



## NISEI ELECTION BILL SENT TO WHITE HOUSE

PC Bureau Special:

Washington

The Senate concurred Tuesday in a minor House amendment and cleared for signature of the President the so-called Watkins bill to restore U.S. citizenship to Nisei who lost their citizenship by voting in Japanese postwar elections during American occupation.

Author of the legislation, Sen. Arthur V. Watkins (R., Utah), called up the bill and after explaining the technical nature of the House amendment received unanimous approval of the Senate to concur in the House amendment.

The House amendment was to correct spelling of the word "plebiscite" in the bill as passed by the Senate earlier in the year.

The original bill was introduced last year at request of the Japanese American Citizens League.

The President is expected to sign the bill in law within the next ten legislative days, but Mike Masaoka, JACL representative, is making sure by calling on the White House to explain the bill and urge its signature.

It is estimated more than 2,000 Nisei stranded in Japan would benefit.

## 14 claimants due awards in special appropriation bill

Washington

A supplemental deficiency appropriations bill to pay \$74,795.88 to 14 claimants who have received their evacuation claims awards is now being considered by the House Appropriations Committee, announced Mike Masaoka, Washington Representative of the Japanese American Citizens League.

The appropriations would pay 14 evacuation claims awarded during April and May of this year by the Dep. of Justice. All of the awards in this group are in excess of \$2,500 each and were adjudicated under the original 1948 Japanese Evacuation Claims Act, which was sponsored by the JACL.

The awards will be paid under this proposed Supplemental Deficiency Appropriations Bill to the following:

George R. Takeuchi, \$3,010 for losses on business property and equipment.

Sakujiro Kawaguchi, \$9,047.85 for losses on crops and equipment.

Tadashi Kurima, \$4,889.28 for losses on crops and personal belongings.

Toyo Misumi, \$3,117.73 for losses on business property and equipment.

Fred M. Mizusawa, \$3,925.89 for losses on crops and equipment.

Takeo Nishinaka, \$6,100 for losses on business property.

Iku Kosugi, \$3,610.50 for losses on business and personal property.

Katsujiro Horiuchi, \$9,844.50 for losses on business and personal property.

Hideo Kino, \$5,038.65 for losses on strawberry farm.

Chusaku Abe, \$3,263.65 for losses on business and personal property.

Sakaye Iwai, \$3,236.32 for losses on business and personal property.

Nobuichi Isono, \$3,843.16 for losses on business and personal property.

Mrs. Chiyo Yohinara, \$5,983.50 for losses on business and personal property.

Jim M. Yasukawa, \$10,144.87 for losses on business and personal property.

The JACL will support this Supplemental Deficiency Appropriations Bill for enactment before the end of the current congressional session, despite the shortage of time remaining before Congress plans to adjourn, the Washington JACL Representative declared.

# Issei, Nisei yen debt claimants in U.S. deserve returns first



One of these three smiling lassies will be crowned Miss National JACL of 1954 this Sunday at the Pacific Southwest District pre-convention rally at Brookside Park. As Miss National JACL, she will be the official greeter for the 13th biennial National JACL Convention, Sept. 2-6, at the Hotel Statler, and be attended by the other two finalists. Preliminary

judging of seven chapter candidates was held Wednesday night aboard the APL President Wilson. Finalists are (left to right) Mary Enomoto of Southwest Los Angeles, Janet Okimoto of East Los Angeles, and Janet Fukuda of Orange County JACL.

—Photo by Robert Kishita.

## 'Miss JACL' crowning Sunday

Los Angeles

A decision which judges called "extremely difficult" was made aboard the luxurious APL President Wilson Wednesday evening as three finalists for the title of "Miss National JACL" were chosen from among seven candidates.

Selected in the final judging were Mary Enomoto of Southwest Los Angeles, Janet Fukuda of Orange County and Janet Okimoto of East Los Angeles.

The queen will be chosen this Sunday at the Pasadena residence of Consul General Shin-saku Hogen of Japan. She will be crowned in ceremonies at the PSWDC pre-convention rally at Brookside Park that same day. The queen and her two attendants will serve as official hostesses for the 13th Biennial National JACL Convention here Sept. 2-6.

The preliminary contest took place in the beautiful Marco

Polo Lounge of the deluxe ocean liner. Nearly 50 persons, including the candidates, their escorts and chapter representatives, judges, members of the press, entertainers, JACL officials and members of the queen committee were guests. Ronald DeLong, APL's general passenger agent, served as official host.

Judges were Kiyo Yamato, Mrs. Merijane Yokoe, Mrs. Sue Joe and Dr. and Mrs. Morse P. Manson, associate clinical professor in Psychology at the UCLA Medical School. Judging was based on general appearance, poise, personality and the ability to fulfill the role of official hostess of the convention.

Entertainment was provided by Janet Yamada and Mary Amano Minato, pianists, and Marlene Fujita, vocalist. After the judging, the group was escorted on a tour of the spacious ship.

Miss Enomoto of the Southwest Los Angeles Chapter is a recent graduate of Los Angeles State College and teaches home economics at Fremont High School. Miss Fukuda attends the Univ. of Southern California and has received many scholastic honors and is active in student affairs. Miss Okimoto is employed in the escrow department of the Bank of America.

Los Angeles

Janet Fukuda of Orange County JACL was the seventh and final candidate to be named for Miss National JACL. She is

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## Refugee Relief Act in operation for Japanese, 34 get entry visas

Washington

Thirty-four refugees from Japan have now received their visas to enter the United States under the Refugee Relief Act, reported Mike Masaoka.

Upon their arrival in the United States, employment and housing will be available for the refugees as provided by assurances made on their behalf by American citizens.

American citizens desiring to assist Japanese "refugees" who may be friends or relatives, or who are desired for employment in the United States, are required to complete assurance forms and provide housing and employment opportunities for the refugees.

'Red Tape'

Because of the administrative difficulties experienced in processing the assurance forms, Masaoka has been requested by several individuals and organizations to aid them in the processing of these assurance forms in Washington.

Through June 30, 107 sets of assurances for Japanese refugees have been received by the State Department here, officials administering the Act told Masaoka. Of this group, assurances were provided for 22 Japanese residing in Fukuoka, 32 in Kobe, 2 in Okinawa, 5 in Sapporo, 30 in Tokyo and 16 in Yokohama.

Washington

"Dollars were taken and dollars should be returned," declared Mike Masaoka, Washington Representative of the Japanese American Citizens League, during the hearings on the return of Japanese and German confiscated property before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee.

Referring to the so-called "yen debt claims", Masaoka pointed out that the 17,500 Issei and Nisei who had bank deposits in the pre-war Japanese banks in California, Washington and Oregon "are entitled to their pro-rata share of dollars that our Government vested from these same banks following the outbreak of war."

"We claim," he said, "that the dollars belonging to these pre-war Japanese banks in this country which were vested and are now in the custody of the Office of Alien Property should be returned to their depositors on a pro-rata share, rather than to foreign principals."

Affront to Citizens

"To authorize the return of such property to foreign principals is illegal and to force such yen debt claimants to pursue their rights through litigation is to affront our own citizens and resident aliens to their discredit and loss."

"To require domestic claimants to seek justice in the courts is to compel them to incur unnecessary expense—and shifts to them the burden of litigation that properly belongs to the foreign principal."

"It is our belief that it is fundamental in our system of Government that first consideration be given to our citizens."

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In addition, another 60 assurances for Japanese refugees have tentatively been approved and referred for investigation, the officials said.

Flood Victims Eligible

Under the Act, victims of floods, tornadoes, earthquakes and military operations in Japan, who are not resettled, may enter the United States after American citizens have provided the necessary assurances for them.

Three thousand refugees from Asia, including Japan, are eligible under the Act to enter the United States as non-quota immigrants.

While the expiration date of the law is in December, 1956, it is expected that the maximum allotment for Asia will be fulfilled before that date.

Quota Unaffected

The annual quota of 185 immigrants from Japan under the Immigration and Nationality Act is not affected by the operation of the Refugee Relief Act.

Masaoka expressed the belief that with administrative procedures streamlined out and with more personnel added to the department, the refugee program will be expedited.

"We are hopeful," he said, "that immigration from Japan under the Refugee Relief Act will be substantially increased by this winter."

## 10-month infant dies of choking from food

Watsonville

Death of 10-months-old Margaret Shikuma, July 9, was caused by asphyxiation, according to a report of a medical examination issued this week.

The reported indicated the infant had choked on formula which it had received a short time before. The child was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shikuma, 581 Roache Rd.



## ★ WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER ★

## Republican Boast

★ MIKE MASAOKA ★

When this Congress passed its last three appropriations bills on June 30, it accomplished the unusual feat of clearing all ten departmental appropriations bills for the White House before the close of the fiscal year, which ended that midnight.

It was the first year Congress had finished its fiscal job on time since 1948 when Republicans controlled the 80th Congress, a fact that GOP leaders in both the House and Senate were quick to spread on the record after the three money measures were speeded to the President for his signature.

It was also the second time in the last 20 years that the appropriations bills were cleared by Congress by the end of the fiscal government year, which begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. In the Democratic years, as the Republicans pointed out, it was always necessary to pass special resolutions authorizing the government to operate while the Congress deliberated on how much money was to be allocated to the various departments.

Only the foreign aid money and some supplemental requests are still to come, and the foreign aid money bill can't be acted upon until the authorization bill is approved first.

A final count shows that Congress appropriated \$42,668,315,103 in the ten bills to run the government during the 1955 fiscal year. This was only \$1,540,244,312 below the President's requests and some of this amount will be restored in later supplemental appropriations.

The more than \$42 billions appropriated is "new" money. Total spending will be considerably more than that, with some departments, particularly Defense, having unspent money left from prior appropriations.

More than half of the appropriated funds, \$28,800,000,000, was allocated to the Defense Department.

## ★ Ghost out of the past

When Congress last week authorized the President to raise 11 top World War II officers to the four-star rank of full general, a name that has haunted persons of Japanese ancestry in this country for more than a decade was once again mentioned in legislative chambers.

The name of Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt was among three-star generals of the recent great war to be given an added star. All of the officers are retired, three are dead.

Many of the names have special significance for persons of Japanese ancestry, since many Nisei GIs fought under their command, but none have more than the former Western Defense Command commander who, in the spring of 1942, ordered the evacuation of all persons of Japanese ancestry from their homes in California and western sections of Washington, Oregon, and Arizona. He told Congress that "a Jap's a Jap, and the fact that he may be an American citizen makes no difference."

The three, who were promoted posthumously, are Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, former commander of the Seventh Army to which the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was attached while in France; Lt. Gen. Simon B. Buckner, Jr., former commander of the Tenth Army in which many Nisei G-2 troops served; and Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, former Army Ground Forces commander.

Retired officers on the promotion list include Lt. Gen. Lucian Truscott, Jr., former commander of the Fifth Army to which the 442nd was attached during its final campaigns in Italy; Lt. Gen. Robert C. Richardson, former commanding general of the Pacific Area with Headquarters in Honolulu; Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger, former Eighth Army commander who had many Nisei under him, particularly during the Occupation in Japan;

Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, former Army Ground Forces commander; Lt. Gen. Robert T. Gerow, former 15th Army commander; Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, former aide to Gen. MacArthur; and Lt. Gen. DeWitt.

## ★ Bureaucratic sabotage of law

When the State Department recently refused a Miss Universe candidate Rika Dialina of Greece, on the grounds that at one time she illustrated a book for a communist, most newspapers headlined another alleged "outrageous" example of the "foolish" and unreasonable restrictiveness of the so-called McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952.

Members of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization, long the victims of such newspaper vilifications, dispatched "hot" telegrams to both the Secretary of State and the Attorney protesting their arbitrary and capricious action.

Rep. Francis E. Walter (D., Pa.), one of the co-authors of the 1952 codification, declared that this is another instance of bureaucratic sabotage of the law to try to force its modification by making it look "silly." He points out that the State Department and the Immigration and Naturalization Service can make exceptions by using the discretionary authority authorized by the law and in fact did so recently when a team of Russian chess players were admitted into the country without any difficulty. Without doubt, all of the Russians were communists, too.

This "Greek beauty case" is just another in a long line of newspaper attacks which have tried to discredit the McCarran-Walter Act and to force drastic revision or repeal. And, it is not difficult to recall many other sensationalized features regarding famous personalities who were denied entry, or long-time residents who are subject to deportation because of the "infamous" McCarran-Walter Act. Charges against the law are so worded that it would appear that the 1952 law established and created every ground for exclusion and deportation.

The truth of the matter is that, almost without exception, every exclusion and deportation case thus far headlined in the press could have been excluded or deported under previous immigration and security laws going as far back as 1917.

And, as members of the Subcommittee rightfully claim, many of these cases need never have been brought up if the administrative personnel had not decided against using authorized discretion to practice a measure of human kindness and decency.

The McCarran-Walter Act with all of its faults and all of its benefits was, after all, approved by more than two-thirds of both Houses of the Congress. It is not likely to be revised or amended or repealed by reckless charges or bureaucratic sabotage.

## GI marriages in Japan valid in Utah despite ban

Salt Lake City

Overseas marriages between Utah GIs and Japanese girls are valid in Utah despite the state's anti-miscegenation law, Atty. Gen. E. R. Callister advised the U.S. Army last week.

The judge advocate's staff is canvassing the various states to see if soldiers so situated will find themselves in legal difficulty when they come home.

Utah law specifically prohibits marriages between white persons and Negroes or Mongolians, but another statute provides that "marriages solemnized in any other country, state or territory, if valid where solemnized, are valid here," reported Asst. Atty. Gen. Earl S. Spafford.

While the latter section might afford no protection where an out-of-state marriage was obtained purely to get around the anti-miscegenation law, in the cases in question "we feel that such a marriage would be recognized as valid by the Utah courts," Spafford said.

## Marriage red tape unfurled by bill

Washington

A private bill introduced by Rep. Charles S. Gubser (R., [Gilroy], Calif.), is granting the Japanese bride, Sugako Nakai, of George O'Neill of Gilroy non-quota immigrant status. The bill is now on its way to the White House.

While serving in the armed forces in Japan, O'Neill married Miss Nakai, or thought he did. However, he failed to execute several necessary forms and the marriage was disowned by both the Japanese government and military. He was returned to this country before the marriage could be legalized.

Had the marriage been recognized, she would have been able to join her husband immediately. Because it was not, she was faced with the choice of sweating out the regular quota opening, an almost hopeless task, or praying for a miracle such as this special act of Congress.

## NISEI SEEKS SEAT IN ARIZONA LEGISLATURE

Mesa, Ariz.

Carl Sato, active community leader, has announced his candidacy for the state legislature from the Mesa-Lehigh district, subject to the Sept. 7 primaries, the Arizona JACL Newsletter reported this week.

## Statewide Exchange Club movement being planned

San Francisco

A statewide movement to have the 165 Exchange Clubs in California bolt from the national organization rather than follow the policy of excluding members of Chinese ancestry has been initiated by the Golden Gate Exchange Club here.

The chapter also voted to surrender its charter in defiance to national policy.

Discussion among 25 Northern California Exchange clubs is scheduled this Sunday at Oakland.

## Imperial Valley reunion

Los Angeles

Dr. Ken Yamaguchi of Pasadena is chairman of the sixth annual Imperial Valley Reunion picnic, Aug. 1, at Elysian Park Areas 11 and 15. Assisting him are:

Shig Imamura, m.c.; Ernest Fujimoto, treas.; Marvel Miyata, pub.; Misako Tanaka, sec.; Sachi Sasaki, Yaeko Nakashima, Mabel Ota, Henry Miyata, Hideko Okamura, Tokio Okamura, Mas Uyenno and Helen Kaita; Haruo Fujizawa, p.a.

Tokyo Topics . . . by Tamotsu Murayama  
Serious-minded Americans

(Tamotsu Murayama is making his first revisit of America in 16 years and will write of his impressions. He is attending summer training conferences with the Boy Scouts of America. —The Editor.)

New York

young age.

Today, Americans are seriously fighting Communism; the prominence of which cannot be imagined in Japan. People sitting in front of their television sets throughout the country watching the Army-McCarthy hearings can signify this intent.

Every American is very keen fighting the communist movement. He cannot understand why the Japanese government fails to do anything about the Red-controlled Japan Teachers Union, which is trying to indoctrinate the impressionable minds of young Japanese school children.

Patriotic Americans dislike the fantastic situation in Japan that permits Japanese teachers waving Red flags, staging sit-down strikes at the Education Ministry, and refusing to obey governmental orders.

## Land of Patriotism

In contrast, America inspires Americanism in its youth. America is a country of patriotism. Americans are more aware of citizenship and character-building projects. Thus, it is logical that special importance is placed on the Boy Scout movement here. This type of seriousness was personally never imagined while I was in Japan.

Today, the Boy Scouts of America has a membership of four million boys, aided by 900,000 adult volunteers and 2,800 professionals. There is an ambitious hope afoot to have at least 3,000 professionals engaged in this strenuous youth program.

President Eisenhower, as honorary president and advocate, is a strong point. It is envious (to me) to see so many serious-minded young men of America energetically participating in the Scouting program. Nothing is more noble than to assist in the character-molding of youth.

An anti-American Japanese would change his personal conviction after seeing how the Boy Scouts of America function. There is strong evidence of "know-how" shown in this project to show Americans how to serve God and country from a

## Still Infant in Japan

In prewar days, Japan was one of the "big four" in the scouting movement. Today, it is but an infant. Even the Republic of Korea is going to adopt a Boy Scout protection bill, similar to the congressional charter for the Boy Scouts of America.

The scout movement is also supported nationally by the Philippines, Nationalist China and other Asian countries. In Japan, it doesn't even receive support from Communist Chest.

One final observation in the way of comparison shows Americans doing their utmost to build up their younger generation while Japanese sit down and do nothing. Here in America, even the labor groups support the scouts. Japanese labor unions, on the other hand, would probably bring along a Red flag in place of the Rising Sun.

## WRITE-IN CANDIDATE WINS SCHOOL POSITION

Ft. Lupton

Mrs. Hiroto Uno was elected a member of the Roggen, Colo., school board, during the recent elections held in School Dist. 82, of Weld County. Mrs. Uno was elected treasurer for a three year term. The unusual aspect of her election was that she was a write-in candidate, and she is the first Nisei ever to be elected to office in the Roggen area.

Mrs. Uno has two children, a daughter, Sandra, who is in the third grade, and a son, Gordon, 2. Mrs. Uno and her husband are active members of the Ft. Lupton JACL. Mrs. Uno was a prewar resident of Sonoma County, Calif.

## Rising Sun flag

Tokyo

The Japanese flag with rays radiating from the center was resurrected last week as the emblem of her new "self-defense" forces, which also dropped its former title of "safety" forces. The rising sun emblem was used by the imperial military and naval forces previously.

Very Truly Yours . . . . by Harry Honda  
Briars for Milady

American Cancer Society's recent report on the effects on the death rate of smoking gave pipes and cigars almost a clean bill of health . . . (That's me—in the pipe and cigar-smoking clan) . . . Death from all causes among smokers of pipes or cigars or both was only 6 percent higher than non-smokers in the survey of 4,854 deaths of white men between the ages of 50 to 70 . . . Death from heart disease in this group was the same as for non-smokers and death from cancer was 32 percent above non-smokers.

For heavy cigarette smokers (pack a day or more), death from all causes was 75 percent above the figure for non-smokers; heart disease 95 percent above, cancer of all kinds 156 percent above and lung cancer 400 percent above . . . One might, then, expect there would be a definite swing among smokers from the cigarette to pipe or cigar . . . Dr. E. C. Hammond, the man in charge of the research, says he switched from three-packs-a-day cigarette consumption to a pipe . . . Pipe shops are having an increase in sale of pipes—even a petite, pink-stemmed one for milady . . . One class of medical students here

(after seeing how cancer can affect the lungs) quit cigarettes almost to the last man.

Several days later, the Associated Press had no evidence in their survey of tobacco wholesalers and retailers of a big rush for cigarette substitutes such as pipes, cigars snuff or chewing tobacco . . . The only notable switch was in the boost of filtered cigarette sales.

Nisei are rare among fashion or fad pioneers. Somewhat conservative, he prefers to be inconspicuous. Which means, if American womanhood returns to the earlier custom of pipe-smoking, we won't see our Nisei sisters chewing a pipe stem for quite sometime . . . Two generations ago, our grandmothers knocked their slender kiseru (Japanese pipe) against the hibachi . . . Probably one concession the Nisei girls who smoke might make would be long cigarette holders with a filter, but when they become avid pipe-smokers, my remaining puffing recluses would be with stogies . . . Yet, the power of advertising is such that women might chew cigar butt like the men in another 25 years. Cigarettes was once taboo among the ladies, y'know.

Come to Fabulous Los Angeles, Sept. 2-6



# Honolulu Newsletter

LAWRENCE NAKATSUKA

## 'Mental blocks' in the way . . .

How often have we met Nisei who have the makings of successful career men but who aren't getting ahead because of their own "mental blocks"?

I would guess that the number of such Nisei is far too many. I find them among many I meet—fellows who technically qualify for the jobs they hold, are punctual and neat, friendly and cooperative, reliable and responsible, and in general possess the traits required by their jobs.

But after a time, they slow down and finally come to a dead end. They reach their peak prematurely because they have failed to set their sights high enough. In effect, such persons have defeated themselves.

The truth, too often, is that the individual blames everyone else but himself for his lack of progress. He cannot see that he is his own worst enemy. He has created barriers in his mind—I call them mental blocks—that retard his growth, blur his vision, and deaden his imagination.

## Psychological handicaps . . .

There are several types of mental blocks. The type I have encountered most often among Nisei acquaintances is the mentality that is so concerned about the racial discrimination of the past that the person can't and won't break himself loose to do his best work today in preparation for a bigger job tomorrow.

Some Nisei have developed a psychological handicap for themselves by worrying too much about what has happened to others in the past. I do not mean to condone the job discrimination practiced against persons of Japanese ancestry before, in Hawaii and on the Mainland. History is too real to overlook such facts.

Neither am I suggesting that the day of race bias in employment is over for the Nisei, or that the Nisei ought not to be constantly vigilant in this connection.

What I am criticizing is the pre-occupation of those who bemoan injustices of the past but do not take full advantage of the opportunities of the present.

In some cases, a Nisei would blame imagined racial prejudice against his as an excuse for his being "held back" from making good in his job, when actually he does not possess the necessary qualities for heavier responsibilities.

A person of that mentality probably deserves no better breaks than he has received.

## Growing unemployment scare . . .

If he moves in a circle of friends who also think as he does, he is further handicapping himself. He is likely to end up as a perennial griper, unable to see his way clear to a brighter future as a result of his own mental blocks.

The growing rate of unemployment in Hawaii has focused community attention to the bleak prospects for employment for young people, among them many Nisei and Sansei. Broadening the base of the island economy, in order to create more jobs, is a difficult task for which there is no overnight panacea.

But for those who now hold jobs, who aspire to higher positions, the outlook is not much different than in the past; as a matter of fact, it is improving all the time, as racial discrimination in jobs diminishes, even among the more conservative employers.

For those with individual initiative, the horizon stretches far ahead. The same thing cannot be said for those who handicap themselves with mental blocks.

## Western Pioneer Insurance Company Declares First Dividend

The Company's first dividend of 50 cents per share is payable August 16, 1954 to holders of capital stock of record August 2, 1954,

Preston N. Ericksen,  
Secretary

Oakland, California  
July 16, 1954

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## IN HONOR OF

Elaine Takemori, Arizona JACLER, and recent Arizona State (Tempe) graduate, is leaving home in mid-August to accept a junior high school teaching post in Pomona, Calif.

Harry Kawagoe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Junjiro Kawagoe, Reedley, has attained the highest scholastic standing among sophomores at the U.C. School of Pharmacy and received the Bacon prize.

Marlene Hada of Long Beach was the first prize (\$25 bond) winner in the senior high division for her poster illustrating the motto "Speed Kills—Take It Easy". The 17-year-old girl is also a Nisei Week queen contestant.

Helen Haruko Tanaka, graduate of Macdonald College, is the first Japanese Canadian to teach in a Montreal public school.

Ruth Ota of Kurtis town, Hawaii, was the first Nisei to appear in the Denver Post's summer opera at Cheesman Park. She was among the 82-member chorus in Victor Herbert's "Rose of Algiers" operetta presented this week. She attended the Peabody Music Conservatory in 1949 after graduation from Denver's East High. She also holds master and bachelor degrees in music from the Univ. of Denver.

David Toguri, Canadian Nisei ballet dancer, was accorded favorable comment by Doris Hering, associate editor of Dance magazine, who reviewed the sixth Canadian Ballet Festival in Toronto recently.

## Japan Society grants for 29 students told

New York

Japan Society grants-in-aid are enabling 29 Japanese students to continue their studies in this country for another year, it was announced by John D. Rockefeller III, society president. Recipients were selected from approximately 300 candidates.

Among the 29 is Noritake Kobayashi, who will be Harvard Law School's first candidate from Japan for an LL.B. degree.

## Northwest Airlines add another tourist flight

St. Paul

Air tourist service between Seattle and Manila, with stops at Okinawa and Tokyo, has been doubled by Northwest Orient Airlines this week with an addition of another round-trip flight a week.

The new service was made possible by acquiring another DC-6B, making it five of this type in its fleet. Westbound, the new flight leaves Seattle every Thursday, 8:30 p.m.

✓ The Rev. Dai Kitagawa has been granted a year's leave of absence from duties as director of the Japanese American Center, Minneapolis, effective September. The Rev. Andrew Otani of Seattle was named acting director.

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PACIFIC CITIZEN  
July 16, 1954

## Canadian Nisei chess star chalks up win over Russian grand master

Toronto

Two Russian grand masters of chess took on 28 men each in simultaneous matches here July 6. Toronto players chalked up two wins and six draws against Igor Bondarevsky and Alexander Kotov.

Jack Tadashi Kagetsu, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eikichi Ka-

getsu, was a winner when Kotov yielded after 34 moves. Kagetsu suddenly reversed field, smashing into the expert's right flank and threatening his king. Caught off guard with his major pieces on the opposite side of the board, the Russian yielded.

It was Kotov's first defeat in the current tour.

Kagetsu, a graduate student in chemical engineering at the Univ. of Toronto, has been a three year college champion. Five years ago, he beat Max Euwe, former world chess champion. Earlier this year, Kagetsu defeated Sam Reshevsky, U.S. champion and top player in the western hemisphere. Both of these victories were gained in simultaneous matches.

## Amchick classes begin Aug. 3 at Lansdale

Lansdale, Pa.

New classes for the 1954 year begin Aug. 3 at the American Chick Sexing Association school, it was announced by S. John Nitta, general manager.

Young men and women, between 16 and 32, seeking admission need not be high school graduates and chick or farm knowledge background is not necessary. Veterans can learn under the GI Bill of Rights.

Other classes, lasting four months, are scheduled to begin Aug. 17, Aug. 31, Sept. 14 and Sept. 21. Applications for enrollment should be addressed to 200 Line St., Lansdale, Pa., as early as possible.

## \$1,000 burglary

Denver

Coming home from a weekend mountain trip recently, Dr. T. K. Kobayashi, 455 Forest St., reported to police that burglars ransacked their bedroom and carted off an \$80 safe containing \$1,000.

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## Chicago Corner . . . by Smoky Sakurada

### George Williams College camp

● Chicago JACLers and friends frolicked at the beautiful George Williams College (YMCA) camp over the Fourth of July weekend. Situated by beautiful Lake Geneva on 108 acres of wooded land, they played golf, visited the Univ. of Chicago hiking, etc. . . . TETS OKADA, Japan exchange student from To-Yerkes Observatory nearby, enjoyed swimming, row-boat, camp employee . . . High compliments were paid to JEAN SHIMASAKI and her committee. CHIYE TOMIHIRO and ABE HAGIWARA steered social activities at Brown Hall and HELEN MAYEDA led in group-singing . . . The observatory features a 40-inch telescope during visiting hours (1:30-3 p.m., Saturdays only, during summer).

● Another Americanization class was completed and 87 Issei were honored July 8 at Olivet Institute. GEORGE BOGERT of Citizens of Greater Chicago was main speaker. PAUL OTAKE and ALBERT KOGA presented diplomas. TAKAHARU NISHI made the response . . . Greetings were extended by JOHN YOSHINO, chapter 1st v.p., and TAHEI MATSUNAGA, Chicago Re-settlers. CORKY KAWASAKI was chairman; American Legion Nisei Post provided color guards and the Rev. ALVA TOMPKIN gave the invocation. KENJI NAKANE, Re-settlers Committee director, presented the class.

● City-Widers are planning a September installation of new officers:

MAS SORI, chmn.; SUEO SAKO, v-chmn.; JIM SUMITA, prog.; FRANK KAJIKAWA, social; MIYE ITO, spec. act.; WALLY TAMURA, treas.; and CHIYE KUROSE, sec.

● The Art Institute is featuring the Masterpieces of Religious Art until Aug. 31; and the Louvre has loaned Jean Francois Millet's "Angelus" and other renowned paintings in connection with the World Council of Churches Assembly to be held in Evanston, Aug. 15-31.

● Eleven Nisei graduated from Hyde Park High School recently were:

Robert Azuma, Donald Iwasaki Christine Ito, Joan Higashiuchi, Barbara Kimoto, Donald Kubose, Nancy Matsumoto, Frank Morimoto, Eileen Tanaka, Ted Nakagawa and Jim Wada.

● Among new CLers here is HARU ARITA, formerly of Florin, Calif., delegate-at-large on the Chicago cabinet. Employed as secretary for Belnap & Thompson, she is the sister of Mrs. SYLVIA SHIBATA, whose husband GEORGE (of Garland, Utah) is a lawyer; and of brother GEORGE, foreman for International Electric.

● The Rev. GEORGE AKI of Christ Congregational Church served as dean of the first junior high conference of the Illinois Congregational Christian Conference, July 7-14, at Sawyer, Mich.

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### MILE-HI MEMBERSHIP TO PASS 600 MARK

Denver

With the recent naturalization of 53 Issei, the Mile-Hi JACL chapter roll was expected to pass the 600 mark this past week.

Fumi Katagiri, chapter membership chairman, reported a total of 599 members as of July 10. Sam Matsumoto, chapter president, in the meantime, has publicly thanked solicitors for their efforts in amassing the largest chapter membership in Denver history. He also urged naturalized Issei citizens to join.

### Dirksen bill—

FROM PAGE 1

zens' interest, than to those of our legal resident aliens, before parties residing in another country, no matter how friendly, are presented with the benefits the rightfully belong to our own people," Masaoka pointed out.

#### Dirksen Bill

Sen. Everett M. Dirksen (R., Ill.), chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee, who had introduced a bill last year to dismiss the yen debt claims, informed Masaoka during the hearing:

"Last year when I introduced the Yen Debt Dismissal Bill, I had serious misgivings about the rights of our citizens and the legality of the bill.

"Under the circumstances at that time," the Senator said, "we knew of no administrative procedure" to handle the 17,500 yen debt claims.

#### Pro-rata Basis

Masaoka suggested to the Senator that the problem would be simplified if the "dollars that were vested from the pre-war Japanese banks in the United States, were simply returned to the depositors on a pro-rata basis."

The proposal submitted by Masaoka would eliminate the complicated problems of fluctuating exchange rates before and after World War II between the Japanese yen and the American dollar.

The dollars vested from the former Japanese banks in the United States would be returned on a pro-rata basis to the depositors without regard to foreign exchange rates.

Masaoka expressed the belief that this proposal might be the answer to the long debated problem on yen debt claims.

News letters Received: St. Louis, So. Alameda County, Arizona, Stockton, Richmond-El Cerrito.

## CHAPTER MEMO

**San Luis Valley JACL:** The annual chapter picnic was held last Sunday near the Conejos River, reported as very excellent fishing grounds this year by Roy Inouye, past chapter president.

**So. Alameda County JACL:** Fifteen graduates of the community were honored at the chapter graduation dinner June 25 co-chaired by Jane Yamachi and James Sekigahama. Graduates were:

Tad Sekigahama, San Jose State; Kazuko Tomita, June Shiraishi, Manabu Kuritsubo, Sadako Kurotori, Tosh Nakasaki, Alice Takizawa, Fred Umemoto, Wesley Doi, high school; Patti Masuda, Jane Kato, Tadao Hisaoka, Patricia Nomura, May Sekigahama, Hiro Kurotori, grammar school.

**Eden Township JACL:** The annual community-wide picnic tomorrow at Crow Canyon Park is the only fund-raising opportunity for the chapter. Shig Niede and Sho Yoshida are picnic co-chairmen, assisted by:

Sachi Niede, Miya Yoshida, races; George Minami, Tom Kitayama, tickets.

**St. Louis JACL:** A complete recheck and recompiling was necessary to enable publication of the new St. Louis Japanese directory. Distribution was made at the JACL picnic July 4 at Eden Seminary campus. On the directory committee were:

George Hasegawa, Michi Shingu, Fred Yamamoto, Harry Hayashi, Paul Maruyama, Rose Ogino, Herb Kadowaki and Skeets Hasegawa.

**San Francisco JACL:** An afternoon tea and fashion show has been scheduled Aug. 22, 2 p.m., at the Buchanan St. YM-YWCA as the first event for the recently organized chapter women's auxiliary. Mrs. Haru Dedani is temporary chairman. Others on the temporary committee are:

Mrs. Katherine Nunotani, v-chmn.; Sumi Utsumi, treas.; Margie Shigezumi, sec.; and Viola Nakano.

**Berkeley JACL:** Two Japanese movies will be shown at a benefit July 24, 8 p.m., at Longfellow School, Derby St. between Sacramento and California Sts. A samurai yarn, "Fight of the Flowers", and a story of an illegitimate child of an occupation soldier, "Yassa Mossa", are to be shown.

**Arizona JACL:** Sto Nakamura, membership chairman, recently reported chapter rolls include 118 with prospects of 50 more supporting members to be added . . . Shig Tanita, active CLer for the past decade and eligible for the JACL sapphire pin, was nominated for the award by the cabinet, Tom Kadomoto, chapter president, announced.

**Stockton JACL:** The chapter outing this Sunday will be held at Muir Beach, north of San Francisco by State Hwy. 1 . . . Yuki Shinoda and Louise Baba were appointed tentative official delegates to the National JACL convention.

## CALENDAR

July 17 (Saturday)  
STOCKTON: Muir Beach outing.  
LIVINGSTON-MERCED: Lake Yosemite outing, 3:30 p.m.

July 18 (Sunday)  
PCWDC: Pre-convention rally, Sec. E. Brookside Park, Pasadena; 10 a.m.

July 24 (Saturday)  
BERKELEY: Benefit movies, Longfellow School.  
TWIN CITIES: Barbecue party.

July 25 (Sunday)  
SEQUOIA: Chapter outing.  
SEATTLE: Picnic, Gaffney's Lake Wildness, 12 noon.  
OAKLAND: Weenie bake, Camp Padre, Tilden Reg. Park, 11 a.m.

July 29 (Thursday)  
SAN FRANCISCO: Issei citizens banquet, Mart Club, 1355 Market St., 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 1 (Sunday)  
NCWDC: Pre-convention rally, Monterey, San Carlos Hotel.

Aug. 7 (Saturday)  
CHICAGO: Weenie bake, Marquette Beach; meet at 3516 N. Sheffield, 2 p.m.

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## URGE PASSAGE OF DIRKSEN BILL TO RETURN VESTED PROPERTY

Washington

Testifying before the Dirksen Judiciary Subcommittee in the Senate, Mike Masaoka, Washington Representative of the Japanese American Citizens League, requested that all Japanese property confiscated during wartime be returned to their former owners.

Supporting the bill introduced by Sen. Everett M. Dirksen (R., Ill.), Masaoka declared that "the time has come to return this property, or its dollar equivalent, to their Japanese and German owners.

"Such a return is in keeping with traditional American concepts relating to the integrity of private property, with international law and usage, and with the strategic demands of our national self interest."

#### Alternate Suggested

Noting the many objections raised to return the confiscated property, the JACL spokesman suggested an alternate program to handle many hardship cases and initiate the program on a small scale.

"Should the technical and administrative difficulties make it impossible at this time to enact the necessary legislation, may we urge that a bill be introduced and approved by Congress to provide for the return of minor vested property," he said.

"This alternate legislation would demonstrate congressional intention to return all property in the near future by establishing a precedent for such action and would inaugurate that program on a small scale.

#### Include Alien Residents

"In addition to authorizing the return of property which an alien acquired by gift, trust, annuity, devise, bequest, inheritance, or as a beneficiary of any insurance policy from an American citizen or national, we would include resident aliens in the United States.

"We would also provide for the return of vested property in the form of small bank accounts, trusts, pensions, and insurance benefits of Japanese aliens who once resided in this country and, while here, estab-

lished such financial arrangements.

"If deemed appropriate, a limit of \$10,000 could be placed on the amount that might be returned to a single alien residing abroad."

#### Government Property

Masaoka also proposed that confiscated property belonging to the former Japanese Government be returned "to strengthen our foreign policy by demonstrating our regard for the existing democratic government of Japan."

Because it is impossible to distinguish between the many classes of war criminals—some having been pardoned, paroled or released, the confiscated property of so-called war criminals should also be returned, Masaoka said. "To lump all convicted war criminals together and to penalize all of them to the same extent certainly is not justice as we understand it," declared the JACL representative.

Debt claims, including yen debt claims should be honored by the government rather than requiring resident aliens and American citizens to press their claims against foreign property owners in the courts.

#### State Dept. in Favor

Though opposed by the Justice Department and endorsed by the State Department, the Judiciary Subcommittee initiated action last week to return the property confiscated by the Alien Property Custodian during and after World War II.

Masaoka's alternative program suggestion, given shortly after John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State, endorsed the principle of return, may have prompted newspaper reports that the Senate Judiciary Committee is considering the return of property only of the smaller owners, possibly with a limit up to \$25,000.

✓ The Rev. Isaac Inouye of Dinuba will attend the second Assembly of World Council of Churches at Evanston, Ill., next month, and serve as accredited editorial associate. He was recently naturalized a U.S. citizen.

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# 5-F Struggle

HARUO ISHIMARU

Perhaps anti-climatic, a hearing was conducted without drama for KAZUICHI TSUJI, who was denied U.S. citizenship because of his 5F classification during World War I, was sworn in as an American citizen on July 13 by Judge Louis E. Goodman. Representing the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service was Francis Boland, Designated Examiner. Representing Tsuji was one of his three attorneys, VICTOR S. ABE. KIYOSHI TOMIZAWA served as the court interpreter.

Although 5F cases are part of our past chronicle in the struggle to gain citizenship for Issei parents, it may be useful to review this important episode in Japanese American history.

After the passage of the McCarran-Walter Act for which the JACL worked so hard for the last seven years, a program to help Issei obtain citizenship was initiated by our chapters which started naturalization classes and made arrangements for group examinations. Despite apparent difficulties due to lack of personnel in the naturalization offices, the program was proceeding reasonably well.

Then came a tremendous blow which affected many Issei men. Because of a narrow and rigid interpretation of the law, the Naturalization Section ruled that Issei men who did not serve in the U.S. Army during World War I, because of the classification of the alienage (5F), would be forever denied citizenship. It was reported that as much as 80 percent of our Issei men might be affected.

To fight this adverse ruling of the Naturalization Section, the JACL worked for test cases; one in Denver affecting HARRY MATOBA, with MIN YASUI as attorney; and in San Francisco, with Tsuji, the Issei petitioner, and three Bay Area Nisei attorneys, VICTOR S. ABE, WAYNE KANEMOTO, MAS YONEMURA representing him. At both of the court hearings, EDWARD ENNIS, legal counsel for the Washington Office of the JACL, appeared to advise and assist the local attorneys.

The overwhelming victory for the Japanese Americans and JACL came as a result of the favorable decisions rendered by Judge Louis E. Goodman and Judge W. Lee Knous in Denver.

I believe that this significant decision was another milestone in the history of Japanese Americans. It was one of the rare cases where a decision of the Naturalization Service was challenged and overruled. Here was further evidence of the usefulness of the National organization working together in behalf of our Issei parents. And lest we forget, our indebtedness to our attorney friends, Min Yasui, Victor S. Abe, Wayne Kanemoto, Mas Yonemura and Edward J. Ennis, who can be depended on in our fight "for better Americans in a greater America."

★

## July 29 citizenship banquet

One of the most ambitious undertakings for the San Francisco Chapter, and perhaps for any single chapter in our national organization, will be the banquet to honor 300 new Issei citizens on July 29. San Francisco, with other Northern California chapters, have made a remarkable showing in the program for citizenship for the Issei.

It was here that the first naturalization class in Japanese was conducted through joint cooperation of the JACL and San Francisco Adult Education Department; the first group naturalization examination in Japanese was held here; the first swearing-in ceremony in Japanese was completed here; and here the crucial 5F decision, as reviewed this week, was rendered.

Now as a fitting climax to these activities about 300 San Francisco Issei will be honored. Heading the committee working on this monumental project is HATSURO AIZAWA, chairman. Assisting him as committee members are ALICE SHIGEZUMI, KATHERINE REYES, VIOLA NAKANO, ALYCE MATSUMOTO, SETSUKO ASANO, BEN OKADA, TAXY HIRONAKA and JACKSON HIROSE. Serving as advisors are KENJI KASAI, president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California; SHICHISABURO HIDEHIMA, chairman of the San Francisco JACL Issei Division; and yours truly. We look forward to a grand occasion.



## Thousand Club Notes

HAROLD GORDON, Nat'l Chairman

● **Phoenix:** Expectations of doubling the current 1000 Club membership in the Arizona JACL of 16 were included in the initial report from Ken Yoshioka, chapter 1000 Club chairman. To date are signed:  
Satoshi Tanita, John Tadano, Joe shioka, Tadashi Tadano, Masaji Tadano, Shig Tanita, Mutt Yama-Inoshita, George Kishiyama, Carl moto, Goji Iwakiri, Tsutomu Nakamoto, Z. Simpson Cox, John Sakatamura, William Kajikawa, Ken Yomoto and Roy Hoi.

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## 90 more Issei due for naturalization

San Francisco

Ninety more Issei are to be naturalized U.S. citizens next Monday, it was reported by the JACL regional office here.

The group represents those who were unable to be sworn in last June 21, because of limited seating in the two court rooms where ceremonies were conducted for 304 Issei.

## 53 Denver Issei naturalized citizens

Denver

Most of the Issei male applicants for naturalization, whose processing was delayed by the 5-F issue, are now cleared and further hearings and examinations were scheduled this week.

Fifty-three Issei took the final oath of allegiance to the United States of America as naturalized citizens July 6 before U.S. District Court Judge W. Lee Knous. New citizens are:

Philip Tsunoru Koshi, Frank Jiye-mon Kawakami, Samuel Senju Ishizaki, Ben Yotaro Takeshita, Roy Moroku Suyehiro, Fred Ichiro Kahara, Kantaro Kay Goto, Jujiro Yamaguchi, Tom Torakichi Saito, Jim Zenyemon Sato, Shigeo Miyazawa, Masayemon Terasaki, Kozaimon Harry Kato.

William Fumiyoshi Kuge, Jim Shinpei Nakasone, Jingo George Fujiwara, Mike Mansaku Fujii, Kichiei Harry Hiramawa, Tsutayo Higuchi, Kikujiro Hirazawa, Thomas Takeo Kasa, Yoshi Hirayama, Teiji Kasahara Urajiro Ishizaka, Tetsushi Kato, Tsuya Kimura.

Zensuke Kanegaye, Ikuji Kumagai, Shichirobei Kosuge, Katsumi Kusaka, Tokutaro Marumoto, Yasuzo Matsumura, Otchichi Murakami, Kenkichi Nakajima, Michiyo Nakano, Heijiro Nakano, Yao Nakamura, Zenjiro Nishimura.

Harry Takeo Osumi, Yoshiro Nakayama, Harry Masaichi Otsuki, Katsutaro Shibata, Takino Takamatsu, Arthur Fusakichi Takamine, Tasu Shomura, Mitsuo Tsuruda, Tome Ura, Roy Teruji Wanifuchi, Shigeo Yanaru, Florence Hatsuko Yanaru, Masawo Yoshiwara, Ben Kiichi Yoshida, Kohei Yoshida.

Ray S. Tani assisted the court in administering the oath, translating it in Japanese. Sam Y. Matsumoto, Mile-Hi JACL president, assisted in the final examination prior to the swearing-in ceremonies.

## 12 Issei Naturalized in Minneapolis

Minneapolis

Twelve Issei were sworn in as naturalized citizens June 9, the largest single group of Japanese to date. They were:

Y. Kitagawa, S. Endow, T. Hayano, J. Sumada, E. Yamazaki, T. Hirabayashi, M. Tsuchimochi, H. Hangai, K. Imagawa, Mr. and Mrs. J. Takata, Mrs. T. Omachi.

Portland, Ore.

Yashichiro Funatake and Kameichi Maehara of Portland were naturalized U.S. citizens last week before U.S. District Judge Claude McColloch.

San Luis Obispo

Ten Japanese were among new citizens naturalized June 18 here before Superior Court Judge Ray B. Lyons. The new citizens are:

Eiju Hayashi, Keisaku Furuwara, Hirokuni Fuchiwaki, Kanichi Kamitsuka, Shigechika Kobara, Kimi Kobara, Yoshio Kodani, Kanaru Nagano, Chiyota Obayashi and Ayako Saruwatari.

San Jose

Setsuko Sue Miyamoto, Los Gatos, was among 23 aliens granted citizenship June 24 before Superior Judge William F. James here.

## War brides picnic

Chicago

A thundershower forced a beach outing for 30 Cosmo club members and their husbands to a week-end party at the home of the Kenji Nakanos July 3. The war brides club is chaired by Mrs. Shizuka Kikuchi.

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## On to L.A.! . . . by Roy Nishikawa

## Beauty queens at Mixer

Dr. TORU IURA has a couple of the most eligible bachelors in Southern California assisting him on the mixer (Sept. 2). They are Dr. CHIBO SAKAGUCHI, valley dentist and new president of the San Fernando Chapter, and HERB MURAYAMA of Nisei Trading, one of the larger appliance dealers in Los Angeles.

It is said of one of these fellows (he shall remain mercifully anonymous) that "a queen contest could be run from among his ex-girl friends." Toru, after conferring with his fertile brain (Ph.D. from Caltech) came up with this profound statement: "If people really don't get mixed up at this hvar Mixer, they're just plain unsociablelike."

Those hostesses that Toru has lined up to help break the ice reads like a "Who's Who" among the beauty contest winners: BARBARA ABE, SUMI DOMOTO, JANET FUKUDA, JEANNE INOUE, FUDGE KIKUCHI, AMY MATSUMOTO, JANET YAMADA, JUDY SUGITA, MISAKO TANAKA and last but not least, SADAOKA KAWANAMI, who has been volunteering her duties in the regional office to relieve hardworking BLANCHE SHIOSAKI of some of the tremendous paper work involved in the convention.

Toru is also working on some special concoction—a unique convention drink of some sort, whose formula he is carefully guarding at the present time. As a member of the Hospitality and Reception Committee he has also lined up 22 fellows to help in that department, which is good news for out-of-town lady delegates.

## Hotel housing chores . . .

MARVEL MIYATA (we think she was well named by her parents) is the Housing Chairman under Registration Associate Chairman MABEL OTA. Marvel has already contacted all chapters in regards to hotel housing. Since the Convention Board had tentatively reserved 200 rooms as far back as December, 1952, delegates and boosters who apply early should have no difficulty in getting desirable rooms.

It will be recalled that one of the difficulties in San Francisco was securing rooms at the Convention Headquarters Hotel, the St. Francis. Incidentally, Mabel's Registration Committee is a model of efficiency and good planning. Her chief assistants besides Marvel are MARY WAKAMATSU, MIDORI NISHI and ANN SAKAUYE, registration; YAEKO NAKASHIMA, badges and tags; FRANCES WAKAMATSU, information; and MACK HAMAGUCHI, pre-registration. As convention time approaches, additional help will be recruited to handle the crowds.

## General arrangements & fine details . . .

One of the important committees often overlooked in the pre-convention publicity is the General Arrangements committee. The very nature of this committee makes its main function come into play during the convention itself. However, it has hundreds of fine details to worry about so we're glad that this committee is headed by TUT YATA, past PSWDC Chairman. His main assistants are ART ITO, MARY MIKURIYA, and GEORGE ISHIZUKA, floral committee; Dr. TOM WATANABE and DICK FUJIOKA, transportation; HIROKO KAWANAMI, posters and signs; AMY YAMAMOTO, tickets; and EDISON UNO, mimeographing. Here too, additional personnel will be recruited as convention time approaches.

## Convention tennis tournament . . .

TY SAITO is still ready, willing, able, and WAITING in regards to the Convention Tennis Tournament he has been planning. Since this item was included on the convention agenda on a conditional basis, if insufficient entries are received, Ty will cancel out the event.

KEN DY0 heaved a big sigh of relief as most of the Convention committee budgets finally came in. We sighed with him for our experiences on National JACL Budget and Finance has shown us how difficult this job is. In order to submit a budget, details in the program of any activity must be specified and pin-pointed.

So, the progress of the Budget and Finance committee is a good measure of the progress of the entire convention. That this is true was well demonstrated at our last convention board meeting. Nearly all committees now have detailed programs outlined. The gathering together of loose ends is about all that is needed.

Additional members of this committee not previously mentioned are SAM FURUTA, GRACE SATO, JOE YAMAMOTO and SHO IINO. Joe really made a name for himself by signing up over 150 members in the East Los Angeles chapter last year. Sam did the same thing this year. Sho is a Thousander and CPA, who will audit our books.

## Convention Honor Roll . . .

We are glad to see the recent flurry in chapters making the Convention Honor Roll for advanced registrations. SAN FRANCISCO is sending at least three capable delegates: JERRY ENOMOTO, current chapter president; KEI HORI, 1953 president; and Miss KAYE UYEDA, remembered for her activities during the 1952 convention. The MARYSVILLE Chapter is sending a husband and wife team, Mr. and Mrs. FRANK N. OKIMOTO as official delegates. The OAKLAND chapter will send PAUL T. NOMURA as its delegate.

TOM YEGO and GEORGE NISHITA, chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the NCWN District Council will officially represent that body. EMIKO WATANABE will be the official delegate from the OMAHA Chapter. SO. ALAMEDA COUNTY has also sent in an Advanced Registration, but no delegate was named.

In addition, we understand that National Board Secretary Mrs. ALICE KASAI and husband HENRY, will definitely come from SALT LAKE CITY. Thanks to all these good people for their cooperation. We are still looking for the first advanced registration from the East Coast and the Midwest.

## Pre-convention rallies . . .

We are looking forward to the July 18 Pacific Southwest Pre-Convention rally, which features a day at beautiful Brookside Park with lunch and barbecue provided by the host Pasadena Chapter under TOM ITO. We also look forward to Aug. 1, when we'll appear before the Northern California and Western Nevada Pre-Convention Rally in order to induce more Northerners to come South, Sept. 2-6.





Open division champions of the 1954 Nisei Relays are these 13 members of Nisei Trading. Kneeling are (left to right) Bob Setoguchi, Joe Iseri, Nori Morita, Bob Watanabe (holding the JACL championship trophy), Arnold Hagiwara (who presented trophy),

Lloyd Kinoshita. Standing are Coach Herb Murayama, Dick Iseri, Joe Maruyama, Roy Kunizawa, Tom Marumoto, Ichiro Hashimoto, Dick Yamato, Tom Yasuda, Frank Nakahama. —Photo Courtesy Shin Nichi Bei.

## Nisei Trading wins '54 Nisei Relays; 21-year-old half-mile record snapped by Kawamoto in 2m.4s.

Los Angeles  
Nisei Trading's track and field team won the third annual JACL Nisei Relays championship Sunday in a meet that was undecided until the 880-yd. relay event late in the afternoon at Rancho Cienega stadium. Nisei A.C. and the Lords, which figured in the tight three-way affair, tallied 87 points each to tie; Nisei Trading

had 102.

A dropped baton on the first pass cost the favored Lords quartet the 880-yard relay vicaged to close up a big lead by the last lap.

Outstanding performance of the day, however, was turned in by Henry Kawamoto of the tory. Nevertheless they man- three-way affair, tallied 87 points each to tie; Nisei Trading

half mile run of 2m.7.8s. set back in 1933 by T. Fujimoto of Venice—in 2m.4s. It was the Garfield prepster's best mark for the distance.

Franklin Chong of Nisei A.C. won four gold medals as top scorer for the day with victories in the broadjump, hop-step-jump, shotput and 440. Jimi Abe of the same club scored a double in the low and high hurdles after favorite Joe Iseri had injured himself hitting a hurdle in the heats.

Bob Watanabe, meet chairman, of Nisei Trading won the 100 and 220 despite his ailing leg.

The Hobos won the junior division title handily. The four-man team of Bob Kameoka, Tom Iwasaki, Mas Tokiyama and Ray Ogawa hatched new marks in the 440 and 660-yd. relay. Bobby Setoguchi tied his brother Eddie's mark of 5.8s. in the junior 50 dash. Tak Watanabe clipped .6s. off the 660-yd. run record, winning in 1m.42s.

The complete summaries:

### OPEN DIVISION

100—Won by Bob Watanabe (NT), George Sasaki (L), Joe Maruyama (NT), Tom Uyeda (L), 10.3s.

220—Won by Bob Watanabe (NT), George Sasaki (L), Tom Uyeda (L), Karl Kato (L), 23s.

440—Won by Franklin Chong (NAC), tie Ben Kuwata (NAC) and Kinji Kataoka (L), J. Okura (L), 53.9s.

880—Won by Henri Kawamoto (L), Roy Kunizawa (NT), Ken Ando (NT), Jack Okura (L), 2m.04s. (Old record: 2m.7.8s. by T. Fujimoto, Venice, 1933.)

1 mile—Won by Henri Kawamoto (L), Tak Watanabe (H), Roy Kunizawa (NT), Toshio Watanabe (L), 4m.56.3s.

70 highs—Won by Jimi Abe (NAC), Hideo Iwai (NAC), David Yamada (CR), Dick Yamato (NT), 9.3s. (Old record: 9.5s., same man, 1953.)

120 lows—Won by Jimi Abe (NAC), Joe Iseri (NT), Dick Yamato (NT), Hideo Iwai (NAC), 13.9s.

Broadjump—Won by Franklin Chong (NAC), Kinji Kataoka (L), Dick Iseri (NT), Tom Marumoto (NT), 21 ft.

Shotput—Won by Franklin Chong (NAC), Tom Yasuda (NT), Lloyd Kinoshita (NT), Dave Taira (NAC), 46ft.2in.

Highjump—Won by Art Tsutsui (NAC), Joe Iseri (NT), Kei Nomura (L), Ichiro Hashimoto (NT), 5ft.7.4in.

Hop-step-jump—Won by Franklin Chong (NAC), Bebe Kataoka (un), Joe Iseri (NT), Norio Morita (NT), 41ft.11.1in.

440 relay—Won by Lords, Nisei Trading, Nisei A.C., 45.1s.

880 relay—Won by Nisei Trading, Lords, 1m.38.7s.

### JUNIOR DIVISION

50—Won by Bob Setoguchi (NT), Yukio Kitagawa (Con), Tom Iwasaki (H), Tad Fujiwara (H), 5.8s. (Ties record: Eddie Setoguchi, Lucky Doks, 1952.)

100—Won by Bob Kameoka (H), Ronald Sakai (NT), Tom Iwasaki (H), Ray Ogawa (H), 10.9s.

660—Won by Tak Watanabe (H), H. Nomura (Con), Reynold Kimura (H), Beebe Kataoka (un), 1m.42s.

### Empire Games swimmer

#### Vancouver, B.C.

A slender Montreal McGill university student, Lloyd Kinoshita, scored a pair of victories in the 110-yd. breaststroke and 110-yd. butterfly here at Empire Pool recently. His performances will be considered for a Canadian team invitation in the British Empire games.

## Cops Tops

TATS KUSHIDA

"Law Enforcement and Minorities in Los Angeles" was the subject of a discussion at the human relations workshop now being conducted at Loyola University under Father Albert S. Foley, S.J., Ph.D.

As a member of the panel of discussants, we were surrounded by law enforcement officials under pleasant circumstances.

While nationally circulated magazines have written panegyrics about the L.A. police department, we were impressed at first hand with the awareness of the department's minority relations and the special training in human relations given to police recruits.

The Japanese have never presented a crime problem in this city although an increase in crime and delinquency has been noted in postwar years, dramatized by alarmists, but still considered a relatively good record. "The Japanese Americans in approaching the crime rate norm is becoming more Americanized" is a frequent comment we hear.

Incidentally, Officer STANLEY UNO is the only Nisei member of the city's vast police force. He is well liked and respected officer that all Nisei can proudly consider as their representative in the arm of the law. Our good JACLER, JOE WAKAMATSU, who teaches at Gompers Jr. High is enrolled in this workshop. Loyola U., a Catholic school, is, incidentally, the Alma Mater of our PC editor. It's a real cool school, literally, being located on a high bluff that catches the sea breezes from Mar Vista while the rest of the city swelters in smoggy heat.

### Elks and kimonos

Our friend, Ellis Gordon, who is district traffic manager for Bekins involved us in the huge Elks international convention just held here. He wanted to promote interest in the Nisei, Li'l Tokio and Japanese businesses. How else than to get several girls dressed in kimonos to pack souvenir California gift baskets for some 1,500 Exalted Rulers? We were happy to oblige, and happier yet to see publicity in metropolitan dailies. The Japanese C of C also gave a hand in lining up the lovelies.

### Track meet precision hailed

Last Sunday's JACL third annual Nisei Relays held at Rancho Cienega came off nicely with everything running like clockwork, thanks to the wonderful support of so many clubs and an efficient committee. The WLA Atomettes were attractive usherettes. The Town Hubbers were all over the field officiating. A dozen strong from the Optimists, who also contributed all trophies and medals in the Junior division, lent valuable help. A score of other contributors added to the financial success of the meet.

Special credit should be given a young boys' club called the Constituents, who pitched in from dawn to dusk in preparing the field; lining up hurdles and running a million chores to keep things on schedule. MACK HAMAGUCHI, who directed their efforts, reports that the Constituents have three groups by age. The seniors are HIDEO ASATO, SHIG ISHIBASHI, CURTIS LEE, MORRIS NISHIDA, HAROLD OHYE, and ALBERT TAI-RA. The juniors have KENNETH CROSSWHITE, KENJI IWA-SHINO, KENNY NISHIOKA, KEIJI TAKAGOSHI, HIROSHI TOKUDOMI, and BOBBY WILLIAMS. The Babes include JIMMY EGO, KENNETH HIGA, GEORGE IMAI, KEN KATO, WALLY KIDO, KID OGATA, EDDIE OHYE, ALLEN MIZU-HARA, TAK SUDO, ROY and TOMMY TAKENAKA and TAKASHI TOKUDOMI.

### Passing the bar

Hatless exposure to four hours of Ellay sun gave us a boiled lobster complexion which led some to believe we had recently become a member of the bar. We admit, however, that following the track meet, at which some new records were established (see sports news), we trekked over to TY SAITO's open house at his new offices, where we were instilled with the fine spirit of the occasion.



Realtor John Ty Saito's newly enlarged office was opened this week at 2421 W. Jefferson Blvd. in southwest Los Angeles. The \$10,000 addition was designed by Mits Nozaki. —Toyo Miyatake Photo.

(Old record: 1m.42.6s. by Allen Morimoto, 1953.)

120 lows—Won by David Yamada (CR), Bob Kameoka (H), Ray Ogawa (H), Mas Tokiyama (H), 14.4s.

Broadjump—Won by Bob Kameoka (H), John Itagaki (H), David Yamada (CR), Raymond Urata (H), 18ft.6in.

Shotput—Won by Yoshito Yoshimura (H), G. Kubota (Con), Raymond Urata (H), Hiroshi Nomura (Con), 44ft.9in.

Highjump—Won by Yukio Kitagawa (Con), Hiroshi Nomura (Con), tie Eugene Honbo (NT), and K. Sakata (Con), 5ft.3.4in. (New event.)

440 relay—Won by Hobos, Constituents, Flying Stars, 47.5s. (Old record: 48.4s., Shamrocks, 1953.)

660 relay—Won by Hobos, Constituents, 1m.44.5s. (Old record: 1m. 15s., Lords, 1953.)

### Pocatello CL keg

As proof to the able leadership shown in the season just concluded, the Pocatello JACL Bowling League renominated the cabinet intact for the coming year. Officers are:

Guy Yamashita, pres.; Ace Morimoto, v.p.; Bill Yamauchi, sec-treas.

The season summaries (scratch):

HG—Ken Maruji 278; HS—Joe Badger 647; HAV—Eddie Allen 181; HTG—American Lube 961; HTS—Dyer Implement 2627.



# Larry Tajiri--

Continued from Back Page

seat which he designed in 1944 and sold for \$40—each week. George has helpers now, full time assistants as well as a shop nearby with heavy equipment which does the rough preliminary cutting and shaping of the wood, but he still works an average of 45 minutes himself on each of his chairs.

House & Home emphasized that Nakashima has not renounced the machine, in fact he is proud of the amount of preliminary work which can be done mechanically. "But it is the final hand shaving which brings out the grain and feel, and proportions them to Nakashima's satisfaction. He thus remains master of the machine, not becoming a mechanic, and

demonstrates that a craftsman still can exist in today's complicated world of marketing and distribution by making things and selling them directly to the user. He can if he is good enough, and tough enough to last out the introductory famine and create a market. Nakashima is tough. And with his toughness is a resiliency which used to be described as restlessness 20 years ago. A friend of his at that time says, 'he was good humored and pleasant, a bright Japanese kid with thick glasses. But he wasn't satisfied with textbook brilliance. He wanted integrity.'"

George Nakashima, architect and craftsman, has found the integrity for which he searched the world. In doing so, he has added a new dimension to American furniture design in the simple, beautiful chairs, tables, desks and chests which he produces in his shop in Pennsylvania's Bucks County.



Nine candidates bidding for popularity votes in the Los Angeles Nisei Week queen contest make their first public appearance at the YBA Obon Carnival grounds. Standing are (left to right) Evelyn Yamato,

Florence Ochi, Tomiko Baba, Takako Yamada, Cheri Iwata; sitting, Patsy Akiyama, Marlene Hada, June Aochi and Toshiko Oda.

—Photo Courtesy Shin Nichi Bel.

## L.A. Newsletter . . . . . by Henry Mori

### Nisei Week queen race starts

Ten girls will run in the 14th annual Nisei Week Festival queen contest with public voting for the five finalists ending the night of Aug. 10. The selection of the queen and her court will be made on Aug. 13 but her identity will not be known until the Coronation Ball, Aug. 15, at the Hollywood Palladium.

If it were a political election, similarity in names may cause some confusion. Take for instance: Yamato and Yamada, Oda and Hada, and Aochi and Ochi.

But the public will know who's who by the campaign posters now gracing the shop windows of many Li'l Tokio merchants. Here are the 10 aspirants:

Tomiko Baba, Evelyn Yamato, Michi Masukawa, Florence Ochi, Toshiko Oda, Takako Yamada, Patsy K. Akiyama, June Aochi, Marlene Masami Hada, and Cheri Mieke Iwata.

We'll know more about the candidates when the five are picked, and they meet the press. It would not even be wise to venture into any predictions since the choice will be dependent on how much support each girl can get during her campaign rather than on how pretty she may look.

Gardena nurseryman, Henry Ishida, whose business is at 16420 So. Avalon, this week was appointed to the Board of Governors of the Dept. of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens of the Los Angeles County.

The announcement came from Supervisor Kenneth Hahn who made the appointment. "I am confident that Mr. Ishida, with his outstanding background and distinguished career as a civic leader, will serve the county well," he said.

Ishida, a member of the Calif. Association of Nurserymen, was formerly president of the Bedding Plant Division of the association.

The Univ. of Calif. at Davis graduate is chairman of the Bedding Plant Advisory Board, Bureau of Markets, for the State Dept. of Agriculture. He is past president of the Gardena Valley chapter of the JACL.

The name of Dr. Galen Fisher, whose wartime assistance to persons of Japanese ancestry is well recalled, is again brought to fore with a local announcement that a campaign to raise \$10,000 for the reconstruction of the Nagoya YMCA Bldg. has been started.

By month's end, approximately 6000 letters in appeal for contributions will have been mailed out. The clerical work is being handled by volunteer members of the Club Service Bureau, an affiliate of the So. Calif. JACL regional office.

Treasurers in the Fisher Fund Drive are Sennemon Tsunekawa and Dr. John Misao Yamazaki; the auditors are Saburo Kido and Fred Wada.

Dr. Fisher, director of the Pacific School of Religion at Berkeley will depart for Japan when funds are raised to re-establish the YMCA site which was flattened by the bombs in the last war.

Nippon's "Miss Universe" entry at the annual Long Beach contest will be a typical Japanese girl brought up in modesty and refreshing innocence, writes Sam Ishikawa, ex-JACL regional director, now with the Jiji Press in Tokyo.

Candidate Miyeko Kondo, to Ishikawa's estimation, won't set the judges on fire with her sex appeal or with her outstanding beauty on the same level with last year's third place winner, Kinuko Ito, but will attract enough attention from her audiences to win friends.

Japan doesn't intend to place high in the 1954 competition, Ishikawa pointed out. That's the reason Japan Air Lines queen Yoshiko Harada gave up her priority and stayed home.

## Mt. Hermon camp has record crowd

San Francisco  
Some 350 delegates from Hawaii, Canada, Texas, Michigan, Washington and California worked and worshipped together at the fifth annual Nisei Christian Conference encampment at Mt. Hermon June 28-July 4, according to the Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society.

The Rev. Hideo Aoki, keynote speaker, stressed the absolute necessity of a "dynamized Christianity". Theoretical or hearsay religion is not sufficient for our day, he said.

George Togasaki, Nippon Times president, participated as one of the morning chapel speakers.

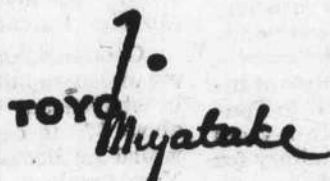
Francis Nihei heads the Cleveland Nisei Bowling League, which will reshuffle its teams to balance competition.

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PACIFIC CITIZEN  
July 16, 1954

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

FUKUHARA—June 18, a girl to the Francis Fukuharas, Seattle.  
FURUKAWA—June 12, a girl to the Mitsuo Furukawas, Grand Junction, Colo.  
HAYASHI—June 8, a girl to the Minoru Hayashis, Sacramento.  
TANGE—May 8, a girl to the Shuso Tanges, Sanger.

### Engagements

WADA-NIYA—Grace to Theodore Hideo, both of Los Angeles.  
MEGURO-HIRATA—Mickey to William "Shorty", both of Los Angeles.

### Weddings

FUKUSHIMA-AKIYOSHI—June 27, Lt. Takeshi, Venice, and Teiko, Los Angeles.  
HIROTO-MURAKAMI—June 27, William Teruji, Riverside, and Margaret Teruji, Compton.  
IWASAKI-OSHIKATA—June 26, Shigetoshi, Los Angeles, and Kazuko, Hilo.  
KONISHI-HONJI—June 26, Donald Yukio and Toshiko, both of Los Angeles.

MARUYAMA-KUWATANI—June 20, Sam, San Lorenzo, and Kikuko, Monterey.  
MATSUO-HASHIMOTO—June 27, Shigeru and Fujie, both of Los Angeles.  
MATSUONO-NAKAMURA—June 27, Raymond and Barbara, both of Los Angeles.  
MIYAMOTO-TAKARA—Herbert and Ritsuko Rori, both of Los Angeles at Las Vegas.  
MOTOYASU-OTAKE—June 27, Michio, San Fernando, and Naomi, North Hollywood.  
SHIMABUKURO-ISA—June 26, Ki-yoshi and Nobuko, both of Los Angeles.  
TOYOFUKU-SURUKI—June 27, Masanori, Torrance, and Ikiko, Los Angeles.  
SHINTO-CAUDILLO—June 26, Takaki and Mary Ann, both of Los Angeles.  
STARKEY-NAGATOMI—June 20, Leland Delosse, Glendale, and Hideo, Gardena.  
TERAOKA-NAKAGAWA—June 26, Masagi, Fowler, and Sachiye, Bowles.  
TOSAYA-GORAI—June 27, Tom and Mabel, both of Los Angeles.  
UMEDA-KAWASAKI—June 27, Ben Tsutomu, Selma, and Yoko, Visalia.  
YAGUCHI-UTSUMI—June 20, John and Eiko Margaret, both of Los Angeles.

### Deaths

AKAGI, Takeo, 44: Berkeley, July 2, survived by wife Mary T., son Bruce, brothers Toshio, Shigeru, sister Mrs. Kurato Eimoto and uncle Gisaku Akagi.  
FUKUSHIMA, Hajime, 37: Dinuba, July 1, survived by wife Haruko, son Kazuharu, daughters Kazue, Masaye, Keiko and mother Mrs. Kame Fukushima.  
NAKAMURA, Shigetaro, 86: West Los Angeles, June 28, survived by sons Gentaro, Meiji and daughter Mrs. Kimie Higashi.  
TAENAKA, Tamesaburo, 72: Los Angeles July 2 survived by wife Kamiye son Toshikuni four daughters Yaeko Chiyoko Mrs. Haruko Nakamoto Mrs. Sakiko Chang, daughter-in-law Aiko.  
WADA Seigoro 76: Los Angeles, June 29, survived by daughter Takayo.  
WADA, Bunyemon, 65: Pasadena, June 25, survived by wife Kimiye, three sons Roy Fumio, George Mitsuhiko, Richard, daughters Florence Kikumi and Mrs. Mary Hatsuko Yoshioka.

## Convention queen -

FROM PAGE 1

the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Fukuda, Anaheim.

The 19-year-old coed at Univ. of Southern California, majoring in dental hygiene, has the distinction of being the first Nisei to be elected to a student body office on the Trojan campus, that of vice-president of the Associated Women Students.

She is 5 ft. 2 in., weighs 110 lbs., and last year reigned as Calif. Intercollegiate Nisei Organization queen.

### Canadian actor

Tokyo

Vancouver (B.C.)-born Sally Nakamura, baritone and "tough guy" actor on the screen, is studying Italian in preparation for his three-months' stay in Italy in mid-August. He revealed plans for a joint Japanese-Italian filming of "Madame Butterfly" and the prospect of playing the role of villainous Duke Amadori.

### Poston High reunion

Los Angeles

Poston High's 1944 graduating class holds its 10th anniversary reunion this Sunday, July 17, at Scully's Restaurant, 48th and Crenshaw. Edwin Hiroto (MU 9041) is taking reservations.



One of the largest selections in Los Angeles

East: 2435 E. 1st St. AN 9-2117  
West: 2421 W. Jefferson RE 1-2121  
John Ty Saito Tek Takasugi  
Chick H. Furuya — Salem Yagawa  
William Y. Hahn—Mack Hamaguchi



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## EDITORIALS

## Dollar for Dollar

"Pots and pan" evacuation claims for Japanese Americans are all settled after the Japanese American Citizens League first had the original law passed in 1948. The manner in which the awards were being made the first year hinted the whole program would take years to complete.

Then the JACL proposed the compromise amendment and over \$25,000,000 in small claims were settled inside of five years. Now, the JACL is proposing in the Hillings Amendment that claims over \$2,500 be privileged for compromise.

These are the valuable lessons and experiences the JACL has gained in the past decade and a half.

This past week, JACL's Washington representative told senators at a subcommittee hearing that 17,500 Issei and Nisei who had deposits in pre-war Japanese banks on the west coast had their holdings confiscated by the government at the outbreak of war.

Because of the administrative jam in handling 17,500 "yen debt" claims, Senator Dirksen felt circumstances would permit dismissal of these claims to alleviate the problem. In the interest of good government, JACL objected. The government should return all Japanese confiscated property.

Dollars were taken and dollars should be returned—on a pro-rata basis without regard to foreign exchange rates, if possible.

As pointed out at the hearing, "such a return is in keeping with traditional American concepts relating to the integrity of private property, with international law and usage, and with the strategic demands of our national self-interest."

To show good intent, JACL suggested that the government, at least, should consider hardship cases and initiate the program on a small scale.

This step, we feel, is in the right direction to the answer of the long-debated "yen debt" claims problem.

Now that the suggestion has been made to facilitate "yen debt" claims, many would agree it workable and well-intentioned. The Issei and Nisei involved are heartened.

How foolish now the stray thought that National JACL has fulfilled its greatest mission! JACL's past experiences and victories are but one prime reason to insure a greater America for all Americans.

## From the Frying Pan . . .

## Specs Improve Looks

by Bill Hosokawa

Our Mike got the news the other day that henceforth he must wear glasses. Although he resisted going to have his eyes tested, he must have sensed for some time that the world about him was growing increasingly fuzzier, which is the way it looks to the near-sighted.

He resisted because no youngster wants to wear glasses. They're a symbol of weakness and a crutch of sorts, even though more people seem to need them nowadays than ever before. Increasing numbers of youngsters seem to be wearing them, too, so that one doesn't hear jibes about "four-eyes" so much any more.

But I think the main reason that Mike didn't want to admit, even to himself, that his eyes were weakening was a desire to fly someday. He hoped to become a navy pilot, and now that vague dream seems to be squashed for fliers must have superior vision.

If heredity has anything to do with eyesight deficiencies, Mike could have expected to wear glasses at an early age. Both his parents have been using lenses for a good many years. I first noticed my eye weakening when I was in the eighth grade. One day I realized I couldn't see what was written on the blackboard without getting up close to it. With heavy heart—it was vanity that bothered me more than any ambition linked with perfect sight—I went to have my eyes examined. A few days later I was wearing a pair of black-rimmed spectacles and rediscovering how sharp, clear and well-defined the world around me was.

Even though I could see so much better with glasses, I hated their use. On the playground I insisted on taking them off, placing them in a case and carrying it in a hip pocket. Almost every time I wrestled or fell down, which was often, I'd bend the case enough to crack the lens. Of course it had to be re-

placed, and that was costly indeed. In time a combination of parental pressure, a realization that I needed the glasses, and diminishing vanity kept the glasses on my face where they belonged. There they've been ever since; I find it's more convenient to be able to see.

A quarter century ago eyeglass frames were fragile and delicate things. A slight bump was all that one needed to knock them askew, and almost everyone went around wearing them at awkward angles. Spec frames nowadays are much more rugged, albeit victim to an insidious influence known as fashion. You can be as out of style with your glasses as with clothes, hair-do or automobiles. I'm glad, though, that science has made shatter-proof lenses available. Despite the higher initial cost, they should hold down the upkeep on Mike's pair.

Mike's optometrist is a strong advocate of contact lenses. He suggested that if Mike is going to be playing a lot of football and basketball a little later on, he might want to be fitted with contact lenses—at a very fancy price, no doubt. The optometrist suggested, too, that possibly contact lenses would be acceptable for military fliers in the not distant future.

Although it's not particularly well known, one of the country's better known authorities on contact lenses is a Nisei, Dr. Newton Wesley, of Chicago. Dr. Wesley, born Uyesugi, grew up in Portland, Ore., and practiced optometry there before the evacuation. He's widely in demand for lectures before optometric groups on contact lenses and their application.

But getting back to Mike, I rather suspect he's happy to have his specs now despite the vigor with which he opposed them. The visibility has improved so much, he can't help but notice the improvement.

## Vagaries . . .

## Modern Furniture Designer

by Larry Tajiri

In search for individual dignity and professional integrity George Nakashima has followed his private star from Portland, Ore., to Boston, Paris, New York, Tokyo, Pondicherry—a French colonial city in India—and finally to Bucks County, Pa., after a short stay in the Minidoka relocation center in Idaho.

Today, established with a national reputation as a designer of modern furniture, Nakashima has the additional distinction of having successfully changed careers in midlife. Now in his 40's, he was an architect with a burgeoning reputation when he returned from Tokyo in 1939 with his fiancée (Marion Okajima of Seattle who was teaching English in Japan). Dissatisfied with the trend of architectural design ("The architects were over-specialized and knew nothing about buildings, like cooks who draw pictures of cakes but can't make the batter themselves"), Nakashima turned to constructing furniture—building houses was beyond his financial means. Just before Pearl Harbor a California magazine published pictures of some of Nakashima's designs and he was launched on a new career.

The George Nakashima story is pretty well known now—at least among the professionals in building and design. *House & Home*, the monthly magazine of building published by Time Inc. gave ten full pages to Nakashima, his family, his home and his furniture some two years back, illustrating the article with more than 30 photographs and drawings. That article told of Nakashima's background—the story of a Nisei with architectural degrees from the Univ. of Washington and MIT and a diploma from *Ecole Americaine de Beaux Arts* in Paris. "He gave the modern industrial world a considerable trial run before he made his personal decision that the industrial revolution was past its peak, headed downhill, and that he was not going with it," reported *House & Home*.

Nakashima's seeking of validity took him in the early 1930s from a New York architectural office to Paris and then to Tokyo where he worked in the office of the American architect, Antonin Raymond, and helped design a women's college in Tokyo and a number of industrial buildings. He was sent in 1937 to Pondicherry where he was to spend two years supervising the construction of a dormitory for followers of Sri Aurobindo, an Indian mystic. In this tiny French colony in India, Nakashima found he not only had to superintend construction but also invent methods and teach the native workmen. He soon found he was working with his hands as well as his mind.

*House & Home* reported that Nakashima also became deeply interested in Indian mysticism and threw away his glasses after curing

his sight by exercise. He returned to Tokyo and later to the United States where his disillusionment with architectural trends, compounded by the shock of mass evacuation, was to channel his imagination and his creative energies into his second career.

It was at the Minidoka WRA camp in 1942 that Nakashima received practical instruction in woodworking from an old Issei carpenter, a fellow evacuee. Nakashima, his wife and their daughter Mira relocated in 1943 to the town of New Hope in Bucks County, Pa., where his former employer, Architect Antonin Raymond, had a farm. Nakashima worked on the Raymond farm until 1945 when he decided to strike out on his own as a furniture maker. He rented a house for \$25 and two years later, when the rented house was sold, he bought three acres of land for \$750 and put up a tent. The Nakashimas slept in the tent for six months while George finished building a shop to work in and roughed in a house.

It is the house, finally finished in 1952, which was featured in the *House & Home* article, for it is a projection of Nakashima's ideas and reflects his craftsmanship and his love of wood.

Said *House & Home*: "Nakashima is the first man, it has been said, to pick up the art of earlier American furniture makers and advance it another step in design, producing a real second generation American craftsmanship." The house has the simple functionalism of the Japanese house, which is having an ever-increasing influence on American design, but it is more an interpretation of the traditional architecture of Japan than a part of it. The house, about 800 sq. ft., was put up for between \$4,500 and \$5,000, including all hired labor, and *House & Home* believes it may be the most finely finished house ever built for that price in the United States. One feature is use of large areas of glass in the walls, and each of the panes has a Japanese sliding wall, *shoji*, inside it which may be slid closed when a clear view of the outside is not wanted. The *shoji*, paper mounted on a wooden frame, also provides insulation from window drafts.

George Nakashima's furniture business has expanded rapidly from the day in 1945 when he started out in a shop in New Hope with about \$75 in capital. Except for a few pieces which he license for manufacture by a New York furniture house and a few he supplies a store in Manhattan, he still disposes of all of his outlet directly to people who come to him or write to him.

At the time the article was written, Nakashima was producing 25 pieces of his basic design—a straight backed chair in walnut

Continued Inside Page 7

PACIFIC CITIZEN  
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS  
LEAGUE

Editorial, Business Office  
258 E. First St., Los Angeles 12, Calif.  
Telephone: MADison 6-4411

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Harry K. Honda.....Editor  
Tats Kushiada.....Advertising  
(By mail, payable in advance)  
JACL Members.....\$5 per year  
Non-members.....\$3.50 per year  
Entered as second class matter in  
the post office at Los Angeles, Calif.  
CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Two weeks advance notice is required for the circulation department to effect change of address.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY  
Opinions expressed in the columns of the Pacific Citizen, outside of the editorials, are those of the writers and do not necessarily have the endorsement of the Nat'l JACL.

## DECADE AGO

July 15, 1944

Nisei combat unit drives on Livorno port; 442nd engages in initial test in Allied campaign in Italy.

Police report shows no sabotage by Canada Nisei in British Columbia, rap racists for fomenting hatred of evacuees.

Germans surprised to find Nisei fighting in Europe.

Radio commentator H. V. Kaltenborn hails Nisei role in war against Japanese, sends check to help provide scholarship.

Famed Merrill's Marauders back rights of U.S. Nisei; letter from Burma front cites courage of "Horizontal Hank" who saved life of platoon in battle with Japanese.

Sono Osato cited as best dancer of N.Y. Broadway season by Billboard.

WRA reports 2,100 seniors graduated from its 10 camp high schools; Manzanar leads with 181.

Move to strike out disfranchisement (against Nisei) provision in Canadian election laws defeated in Dominion Senate; House to debate anti-Nisei bill.

Maj. Louis Wasmer, only major candidate to raise evacuee issue in Washington state primaries, defeated by 1 to 4 mar-Langlie, for Republican nomination by incumbent, Gov. Arthur nation.

## MINORITY

St. Paul's hospital, operated by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, became the first hospital in Dallas to admit Negro doctors to practice. The decision was approved by the entire staff of 300 white physicians. However, no action was taken to end the limitation of 32 beds for Negroes.

The Army has completed virtually its program of ending segregation of its white and Negro soldiers as 98 percent of all Negro soldiers are integrated into white units and that no more than 15 all-Negro units remain, none larger than a company.

Dr. Ralph Bunche, addressing the NAACP national convention in Dallas last week, hit at Negroes who say they prefer segregation and added: "They are entitled to their views, but not to our respect."

South Carolinians were challenged by Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, to uphold the Constitution by actively cooperating with the Supreme Court edict which held segregated public schools to be unconstitutional. "The first obligation of every citizen of whatever race, color, religion, regional or national origin is to uphold the U.S. Constitution."