



## EDITORIALS:

### May Jimmie's soul rest in peace

The untimely and tragic death of Jimmie Y. Sakamoto of Seattle is mourned by the nearly 15,000 members of the Japanese American Citizens League, of which he was a national president for the 1936-38 biennium.

Sakamoto, 52, who was blind, was killed by an automobile early Saturday morning.

While his own family was of modest means, he had a deep-seated compassion for his fellow man and especially the unfortunate in his community. A devoted Catholic convert of Father Leopold Tibesar of Maryknoll, he had been associated for nearly a decade with Catholic Charities in charge of pickups at the St. Vincent de Paul Salvage Bureau.

A one-time professional boxer, he was the first if not the only Nisei to box in Madison Square Garden, New York. His eyesight was impaired by his ring activities and was eventually totally lost.

During his period of his progressively failing vision, he was publisher-editor of the first all-English newspaper for Japanese Americans in the United States — the Japanese American Courier — serving the Nisei of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest.

And at the same time, he cradled a new infant organization — the JACL — by serving as president of the Seattle Progressive Citizens League in 1931 and organizing the first JACL district council, the Northwest District Council, the same year and serving as its first chairman. Five years later, though blind but not lacking in the vision of ideals, he humbly accepted the role of national JACL president.

During his presidential term, the records will proudly bear out his leadership as the organization underwent a vigorous growth in the formation of new chapters and district councils.

His death, however, only illuminates brighter the ideals in which he believed.

## Masaoka testifies before Senate I&N subcommittee

(Washington) Appearing before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization during its public hearings Dec. 1 was Mike Masaoka, Washington representative of the Japanese American Citizens League.

The Subcommittee reconvened after the Thanksgiving holidays on Nov. 30 under acting chairman Sen. Thomas C. Hennings, Jr. (D., Mo.), who presided for chairman Sen. Harley M. Kilgore (D., W. Va.).

Masaoka gave a cogent presentation of JACL's vigorous endorsement of the Immigration-Nationality (Walter-McCarran) Act of 1952, the attendant benefits derived by the passage of the omnibus bill, the room for improvement in the Walter-McCarran Act, and the inherent weaknesses of the "liberalizing" bills pending before the Subcommittee.

He pointed out in his testimony that these liberalizing bills although they would discard the na-

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## Ex-Tacoma JACler Ted Nakamura dies of heart attack

(Ontario, Ore.) Funeral services for Ted T. Nakamura, 43, of Payette, who died of heart attack in his home Nov. 24, were conducted Nov. 29 at the Ontario Baptist Church with the Rev. Junichi Fujimori officiating.

District manager for the Security Life and Accident Co., he was born in Tacoma, where he was instrumental in organizing the JACL chapter in 1934 and serving as its first president and for three years from 1937-39. A graduate of the Univ. of Washington, he and his wife moved to Ontario in 1942 and then moved to Payette in 1950.

He was awarded the JACL sapphire pin posthumously at the recent IDC convention here.

## MOUNTAIN-PLAINS REGIONAL OFFICE TO CLOSE DEC. 31

(Denver) The Mountain-Plains JACL regional office will be closed effective Dec. 31, 1955, as the result of action of the Mountain-Plains JACL district council meeting held here on Nov. 27, at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Min Yasui as regional representative will be terminated effective Dec. 31, 1955, but stated that he would continue his interest and support of the National JACL as well as the Regional JACL in this area.

Future JACL problems involving a regional or national interest should be referred to National Director, Masao W. Satow, 1759 Sutter St., San Francisco 15, Calif., or to district council chairman Robert M. Horiuchi, 2586 S. Race St., Denver 10.

## Dayton chapter elects Dr. Nakachi president

(Dayton) Dr. Mark M. Nakachi was elected 1956 president of the Dayton JACL.

The chapter will hold its annual Christmas party, Dec. 18, 3 p.m., at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Hideo Yoshihara.

# Blind Jimmie Sakamoto victim of auto; death mourned by JACLers

(Douglass Welch of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer paid his tribute to Jimmie Sakamoto, the blind ex-newspaperman and JACL leader, with the following article published last Sunday morning.—Editor.)

## BY DOUGLASS WELCH

(Seattle) Blind, gentle Jimmie Sakamoto died last Saturday (Dec. 3) as he had lived most of his life—in the dark, alone in a world of disembodied voices and noises, a world that had gone on ahead of him and left him futilely stumbling along behind.

Jimmie Sakamoto was run down by an automobile while crossing the 1000 block in Fairview Ave. N. at about 6:50 a.m. Saturday.

The driver, who was not held, Jay F. Robinson, 50, of 2025 Fairview Ave. N., told police he could not see the pedestrian in the early morning darkness, a darkness that had already begun to lift for all but Jimmie and others similarly deprived.

Jimmie lay on the pavement on his stomach, propping himself up on his elbows, talking to Police Patrolman K. R. Sylliaasen, waiting for the ambulance. A little more than three hours later he was dead at King County Hospital from a head injury.

Jimmie was one of Seattle's best known Japanese, was respected throughout the city as well as in the Japanese community.

He was editor of the Japanese American Courier, an English language newspaper which flourished



Jimmie Sakamoto posed for this picture taken by Elmer Ogawa, regular PC photo-contributor, in May 1954 for the Homecoming JACL Convention booklet.

before Pearl Harbor but died abruptly when Jimmie was moved inland with all Japanese, foreign-born and American-born alike, to a succession of dismal relocation camps.

In 1950 Jimmie had helped organize the Japanese American Citizens League. At the same time he was a prominent member of the Japan Society of Seattle, a grouping of Japanese and American business men and civic leaders.

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## Laid to final rest with JACL diamond-studded pin

### BY MASAO W. SATOW

(San Francisco) During the early formative stages of our national JACL Jimmie Sakamoto helped to keep alive the idealism out of which JACL was born. He was strong in asserting the fate of the Nisei to the land of our birth.

It was my privilege to know Jimmie as a member of his 1936-1938 National Board. Jimmie believed in the role of JACL in opening new vistas of opportunity for the Nisei, but he continuously emphasized the priority of character as a fundamental basis of good citizenship and our acceptance in American life.

To many of the present JACLers, Jimmie Sakamoto is just a name of one of our past presidents but, to those of us who knew him, his selfless devotion to JACL will always be both a challenge and an inspiration. It is fitting that as he was laid to final rest pinned on his lapel was his JACL diamond-studded past president pin. That is the way he would have wanted it.

## Driver not held; never saw Jimmie who was crossing street, police told

(Seattle) "I never saw the pedestrian," explained driver Jay F. Robinson, 50, whose car fatally struck down Jimmie Sakamoto last Saturday morning about 6:50 a.m. while the dawn started to lift the darkness of night.

Police said Robinson's car was traveling north and Sakamoto was crossing on foot from east to west in Fairview Avenue North. Sakamoto was on his way to work at St. Vincent de Paul Salvage Bureau when the accident occurred.

"A woman started across the street on the run," Robinson recalled. "I think she knew he (Sakamoto) was blind and was trying to get my attention. I kept watching the woman and the next thing I knew my right-side window was broken. I never saw the pedestri-

an." The woman left the scene in a bus and was not identified.

Robinson, a salesman, said his car was going about 25 miles an hour "and I had my foot on the brake."

In the center of the street, police officers covered Sakamoto with a blanket and comforted him until an ambulance arrived. Sakamoto's white cane lay nearby.

(A picture of Jimmie, lying on his stomach and propped up on his elbows being comforted by patrolman K. R. Sylliaasen appeared on the front page of Seattle Times. It was photographed by John T. Closs, staunch friend of Jimmie through years of friendship at the Press Club Round Table.—Editor.)

## Simplicity marks Sakamoto funeral

### BY BUDD FUKUI

(Seattle) Inside the Church of the Immaculate Conception, the final rites for beloved Jimmie Sakamoto were imposingly simple Tuesday morning.

You couldn't add to what has been said and written of Jimmie after his death just before Saturday noon, except to describe the solemn requiem Mass celebrated by Msgr. Theodore Ryan.

At 9:05 a.m., the casket was brought in by the pallbearers: Elmer Ogawa, Frank Okamura, Phil O'Neil, Frank Buck, John Closs and Pete Emt. A brief eulogy was made by Sakamoto's pastor during Mass and an hour later, the Mass ended as Jimmie's family and relatives followed the priest, altar boys and the pallbearers carrying the casket out of the church.

It was very rainy morning and one of the foulest storms was whipping Seattle with gusts up to 70 miles per hour. Between 200 and 250 mourners were present, including National JACL Director Masao W. Satow of San Francisco, who represented the organization; and Tom Iseri, wartime Northwest District Council chairman, of Ontario, Ore.

Burial services were held at the Holy Rood cemetery.

### Special to Pacific Citizen

(Seattle) Friends of Jimmie Sakamoto joined in prayer before his flower banked coffin last Monday evening. Catholics, Buddhists, and Protestants, Caucasians and Japanese mingled together as the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Theodore Ryan led in the recitation of the Rosary.

Some knelt repeating the prayers; others remained silent with bowed heads. Again and again this prayer was repeated for Jimmie who had been blind. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him."

The friends who came to pay tribute overflowed the chapel of the Bonney-Watson Mortuary and filled the entrance hall. Those who could not crowd into the chapel to join in the recitation of the Rosary, waited for the close of service so that they might file past the coffin to view the body of their friend for the last time.

Masao Satow, National JACL director, offered condolences to the bereaved family and commented briefly on Jimmie's service as National JACL President from 1936-1938. He stressed the fact that Jimmie had always emphasized to Japanese Americans

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## DETROIT'S DAIKON SALE NETS \$75 FOR CHAPTER

(Detroit) To a west coast resident, this may appear as unique—a daikon sale, and it netted \$75 for the Detroit JACL recently.

Frank Ebisuya, proprietor of Kado's Oriental Foods Store, 3316 Fenkell Ave., donated the white radish crop, harvested by the following volunteers:

Frank Fukuda, Tom Hashimoto, Sud Kimoto, George Kubo, Art Matsumura, Dr. and Mrs. Toshi Mimura.

Dr. Ted Kokubo was in charge of the sales, assisted by Lloyd Joichi.



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## FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa

### Goes with a smile

Denver

Late of a wintry Saturday afternoon the telephone rang. It was Johnny, at the office. "Telegram just came for you, Bill," he said. In my business telegrams are routine things. They come, and they go.

"Do you want me to read it to you?" Johnny asked. I almost told him not to bother, that I'd catch it Monday morning. But that would have been ungrateful after Johnny had taken the time and effort to telephone. "Sure, go ahead," I said.

There was a small pause as Johnny tore open the envelope. "Oh-oh," I heard him say, "I'm afraid this is bad news."

Bad news has a habit of coming unexpectedly. Suddenly concerned now, I waited for the details. Johnny read the terse message. It was from Chet Gibbon, Sunday editor of *The Seattle Times*. Jimmie Sakamoto had been struck by an automobile and killed.

Saturday night, while I was out of the house, George Ishihara telephoned from Nampa, Idaho. George had been a boyhood friend of Jimmie's. He knew Jimmie as few men did. He wanted to let me know. A few hours after that, *The Pacific Citizen's* Harry Honda notified me by wire. Now there were more details.

And so the news spread, and there would be many who would grieve. Welly Shibata and Tadao Kimura in Tokyo. They had helped Jimmie launch the *Japanese American Courier* in Seattle back in New Year's Day, 1928. Tooru Kanazawa in New York, Jimmie's managing editor of long years. Takeo Nogaki in New Jersey, Toshio Hoshide in Washington, D.C., friends and pioneers together in the JACL movement. John Funai, who somehow got type set on the ancient linotype machine in *The Courier's* backshop. And in Kyoto, Father Leopold Tibesar, the man who converted Jimmie to Catholicism with all its implications for the spiritual life of James Yoshimori Sakamoto.

A few months ago, Editor Honda, preparing for the PC's holiday issue, asked me to put together a profile on Jimmie. He had been my boss, wise and good, and friend a long time ago. He was still my friend, but I hadn't had a chance to see much of him for many years. So I wrote to Jimmie for updating information.

He replied promptly, saying that if it weren't for the 25th anniversary of the JACL, he would prefer not to be written up in any prominent way. But a request was a request, so he sent me some notes. Throughout those notes ran a single theme—Jimmie Sakamoto's love and regard for the JACL.

The JACL was everything in Jimmie's life. He helped found it. He launched and kept alive an eminently unprofitable newspaper to promote and advance the JACL. Jimmie's devotion to the JACL was like that of a priest to his church; all other matters were secondary. And that's the way I tried to write the Sakamoto story for the holiday issue.

The nicest thing that ever happened to Jimmie was his marriage to Misao Nishitani. She was, and is, a woman of exceptional kindness, wisdom, patience and courage. She was always at Jimmie's side. Their lean years were hard on her, but I don't ever remember hearing her complain. As Jimmie's widow, she can take comfort in the knowledge that she was a tower of strength in Jimmie's darkest hours, that her companionship made Jimmie's life more full, more meaningful. She helped him gain his destiny as no other person could do.

Blindness that struck Jimmie Sakamoto in the most vigorous years of his life placed a geographical limit on his activities but failed to quench his adventuresome spirit. Now, his mission here completed, Jimmie has embarked on a new adventure, the greatest adventure. I know he goes with a smile. That would be characteristic of his indomitable courage.

### FIGHTER FOR UNCHAMPIONED

The Grim Reaper counted ten over the prostrate form of James Y. Sakamoto—Jimmie, whom thousands had known in life as a dedicated fighter for the rights of the underdog, the under-privileged, the unchampioned.

To the kids, now grown to manhood, who played with or against him on the baseball diamond, the soccer field, the basketball court, or the gridiron, Jimmie was not only a star athlete but an aggressive fighter for clean sportsmanship, fair play, and strict adherence to the spirit of the rules of the game.

To the many boys and girls who, as was I, privileged to work under his leadership at the *Japanese American Courier*, Jimmie was not merely a chronicler of news but an indefatigable fighter for the rights of the Nisei.

In memory I can see him now, his jaw out-thrust over his work-strewn desk, his fist pounding the table top, as he shouts his picturesque and purposely ungrammatical battle-cry: "They can't procrastinate the Nisei!"

"They" could mean any number of obstacles from without, from within—Jimmie was fighting "them". The ten-till was counted over Jimmie. But his fighting spirit lives on in the lives of thousands who came within the sound of his voice or the scope of his printed words.

—BOB OKAZAKI  
Los Angeles.

## Racial prejudice eases against Orientals, says Canadian writer

(Vancouver, B.C.) Racial prejudice is slowly but surely disappearing from British Columbia, news columnist James K. Nesbitt wrote last week. Writing from the provincial capital, Victoria, Nesbitt commented, in part:

Tremendous progress, really, has been made in the last decade, until now Canadians of Japanese, Chinese and East Indian ancestry are accepted in all walks of life, like Canadians of any other ancestry.

Ten years ago these people were pretty well isolated; they found it difficult to enter many professions. They met barriers everywhere. They were forced to live in segregated sections, not by law, but by the weight of blind, ignorant prejudice against them.

Much prejudice, unfortunately, still exists against native Indians, though the situation is improving.

## Welch—

Continued from Front Page

He was a graduate of Franklin High School and had been a star athlete there. He also had been a promising featherweight boxer but was forced to leave the ring in the mid-'20s as blindness came on. He said that he became blind from blows he received while boxing.

Jimmie had made a living of sorts before Pearl Harbor, but it was much more difficult for him after he returned to Seattle. His last job, to which he was going when he was struck down, was as supervisor of the pickup department of the St. Vincent de Paul Salvage Bureau.

As police reconstruct the accident, Jimmie probably walked into the side of Robinson's automobile. The car's right-side window was broken.

Sakamoto was crossing the street unaided, relying only on the sound of oncoming motors and the tap-tap of his white cane on the pavement to guide him.

Usually some employee of the salvage bureau came to the street to help him across but on this Saturday no one was able to be there at the specified time.

Jimmie before Pearl Harbor was a bright, cheerful young man who apparently had reached a compromise with his blindness and a determination to ignore it. The man who lay on the pavement Saturday waiting for the ambulance was heavier and defeated, the defeat and the pain and the shock all mirrored together in his deeply-lined features.

## Dr. Oyama dies

(Tokyo) Dr. Ikuo Oyama, a leftwing professor who taught at Northwestern University in Chicago, died at the age of 75 of cerebral thrombosis Nov. 30.

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## Nisei Buddhist minister returns

(San Francisco) The Rev. Art Takemoto, first Nisei to complete his education toward the Buddhist ministry during the post-war years, returned from Japan Nov. 21 aboard the Nikko Maru.

The graduate of San Francisco State college landed at Vancouver, B.C. He has been assigned to the Los Angeles Buddhist church system by the Buddhist Churches of America.

Rev. Takemoto had been secretary at BCA headquarters in San Francisco prior to his departure for his studies abroad. He was one of the first members of the Berkeley Buddhist study classes when it began six years ago.

The Nisei minister completed four years of study at Ryukoku U.

## Fowler chapter honored at C. of C. post-fair fete

(Fowler) Some 60 Fowler JACLers were guests of the local chamber of commerce at an informal dinner Nov. 20 at Bruce's Lodge in appreciation for their aid in the recent Fresno District Fair booth display.

C. D. Simonian, chamber president, presented Tom Shirakawa, JACL chapter president, a trophy for the chapter's "outstanding community service".



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## EULOGIES FOR SAKAMOTO:

### Mourn loss of 2nd president

For the second time, JACL mourns the passing of one of our former National Presidents.

James Y. Sakamoto, JACL National President, 1936-1938, was struck down by an automobile Saturday morning, Dec. 3, and succumbed from injuries sustained.

Many of our present JACLers knew Jimmie only by name, but those of us who had the privilege of sharing with him the early formative years of JACL remember his continual emphasis upon our faith and loyalty to the land of our birth. During the early days of our national organization, Jimmie kept alive the idealism out of which it was borne. When the *Pacific Citizen* was made the official organ of National JACL, he took the reins as editor and pioneered its publication...

San Francisco

—MASAO SATOW  
National JACL Director

### GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Jimmie is gone but not forgotten. One of the most dynamic figures in early JACL history whose fiery tongue and fighting spirit helped pave the way for our present organizations as a crusader and leader of Nisei, he has contributed much to our welfare. We will miss Jim. To his family our deepest sympathy and may God give them comfort for his name and deeds will never be forgotten.

Chicago

—DR. THOMAS T. YATABE  
Past National JACL President

### UNSELFISHLY DEVOTED TO NISEI CAUSE

(Reprinted from *Shin Nichi Bei*)

The news of the accidental death of James Y. Sakamoto of Seattle, Washington, has brought another sadness to the older JACLers. This will be the second past national president passing away this year.

James Sakamoto was one of the guiding spirits of the JACL movement in the pre-war years. He was the publisher of the *Japanese American Courier* when we first met him in Seattle when we attended the first national convention in 1930. He had around him many of the young Nisei journalists, such as Bill Hosokawa and Welly Shibata.

When we met him, Jimmie was already blind. We learned about his past through his friends. He may be the only Nisei who fought in the Madison Square Garden of New York. He was brave and game fighter, but the injury to his eyes ended his career in this field.

Jimmie was an idealist. The future of the Nisei was his chief concern. Despite his handicap, he was constantly traveling to make speeches and organizing things. Any sacrifice was willingly made for the JACL.

The *Pacific Citizen* was published under his supervision for many years. It was brought back to San Francisco in 1940. The publication was a monthly during those days.

After returning from the evacuation, he became a devout Catholic and worked for the welfare division of his church in Seattle. Although he had not been attending JACL affairs during the post-war years, he kept up his contacts with the pre-war leaders.

The last time I saw him was for an hour or so in 1952 when we dropped in at his home near midnight. We were on our way to Japan for our first visit. He was as usual in good spirits and full of enthusiasm.

The JACL was fortunate in having a leader who was an idealist, such as Jimmie Sakamoto, a man who was unselfishly devoted to the cause of the Nisei. He preached loyalty to America through his editorials in his weekly newspaper, *Japanese American Courier*.

His wife, Misao, was his "seeing eye." She read to him which enabled him to keep up with current events. Everyone of us has had the deepest respect and admiration for her. We wish to extend our deepest sympathies to his family.

—SABURO KIDO  
Past National JACL President

### AMONG EARLY VISIONARY NISEI

Jimmie Sakamoto, who was our second national JACL president, dedicated his life to the service of humanity. His concern in the welfare of his fellow man, his devotion to the cause of justice, his conviction that only through organizational channels could Nisei ideals be approached, inspired his acceptance of the JACL national presidency at our convention in Seattle in the summer of 1936.

He was among the early visionary Nisei, who resolved that the Nisei themselves must work out the solution to their own problems and aspirations.

—GEORGE INAGAKI  
National JACL President

### HIS EFFORT A LIVING MONUMENT

The passing of James Y. Sakamoto, "Jimmie" to his friends, means another great leader has been lost to our Nisei community and to the Japanese American Citizens League. The JACL was enriched by the leadership of Jimmie who met with a terrible accident. Jimmie with his physical handicap certainly proved to be an inspiration to every one of us. He was one of the "genro" of the JACL, and he will be sorely missed by the older Nisei generation.

During the formative years of JACL, he goaded us on to greater goals and spearheaded the first Endowment Fund for \$100,000. Just at the time when we needed a fighter as a leader in our organization, Jimmie Sakamoto was successful in obtaining recognition from the Japanese as well as Caucasian communities.

It was a greatest source of pleasure to me that Jimmie became a member of the Roman Catholic church during the war.

I personally feel that much of my work and interest in the JACL was nurtured and brought to a bloom by Jimmie's devotion to JACL.

We are thankful that we had the privilege of enjoying his friendship and know that the foundation he built for us will be a living monument to his zeal and perseverance.

—SIM TOGASAKI  
Past National JACL Treasurer  
Alameda

### BLUEPRINTED NISEI CODE

I never had the privilege of working for Jimmie Sakamoto; when he was publisher of the *Japanese American Courier*. But I always regarded him with great respect and—after meeting him personally—with the sort of affection you have for a kind

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## Even at the hour of Sakamoto's death, he asked if he could be of help to friend by his side

BY ELMER OGAWA

(Seattle) A lot of people in Seattle were of heavy heart last weekend. It must have been the same in Los Angeles and in other cities where friends of Jimmie Sakamoto read of his untimely death.

Mrs. Misao Sakamoto (bless her soul) was worried Saturday night, afraid that plans for the *Pacific Citizen* Holiday Issue on the theme

of the 25th JACL anniversary might be changed or that Bill Hosokawa's profile on Jimmie in the special edition might be withheld.

(On the contrary, the *Pacific Citizen* Holiday Issue will carry Hosokawa's heart-swelling profile without a line missing save the brief postscript that Jimmie would like to hear from his old friends. —Editor.)

Scores of Jimmie's friends be-

gan calling the modest Sakamoto home on 953 - 22nd Ave. Among his many intimates to call was John T. Closs, *Seattle Times* photographer, who became a staunch friend of Jimmie at the Press Club Round Table.

Closs was driving to work, the Times office being some eight blocks away, by 7 a.m. He noticed a form lying on the pavement and two fellows standing by. He stopped and asked if it were a pedestrian-car accident.

"Yeah, we called the cops. Keep going, Joe," one of the men answered. Closs stepped out and prepared for a routine picture. He looked and exclaimed: "Oh, my God, it's Jimmie!"

It was not known at the time, but Jimmie had a bad fracture at the base of his skull. He was lying on the pavement, supporting himself on his elbows and recognized John's voice.

Jimmie countered: "Hello, Johnny. Glad to see you. (This was a familiar expression that unseeing Jimmie said to everyone.) How're you doing? Did you get a picture?"

Johnny answered that he was doing all right in the picture department for the time being, but asked if he could do anything for Jimmie. The police had not arrived as yet. Jimmie asked Closs if he would find his cane and then he'd get up and "get the hell out of here". Closs refused to find the cane and induced him to lie still till an ambulance came.

The driver of the car that struck Sakamoto was impressed with the conversation, whereupon he asked the news photographer if he knew the victim. Closs assured the driver he did, adding that Jimmie was not unknown to many thousands in this city of a half million. Jimmie was still asking for his cane so he could get up and go. The police arrived, covered him with a blanket and began talking with Jimmie. (This was the picture which made the front page of the *Seattle Times* that afternoon.)

As the traffic victim was being

grapher Closs asked if he could still help, suggesting that he

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Jimmie Sakamoto is being helped across the street from his office, the St. Vincent de Paul Salvage Bureau, where he was in charge of pickups. There was no one to help him last Saturday morning when struck down by an auto. In this picture taken last year with Jimmie is "Charlie", well-known midget who toured with the Ringling Brothers, and boss of the St. Vincent's parking lot adjoining the Bureau.

—Elmer Ogawa Photo.



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California memories

Chicago

● We returned to the cold snow and damp weather of Chicago last Saturday afternoon (Dec. 3) after a much-needed two-week vacation on the west coast for the first time since evacuation. . . . The memories of Southern California are still vivid in mind. After leaving Salinas on a Sunday for Los Angeles, we arrived in the City of Angeles, which was smoggy—the first time in 18 smogless days, I was told . . . At the JACL regional office, we met Blanche Shiosaki, busy sorting out incoming PC Holiday ads and greetings in addition to her regular secretarial duties. The JACL Office is located on the second floor of the Miyako Hotel, where we stayed during our short visit of Los Angeles . . . Across the hall is the Pacific Citizen editorial office, where our editor was planning out the Holiday Issue in addition to gathering news items for the weekly edition. I realized the valuable service chapters can render by sending newspaper clippings and news items directly to the PC Office . . . That evening, longtime friend James Endo drove us about Hollywood . . . Tats Kushida, our busy PC business manager and regional director, guided us through the Shin Nichi Bei, where we met Saburo Kido and English editor Mas Imon. The PC is also printed at that plant . . . The visits to Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm were worthwhile for a non-youngster like me. We saw the Japanese movie "Samurai" that evening. Thanks for the wonderful time.

● The Japanese American Real Estate agency has moved to 4723 N. Broadway . . . The Kenwood-Ellis Community Center has on exhibit until Dec. 16, the art works of Sophie Wessel . . . Dr. Dudley C. Watson will lecture on Japanese art and life at the Art Institute Fullerton Hall, Jan. 8 and 15, 2:30 p.m.

DATELINE NORTHWEST: by Budd & Arlene Fukei



... Was many things

Seattle

■ Jimmie Sakamoto was many things. He was a man proud of his Japanese ancestry, yet insistent on leaving the hyphen out of Japanese American. He was a fighter for the principles of Americanism. He was an aggressive athlete—but a clean one. He was for fair play and for the Nisei. He was a devout Catholic. He believed in orderly obedience to authority, though he believed with all his heart that the evacuation from the West Coast was wrong. He was a friend to every person who ever knew him.

■ Born James Y. Sakamoto in Startup, Wash., in 1903 he attended Pacific School and Franklin High School in Seattle and Princeton Prep in New York where he distinguished himself as an athlete. At Pacific, he was the first Nisei to play soccer; at Franklin, he, at a mere 115 lbs., sparked the football team to its first victory in its history over Broadway and also played first-team football and midjet-team basketball. Jimmy was known as the first "Nipponese" to fight at famed Madison Square Garden. It was during an elimination bout for the junior lightweight title that he suffered an eye injury which later was to cause total blindness. When he returned to Seattle from the East in 1927, he helped reorganize the Seattle Progressive Citizens League and was very much instrumental in the founding of the National Japanese American Citizens League. On January 1, 1928, he became editor-publisher of the Japanese American Courier, the first Japanese American weekly in the United States, and held that position until the evacuation. Unfortunate luck struck stiff blows at him during his years in the publishing business but, like the fighter that he is, he always was equal to the task that challenged him. Although his visual sight was lost, Jimmie never was one to be downhearted or discouraged. He was blessed with a remarkable memory, a fine sense of humor, a clear mind, and an indestructible courage. But, most of all, he was blessed with a host of friends from all stations in life. When World War II ended, he was back home again. He was employed as supervisor of the pickup department at the St. Vincent de Paul Salvage Bureau. His final summons came Saturday, December 3, 1955, when he was struck down by an automobile on his way to work. Indeed, few had more right to say: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith."

■ PURELY PERSONAL PIFFLES: . . . popular All-City Billy Ishida last week end was named for the Most Inspirational Player award by his teammates; he's the plucky youngster who sparked Garfield High's Bulldogs to their Seattle football championship this season . . . just back from Japan, Mayor Allan Pomeroy in a television program this week declared: "Every place we went we were received with courtesy and cordiality"; the next Mayors' Conference will be in San Diego which, we are sure, will do its best to match the Japanese hospitality . . . really personal: best wishes to newlywed Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ohtaki; Ohtaki, to refresh your memory, is the personable young man who hops around town and elsewhere to drum up business for JAL . . .

HANGING OUT MONDAY'S WASH

■ Item—Just another Seattle traffic accident. Comment—Jimmy Sakamoto was the touchdown king of Franklin High, later turned to professional boxing, became a Madison Square Garden sensation. He was exploited by greedy promoters, matched with opponents 20 pounds heavier, handled by careless managers. One night the lights went out for the game youngster and Jim was doomed to spend his life in the shadows of the blind. Iately the kindly, cheerful man has spent his time as a helper at St. Vincent de Paul salvage center. Saturday morning on his way to his post, he was struck by a car. The lights went out forever for Jimmie Sakamoto. —ROYAL BROUGHAM  
Seattle Post-Intelligencer Sports Editor

SEQUOIA JACL JR. GROUP ANXIOUS FOR WORKSHOP ON OTHER SUBJECTS

(Redwood City) Good attendance marked the Sequoia JACL workshop for its junior JACLers recently on the theme—"Jr. JACLers—Tomorrow's Citizens". The group present voted to schedule another workshop in the future on other subjects. Discussed at the last workshop were (1) obligation to vote, Peter Nakahara of San Jose, moderator; (2) programming, William Enomoto of Atherton, moderator; (3) cultivating leadership, Hiroji Kariya of East Palo Alto, moderator. Expenses for the workshop were assumed by the Sequoia JACL.

1956 Cabinets

Central California DC

Jin Ishikawa (Fresno) ..... Chmn.  
Tom Nagamatsu (Sang) ..... 1st V.C.  
Kaz Komoto (Par) ..... 2nd V.C.  
Joe Katano (Del) ..... Treas.  
Toy Hoshiko (Fres) ..... Sec.  
Thomas Toyama (Fow) ..... Pub.  
Ethel Otomo (Selma) ..... Hlist.

Mountain-Plains DC

Robert M. Horiuchi (D) ..... Chmn.  
Sam Shirasago (Mont) ..... V.C.  
Robert M. Nakadoi (O) ..... V.C.  
Hiroshi Miyamura (Alb) ..... V.C.  
Bill Kuroki (D) ..... Treas.  
Ruth Hashimoto (Alb) ..... Rec. Sec.  
Chyo Horiuchi (D) ..... Cor. Sec.  
True Yasui (D) ..... Hlist.

Albuquerque JACL

George Matsubara ..... Pres.  
Arthur Togami ..... 1st V.P.  
George Morimoto ..... 2nd V.P.  
Ted Yonemoto ..... Treas.  
Mary Matsubara ..... Cor. Sec.  
Suzie Yamamoto ..... Rec. Sec.

Dayton JACL

Dr. Mark M. Nakauchi ..... Pres.  
Mrs. James Taguchi ..... 1st V.P.  
Pete Hironaka ..... 2nd V.P.  
Hideo Okubo ..... 3rd V.P.  
Frank Sato ..... Treas.  
Mrs. Yoichi Sato ..... Sec.

Santa Barbara JACL

Tom Hirashima ..... Pres.  
Richard Tokumaru ..... V.P.  
Akira Yamada ..... Treas.  
Mrs. Nao Asakura ..... Rec. Sec.  
Mrs. Tom Tsunoda ..... Cor. Sec.  
Mrs. Joe Watanabe, William Iwamoto ..... Social  
Tad Kanetomo, Ikey Kakimoto, G. K. Riusaki, Helen Kuromizu, Hannah Katayama ..... Mem.-at-Lg.

Tom Hirashima re-elected Santa Barbara president

(Santa Barbara) Tom Hirashima was re-elected president of the Santa Barbara JACL at a recent general meeting. The chapter is also planning a New Year's Eve dance Dec. 31 with neighboring JACL groups being invited. Tad Kanetomo was named membership chairman. Ikey Kakimoto will be chapter quota chairman.

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ROBERT HORIUCHI OF DENVER NAMED MOUNTAIN-PLAINS DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

(Denver) Robert M. Horiuchi, 2586 S. Race St., Denver, was elected the Mountain-Plains JACL district council chairman for the term 1956-57.

Horiuchi will be assisted by three vice-chairmen, Sam Shirasago of Montana as Northern vice-chairman, Robert M. Nakadoi of Omaha, as Central vice-chairman, and Hiroshi Miyamura of Gallup, N.M. as Southern vice-chairman.

The recording secretary is Mrs. Ruth Hashimoto of Albuquerque, N.M., and the corresponding secretary is Chiyo Horiuchi of Denver.

The treasurer serving the next two years will be Bill Kuroki of Denver, and the historian, True Yasui, of Denver.

The Mountain-Plains JACL district council, in the executive ses-

sion, agreed to hold the 1957 Mountain-Plains JACL district convention in Omaha. Further details as to dates will be announced by the Omaha JACL.

Board of governors nominees for S.F. told

(San Francisco) Nominees for the 1956 San Francisco JACL cabinet were announced at the Nov. 19 general meeting presided by chapter president Jerry Enomoto.

Nominations committee chairman Sumi Honnami presented the list as follows:

Miyuki Aoyama, Dr. Robert Kiyasu, Jack Masuda, Harry Makita, Josephine Masuda, Masa Nakamura, Dick Nishi, Mo Noguchi, Sam Sato, Yone Satoda, Joe Takatsuno, Ki Tanamachi, Thelma Takeda, and Ken Watanabe. Incumbent—Yo Hironaka, Sumi Utsumi, Marshall Sumida, Yukio Kumamoto, Lucy Adachi, Hatsuoro Aizawa, Jack Hirose, Katherine Reyes, Sumi Honnami, and Morgan Yamanaka.

Members were asked to approve a change in election procedure in this coming election. Instead of electing 20 board members every year, the new plan calls for 10 present board members being elected for another year and 10 others be named for a two-year term. From next year 10 board members will be elected to the 20-man board at each annual election.

A free turkey drawing followed the business meeting. The winners of the 13½-lb. turkeys were Yukio Kumamoto and Alice Shigezumi.

Sumi Utsumi was chairman for the evening, ably assisted by Yone Satoda, door prizes; Sumi Honnami, hall; Kiyoshi Tanamachi, drawing; Fred Obayashi, dance; Dick Nishi, clean-up; Yae Iwasa and Sachi Kawaoka, refreshments.

(San Francisco) The San Francisco JACL women's auxiliary will hold elections Dec. 13, 8 p.m., at the Booker T. Washington Center, it was announced by Sumi Utsumi, president.

The annual Christmas party will be held at the American Friends Service Committee social hall, 1830 Sutter, Dec. 18, 8 p.m. with Mary Hamamoto in charge. Serving on committees are:

Katherine Reyes, Alice Shigezumi, games; Mrs. Babe Utsumi, music; Carol Tanaka, Janice Muramoto, dec.; Sumi Utsumi, inv.; Ryo Ichikawa, nametags; Drs. Don Negi, ref.

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VERY TRULY YOURS: by Harry K. Honda



## Sakamoto story

● Last Saturday was to be another siege against the deadline of our Holiday Issue. The week brought in a last-minute avalanche of chapter reports, advertising and special stories . . . Our printers advised us the coming week would be devoted to burrowing the mountain of copy needed to satisfy 72 tabloid pages . . . Then about 2 p.m., our *Rafu Shimpo* colleague Henry Mori informed me about Jimmie Sakamoto. The story had just been reported by telephone from Tony Gomes, whose wife is a sister of Jimmie's wife. And Henry wanted some additional background. Unfortunately, I was home doing my work and unable to supply Henry with more detail . . . However, his afternoon edition scored a national scoop among the Nisei vernaculars.

● Dr. Kelly Yamada of Seattle, who was asked by this office to check on Jimmie's funeral arrangements later in the day, couldn't believe the shocking news when we called him . . . On his return call, he also told us Jimmie's daughter Marcia mentioned the ironic fact that Jimmie had only repainted his white cane a few days earlier to be in the spirit of S-D (Safe Driving) Day, which was widely promoted in Seattle . . . As a rule, our JACL office closes by noon Saturday. Office secretary Blanche Shiosaki was staying a bit late to process a flood of chapter advertising for the Holiday Issue. But with the electrifying news of Jimmie's death, all gears on the Holiday Issue abruptly ceased.

● We had to pass the word to Fresno, where George Inagaki, Mike Masaoka, Mas Satow and Tats Kushida were en route to attend the Central California District Council. Kenji Tashiro, 2nd national president living in Tulare County was still home; but he was not advised of the funeral arrangements at that time. So a second attempt had to be made; that call was completed Sunday morning after alerting the long distance operator to keep trying.

● In the meantime, we wired Bill Hosokawa the saddening news. He had specially written some 4,000 words on Jimmie for the Holiday Issue which will highlight our national presidents . . . At this point, we might reveal that the stories received thus far go into more detail on the subject person than is generally known by JACLers . . . We asked Bill to "wrap up" the Sakamoto story—and final paragraphs are to be found in his column this week . . . We also sought statements from other newspaper friends of Jimmie's in Chicago and New York for this week's PC tribute to a distinguished fighter of the Nisei cause . . . As we read the Hosokawa story again and the eulogies that have poured into our office, we couldn't help but feel that the ideals Jimmie Sakamoto believed in and worked for are even more conspicuous today . . . Out of this tragic moment, the Nisei can recall the struggle which haunted the younger Nisei generation in the 1930s and appreciate the status currently attained, but all at once remember the role the organization he vigorously built up and its place in American society.

## EULOGIES: Continued

Continued from Page 3

and helpful teacher.

They told me he was blind, when I first shook his hand in 1932. But he had more sight and vision of the years ahead than just about anybody I met in those pre-war years. I used to clip his thoughtful editorials and read and re-read them. In the decade before war, he had blueprinted a code of conduct for the Nisei in the event of war between the land of our birth and the land of our parents. I think he taught and prepared us well. His untimely death will shock and sadden his countless friends, to whom he was many things: JACL leader, publisher, editor, counselor. I mourn the loss of a wise teacher.

—TOGO TANAKA

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## JIN ISHIKAWA CENTRAL CAL HEAD; MASAOKA ADDRESSES FINAL BANQUET

BY TATS KUSHIDA

(Fresno) The importance of the November, 1956, elections in California to persons of Japanese ancestry was pointed out by Mike Masaoka, Washington JACL representative, to some 300 persons attending the convention banquet of the JACL Central California District Council held here Sunday night, marking JACL's 25th anniversary.

On the statewide ballot as a proposition will be an initiative measure to remove the alien land law from the state constitution as the result of action by the California legislature this year on a bill introduced by Assemblyman Edward E. Elliott of Los Angeles, Masaoka explained. The law, already invalidated by the state supreme court, must be removed only by the means whereby it was first written into the state constitution, by initiative vote in 1920.

Congressman B. F. Sisk commended the JACL for its achievements in its first quarter century and pledged support for various JACL objectives in Washington. A welcome greeting from the City of Fresno was extended by J. D. Stephens, city commissioner.

Attending the banquet were over 100 public officials including the mayors of nearly all the ten member CCDC chapters from Delano, Fowler, Fresno, Kingsburg, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, Selma and Tulare County. Earlier in the day during the CCDC business session, the new Clovis chapter was admitted into district membership.

Jin Ishikawa, attorney and past president of the Fresno chapter (American Loyalty League) was elected CCDC chairman. He will be assisted by Tom Nagamatsu, Sanger, 1st vice-chairman; Kaz Komoto, Parlier, 2nd vice-chairman; Joe Katano, Delano, treasurer; Toy Hoshiko, Fresno, secretary; Thomas Toyama, Fowler, publicity chairman; Ethel Otomo, Selma, historian.

The new CCDC officers and other 1956 chapter cabinets were formally inducted into office at a mass installation ceremony conducted at the banquet by Kenji Tashiro, Orosi, JACL national 2nd vice-president. Hiro Mayeda, Tulare County, outgoing CCDC chairman, was presented the district's appreciation gift through Tom Nakamura, Sanger, immediate past district chairman.

Past president pearl-studded JACL pins were presented by National Director Masao W. Satow to outgoing chapter presidents, Dr.

## Eden Township chapter Christmas fete slated

(Hayward) The Eden Township JACL will host children at its eighth annual Christmas party Dec. 10 at San Lorenzo Village School. Mrs. Maya Yoshida was appointed chairman, assisted by: Momo Kawakami, Mrs. Setsu Shimizu, inv.; Mrs. Kazuo Nieda, ent.; Mrs. Alyce Fujii, food; Mrs. M. Yoshida, gifts.

A program of Christmas caroling, Santa's visit and distribution of toys and candies have been planned.

James Nagatani (Delano), Tom Kamikawa (Fowler), Hugo Kazato (Fresno), Ronald Ota (Parlier), Charles Iwasaki (Reedley), Johnson Kebo (Sanger), George Okazaki (Selma) and Yeiki Tashiro (Tulare County).

The presentation and retiring of colors was conducted by the VFW Sierra Nisei Post under Commander Gary Kadani, invocation by Rev. John Nagayama of the Fowler Free Methodist Church and the presentation of bowling tournament awards by NBA chairman Henry Kebo. Toastmaster for the banquet was Tom Shimasaki, Tulare County, and wartime NCDC chairman.

Other JACL officials present at the convention were national president George J. Inagaki, Yas Abiko of San Francisco, newly elected chairman of the Northern California-Western Nevada District Council, and Tats Kushida, Pacific Southwest Regional Director and Pacific Citizen business manager.

The Fowler chapter was commended for having entered prize winning exhibits in the annual Fresno County Fair the past two years. The Parlier chapter was also cited for having attained at least twenty members in the 1000 Club.

## BERKELEY TO ELECT NEW BOARD MEMBERS

(Berkeley) New members of the Berkeley JACL board of directors will be selected at an election meeting Dec. 9 at 2117 Haste St.

Also on the ballot this year will be an amendment proposing an increase in the number of directors on the board.

Sho Sato will be chairman for the evening. Nobu Uratsu headed the nomination committee.

## Sonoma County auxiliary to ratify constitution, prepare Santa party

(Santa Rosa) The Sonoma County JACL women's auxiliary will elect 1956 officers at tonight's meeting at the local Memorial Hall. Anne Ohki, president, also stated the organization's constitution will be presented for ratification by the membership and final plans discussed for the community Christmas party Dec. 17.

Auxiliary officers will be installed at the New Year party set for Saturday, Jan. 7.

The Christmas party will be held at the same hall from 7:30 p.m. with Shiz Kawaoka as general chairman. Kanemi Ono, chapter president, has donated a 15-ft. tree while some CLer will don the traditional red suit and whiskers of Santa to delight the youngsters.

While movies are being shown to the children, adults in attendance will be engaged in games. Mrs. Kawaoka stated admission will not be assessed, but asked that some 50-cent gift for a child, cakes or cookies to be served as refreshments, be furnished.

Auxiliary officials hope this family affair will be successful enough to make it an annual tradition.



## '1000' CLUB NOTES

(San Francisco) Memberships and renewals for the month of November by chapters to the 1000 Club were acknowledged by National JACL Headquarters as follows:

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Denver—Dr. Charles Fujisaki.

### EIGHTH YEAR

Mt. Olympus—Henry Mitarai.

### SEVENTH YEAR

Detroit—Peter I. Fujioka.

Gardena Valley—Yoshio Kobata.

Snake River—Joe Y. Saito.

D.C.—Ira Shimasaki.

Chicago—Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe.

### SIXTH YEAR

Gresham-Troutdale—Mrs. Chiyo Kato.

Henry T. Kato.

Santa Barbara—Dr. Yoshio Nakaji.

Sanger—Tom Nakamura.

Omaha—Patrick Okura.

Coachella Valley—Tom Sakai.

### FIFTH YEAR

Chicago—Dr. William T. Hiura.

Mt. Olympus—Yoshio Katayama.

Portland—Mary Minamoto (Japan), Mrs. Hana Yamada.

Santa Barbara—Mrs. Lillian Nakaji.

Snake River—Paul Saito.

Twin Cities—Charles Tatsuda.

Downtown L.A.—Mrs. Merijane F. Yokoe.

Marysville—Bill Z. Tsuji.

### FOURTH YEAR

San Luis Obispo—Masaji Eto.

D.C.—Mrs. Sally Furukawa.

Orange County—Henry M. Kanegae.

Omaha—Mrs. Lily Okura.

Santa Barbara—Caesar Uyesaka.

### THIRD YEAR

Gresham-Troutdale—Masayuki Fujimoto.

Hawley Kato, Kazuo Kinoshita, Jack T. Ouchida, Newton N. Takashima, Shio Uyetake.

Portland—John M. Hada.

D.C.—Harold Horiuchi, Kathleen Ise.

Miyeko Kosabayashi.

Livingston—Merced—Toyoji Konno.

Chicago—Jack Nakagawa.

Marysville—Mosse M. Uchida.

San Francisco—John N. Uyeda (Mt. View).

### SECOND YEAR

Oakland—Arata "Ziggy" Akahoshi.

Chicago—Michael Y. Hagiwara.

Samuel T. Himoto, Roy Iwata, Hiroshi Kaneko, Kiyoshi Kasai, Dr. Barrie M. Kato, Miss Ariye Oda, Jack K. Ohashi, Richard H. Yamada.

Gresham-Troutdale—Toshio Okino, Kats Sunamoto.

D.C.—Mary Ichino, Ben Nakao.

George Obata, Hisako Sakata.

Coachella Valley—Yeji Kitagawa.

Tek Nishimoto, Mas Oshiki, Mrs. Alice Sakai, Ben Sakamoto, Masao Sato, Toshio Sugimoto.

San Benito County—Thomas Shimomishi.

Portland—Tamaichi Yamada.

### FIRST YEAR

Chicago—George Chida, Max S. Jo.

ichi, Fred Nakagawa, Karl Nakamura, Tsuyoshi Nakamura, Dr. Harry I. Omori, Aki T. Terumoto, Masami S. Yoshinari.

Snake River—George Hashitani, James Kanetomi, Sam Wakasugi.

Downtown L.A.—Kura Kai, Yoshida Shiga, Mrs. Saku Shirakawa, Yae-mitsu Sugimachi.

Sacramento—Wesley Kato.

D.C.—Ruth Kuroishi, Mrs. Katsuyo Takeshita.

Santa Barbara—Harold Lee.

Santa Maria Valley—Yoshimatsu Minami.

Southwest L.A.—Matsushi Naruse.

Detroit—Saburo Okimoto, Isao Sunamoto.

Marysville—John K. Sakaki.

San Diego—Taisuke Yasukochi.

## Richmond-El Cerrito CL elections, membership drive mooted by board

(Richmond) Nominees for the Richmond-El Cerrito JACL 1956 cabinet were considered by the chapter executive board last week at the home of Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki.

Plans for a movie night this month was also discussed, according to Marvin Uratsu, president. Ballots are being prepared and mailed to members with write-ins permitted in the mail election.

Efforts to exceed the record 148 members who have joined the chapter last year is being made by the membership campaign committee under George Sugihara, chairman. Persons have been asked to contact the committee about potential members overlooked or of any persons who have recently moved into the chapter area.

### Stanford alumni

(Palo Alto) Over ten happy Stanford Nisei alumni met at the home of Dr. and Mrs. George Hiura to recall the days of old following a post-Big Game dinner at Dinah's Shack on El Camino Road Nov. 19. Among those present were:

Mt. and Mrs. Pat Nagano, Morro Bay; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Yamamoto, Oakland; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ida, Palo Alto; Dr. and Mrs. K. Kitagawa, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Iwata, Livingston; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ida, Oakland; Mr. and Mrs. Eric Andow, Livingston; Mr. and Mrs. Yui Imai, Burlingame; Mr. and Mrs. Hirotsuke Inoue, Redwood City; Dr. and Mrs. William Suzuki, Vallejo; Mr. and Mrs. George Hiura, Palo Alto; Yoshio Okumoto, Palo Alto.



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**SOU'WESTER: by Tats Kushida**



**Ibiki**

Fresno

● Gripping is good for the soul, so occasionally we like to wax indignant. Since it's happened on five previous occasions, we're case-hardened to the humiliation of being told publicly that we are *persona non grata*.

The way some people fuss to avoid sharing a room with the Sou'wester, you'd think snoring was the vilest of social offenses. Some of history's greatest men were vigorous practitioners of the art of sniff and roar.

Driving to the Central California District Council convention here last weekend with Mike Masaoka in Callahan Inagaki's Buick Super, we arrived at the new and fabulous Hacienda hostelry to find that signals had switched on room reservations so we had to arrange our own. And how they got arranged!

Clearly a conspiracy, we found that neither Mike nor George intended to double up with us, that in fact they had pre-determined that they would bunk together. We had to await the arrival of other out-of-towners on which to try our luck.

Yas Abiko, publisher of the *Nichibei Times* in Sanfran who'd just been elected chairman of the NCWNDC, arrived and agreed to split room expenses with us. He admitted to sawing logs, too, and was willing to chance his hitting the sack first. As we reached for the room register card, nat'l boss Mas Satow pops up and says he and Yas are taking a room, leaving us out in the cold shoulder.

Fortunately, we thought at the time, Kenji Tashiro of Orosi, 2nd nat'l veep, happened along and said he'd be glad to bunk with us, he having survived, thanks to his Yogi training of mind over matter, an earlier snortfest at our hands. But what happens? Tom Shimasaki, convention banquet emcee, decides to stay over so there goes our final hope for a roommate.

These mortifying shenanigans we don't mind too much. What we do object to, as we said before, is the unnecessarily boisterous way in which something as personal as one's sleeping habits are aired in side-show fashion in a crowded hotel lobby. At another CCDC gathering of a few years ago, we recall coin-tossing and *jan-ken-po* tactics to hermitize us.

The word for snore in you-know-what is *ibiki*, a well founded expression whose components are *i* (greatness), *bi* (beauty) and *ki* (spirit). In Japan, at least, those who nocturnally vibrated their nostrils were anything but socialegers. From another angle, *i* means authority and *biki* is top-dog (reverse of *kibi* which means playing second fiddle). So in effect, we are in good company, even if alone.

As one sympathetic friend told us, being shunted to a single is a blessing in disguise. We're still trying to figure that one out.

**NIJU-NIJU KAI**

● The prewar Kushida flophouse for Calkids at 2020 Berkeley Way can now boast of a district council chairman among its *luminous alumni* with Jin Ishikawa, Fresno barrister, having been elected as head man of the CCDC. Fact is, several other star boarders have become JACL chapter presidents in recent years, we proudly reiterate: Dr. Keichi Shimizu (Eden Township), Seichi Mikami (Fresno), Dr. George Miyake and Howard Renge (Fowler).

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**Over 100 roll in  
Mi.-Plains district  
bowling tourney**

(Denver) Over 100 persons participated in the two-day classic held at Bowl-Mor Lanes Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 26 and 27.

Denargo Box copped the third annual Mountain-Plains JACL bowling tournament in the Class AA division team event.

John Sakayama won the all-events crown in the Class AA division with a 1918, while Tom Hasegawa took the Class A division with a 1919.

Other winners were:

Team Event—Denargo Box, 3079; Cathay Post, 3009; Mandarin Cafe, 2909.

Singles—Takashi (Doc) Mayeda, 671;

John Sakayama, 668; Don Miyake, 655.

Doubles—Jim Ota-John Sakayama, 1259; Don Miyake-Roy Nagata, 1235;

Tom Ioka-Bob Mayeda, 1224.

All-Events—John Sakayama, 1918;

Tom Nakayama, 1908; Jim Ota, 1873.

**CLASS "A"**

Team Event—Reliable Auto, 3041;

Preston Jewelry, 3009; Kawano Jew-

elers, 3005.

Singles—Tom Hasegawa, 715; Tom

Nakayama, 698; Jim Hanamura, 646.

Doubles—Fred Hall-Willie Hasega-

wa, 1241; Henry Hara-Henry Hayashi-

da, 1204; Mike Tashiro-Goro Sakagu-

chi, 1181.

All-Events—Tom Hasegawa, 1919;

Henry Ito, 1795; H. Ichikawa, 1744.

Ragtime Doubles—Toyo Nobuta-Ed

Shimoda, 1261; Frank Sehara-George

Fukui, 1258; John Kajiware-Dick Mi-

yoshi, 1253.

Ragtime Mixed Doubles—Amy Ko-

nishi-Tom Nakayama, 1256; Fusie

Peck-George Otsuki, 1228; Grace Ki-

shiyama-Moon Kataoka, 1223.

**Chapter kegfest  
boasts 645 series**

(Alameda) Manch Mizoguchi won the men's singles trophy in the Alameda chapter JACL bowling tournament Nov. 20 at the Alameda bowl with a total score of 645.

Following him in the singles event were Dr. Roland Kadonaga with a total score of 636 and Don Kuge with 600.

Women's singles trophy went to Betty Akagi who rolled a 540 total. Terrie Kuge scored 527 for second.

Other winners in the handicap event were:

Men's Doubles  
George Ushijima and Roy Okamoto, 1122.

Women's Doubles  
Betty kagi and Marge Furuno, 1017.

Mixed Doubles  
Mits Umena and Yas Yamahita, 1115.

Terrie Kuge and Don Kuge, 1101.

All Events  
Men—Yas Koike ..... 578-546—1124

Women—Terrie Kuge .... 527-567—1094

Up to 35 persons participated in the tournament limited to members of the chapter and their families. Hi Akagi was chairman.

Trophies and cash prizes to all winners were presented during an awards dinner held at the Bamboo Kitchen following the tournament. Yas Koike, chapter president, made the awards.

**Watsonville C. of C.**

(Watsonville) Bill Mine, active JACLer and Nisei leader, was chosen third vice-president of the Watsonville Chamber of Commerce.

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**Four Sansei star on  
Livingston grid team**

(Livingston) Four Sansei gridders very actively completed a most successful year for the Livingston High School football squads.

Yo Shibata, halfback, for the varsity team and Gordon Nagai, right halfback, for the B team played their final games on Nov. 10.

Shibata helped his team with great yardage gains and to a 6-3 record.

Nagai, co-captain of the B team, played a spectacular season of games, helping the winning streak of seven wins, headed by one loss and one tie.

Gene Nagai, right halfback, and Jerry Yotsuya, guard, played excellent games making good yardage for the C's of the Livingston High School. The Cees won all of their games. Gene and Jerry both have two more years with Livingston school, while Gordon and Yo are finishing their high school careers this year.

**French Camp C. of C.**

[French Camp] George Komure was named one of five alternate delegates by the French Camp Chamber of Commerce. John Fujiki and Bob Ota are hold-over directors for 1956.

**Ogawa—**

Continued from Page 3

ought to call Mrs. Sakamoto and inform her Jim had gone to Harborview County Hospital.

"Yeah, that's a good idea. Good boy, Johnny. Thanks a lot," Jimmie answered. "Be sure and tell me now—can I do anything for YOU?"

Neither Closs nor anyone there realized Jimmie was seriously injured and that he would die within four hours then. Someone retrieved Jimmie's cane and with that in his hand, he appeared reassured and relaxed on the ambulance stretcher.

Photographer Closs that night related this incident to Mrs. Sakamoto and then eulogized: "It was so characteristic of Jimmie, and a memory to treasure forever—he asked if he could do something for ME."

The rest of us are comforted to know that a close friend was by Jimmie's side.

**Hawthorne Nisei remains  
reburied after long wait**

(Los Angeles) The remains at Sfc Toru Takai, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenjiro Takai of Hawthorne, were interred last Saturday with military honors at Evergreen cemetery.

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LOS ANGELES NEWSLETTER: by Henry Mori



Horses in Li'l Tokio!

Los Angeles  
■ When Harry Honda called by phone one morning to tell us that Horse had hit a fire hydrant in front of the Miyako Hotel, we thought: by golly, do horses still push wagons along First and San Pedro Sts? But we recovered in time to realize the Horse was none other than our good friend, George "the Horse" Yoshinaga, now in San Francisco with Shima Transfers.

Yoshinaga had hauled a truck trailer load of "mochigome" from South Dos Palos where the Kodas grow rice. He had delivered a shipment to Mikawaya in time for the New Year's traditional mochi sales. When Horse started to drive around the corner, some Los Angeles driver tried to cut across him from a wrong lane. The huge truck sideswiped a fire hydrant clean off its base. That stream of water must have shot passed the third floor level of the hotel.

Anyway, Yoshinaga's sudden mishap had the metro news photographers running down for spectacular shots. Horse even made a radio newscast. One announcer stumbled, "... and the name of the driver was George Yoshinaga..." We used to enjoy George's writings. His select words poured smoothly like good beer. He was one of the very few Nisei columnists who was able to bang out copy every day of the week, including Saturday.

KNOWLAND MEETS NISEI GOP

■ When the Los Angeles County Republican Assembly honored Sen. William F. Knowland at a banquet late last week, the GOP leader met for the first time a new group of Chinese American Republicans who formed an Assembly with assistance from Japanese American brothers. The "brotherhood" meeting before the big banquet at the Alexandria attended by more than 300 was arranged by Rollins MacFadyen, personal friend of the California senator. Li'l Tokio newly naturalized Issei and Nisei citizens sat between Chinese Americans in gesture of "brotherhood and goodwill." They received special recognition during the height of the evening's program.

Introductions were made by Henry J. Tsurutani, president of the Japanese American Republican Assembly, and Emory Chow, chairman pro tem of the newly formed Chinese chapter. Soichi Fukui, one of the Assembly's active officials on the district level, said Mrs. Knowland was very pleased also to learn that so many Issei have become naturalized.

NISEI TRIPLETS BORN

■ Time will work to the advantage of the two survivors of triplets born Nov. 29 to Mr. and Mrs. Kazuo Tasaka, nee Betty Kashiwabara of Hawaii. The two baby girls are confined in an incubator at the County General Hospital. The boy passed away within 24 hours after birth.

None of the triplets were named and the parents are still praying hopefully everything will turn out all right for the two daughters. The couple have two other boys, Daniel, 2½, and Kenneth, 10 months. Attending physician was Dr. Megumi Shihoda. Mrs. Tasaka's sister, Mrs. Harry Miura of Hawaii, also gave birth to male twins.

SAKAMOTO: MAN OF COURAGE

■ We had known Jimmie Sakamoto only for several hours before the war when we had the privilege of having dinner with him with Togo Tanaka. Sakamoto was already blind then but you'd never know that until you got very close to him.

He wore dark glasses. His movements were never halting and he crossed the streets without any "give-away." His blindness was only identified by a small, white cane he carried with him.

He sat down at the table as if he knew where it was. We didn't even know he was totally blind until he told us of his young career as a boxer and how he slowly lost his sight. He kept on telling us to work hard for the good of the Nisei and their parents.

Sakamoto's lack of eye sight did not make him bitter. He passed away, not knowing he was going to die; his courage and stamina to come off the floor never failed him. They never counted him out.

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VITAL STATISTICS

Births

SAN DIEGO  
TANAKA, Paul A.—girl, Oct. 13.  
SANTA MARIA  
NISHINO, Bill—boy, Nov. 7.  
WATSONVILLE  
HIRANO, Bill (Susan Otsuki)—girl, Nov. 20.  
JOFUKU, Kazushige (Jane Kobata)—girl, Nov. 12.  
MARUYAMA, Aatsumu (Frances T. Kozasa)—girl Kim T., Sept. 28.  
NAKAGAWA, H.—boy, 12, Long Beach.  
PATTISON, John C. (Tomiko Sugizaki)—boy James P., Sept. 26.  
TSUTSUI, Art K. (Kazue Tanaka)—girl Charmi F., Sept. 28.  
YAMAKI, Ken K. (Martha M. Itow)—boy Clifford G., Sept. 23.  
WATANABE, Dr. Tom T. (Edith S. Enomoto)—girl Wendy Yo, Oct. 1.

SACRAMENTO

IKESAKI, Tom K.—girl, Oct. 7.  
OTO, Dick K.—boy, Oct. 28.  
STOCKTON  
FUJINAKA, Sam—girl, Nov. 7, Lodi.  
MASUI, Kanichi—girl, Oct. 31, Lodi.  
TAMURA, John—girl, Nov. 6, Lodi.

PLACER COUNTY

HAMASAKI, Akira—boy, Nov. 9, Auburn.  
SUZUKI, Frank—girl, Nov. 14, Loomis.  
YURA, Nobuo—girl, Nov. 11, Auburn.

ONTARIO, ORE.

KUWAHARA, Takeo—boy, Nov. 8, Jamieson.  
TAKAO, George—boy, Nov. 4.

SEATTLE

IMANAKA, Ted K.—boy, Nov. 23.  
ISHI, Nobu—girl, Nov. 14.  
MATSUOKA, Toru—girl, Nov. 23.  
MIGAKI, Thomas—boy, Nov. 7.  
SHOJI, Joseph—girl, Nov. 23.  
TSUBOTA, Chessie—girl, Nov. 23.

DENVER

ARAI, Rupert—girl.  
KAWAMOTO, James M.—girl.  
NEBRASKA  
OKAMOTO, Ted—girl.

CHICAGO

KUKI, Hirodo—girl Setsuko, Oct. 30.  
TOGIOKA, Joe—girl Jan T., Sept. 15.

Engagements

KURUSHIMA-ISERI — Pauline, Los Angeles, to Dick, Long Beach, Nov. 19.  
OKAZAKI-TANAKA — Amy, Gardena, to Donald, Norwalk, Nov. 6.

Marriage Licenses Issued

HIRAI-MATSUSAKA — Paul, 26, Nysa; Virginia, 25, Seattle.  
MORIMOTO-HIRAISHI — Akira, 26; Amy, 23, both Irvington.  
OKADA-KATOW — Kiyoshi C., 32; Yoshiko, 21, both Seattle.  
TANAKA-KITANI — Toshio, 37, Florin; Shizue, 33, San Lorenzo.  
UCHIDA-ASATO — Akira, 29, Wapato; Nancy T., 25, Mabton, Wash.  
YAMAMOTO-KAGIWADA — Yoichi, 21; Jeanne F., 21, both Berkeley.

Weddings

CHAN-MURAKAMI—Nov. 13, George, Sacramento; Martha, El Cerrito.  
ICHINOSE-HATAYA—Nov. 6, Mitsuo, Los Angeles; Miyuki, Richmond.  
IKEZOE-FESTEJO — Nov. 12, Kishito and Nancy R., both Los Angeles.

KATO-YAMAMOTO — Nov. 6, Akira, Mt. View; Fumiko M., Sanger.  
KUMAMOTO-MASUKAWA — Nov. 20, Tsutomu and Michi, both Los Angeles.  
MASUDA-NUMASA — Nov. 20, Archie T. and Frances Eiko, both Los Angeles.  
MIMURA-OHARA — Nov. 20, Robert T., Los Angeles; Helen, Torrance.  
SASAKI-YAMAUCHI — Nov. 20, Shigeto and Mutsuko, both West Los Angeles.  
SEKO-ASAHI — Nov. 20, Roy T. and Misako, both Long Beach.  
TADA-TAKECHI — Nov. 20, George, Los Angeles; Dorothy, New York.  
TAHARATAIRA — Nov. 13, Takeshi and Miyoko, both Los Angeles.  
TAKAHASHI-SASAKI—Nov. 23, Victor S., Los Angeles; Aimes Eiko, Pacoima.

Deaths

HAYASHI, Yajuro: Chicago (formerly of Norwalk, Calif.), Oct. 5, survived by wife Iwa, sons Russell, Shuizo, daughter Mrs. Setsu Kamel, brother Mitsutaro.

IDEMOTO, Mitsui, 52: Watsonville, Nov. 17, survived by wife Haruko, sons Fred, Ted, Bobby, daughter Mary, brother Kenji.

KAMIMURA, Mrs. Mieke, 38: Cortez, Oct. 13, survived by husband Tokuchi, three daughters, sisters Grace and Rose Narita, Mmes. Haruko Narita, Chizuko Hayashida, Yuriko Nakana.

KATOW, Shonsuke, 69: Berkeley, Oct. 14, survived by wife Ise, sons Kazue, Tsugie, daughters Mariko, Yoshiko, Mmes. Tachiki, and Kikuye Suda.

KISHIMOTO, Tsuma: Denver, Nov. 16, survived by son Tom M., daughters Mmes. Kuniko Ito, Amy Takaki, Mae Matsumonji.

MIYAGISHIMA, Seikichi, 71: Warren, Utah, Nov. 4 (tractor accident), survived by sons Sadao, Shin, Shay, daughters Mmes. Isoko Nakatani, Mae Ogino.

MURAKAMI, Miki Y., 76: Salt Lake City, Nov. 14, survived by son Yoshio, daughter Mrs. Mary Doi.

NAKAMURA, Ted T., 43: Payette, Nov. 24, survived by wife, son Teddy, daughters Sheryl, Janet; mother Mrs. Hatsuko, brother Min, sisters Shig Nishimura (Spokane), Yone Kariya, Shig Hironaka.

NAKAYAMA, Mrs. Shizu, 54: Denver, Oct. 27, survived by husband Teru-ichi, sons Yoshikazu, Noboru Shunzo.

SAKAMOTO, Jimmie Y., 52: Seattle, Dec. 3, survived by wife Misao, daughters Marcia, Denise, Mrs. Marie Ishii, Mrs. Frank Foley (Hasbrouck, N.J.), grandson James Roby Ishii, and sister, Mrs. Kei Iyenaga (Fish Creek, N.Y.).

SAWADA, Katsuki, 72: Chicago (formerly of Walnut Grove, Calif.), Oct. 10, survived by wife Kiyu, sons Bob, Takashi, Tomihito, daughters Mmes. Fusaye Morishita, Tsutaye Shinsako and 14 grandchildren.

SHIRAI, Wasaburo, 63: San Francisco, Nov. 25, survived by wife Mitsuye, son Akira (Baltimore).

SHIMA, Kotaro: Hanford, Oct. 25 (funeral).

UYENO, Yoichi, 24: Sunnyvale, Oct. 28, survived by parents Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio, brothers Ryo, Hiroshi.

Christmas Cheer hits \$1,500 mark

(Los Angeles) With Christmas Cheer deadline but six days ahead on Dec. 15, its committee chairman Jim Higashi disclosed the 72 per cent mark of \$2,000 was reached last week with a new total of \$1,534.87.

Further indication of growing support was noted in the \$5 donation from George (Isaka) Ithaca of Borger, Tex. Latest contributions include:

\$25—Elgenes, WLA Jr. Matrons, Yukitaro Kawasaki.  
\$20—Town Hubs.  
\$15—Mrs. Takeyo Mutow.  
\$10—Mrs. Fujiko Haltman, Talisman, Teruo T. Katayama, Southland Nursery.  
\$5—Joseph K. Nomoto, George (Isaka) Ithaca, Bill Matsuura, Mrs. T. Yagi, Mrs. S. Ohara.  
\$2—Marvel Cleaners & Dyers.  
\$1—Nobukazu Tsujimoto.  
Canned Goods—Dawnneues (\$25), Jr. Reginas (\$10).  
Books—Vandas (\$25).  
Toys—William K. Yamamoto (\$10).

Cleveland Jr. Matrons host to over 100 children

(Cleveland) Over 110 children crowded the Calvary Presbyterian Church hall where the annual Jr. Matron's Hallowe'en party was held recently with singing and costume parade led by Henry Tarfaka.

Animals from Mrs. Fleming's Lake Erie Jr. Museum animal lending library were rented for entertainment. May Nakagawa and Janice Kaku chaired the bake sale that followed. Other committeemen were Maria Asamoto, Marian Baba, refreshments; Vi and Lin Takahashi, decorations.

John Hulscher, adult education system instructor, demonstrated cake decorating at the November meeting attended by 27 members. Julia Ikeda and Miyo Yatsu served refreshments.

Jr. JACL project

(Salt Lake City) In order to raise funds for future projects, the Salt Lake Jr. JACL held a movie benefit Dec. 2-3 at the local Buddhist Church.

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**VAGARIES:** by Larry S. Tajiri



**Nisei prima donna**

Denver

"Tomiko Kanazawa received an ovation that rocked the theater," Allen Young, music critic, wrote in the *Denver Post* last Friday. The lyric soprano had sung Cho-Cho-San in "Madame Butterfly" with the Greater Denver Opera Assn. The *Denver Post's* critic turned handsprings for Tomi, praising "the lovely

quality of her performance, which was so sensitively realized in song and movement." "Her characterization of the enchanting heroine was of uncommon authenticity," he continued, "and no less vivid than the natural qualities which she brought to the role was the enrichment of the part by gesture and action which were of stunning quality."

"She uses her voice with intelligence and feeling, an expressive variety of tone, and a remarkable sympathy for the role as Puccini wrote it. She drew the action on by the magnetism which she created, making Cho-Cho-San a figure of allure and charm."

Critic Young's rave was echoed in Denver's other daily, the *Rocky Mountain News*.

**MODEST, UNASSUMING AS ALWAYS**

We saw Tomi two days before the first of her Denver appearances as "Madame Butterfly" and she was the same modest, unassuming person she always has been. In fact, the members of the Denver company were enchanted with her graciousness and her eagerness to help other members of the troupe. Tomi is, in fact, an operatic rarity, a prima donna without temperament.

Yet this season, as during recent years, Tomi Kanazawa probably will appear as Cho-Cho-San more often than any other soprano in the world. Opera has known many famous Butterflies, among them Tamako Miura and Hizi Koyke, but Tomi Kanazawa is making the part of the girl of Nagasaki peculiarly her own. She has almost a score of appearances scheduled in "Madame Butterfly" in Europe in the next five months, and will then return to sing the same role with such local American groups as the Cincinnati opera.

Tomi has been seen and heard by millions in the NBC Opera Theater's first production of Butterfly back in 1951 (another NBC version with Elaine Malbin—Tomi was offered the role again but turned it down because of her Denver commitments—was telecast last Sunday). She sang the part with the New York Metropolitan company on tour, and has appeared with local companies in such cities as San Francisco, New Orleans, Kansas City, Dallas, Fort Worth, Portland and Seattle.

**EUROPEAN TOUR NEXT**

She is leaving for Europe next week and her husband, Leo Mueller, conductor of the chorus for the San Francisco Opera, will be waiting for her in Hamburg, Germany. First on her schedule will be four appearances in "Madame Butterfly" in Helsinki, Finland. Operatic productions, interspersed with concert appearances, follow in Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Tomi doesn't expect to get back to her New York apartment before May. Last year she also was in Scandinavia—and gave a "command performance" before the royal family in Stockholm—and didn't get back from Europe until summer. So it was on a summer day the Muellers opened the presents which had arrived for them the Christmas before.

Tomi sings Butterfly on nearly half of her professional appearances during the year, but in Europe she has appeared in recitals and has sung with orchestras and choral groups. She also has sung in such out-of-the-way places, musically speaking, as Alaska (where she is an established favorite), Puerto Rico and El Salvador. In Vienna last season she varied the routine by singing in a revival of an opera called "Geisha."

Tomi Kanazawa is a native of Stockton, Calif., but was brought up in Los Angeles, attending Jefferson High and L.A. City College. Stockton, incidentally, is the birthplace of another Nisei soprano, Toshiko Hasegawa, whom Tomi met in Milan, Italy this year. Miss Hasegawa who has been in Europe since before World War II has appeared at La Scala and other noted European opera houses.

Tomi was a student at LACC when war came. Her studies disrupted by the mass evacuation order, she was preparing to go to an assembly center with her mother when friends in New York inteceded. She left on March 28, 1942, just before the "freeze" which prohibited further travel by persons of Japanese ancestry out of the coastal area. In New York, Tomi worked and studied for five years before making her professional debut in Scranton, Pa., in 1947. She sang Butterfly that night and has been singing it ever since.

**STILL CONCERNED WITH NISEI**

Despite her annual trips to Europe Tomi has not lost contact with her fellow Nisei and she still is vitally concerned with the group welfare of Japanese Americans. It was this concern which impelled her several years ago to offer to go on a national concert tour to raise funds for the JACL.

Internationally acclaimed for her delineation of Cho-Cho-San, Tomi has been in Japan only once in her life, and then as a small child.

"I would like to go to Japan some day soon," she says. "I'd like to add to my repertoire of authentic Japanese songs."

The Japanese songs are part of Tomi's concert program. But it is for "Madame Butterfly" that she is known best, and is bearing out the prediction which Aiko Tashiro once made in the *Pacific Citizen*: "Tomi may well become this generation's most noted interpreter of the Madame Butterfly role."

**EULOGIES: Continued**

**HE ONCE SAID WITH A LAUGH**

■ In death and after death we must remember Jimmie Sakamoto. He once said with a laugh: "We don't have to write to each other. We are friends and we know and understand each other."

This empathy marked his underlining kindness and humanity, and we cannot forget his struggles, courage and determination through the depression and evacuation. We will remember the inspiration and example he set in the way he lived. In a way he has not died. —TOORU J. KANAZAWA, New York

**Problem of educational opportunities for Nisei parents becomes personal as Sansei children contribute to logjam**

Washington

As the Nisei comes of age as a parent generation, with their children contributing to the logjam of students that crowd our public schools, the problem of educational opportunities becomes a personal one for Americans of Japanese ancestry in this country.

Last week, after four days of intensive meetings, the White House Conference on Education ground to a close. Conferees from all of the 48 states, the District of Columbia, and the Territories of Hawaii and Alaska tried in 30 hours of meetings to answer the six most burning questions facing this country's educational system.

Several Nisei were among those in attendance. Just how many is not known, for the personnel records were not kept on a racial basis. There were about five from Hawaii and perhaps three from the mainland.

**Pros Take Over**

Although there were three laymen to every educator among the 1800 delegates, the so-called "pros" took over early. This is spite of Administration efforts to cull the collective thinking of the Nation—housewives and mothers, businessmen, clergy, bankers, grocers, miners, farmers, etc.

What happened was quite natural. The average participant from grass-roots America acted like laymen at a medical conference. He doesn't understand the terminology. He hasn't defined the problems. He just has an idea about some of the things that might be discussed. He also feels that perhaps the professionals have a special talent for coming to grips with the problems within the framework of their calling because of their familiarity with them. Besides, he just doesn't want to speak up and embarrass those who appointed him by his ignorance or lack of understanding of basic and accepted principles.

But one tired housewife is reported to have said: "All the time I listened to the educators at my table and completely forgot to talk about improving the very institutions that trained them."

The professionals, at least by their reports on behalf of the conference, appear to believe that the American plan of education needs little improvement in either approach or direction. Their emphasis has been on the need for more money for more teachers and more buildings. The reports, according to newspaper pundits, contained as many educational platitudes as a political platform—and, at that, one without concrete promises to improve bad conditions. Fresh and challenging ideas and concepts are conspicuous by their absence.

The conference organization may be partly responsible for the milk-toast content of the reports, which are supposed to be a "distillation" of the thinking of all the delegates.

Each of the six questions was considered first at 166 round tables where ten delegates representing all walks of life got things off their minds. But when these thoughts

were written down, most often by educator-delegates, they seemed to lose life and to assume the usual cliches of the profession.

At the same time, more and more professionals moved on to the smaller tables of chairmen, as the "distillation" process continued to refine the reports. Controversy diminished as the written reports went up to higher conference levels.

As one participant said: "By the time the thinking has been distilled down to the two final chairmen, it has become so refined that there's no life left in it". And another observer remarked: "As the discussion groups get smaller, the sentences get longer".



Conference Chairman Neil McElroy said it would be "impractical" to have floor discussion during a conference of such magnitude. Because of the lack of floor microphones, the delegates had no opportunity to question the chairman's ruling.

**Conceived by Ike**

The Conference was conceived by the President in order that he might gain an insight into what the people wanted, an insight that might be translated into a legislative request in the forthcoming session of Congress next January.

It may well be that this will be the final result of this Conference, but Congress will not consider any program of federal aid for education, even for construction of school buildings, without going into the explosive subjects of segregation and private school participation. The former is dynamite in the south and the latter in the north.

**Conference Report**

For Nisei parents, the following partial text of the report on "What should our schools accomplish?" may be of particular interest.

"The people of the United States have inherited a commitment and have the responsibility to provide for all a full opportunity for a free public education regardless of physical, intellectual, social, or emotional differences, or of race, creed, or religion.

"The fullest measure of local initiative and control should be maintained, but no level of government (local, state, or national) should be relieved of its appropriate responsibility in fulfilling this commitment.

"Education is a sound and necessary investment in the future well-being of our Nation and its citizens.

"It is the consensus of these groups that the schools should continue to develop:

"1. The fundamental skills of communication—reading, writing, spelling, as well as other elements of effective oral and written expression; the arithmetical and mathematical skills, including problem solving.

"2. Appreciation of our democratic heritage.

"3. Civic rights and responsibilities and knowledge of American institutions.

"4. Respect and appreciation for human values and for the beliefs of others.

"5. Ability to think and evaluate constructively and creatively.

"6. Effective work habits and self-discipline.

"7. Social competency as a contributing member of his family and community.

"8. Ethical behavior based on a sense of moral and spiritual values.

"9. Intellectual curiosity and eagerness for life-long learning.

"10. Esthetic appreciation and self-expression in the arts.

"11. Physical and mental health.

"12. Wise use of time, including constructive leisure pursuits.

"13. Understanding of the physical world and man's relation to it as represented through basic knowledge of the sciences.

"14. An awareness of our relationship with the world community.

"To achieve these things for every child, the schools must have an effective program for guidance and counselling in preparation for the world of work.

"In each school an appropriate balance must be maintained in the educational program to insure wholesome, all around development of the individual with provision for the stimulation and development of the useful talents of all children, including the retarded, average, and gifted children.

"So that they can better appreciate the advantages of our democratic way of life, students should be provided with well-balanced courses in the social sciences which includes the historical development of our constitutional form of government and the contributions which the various cultures have made to it.

"All children should be free to seek the truth wherever it can be found."

**Immigration—**

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tional origins principle, with which JACL agreed, for computing quota allocations, nevertheless still indicated their racial preference for European countries and would practically cut out the Asian nations. In any revision of the bill he pleaded that Asia be given equal treatment.

Although the benefits which have accrued particularly to Issei, Nisei, and the Orient by the passage of the Walter-McCarraan Act are well-known to most Nisei, it was interesting to note the consternation and surprise which registered on some of the faces in the committee room when Masaoka stated that prior to the passage of the Act two states under their alien land law barred sale of property even to United States citizens whose parents were aliens ineligible to citizenship, and the many other inequities.

Testifying before the Subcommittee on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 were Paul G. Hoffman, former ECA administrator, chairman of the Ford Foundation, and president of the Studebaker-Packard Corp.; Governor of Michigan G. Mennen Williams; representatives of the American Legion, American Veterans Committee, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Council of Learned Societies, Federation of American Scientists, the San Francisco Bay Area Committee on Immigration, Chinese American Citizens Alliance in San Francisco, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of San Francisco, National Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers; two individuals—James T. Farrell, the author, and Dean Benjamin Youngdahl of St. Louis, Missouri.

Senator Hennings thanked Masaoka for his contribution to the hearings, and it is reported that Masaoka's unique testimony is being studied in the legislative and administrative offices of the government.

**Death—**

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their place in the United States, maintaining that they would be accepted on the basis of character and integrity. Speaking on behalf of the family, Seichi Hara expressed gratitude for the kindnesses extended them during their time of sorrow.

Monsignor Ryan announced that the Archbishop of the Catholic Diocese of Seattle, who had known Jimmie intimately for six years, was unable to attend the Rosary and the Requiem Mass because he had been called away to Sacramento.

**CALENDAR**

- Dec. 10 (Saturday)
  - Eden Township—Christmas party, San Lorenzo Village School, 7:30 p.m.
  - Southwest L.A.—Lunch-box social, Washington, D.C.—Installation dinner-dance, The Occidental (semi-formal).
- Dec. 11 (Sunday)
  - Sacramento—Nisei War Memorial Hall dedication. (Tentative).
- Dec. 13 (Tuesday)
  - Seattle—Election meeting, 1414 Weller St.
  - San Francisco—Auxiliary elections, Booker T. Washington Center.
- Dec. 14 (Wednesday)
  - Southwest L.A.—Meeting, Centenary Methodist Church, 7 p.m. Mike Masaoka, spkr.
  - Florin—Election meeting, Methodist Community Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 16 (Friday)
  - Fowler — Christmas party, Buddhist hall.
  - Idaho Falls—Christmas Party, JACL Hall.
- Dec. 17 (Saturday)
  - Twin Cities—Christmas party, JACC.
  - Sonoma County—Christmas party, Memorial Hall, 7:30 p.m.
  - San Francisco—Auxiliary Christmas party, AFSC, 8 p.m.
- Dec. 18 (Sunday)
  - Stockton—Christmas pot-luck.
  - Dayton—Christmas Party, Dr. H. Yoshihara residence, 3 p.m.
  - Philadelphia—Christmas party, International Institute.