



Right: A good eye, a gentle touch are necessary requirements for the trained sexer. Here students learn the trade at the National Chick Sexing Association in Chicago. Left: Nisei companies sponsor civic and social affairs for their trainees. Here students and friends from Philadelphia and other near-by cities attend a dance held by the American Chick Sexing Association in Lansdale, Pa.

Chick Sexing Is Big Business:

Nisei Pioneer a New Industry

A NEW INDUSTRY—so new that even the mention of its name outside its usual environs brings a slight sense of shock and the lifting of eyebrows—is the business of chick sexing.

The name lends itself to mild and corny ribaldry, but almost the entire poultry industry is dependent upon it today.

To the average citizen a fluffy day-old chick is just a cute little bird that appears in pet store windows just before Easter. He takes home a couple for his kids, who exclaim happily over them until the chicks reach that moulting, revolting state, when they are banished from home and garden.

All of this is probably a little silly to the poultryman, to whom a baby chick of the right (female) sex means the mortgage on the farm, money in the bank and a black figure in his annual income.

He knows that the Easter baby chicks are males and that, were it not for the happy advent of Easter, they might have been destroyed.

Until the early thirties, and for many poultrymen for a good many years afterwards the business of raising baby chicks was an expensive affair. The chick gives no indication—to the average eye—whether it will grow into a plump, egg-laying hen or an almost worthless cock.

So, until chick sexing came along, farmers fed and housed and raised all their chicks until they were old enough to be separated. Now a farmer calls in a chick sexer.

Using only his hands, his eyes and a good light, he separates the pullets from the cockerels. The average sexer will go through 500 to 800 chicks an hour, and a really good man will do as high as 1200 or more. Trained sexers have an average of at least 95% accuracy. Training of many months is required to turn out a competent sexer, and three years, it is estimated is required for a skilled man.

Sex of the chick is determined by characteristics and color of the vents, the wings and legs. The main characteristic of cockerels (the males) is usually a lump in the vents, which pullets do not have. While all this may sound simple enough, a good sexer needs training and experience to reach any degree of proficiency. Careless handling of the delicate chicks can cause death or serious injury to the chick, and inaccuracy in determining the chick's sex is wasteful.

Now, with the advent of chick sexing, the poultryman can save his pullets and destroy or otherwise discard the cockerels. The farmers save on feed, housing space and labor that would have gone into the raising of the cockerels. The farmer is assured the necessary number of pullets desired, his equipment for chicks is cut in half, overcrowding is avoided and poultrymen can count on less cannibalism, a rather untidy habit among chickens.

The industry of sexing in the United States is only about fifteen years old. Most of it has been developed by the Nisei. It is one of the few industries in which the Nisei have been almost completely dominant.

It was introduced into the United

States by a group of men from Japan where it originated, in the early 1930s. These experts were brought over to demonstrate the science and to teach it to hatcherymen who were interested.

Like other new ideas, it was a hard one to sell to men in the poultry industry. Reports of almost 100% accuracy in determining the sex of infant chicks seemed too good to be true, and skepticism met pioneer sexers in the field. But the strong resistance that met the first efforts of sexers to sell their services soon gave way. Farmers were among the first to demand that the chicks they bought be sex-determined. Hatcherymen came in line, and today the practice is not only accepted but almost expected in the poultry industry in many parts of the country.

Nisei chick sexing companies, as pioneers in the field, have flourished since their early beginnings only a few years ago. Indeed, the industry is so young that the companies do not themselves agree upon the spelling of the word "sexer," which is also commonly spelled "sexor."

Nisei companies include the International Chick Sexing Association in Mankato Minn.; the American Chick Sexing Association in Lansdale, Pa. the National Chick Sexing Association in Chicago and the Newton Chick Sexing Co. in Iowa.

There are also the United Chick Sexing Association in Ames, Iowa; the Master Sexers Association in Keokuk, Iowa; and the Wisconsin State Chick Sexing School in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

Meanwhile a growing California concern is the Northern California Chick and Poultry Sexing Service with offices in Turlock and Palo Alto.

The National Chick Sexing Association was founded in 1943 in the state of Iowa by George Sugano, who trained his brothers and other members of his immediate family. These persons formed the nucleus around which the company was organized.

It branched out quickly throughout the midwest area and today conducts a school which is recognized by the Veterans' administration for training of former GIs.

S. John Nitta was among the pioneers in the chick sexing business. He studied chick sexing in Nagoya, Japan, where the science is believed to have originated. He returned in 1936 to the United States to establish a school for sexers.

He formed the American Chick Sexing Association, believed to be the largest organization of its kind in America. The association serves hatcheries in 41 of the 48

states as well as hatcheries in Latin America and Europe.

The school was originally started in California in 1937 as one of the first to be established in the United States and has, since its inception, trained more than 300 men and women. The early skepticism met by Nitta and his associates has since been dissipated, and the school and the association have prospered. The association has its office in Lansdale, Pa., where a new brick office and school building have just been completed.

The Newton Chick Sexing Company, managed by Konnie Yoshinaga, has been serving central Iowa for the past fifteen years. Like the other companies, it had to overcome a good deal of prejudice against the introduction of chick sexing. This season the company expects to sex three and a half million chicks for Iowa farmers.

Another of the pioneer companies in the field is the International Chick Sexing Association, which was established in 1933 in Fresno.

With the evacuation of Japanese Americans from the coast in 1942, it had to pack up and move. It now operates from Mankato, Minn. Reorganization of the company after the war began and the evacuation uprooted the Nisei was the usual difficult story. The company established a school in Minneapolis in 1944, and a neighborhood controversy developed. Protests on grounds the school violated health regulations were made to the city council. But the Nisei operators won the help of religious, civic and labor organizations. A number of city groups formed a citizens' committee to help the Nisei. They pointed out that the protests were based on racial, rather than health reasons.

All that is now past history, like so many of the incidents that rose up to plague the Nisei relocating in the war. The International is now part of the community in which it is located. The Mankato Chicks ball team is recognized as one of the best amateur teams in the state.

Other companies, too, take part in the civic and public life of the communities in which they are established. Within the past fifteen years the science of chick sexing has enabled a number of Nisei to develop a new industry in the United States, an industry which is still growing and whose limits are yet to be touched.

Group Gives Food To Needy Persons

LOS ANGELES — A happier holiday season was provided for approximately 300 indigent persons of Japanese ancestry in Los Angeles County through the efforts of the local Christmas Cheer Committee, composed of local Japanese American community organizations.

Food and presents were given to the needy persons.

A Story of the 442nd: HIS NAME WAS NICKY

By T. TAKESHI OYE

We wanted no glory, we wanted no fame. Our deepest longing, hidden and unexpressed, was for the quick end of the bitter job and a return to a more normal existence.

We had been fused by long months of training and by common experience into an indistinguishable whole—the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

The label told nothing of the individuals that comprised this fighting unit. It was only by living in the intimacy of the foxholes that one learned of these men, understood what was behind the mask of anonymity, and came to know that the fighting machine had a heart, a feeling heart that laughed, loved and cried. It was a heart that sang many different tunes and many different lyrics; it was a heart that had a wide-ranging scale—from bitter cynicism to saint-like faith; it was a heart that had seen and felt many things. In the foxhole I heard its song and in the foxhole I saw its tears.

They came from all part of the continental United States. Hawaii, Alaska—farmers, doctors, lawyers, schoolteachers. In the foxholes we came to know each other, learned the same songs and experienced the same heaviness of heart.

There were medals for some, but for the most there was none—just the silent tears of a loved one who felt grief at the parting. In this tangled, fierce drama we each donned our mask and played our bit. In this atmosphere of toughness we assumed a proper mien and played our role with exaggerated fervor. We buried our true selves and pretended at being as hard as the game in which we participated.

It was here that I met Nicky. He was very young but his knowledge of the ways of the world sometimes revealed a startling precocity. He confused virility with manliness but whatever his failings Nicky was no coward. In this crowd of men he had earned the right to be regarded as a man. He had already won many medals, including a Silver Star.

The challenge of battle seemed to cause a transformation in Nicky. His black eyes would dance and his face would crack into a tense smile. As his bullets found their mark, he would make an audible tally. His fight at these moments seemed a very personal one and he executed his job with fearless efficiency. The young boy, thrust into a world of demons, was doing a man's job.

But there were other times when his youthfulness would betray him and he would appear suddenly an awkward adolescent. He had donned too quickly the garments of maturity. He would then find it necessary for himself to prove his manhood before his comrades. He

measured his virility in terms of quantity of expression and the boudoir was his proving ground. Love? Nicky would laugh at the word. For an older man perhaps, he would say, but for him love was a thing of the moment, animal and fleeting.

But on two occasions we discovered that Nicky had a heart, that his seeming indifference was a sham. We saw it once when his mongrel dog that he had raised during our stay on the static fronts along the Riviera died. Nicky spoke little of that time but we had seen him take the carefully wrapped body into the woods. We knew for certain then that Nicky's seeming indifference to human emotions was a masquerade. Then once again toward the close of hostilities with Germany, we saw him lay aside his mask and express his true self. That was the time his friend Billy was killed in action. When we returned to the rest area, Nicky, who very seldom wrote even to his own family, painfully composed a three page letter to Billy's mother and enclosed a money order for a spiritual bouquet.

"I owe Billy that much at least," was his only remark.

On these occasions Nicky proved to us that he was not as tough as he pretended to be, that he had a heart, that all of us had a heart. He showed us, whatever our pretenses that in the depths of our souls we were essentially men and possessed of the qualities of men. We were playing a devil's game but the devil could not remove God from his place. Each of us was Nicky in one way or another. We each wore a mask, we each played a part, as Shakespeare once said, and like Nicky we rendered our own interpretations. Youthfulness was Nicky's handicap; we had our failings, too, of various kinds. But like Nicky we discovered in the end that our human qualities and our human flaws could not long be hidden. We sought to make Nicky a character different from us but in the end we discovered that each of us were Nickys playing a part as best we knew.

So it was that we laughed, loved, live and fought; men of all faiths, Catholics, Protestants, Buddhists, and of varying philosophies, but essentially men playing the devil's game of war.

Idaho Falls JACL Plans Carnival Dance

IDAHO FALLS, Ida.—The local JACL chapter will hold a carnival-dance on Jan. 7.

Joe Nishioka is general chairman. Other members of the dance committee are Sam Sakaguchi, Sad Morishita, Fred Ochi, Katsuki Yamasaki and Sam Yamasaki. A Christmas dance was held on Dec. 23 at the JACL hall.

Save Fishermen As Tuna Boat Capsizes at Sea

SAN DIEGO—Three fishermen of Japanese ancestry from San Diego were rescued, along with 11 other members of the crew, as the \$375,000 tuna boat Dominator capsized and sank in the Galapagos Islands off Ecuador, 2800 miles south of here, on Dec. 12.

The fishermen were identified as Isamu Matsuhara, Yasuo Nakamoto and Masahara Tsuida.

The Dominator left San Diego on Nov. 20 for a 70-day tuna fishing trip.

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Mitsuru Fujinami a boy on Dec. 8 in Salt Lake City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ray Masao Kusamura, Murray, Utah, a girl on Dec. 4.

To Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kazunobu Nishita a boy Mark Kazuo, on Dec. 7 in San Jose.

To Mr. and Mrs. Megumi Nakano, Los Altos, Calif., a girl, Yukie Phyllis, on Dec. 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kingo Tajii, Madrone, Calif., a girl, Diana Agnes, on Dec. 9.

To Mr. and Mrs. Katsuto Takai a boy on Nov. 27 in Stockton, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fred T. Matsuno a boy on Nov. 16 in Lodi, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Michio Yamamoto, Acampo, Calif., a girl on Nov. 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tokio Okamoto a girl on Dec. 10 in Sacramento.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kiyoto Hamasaki a boy on Dec. 11 in Auburn, Calif.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masashi Shimo-

saka a girl on Dec. 12 in San Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ben Shimomura, Winters, Calif., a girl on Dec. 7.

To Mr. and Mrs. Morio Kitagaki a girl in Oakland.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sam Mukaida a boy, Allen, on Dec. 6 in New York City.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tadashi Yamamoto a boy in Denver.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bert Motomu Tanaka, San Diego, Calif., a boy on Nov. 25.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ogi a boy on Dec. 14 in San Francisco.

To Mr. and Mrs. Donald K. Toriumi, Pasadena Calif., a girl Janice Joy, on Nov. 30.

DEATHS

Saichiro Kazahara, 69, on Dec. 15 in Salt Lake City.

Yoshimatsu Wada, 72, on Dec. 13 in Salt Lake City.

Sumitaro Taguchi 73, on Dec. 13 in Reedley, Calif.

Kajiemon Haji, 67, on Dec. 13 in Fowler Calif.

Saizo Tsuji, 64, on Dec. 2 in Los Angeles.

Fukujiro Shimashita on Dec. 7 in Chicago.

Mrs. Haru Suzuki, 59, on Dec. 16 in Oakland, Calif.

T. Okamoto, 72, Fort Lupton, Colo., on Dec. 18 in Denver.

Ichiro Matsuura, 79, on Dec. 18 in Los Angeles.

MARRIAGES

June Hayami to James Ogisaka on Dec. 3 in Chicago.

Mary Yamamoto to Jim Etow on Dec. 18 in Watsonville, Calif.

Mariko Otani to Genkichi Miyagishima on Dec. 3 in Chicago.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Alice Kohaya, 24, and Kiyoshi Yoshimoto, 29, San Mateo, Calif., in Sacramento.

Teruye Mikami, 23, Lodi, Calif., and Ted Tokio Otani, 29 Calwa, in Fresno.

Katherine Sugawara, 21, and Lee Fong, 22, in Oakland, Calif.

Frances Maule, 19, and Roy Kawamoto, 26, Los Gatos, Calif., in San Francisco.

WANT ADS

BOARD AND ROOM—For young men, 1208 West 64th St., Chicago, Illinois. Call WALbrook 5-3671, after 6 p.m.

PERSONAL—Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Mr. & Mrs. Ray Hiroshi Sato, formerly of Hollywood and Chicago, please contact: Ken K. Aiba, JA Section, HQ Yokohama Command, APO 503 c/o Postmaster, S. F. Calif.

Midwest Attorneys Will Join JACL in Advising on Claims

CHICAGO — Midwest attorneys interested in the evacuation claims program have agreed to cooperate in JACL's project to inform the Department of Justice as to their views on the legal and administrative aspects of the claims program, the Midwest office of the JACL reported last week.

Meeting with Mike Masaoka, national legislative director of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee, Washington, D.C. these attorneys heard an outline of Canada's experience with their evacuation claims program and the latest developments in the American program, particularly as it related to the Los Angeles field office.

Problems concerning local attorneys were raised and discussed by the group.

Since the government claims program is unprecedented and since those attorneys filing claims are in a better position to interpret the law and suggest administrative procedures that will insure the evacuee-claimant more liberal claims, Masaoka suggested that the attorneys present form a special committee to cooperate in the National JACL program to present memoranda to the Department of Justice on every controversial aspect of the law.

Masaoka pointed out that the Nisei and other attorneys in Los Angeles had agreed to a similar

suggestion and that attorneys throughout the nation, working together to prepare such memoranda, would render a real service to the community as well as to their own claimants.

JACL, as the principal sponsor of the evacuation claims law passed last year by Congress, will coordinate this cooperative program from Washington.

Attorneys Thomas Masuda, Jiro Yamaguchi, George Kita, Wiley Higuchi, Harold Gordon and Richard Hikawa of Chicago and Charles Tatsuda of Minneapolis agreed to cooperate. Other interested attorneys will be asked to join the program. Richard Akagi, Midwest Regional Representative, was named temporary chairman of the Chicago committee.

Others in attendance included Noboru Honda chairman of the Chicago Chapter evacuation claims committee and a member of the National JACL Board, Shigeo Wakamatsu, Chicago Chapter president, and Ken Yoshihara and Mike Hagiwara of the Business Service Associates.



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Tri-State Buddhists Crown Brighton Girl



Elsie Nakata, 17, of Brighton, Colo., was selected as queen of the Tri-State Buddhist conference held on Dec. 17 and 18 in December. Miss Nakata (back row center) was crowned at a dance in the Silver Glade of the Cosmopolitan hotel.

The queen's attendants are: (back row) Pearl Kuwabara, 19, Denver, and Mrs. Rose Masunaga, 20, Fort Lupton; (front) Bessie Yoshida, 17, Ala-

mosa; Betty Uyumura, 20, Rocky Ford, and Ruby Mayeda, 16, Longmont. In addition to the business sessions delegates attended a mixer, skating party and a talent show and watched a team from Crowley, Colo., win the basketball tournament from 11 other contenders. Dr. Eugene Link, professor of sociology at Denver university, was the main speaker.—Cut courtesy of Rocky Mountain News, Denver.

People of Japanese Ancestry In U. S. Unite in Support Of Walter Bill, Says Masaoka

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mike Masaoka, national JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee legislative director, returned on Dec. 16 from a six-week tour that left him feeling "confident that persons of Japanese ancestry are united in the common goal of seeking passage of the Walter Resolution."

The resolution, which passed the House unanimously early in the year, but suffered a temporary setback in the Senate on the lone objection of Sen. Russell (D., Ga.), would grant naturalization privileges to some 88,000 Japanese in the United States and Hawaii.

Mr. Masaoka said he is optimistic over chances for comparatively early passage of the measure when Congress reconvenes.

The legislative director said he found economic conditions among those of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast "improved over what it was a year ago.

"Japanese Americans throughout the nation are facing the future with confidence. They have been reaccepted into the mainstream of American life even more rapidly than we ever dared hope. There is little unemployment among them."

He said their two major interests today are focused upon the Walter measure, and progress of the Evacuation Claims program, passed by Congress to indemnify Issei and Nisei for real and personal property losses suffered in their evacuation from the West Coast several months after the outbreak of war.

Mr. Masaoka discussed both of these matters in a series of conferences at:

The organizational meeting of the Mountain Plains JACL District Council convention, Denver; the organizational meeting of the Northern California-Western Nevada District JACL Council convention, San Francisco; the fifth annual Intermountain District Council Convention, Ogden; the organizational meeting of the Pacific Northwest District Council at

its Spokane convention, and at the meeting of the Pacific-Southwest District Council in Los Angeles.

Mr. Masaoka conferred in Salt Lake City with Hito Okada, national JACL president; Mas Satow, national director and Larry Tajiri, editor of The Pacific Citizen.

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Montana Chapter Announces Profit On Recent Carnival

BILLINGS, Mont. — The Montana JACL chapter made a net profit of \$483.93 from its carnival on Nov. 20 at Laurel, Yasuo Nayematsu, treasurer, reported at a recent meeting.

He also reported that a contribu-

Open CPA Office

LOS ANGELES — Formation of a firm of certified public accountants was announced here recently by Sho Iino of Los Angeles and Masaji Takeda who recently returned to this city from Chicago.

A contribution of \$50 was received from Sam Ujifusa of Worland, Wyo.

Hawaii Wins All-Oriental Cage Crown

SAN JOSE, Calif.—The Hawaii Nisei All-Stars ended the two-year domination of the national all-Oriental basketball tournament by the San Francisco St. Mary's Saints, defeating the Chinese American team, 42 to 39, in the finals of the tourney on Dec. 25 at the San Jose State gym.

The host San Jose Zebras won the consolation round by nosing out the Chicago Huskies, champions of the recent Nisei invitational tourney, 47 to 46.

San Francisco Saints, 43; Southern California Appliance, 39.

Berkeley Nissei, 61; San Francisco Filipino A.C., 39.

Hawaii All-Stars, 47; Chicago Huskies, 39.

Seattle All-Orientials, 55; San Jose Zebras 52.

SEMI-FINALS

Hawaii All-Stars, 54; Berkeley Nissei, 42.

S.F. Saints, 50; Seattle All-Orientials, 33.

Consolation Round

San Jose Zebras 49; S.C. Appliance, 46.

Chicago Huskies, 61; S.F. Filipinos, 32.

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