who wish to enter the an language school at the Prest of Monterey may make applicat with Lt. Spady Koyama, recruiti officer, at Room 218, Brooks & cade building, up to Jan. 30, her nounced this week.

After that date application should be sent directly to a school.

Lt. Koyama stated that person the west coast and in oth areas should write directly to a school.

The language school representive stated that, contrary to other published reports, there is no dealine for applications.

Eden Township JACL Elects '48 Cabinet

SAN LEANDRO, Calif.—Set out of eleven elective posts in the Eden Township JACL cabinet have been filled by persons who formally did not hold office, according Kay Hirao, publicity chairman.

Toichi Domoto, prominent but

nessman and nurseryman, unanimously elected president.
Ray Kitayama and June Niel were named first and second with presidents, respectively. Aiko Hinnaka was elected recording sentary, and Mary Ann Hara, come

ponding secretary.

Min Yonekura was unanimous chosen for a fourth term as tres

Misae Tanizawa, Min Shino Kenji Fujii, Shigeki Arai and K Hirao were named to the board governors.



he Lure of Manhattan

After a half a year or so in the big city, I find that there is unseen affinity that clings to you and you can't shake off. There is different quality about Manhattan that is not present in any other

y, and I have been to them all.

No, it is not the sky-scrapers and the bright lights of Broadway t make this city of 8,000,000 unique. There's more than that ere is a vibrant, magnetic quality that captivates every Nisei here. rhaps it is a dream that we are all pursing, but somehow in these tyons of milling humanity and sky-high structures there seems to the traditional pot of gold at each rainbow's end.

Like many an O. Henry character, most of the fifteen hundred so Nisei here will wind up with a handful of nothingness, a bad se of nerves, a stomachful of ulcers, and a pained wizened expreson that is the common let of the populace on this Bagdad-on-the-

At least, it is the theory of the New Yorker that it is better to ave loved and lost, than not to have loved at all. If it is a dream, here are hundreds of stories and tales that prove the veracity of uch. If it is in the realm of fantasy or in the fairy-tale category, here are just enough such true cases to prove that they exist here.

To me, it is like being at the Ocean Park-Venice amusement iters all day, everyday. The carnival spirit of a pellmell hubbub sideshows, rollercoaster rides, and games of chance prevails from Battery to the Bronx. The city is so big that you just can't know at is going on in every section, and, as a result, you always have not been part to bear or bear. mething new to learn or hear.

The headquarters of almost every business or industry are located re. More than half of the foreign trade of the world is directed om New York City. The economic lives of many western, southern, d midwest states are governed by decisions made in Wall Street. very medium of communication of ideas, including the movies, depends

New York for guidance and direction.

The story of a lad rising from the squalor of an Eastside teneent unto the realm of fame and riches is legion. The magnitude business is so large that many a tidy holding is realized thru only e deal that is consummated. There are more million-dollar deals, ink coats, hundred-dollar neckties, and custom-built limousines here

A Nisei lad may be washing dishes in a restaurant one night and the receiving thousand-dollar commissions for his art-work the kt month. Else, an obscure dancing student might overnight win e accolade of critics and theatre-goers in a smash musical hit.

There is a buyer and a demand for every type of goods, be it carload of back-scratchers or a herd of elephants. Selling and buying e practiced with such continual frenzy that often a difference of a action of a cent might be the difference between a fortune realized ech known to sell thousands of dollars worth of merchandise in a day. harpsters along Jewelers Row, on 47th Street, may buy a diamond om a dealer and then five minutes later sell it to another dealer for profit. Manufacturers of ladies' garments of times sell racks of lething on route from factory to warehouse or display more othing en route from factory to warehouse or display room.

For the writer or the artist, there are hundreds of magazines and ewspapers to submit their work. If one editor doesn't accept it, it may a reconsidered by another. If the manuscript does not fulfill the equirements of the "slick" magazines, it may eventually wind up in ne of the "pulps." Most creative artists leave the merchandising and alling end of their work to an agent who collects from ten to fifty er cent of the check.

* * * *

ou Can Get Anything

Most everything and anything is available in any quantity. If the usual channels are not used, then one can resort to the "gray" market, and if a deal cannot be arranged, there is the ever-present black market to take care of the deal. All along the line there is an elaborate system of payments and kick-backs to grease the kinks of any difficult transaction.

Celebrities also come a dime a dozen. It is not uncommon to neet them in a drugstore or while shopping at Saks. They fit in and out of offices in Radio City or dash from stage entrances just off Times Square. Politicians, civic leaders, army generals, and people who make the news can be seen in hotel lobbies or at one of the nany gaudy night clubs that clutter mid-Manhattan. Then there are always those spectacular stage shows at the Roxy, Capitol, Strand, Radio City or the Paramount that feature the leading acts of stage. Radio City, or the Paramount that feature the leading acts of stage, creen and radio.

People are always in a hurry. They hustle in and out of the subways with all the precision and speed of an army of ants. At unchtime, New Yorkers gulp down their food or else make a beeline for any empty booth. They do not stand on custom or ceremony. Courtesy and politeness are thrown to the winds by customers and sales people alike. It's speed and efficiency that counts.

Buyers are not interested in how long you have been in business or your civic integrity, they are chiefly concerned with the price. If it is cheap enough they will buy and if it is too high they slam the door and are on their way to the next establishment. So, the newcomer has a chance. As long as the price is right or the idea good, some kind of a deal will result some kind of a deal will result.

This is the cradle of the new idea or the different twist. In the entertainment field or the business world, the leaders are always on the lookout for something that is new, different, or novel. It matters not if the creator of the idea is black, white, or yellow. What is of primary importance is getting there first with the new innovation. Garment manufacturers are looking for new designs in clothing, advertisers in search of a new way to present their message, editors scouting around for new stories, and almost every textile manufacturer is looking for unique cloth designs.

All this brings me down to a point. There must be one to every story. We all must have some kind of a dream. Some, a very few, are realized; but it is the presence of that sparkling light in our mental makeup that gives reason and rhyme to our ambitions, hopes, and aspirations. It was on that quality that our fathers came across the Pacific to seek the realization of their mbitions in this new and strange country. It was also the impetus that gave reason to the Puritans and the pioneers of this nation to seek new horizons and new frontiers.

I do not know how other Nisei feel about this city. They do not openly declare their allegiance nor do they spew out words of repugnance to this line of thinking, but there is undoubtedly a little of the dreamer and the hopeful visionary in all of us that somehow makes this whirling, spinning existence worth while. The idea is to land on your feet instead of on your head when the ride is over.

Bill Hosokawa:

FROM THE FRYING PAN

Notes of a Wayfarer:

LAMAR, Colo.—"That," said Stanley Boyes, agricultural agent for Prowers county, "was where they had that relocation camp for the Japanese." We were driving east along Highway 50, and he was pointing to a wooded slope just south of the

"A half dozen Japanese American families are still with us in the county," Boyes continued. "Most of them are faming the irrigated land along the Arkansas river."

And how are they getting along? "They're the best farmers in the valley," Boyes declared without hesitation. "Some of them grew lettuce last out hesitation. "Some of them grew lettuce last summer—the first lettuce ever raised in this part of the country that I know about. If every one of the farmers in the county were as capable and as careful about land management and soil conservation, the county agent wouldn't have so much to worry about."

BOISE CITY, Okla.-Uncle Bill Baker, 80, is a tall, spare man with a handlebar mustache, and probably the greatest authority on Indian relics in the southwest outside the professional archeologists. Uncle Bill was county agent of Cimarron county 25 years before he reached the mandatory retirement age last fall.

retirement age last fall.

We spoke with him for several hours, and as we rose to go, he said: "Now I have a question to ask. If you don't mind, which of the eastern countries are you originally from?"

So we told him, and he declared: "So? Japanese American? We had a few of your people here during the war. They came from those deplets the camera, a fellow up here a ways brought. here during the war. They came from those de-plorable camps—a fellow up here a ways brought them in to raise vegetables. But after a while the dam broke and he lost all his water and the

Japanese went away.
"There's only one of them still here. His name's Harry—I can never remember his last name. A fine farmer and a splendid man. Everyone likes him."

TWO BUTTES, Colo.-Usually when we go into a strange farmyard we wait for someone to come out so we won't have to face the dogs. Every ranch seems to have at least two, and invariably they are huge, toothy, fierce and hungry-looking

But at this ranch we waited, and no one came, so finally we got out of the car and knocked. Just as the rancher's wife opened the door, a dog raced around the carner, firmly clamped our right leg in his mouth, gave a vicious twist, released the leg and made off in triumph.

The ranch wife, who spoke in a heavy German accent, was properly scandalized. She pulled us into her kitchen and yanked up our trouser-leg to see what damage had been wrought. There were bruises and lacerations, nothing more serious.

"Let me put some turpentine on it for you," she exclaimed in great excitement. "No, dot vill hurt too much. Let me get some fat."

She opened her lard bucket, took out a handful and rubbed it on the wounds. Then she opened a small bottle of turpentine and poured it liberally

over the leg.
"Does it hurt?" she asked. Then in answer to her own question, she assured us, "No, it don't hurt. The lard make it don't hurt."

Some days later we learned lard and turpentine is an old German remedy for everything from rheumatism to pneumonia.

DALHART, Texas—Out of six persons to whom we talked, only one had that Texas drawl.

LIBERAL, Kan.—Jim Cinnamon, publisher of the local Southwest Daily Times, took us around town for an hour, then left us when we went to the auto court to wash up.

When we saw Cinnamon later he said: "You know, at least a dozen people wanted to know who you are. Some of them said, 'Hey, Jim, who's your Chinese friend?'

"I told them you're the Denver Post reporter. Say, what are you anyhow?"

JACL AND THE OYAMA CASE

Right of Nisei to Own Property in State Had Been Imperiled by Alien Land Law

By EIJI TANABE

Los Angeles. The Oyama case decision of the United States Supreme Court will affect at least 90 percent of all escheat cases, according to attorneys who have been close to the alien land law problem confronting persons of Japanese ancestry in California.

Persons of Japanese ancestry are estimated to have between seventy to ninety million dollars worth of real property. If the escheat program of the state of California had been carried out to its logical conclusion, it would have involved not only the farm lands but also the residential properties acquired since 1920.

Six justices of the highest tribunal of the land held that in the Oyama case, there was "a conflict between the state's right to formulate a policy of landholding within its bounds and the right of American citizens to own land anywhere in the United States. When these two rights clash, the rights of a citizen may not be subordinate merely

because of his father's country of origin."

Chief Justice Vinson, who wrote the majority

opinion, further stated:

"The only basis for this discrimination against an American citizen, moreover, was the fact that

his father was Japanese and not American, Russian, Chinese or English."

The interesting fact was that four justices stated that the Alien Land law was unconstitutional. This was remarkable in view of the common practise that the United States Supreme Court does not the common practice that the United States Supreme Court does not the common practice that the United States Supreme Court does not the common practice of the court does not the court try to decide a broad principle of law when it can

In the Oyama case, two points were being pressed: 1. that the Alien Land law was unconstitutional; and 2. that an American citizen of Japanese ancestry had been denied the equal protection of the laws, thos violating the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution. The first issue would have upset the precedent of the Terrace versus Thompson, decided about 24 years ago. This would have been a bold step to take. However, since many outstanding constitutional lawyers and professors had written in the university law reviews that the Alien Land laws were unconstitutional, the justices would have had substantial support. The normal course to take was to declare on the rights of Fred Oyama, an American citizen.

The Japanese American Citizens League supported the Oyama case because it felt that the rights of an American citizen were involved. It believed that the California courts were denying a Nisei the same rights as any other citizen simply because the parents happened to be "in-

eligible to citizenship." The JACL saw the repercussions of the Oyama decision casting a cloud over every title of Nisei who had received his property through the purchases made possible with money given by the parents as a gift. The title insurance companies were refusing to insure title to properties unless the buyer could show that he earned the money himself and was not buying with money received from his parents or anyone "ineligible to citizenship." Also in selling real property, the title insurance companies were refusing to issue policies. Borrowing money was almost impossible because the title

If Fred Oyama had lost his case before the United States Supreme Court, almost every city property owned by a Nisei would have been in danger of escheat, especially in the cases where the parents purchased the property in their children's name and did not make any report to the

insurance companies were refusing to issue policies.

state. In the Oyama case, the father took out letters of guardianship and had borrowed money twice with the permission of the court. In the cases of homes purchased, the parents had felt it safe as long as the payments had been made, entirely ignoring the Alien Land law requirements.

Property holdings, especially farms, are the foundation of the economic strength of Japanese Americans in California. Once the Alien Land law outlook has been clarified, parents will be able to invest in behalf of the Nisei without fear of escheat. The process of recovering the pre-war status can now be undertaken.

The victory in the Oyama case will have important bearings upon the housing problem. Title insurance companies will once again feel free in insuring titles of Nisei where the parents have furnished the money. Citizen wives of alien Japanese will be able to purchase property with the money that the husband earned. Banks will be more liberal in making loans on Nisei property since the title insurance companies will be willing to insure the title.

The Oyama decision is one of the most important legal victories for persons of Japanese ancestry. A defeat would have rocked the very foundation of the eccasiny of persons of Japanese descent

Despite criticisms and at time weak support, the Japanese American Citizens League through its Legal Defense Fund and the Northern California Civil Rights Defense Union pressed the case to its final conclusion. A great deal of credit belongs to the JACL leaders for steadfastly supporting the Oyama case.

The offhand opinions of the press, radio and attorneys all seem to indicate that the death toll of the California Alien Land law (as far as parent-child reltionships are concerned) was sounded through the latest decision. The title insurance companies have already expressed interest in relaxing their stringent regulations. laxing their stringent regulations pertaining to purchases, sales and loans involving citizens of

Japanese ancestry.
The Japanese American Citizens League and the
Northern California Civil Rights Defense Union jointly supported the appeal to the United States Supreme Court. Both organizations feel fully compensated for the efforts expended in defending the property rights of persons of Japanese ancestry. This victory is another proof of the value of

united effort to combat discriminatory practises. The courts are one of the bulwarks against in-fringements of our civil rights. No matter how discouraging the outlook may look, the case must be taken to the highest tribunal.

Appreciation is due Attorney A. L. Wirin who handled the case from the beginning. Also we must thank attorneys James Purcell, William Ferriter and Guy C. Calden of the Civil Rights Defense Union and Saburo Kido, the JACL legal counsel.

There is great rejoicing in the various com-munities of California since the depressing cloud hovering over the title of every Nisei property has hovering over the title of every Nisei property has been swept away. It remains to be seen how the attorney general's office will interpret the decision. In the light of the strong concurring opinions of the four justices declaring the alien land law un constitutional, it may not be surprising if all escheat proceedings are dropped. About 90 per cent of the escheat cases now pending are claimed to involve a parent-child relationship. If the remaining ten per cent are pressed by California, another test case to obtain a decision on the constitutionality of the alien land law may be necessary.

Eastern Regional JACL Office Moves

Among the many services of the JACL are those extended to members and friends by the organization's regional offices in New York, Chicago, Denver, San Francsco and Angeles.

The Eastern regional office in New York City moved last week to larger quarters at 49 West 44th Street. At that time Sam Ishikawa, JACL ADC representative in charge, summed up the activities of the Eastern office in these words:

"The Eastern regional office has helped nearly 400 Issei to file their declaration of intention forms for naturalization. It supplies information, forms and advice to all those seeking it. It is also actively engaged in problems concerning deportation

"The major portion of the Eastern ADC

office since Sept. 15 has been concentrated on obtaining support of various organizations which have political action machinery within their organizational structure. Realizing that the JACL is one of the smaller agencies dealing in work concerning minorities, it is felt that only through cooperation of other agencies can the organization's objectives be gained. The Eastern office has made plans to work very closely with such organizations as the YWCA, American Civil Liberties Union, American Jewish Congress, Common Council for American Unity, Women's Group of the Methodist church, National Conférence of Christians and Jews, the American Federation of International Institutes, Citizens Committee for Displaced Persons and similar groups."

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Dr. Uyehara Attends **Engineers Meeting**

MADISON, Wisc .- Dr. Otto A. Uyehara, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Wisconsin, was among the automotive engineers who attended the 1948 annual meeting of the Society of Automotive Engineers at the Book-Cadillac hotel in Detroit Jan. 12-16.

Dr. Uyehara presented a paper, 'Diesel Combustion Temperatures —the Effect of Fuel Composition," to the convention.

Dr. Uyehara is the co-designer of an electro-optical pyrometer developed at the University of Wis-

He also presented a paper at the 1947 meeting of the SAE which was published in the SAE quarterly Transactions of Oct., 1947. He received his Ph.D. at Wisconsin in 1945 and was appointed assistant professor in 1947.

He was born in Hanford, Calif. His wife is the former Chisako Suda of Fresno, Calif.

Salt Lake YBA **Elects** 1948 Cabinet Members

New cabinet members for 1948 were elected at the Salt Lake City YBA meeting Saturday, Jan. 17, at the Buddhist church.

George Tashima was elected president, with Shig Hoki and Rose Yagi as men's and women's vice presidents respectively.

Other cabinet members were named as follows: Mary Harada, corr. sec.; Ernest Seko, rec. sec.; George Kubo, treas.; Dick Matsuda, Rose Oda and Frank Usui, social chairman and assistants; George Sakashita, public relations chairman; Lily Kumagai, women's athletic chairman; Fred Seo, men's athletic chairman; George Doi, religious chairman; May Matsuda, membayahin daiya ahairman membership drive chairman; and Yoneko Usui, overseas package chairman.

Marriage

IDAHO FALLS Ida -Martha Masae Nishioka and Yukio Eke Inouye were married at the Trinity Methodist church in Idaho Falls Jan. 13 with the Rev. Clark J. Wood officiating.

The bride was attended by her sister, Mrs. Tom Ogoshi of Rosebud, Mont., as matron of honor. Miss Kay Sato of Ogden, Utah, was the maid of honor. Mrs. Mise Kaynachi of Twin Followed Mise Kamachi of Twin Falls and Miss Betty Nishioka, sister of the bride, were bridesmaids.

Best man was Sadao Morishita. Bill Kishiyama, Jun Ueda and Tak Sato, all of Idaho Falls, served as

Club "29" Names **New Cabinet**

SACRAMENTO - Club "29" counted ballots at its meeting Friday night, Jan. 16, and named Henry Makishima new president for the group.

Ted Kobata was named boys' vice president, and Alyce Kuwabara was named girls vice president.

Taye Hironaka will be recording secretary, with Yuri Hiranaka as corresponding secretary and Jim Namba theasurer. Other officials will be Hip Matsuo, auditor, Tsuto Hironaka, boys' athletic manager; Nancy Matsui, girls' athletic man-ager; and Bill Satow and Johnny Namba, sergeants-at-arms.

Honda Elected To Head Chicago JACL Credit Union

CHICAGO, Ill. - Noboru Honda, former president of the Chicago JACL chapter, was elected president of the Chicago JACL credit union by its board of directors at a meeting held in conjunction with the credit union's annual general meeting at the CYO on Jan. 16, according to Kiyoshi Kasai, secre-

With 33 members present representing 80 per cent of the share votes, the meeting was presided by outgoing president, Kumeo Yoshinari, who informed the membership of the organization's progress during 1947. Its activities included an educational meeting on July 25, and a press conference meeting in fall. Tom Masuda, a board member, was nominated as a candidate for the Illinois state credit union board of directors, while Noboru Honda was selected as corporate representative to the Cuna Mutual Insurance Society.

Treasurer Shig Wakamatsu's repart indicated that in April, 1947, \$47 in shares had been deposited in the credit union. By the end of December, more than \$3,000 in shares had been deposited. Only one share was withdrawn during the year, and the credit union now has 67 members, according to the report. It was indicated that a dividend will probably be declared at the end of 1948.

The report of the credit committee explained its function in approving loans, procedure for applying for loans and checking loan security.

A resolution of gratitude was passed to acknowledge the untiring efforts of Shig Wakamatsu and Rev. George Nishimoto, treasurer and assistant treasurer respectively, who conducted the larger part of the credit union's business.

The three retiring members of the board of directors whose terms have expired are Kumeo Yoshinari, Kiyoshi Kasai and Mari Sabusawa. Voted to replace them were Sumi Kobayashi, Ken Yoshihara and Dick Yamada. The officers elected to serve under president Honda are Jack Nakagawa, vice-president; Jack Ota, secretary; Shig Wakaand Sumi Kobay ashi, assistant treasurer. Board members were also assigned to serve on the credit committee, supervisory committee and the education committee.

Chicago JACL Will Hear Talk on **Industrial Topic**

CHICAGO, Ill.—"Industrial Opportunities in Chicago" will be discussed by Prof. James D. Moore at the January meeting of the Chicago JACL chapter, according to Mari Sabusawa, newly elected chapter president.

Prof. Moore, a graduate of the University of Michigan, was on the faculty of Long Beach Junior college prior to the war, and also taught at San Luis Obispo J. C., California Polytech and the University of California. A Chicagoan since 1942, he is now teaching advanced personnel and industrial relations at Northwestern with the control of the lations at Northwestern university and is senior consultant with the industrial relations firm of Currie and Gherman in Chicago. Familiar with Nisei problems, Prof. Moore is well qualified to discuss the subject in relation to the Nisei in Chicago.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at the Woodrow Wilson Room of the International Relations Center, 84 E. Randolph St., at 8 p. m. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Masaoka Notes Anti-Nisei **Action on Coast in Testimony** Supporting Anti-Lynching La

WASHINGTON, D.C .- Going on record in support of fa anti-lynching legislation, Mike Masaoka, national legislation rector of the JACL Anti-Discriminaton Committee, testified Jan. 20 before a Senate subcommittee, urging that it gives orable consideration to an "effective and rigid law" as means of affording all peoples under our flag more ade protection from physical violence." The record of more than 100 incidents of arson, intimide

shootings and violence against persons of Japanese ancestry following their return to the West Coast from the relocation centers in the past three years has made the Japanese American Citizens League, which he represented, and all Japanese Americans mindful of the dangers inherent in an attitude of apathy toward lynchings and simi-

lar acts of terrorism, he told the subcommittee.

"While no person of Japanese ancestry was the victim of lynching that we know of, nevertheless, we submit that we can well appreciate the necessity for adequate police protection and federal legislation that will curb mob action," he declared, adding: "We believe that no person in these United States can be secure in his person and in his property until and un-less every other individual in the land is also secure in his life and in his home."

The Washington office of the JACL ADC reported that Mr. Masaoka appeared before the committee following the testimony of Senator Wayne Morse, Oregon Republican, and Kenneth Keating, New York Democrat, who spoke in favor of prompt enactment of effective anti-lynching legislation. The subcommittee, under chairmanship of Senator Homer Ferguson of Michigan, began the long-delayed hearings today on a number of bills on this subject which have been introduced in both Houses.

Mr. Masaoka told the committee that experiences of the war had changed the Japanese Americans' attitude toward mob action. Whereas not long ago the Nisei read of Negro lynchings with "only pass-ing interest," they had discovered through evacuation that when people are aroused by hate, prejudice and hysteria no person or group, however, innocent, can be free from violence.

"Indeed, we are now told that one of the reasons for the evacuation, without trial or hearing, of persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast in the spring of 1942 was that of 'protective custody,' that it was necessary to place us in relocation centers away from the main stream of American life in order to protect us from possible mob action," he declared.

only the Japanese alien but Nisei veteran, many of whome ed the armed forces with dis tion, was told in detail by the director. He described the case Sergeant Cosma Sakamoto, upon returning to his home Loomis, California, was fired a by unknown, assailants and home burned down. Sakamoto, Masaoka recalled, was still a ing the uniform of the U.S. And had a younger brother killed Italy while fighting with the 4
Japanese American Combat 7 in Europe and two other brot fighting in the Pacific.

While noting that simple sage of a law will not elim lynching or lawlessness or a local law enforcement official do their duty in the face of pop prejudice, he emphasized the the federal government sets standards of conduct and to prosecutes all violations the effectively and efficiently, ly ings and other acts of lawles will decrease and, possibly, eve ally disappear. He said the l nese American Citizens Les heartily endorses the prince embodied in the lynching bilk pointed out the great majority the American people do not done or approve of mob viole though such actions may be plauded by individuals in comm ities at certain times.

There are at least nine a lynching bills introduced in b Houses. Senator Morse appe before the committee on Jan. 2 testify in behalf of his bill, w he claimed has "more teeth" t bills of a similar nature now committee. Representative Is ing also has a bill in the Ho on this subject.

Bowles YBA Fills Cabinet Vacancies

FRESNO, Calif. — Cabinet of ces in the Bowles YBA that w left vacant by Satsuko Ninom recording secretary, Toki Term assistant religious director, Mits Yamagiwa, publicity chi man, were filled by Umeyo Yar fe in order to protect us from saki, Hinako Sasaki and Masossible mob action," he declared. How mob action affected not election meeting.



randed Nisei Returns from pan With Soldier Husband

panese War Brides so Arrive Aboard my Transport

TTLE - Staff Sgt. Peter Seattle Bowl Meet , 21, and his pretty Nisei rushed down the gangplank an Army transport, the Gen-eRoy Eltinge, in Seattle on

were glad to be in the States and they were not of the future.

folks were a little irritated it at first," the tall sergeant, had spent 27 months with ese girl. I think it will be the now though."

Sciuto, the former Grace of Detroit, added:

been corresponding with parents. My own parents like the idea at first, either, w it is all right with them.' couple met in a Tokyo en-men's club. Mrs. Sciuto, an can citizen, had been visit-pan at the time of the out-of war and had been strand-

going home and raise Sciuto explained. "My dad, liswood, N. Y., raises mink m going to help him."

ke the half-dozen other of Japanese ancestry who on the transport with can soldier husbands, Mrs. won't have to get used to e, new ways of life.

mother and father took me ny sisters and brother to in March of 1941," she re-"That was when we were strangers—we could not lk the Japanese language.

ring the war the Japanese y police watched us very all the time but we were thered. We lived in the suof Tokyo. My family will Bowling League ack to this country soon." other brides were Japanese

ho had met their GI husin Japan. They were nervous le to speak very little Eng-d they let their husbands do king.

s. Sgt. Vincent P. Costello, s taking his bride, Shizuko, his home in Philadelphia. met and married in Yoko-

Doyle Sims, 28, was taking ide, Hatsuno, to Memphis,

Gladys Ishida Will Participate in Chicago Observance

CHICAGO - Gladys Ishida, resecretary of the Chicago chapter, will be the Nisei pant in a Democracy Day ation by the young people of B'rith in Chicago on Feb. 11.

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George Kishida Takes Top Honors in

George Kishida of Salt Lake City, bowling for the Okada Insurance team, took top honors in the second annual Northwest Nisei bowling tournament at Main Bowl in Seattle last weekend by capturing both the all-events and singles honors.

His teammates on the Okada five followed through with first tion forces in Japan, said. place in the team event, rolling a didn't like my marrying a 891, 917, 965-2773 series.

Kishida rolled a 232-200-188 series for a 620 first place in the singles. His scores for the allevents prize were 612, team; 620, singles; and 547, doubles.

Teammate Tadao Sako rolled a 584 to take second place in the singles, followed by Nobi Taka-hashi, Seattle, 563; Kaz Yamane, Tacoma, 562; Bill Ihashi, Seattle, 558; Jim Kuranishi, Seattle, Harry Honda, Spokane, and Yukio Kuni-yuki, Seattle, 552.

The Paramount Cafe team, Seattle, came in second in the team event with a 2654 series. Globe Hotel, Spokane, came into third spot with a 2630, follow-ed by Inland Oil-Oriental Cafe, Ontario, and Cascade Produce, Portland.

Min Nakamura and Shig Hironaka, both of Ontario, took the doubles event with a 1154 series. Nobi Takahashi and George Ki-mura of Seattle followed with 1147. Jun Kuramada and Sho Hiraizumi, Salt Lake City, took third with a

Terashima Blanks **US Cafe in JACL**

Terashima Studio took a 4-0 win from US cafe in the Salt Lake JACL winter bowling league Monday, Jan. 19, at the Temple alleys. Tom Matsuhori pounded the pind for 590 with games of 188, 161, and 241 for the winners. Terashima hit a 927 scratch first game and a total series of 2661.

Hibbard Drug added three to its total wins by taking Pacific Citizen 2625 to 2563. Hibbard Drug, in first place in the league, was led by Choppie Umemoto, who turned in a 581 series, including a 224 last game. Mas Satow paced the losers with a 535.

Modern Garage took four from Dawn Noodle, with Fumio Kasai rolling a 199, 179, 208 series for the garagemen, aided by a 574 series by George Sakashita and a 537 by Tom Nakamura Ich Okamura scored a 561 series for Dawn. The Modern Garage series included a 328 scratch game.

In other games Pagoda split with New Sunrise, Star coffee shop took three from Ma's cafe, and OK cafe blanked Metro Motors.

cleaners game was postponed

George Kishida of Hibbard drug leads the league in individual averages with a 189.

Eden Township Sets Installation for JACL Officials

SAN LEANDRO, Calif.—Newly elected officers of the Eden Township JACL will be officially installed at a smorgasbord affair at Svendsgaard, 16290 Foothill Blvd., San Leandro, on Feb. 14, according Tom Hatakeda, outgoing presi-

A social and dancing will follow the dinner and installation services. The public is invited to attend. Henry Wada and Kay Hirao were named co-chairmen.

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Vital Statistics

To Mr. and Mrs. T. Umeda, West Los Angeles, a boy on Jan. 5.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kikuo Ogawa,
Kerman, Calif., a boy on Dec. 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshizo Harada a boy on Jan. 10 in Sacra-

To Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Matsuo Yano a girl on Jan. 5 in Kings-burg, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tom Masaru Shirakawa, Fowler, Calif., a girl

on Dec. 21.
To Mr. and Mrs. Sadao F. Matsumoto a girl on Jan. 6 in Sacramento.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kitahara

a boy in Seattle.

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio Fudetani a boy on Jan. 15 in Seattle.

To Mr. and Mrs. Goro Kagehiro a boy on Jan. 15 in Yuba City,

To Mr. and Mrs. Tateshi Miyasaki, Sugar City, Idaho, a boy on Jan. 9.

DEATHS

Yasuemon Tani on Jan. 17 in lawthorne, Calif.

Sumi Fujimoto on Jan. 15 in Los

Kingoro Tanaka, 63, on Jan. 18 in Gardena, Calif. Kamiki Yamakawa, 70, on Jan.

7 in Seattle. Yahei Kawashima, 50, on Jan. 18 in Copperfeld, Utah. Kay Sakata, 49, on Jan. 14 in Vermillion, Utah.

MARRIAGES

Fumiko Osumi and Fred Isao Fujishige on Jan. 18 in Los An-

Masako Ikegami to Hideo Morinaka in Corinne, Utah.
MARRIAGE LICENSES

Mary S. Ikeda, 20, and Tak Kuwahara, 25, Jamieson, Ore., in

Inaugural Ball Planned by Denver JACL

DENVER - The Denver JACL chapter will play host to the general public at its annual inaugural ball to be held Jan. 23 at the Cosmopolitan hotel.

Governor and Mrs. Lee Knous and ex-Governor Ralph L. Carr will be among the chapter's guests at the ball.

Other guests will be Mayor Quigg Newton of Denver, Dr. and Mrs. Clark P. Garman, State Sen-ator and Mrs. Arthur A. Brooks, Jr., City Councilman and Mrs. James Fresques, and Messrs. and Mmes. Clarence A. Jarvis, Eugene Cervi, James Curtis and Max Greenwald.

Denver sponsors of the National JACL who also will be guests are Bishon and Mrs. W. E. Hammaker and Mr. and Mrs. James Patton.

Retiring president of the chap-ter, George Masunaga, will admin-ister the oath of office to the 1948 cabinet, which is headed by George

Patrons and patronesses for the dance, who will also be members The Okada Insurance-Excellent eaners game was postponed.

Of the reception committee are Dr. and Mrs. R. Miyamoto, Revs. and Mmes. N. Tsunoda, K. Sasaki, Tom Fukuyama and Messrs. and Mmes. T. Kato, Ed Yamato, Z. Kanegaye, Clarence Arima, Ed Matsuda and

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Veterans of 442nd Unit Recall Campaigns at Cocktail Party

Testimonial Dinner Will Honor Counsel In Oyama Test Case

LOS ANGELES — A testimonial dinner honoring the National Japanese American Citizens League's legal counsel in the Oyama Alien Land law case will be held at the Konanro in Los Angeles on Jan. 30 from 6 p. m.

The dinner is being held as a tribute to A. L. Wirin, Saburo Kido, Fred Okrand and Frank Chuman who carried the Oyama test case from the California courts to the Supreme court.

Sponsoring organizations will include the JACL, Japanese American Community Council, the Naturalization Committee, Southwest Community Council, Rafu Shimpo, Kashu Mainichi and Shin Nichibei.

Mr. Wirin will be the main speaker at a public meeting on Jan. 31 at which he will present an interpretation of the Supreme court's decision in the Oyama case which affirmed the citizen rights of Americans of Japanese ances-try under the California Alien Land statute.

Saburo Kido, former national president of the JACL, will introduce Mr. Wirin at the meeting which will be held at the Daishi

Chicago Directory Will Be Published In February

CHICAGO - Dedicated to the Chicago Resettlers Committee, the 1948 edition of the Chicago Japanese American Year Book will be available to the general public sometime before the end of Feb-

The current edition, which was originally slated to be on sale this month, has been delayed due to technical difficulties, according to the publisher, Joe Komaki. Apart from the attractive layout and pages of pictorial events, the di-rectory lists outstanding business firms, clubs and organizations as

well as approximately ninety per cent of local residents. All persons interested in pur-chasing the 1948 Chicago Japanese American Year Book are asked to contact J. Komaki, 1833 No. Bissell, Chicago 14, Ill., or phone MIChigan 7323. The price is \$1.00.

Athletic Group **Holds Benefit**

CINCINNATI, O.-Approximately 70 persons attended a benefit social sponsored by the Nisei Athletic association Saturday, Jan. 10, at the University of Cincinnati YMCA lounge.

The Nisei Athletic association has been responsible for the representation of Nisei teams in Cincinnati sports circles. At the present time a team is entered in a city-wide basketball league. Another team holds the number two spot in Fassl's Good Fellowship owling league.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Battles in which the much-decorated 442nd Regimental Combat Team participated more than three years ago were "re-fought" on Jan. 17 at an informal cocktail party given by Colonel and Mrs. James M. Hanley in honor of Colonel Virgil R. Miller, former commanding officer of the Japanese American unit.

The gay reception, to which a number of Nisei veterans and former officers of the 442nd now residing in the Washington area were invited, was held at the home of the host on the occasion of Colonel Miller's visit to Washington. Colonel Miller is head of the military tactics department of Pennsylvania State College.

Those attending included: Colonel and Mrs. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Oland D. Russell, former public relations officer with the all-Nisei unit and now night editor for the Washington area for the Scripps-Howard Newspapers; Mr. and Mrs. Orville Shirey; Colonel and Mrs. Meredith Booth; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ichiuji, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Masaoka, George Oku, and Ken Nishimoto.

Mr. Shirey, former plans and operations officer of the 3rd battalion of the 442nd, is author of the book, "Americans: Story of the 442nd" and is an associate editor of the Infantry Journal. Colonel Booth, executive officer of the 442nd at the time of its activation at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, is with the State Department.

Colonel Hanley, the host, is a former commanding officer of the 2nd battalion and an executive officer of the Japanese American combat team, and is now with the Judge Advocate General's office in

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cause of racial origin," Kushida

Plight of the alien Japanese is

illustrated in the family of George

Shiba. His son Frank, 30, of 1567 Dexter place, is past president of the JACL.

Two of the Shiba boys, Roy and Henry, served in the U.S. armed

forces. George himself taught at an American naval school during the war. Had Japan won the war, George could have been executed as

a traitor. Yet he cannot become a

Report Death of Baby Born to Mrs. D'Aquino

TOKYO-A boy born to Mrs. Iva Toguri D'Aquino, identified here as the "Tokyo Rose" of Radio Tokyo during the war, died a few hours after birth, it was reported

The baby was born on Jan. 4 but news was released for the first time on Jan. 21.

Mrs. D'Aquino, a native of California, has applied for permission to return to America but it was re-ported that permission had been denied by the State department.

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Cleveland Chapter Initiates Drive for Issei Citizenship

CLEVELAND, O .- The Cleveland chapter of the JACL has begun a campaign to win Ohio backing for naturalization bills which would give citizenship rights to some 90,000, aliens of Japanese ancestry.

Endorsement of the proposed legislation by Ohio congressmen, including George H. Bender, Michael Feighan and Frances Bolton, is sought by the local group, according to the Cleveland Press, which interviewed Tats Kushida, JACL regional representative, and George Shiba of Cleve-

About 45,000 alien Japanese in the United States and another 35,000 in Hawaii are still barred from citizenship, Kushida told the Cleveland Press. In addition there

are about 700 Koreans in the Unit-

ed States and 2300 in Hawaii. Only other people excluded from becoming American citizens are Polynesians, Siamese, Burmese, Indonesians and natives of Guam and other Pacific islands.

"The United States, which flaunts its domestic traditions to all the word, is nevertheless the only one in the world which bars immigrants from citizenship be-

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Two Nisei Boxers Score Victories For Cal Aggies

DAVIS, Calif.-Two Nisei boxers came through with victories for the California Aggies boxing team in a match against Chico State's pugilists on Jan. 15.

In the 125-pound class, James Kai of Los Angeles proved he had too much speed for Gary Olson of Chico.

Cache Shimizu of Sandy, Utah, displayed smooth boxing form to win a decision in the 145-pound division from Cliff Grady.

Both Kai and Shimizu won decisively in their respective divisions in the all-Cal Aggie tournament held earlier this season.

George Nemoto of Chicago, Ill., a member of last year's Aggie boxing team, has not been able to compete this season because of a shoulder injury but has been acting as a student coach in the boxing and wrestling department.

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Senate Investigator Told **Hawaii Japanese Americans** Do Not Practice Bloc Voting

Chinese American Candidate Tells of Support from Nisei

HONOLULU-A representative of a U. S. Senate committee was told here recently that Japanese Americans and members of other racial groups in Hawaii do not indulge in practices of racial bloc voting in territorial elections.

Judge Carl E. Wimberley of Oregon, representing Oregon's Senator Guy Cordon, conducted hearings on Hawaii opinion on the statehood question recently as a preliminary to the Oregon solon visit to Hawaii.

Mayor John H. Wilson of Honolulu, whose ancestry is Scotch, Irish, Tahitian and Hawaiian, told Judge Wimberley that "it is definitely shown that Japanese Americans, perhaps more than any other so-called racial group, do not vote as a bloc.'

Chuck Mau, a defeated candidate for the territorial senate, who might have laid his defeat to bloc voting, testified that terror of bloc voting is an "unfounded fear."

Mr. Mau, who is of Chinese ancestry, was edged out by Wilfred C. Tsukiyama, a candidate of Japanese ancestry.

Yet, Mr. Mau said, "I received

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more votes from Americans Japanese ancestry than I ever ceived in my three previous can paigns."

Likewise, he said, Senator Tsuk yama polled tremendous votes the heavily Caucasian districts Manoa, Waikiki, Kahala, Nuues and Punahou.

Sentiment of Hawaii's citizen on statehood, as expressed in the hearings before Judge Wimber was reported to be favoring state hood by a margin of 7 to 1.

Mothers' Club Hears Noted Psychologist

CHICAGO—Mrs. Edna Hanse noted child psychologist and dire tor of the Henry Booth House, we the main speaker at the mother club meeting of the Ellis commuity center pre-nursery school

Mary Hata, director of the pla school at the Henry Booth Hou presented a short analysis of t aims and techniques as well as problems in group play.

Mrs. Komorowsky is the temp ary chairman of the mothers' cla Mrs. T. Abe has been serving secretary.

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