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VERY TRULY YOURS

By HARRY K. HONDA

I've been waiting a half-year to write this piece—our personal thanks to the many who assisted editorially to produce this mammoth Silver Jubilee edition . . . I say half-year because the ideas for this issue started to jell around Fourth of July . . . With experience gained from putting three 72-pagers to bed, it'll be a year-long venture next year. If we can get advertisers to reserve space as early as August, the chapters should be able to increase their accounts.

But, I wanted to mention those who've actually toiled the past week helping us get this off on time . . . Brother Theophane was in a hospital bed reading proof before being operated for his back trouble. We also had a gracious crew of girls: Mmes. Mary Yamasaki, Fumi Yamasaki, Louise Inouye, Misses Micki Mayumi, Mary Arikawa, Etsu Osako, Lily Otera, Blanche Shiosaki, Sophie Natsuhara, and Laura Murata . . . And Jim Higashi, Tats Kuchida, Roy Yamadera, Joe Kim, Haj Inouye, George M. Yamasaki, George P. Yamasaki, Peter Takeuchi, John Saito and Bob Okazaki.

Our thanks also go to Jun Asakura, busy with landscaping the new Shonien Child Care Center, who asked Mrs. Dorothy Sakabe to dream up the birthday cake cover for this edition. She is regarded as one of the top artists for Buzza-Cardozo, Christmas card printers . . . We'd like to introduce another Nisei artist next year—so as soon as the theme is determined for the 1956 edition, we might announce a call for sketches.

We can mention it again, but the San Francisco and Seattle chapters assisted in compiling the Chapter Presidents roll when our sources locally were exhausted . . . A big hand to Daisy Uyeda for preparing the 1000 Club Honor Roll . . . Bouquets to the chapter solicitors who turned in their share of advertising, which compares well with last year's.

Kango Kunitsugu, who did a terrific cover for the Shin Nichi Bei Christmas number last week, helped with designing the artwork for our folio line . . . Ed Kubota sketched the cartoons in the Southwest L.A. chapter report; Mas Kataoka and Michi Asawa collaborated on the annual "Season's Greetings" in the SWLA chapter ad . . . So you can see, a lot of people deserve credit for getting this off on time. Not me.

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

The story of the first Christmas is the most loving story in the world. It is one on which the thinking world has lavished the treasures of its love and its imagination: the shepherds on their knees, the Wise Men with their gifts, the quiet animals in the dusk of the stable, where the Blessed Mother held her Child. This wondrous scene is pictured on the millions of Christmas cards sent throughout the world by thoughtful people who put Christ back into Christmas.



After 2000 years since Christ's coming, the world is still far from perfect, in spite of Christ's teachings. However, the Christian ideal remains: a world ruled by Peace, Love and Justice, where man loves God with all his heart and his neighbor as himself. This message of the first Christmas was given to simple shepherds as they

listened in speechless wonder at the angels singing: *Glory to God in the Highest! Peace on earth, to men of good-will.*

The sound of the heavenly host above the shepherd hills of Bethlehem has been taken up by human voices ever since. It comes to us from the past, and we sing it in troubled times of the present: *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem!*

Christmas will always have an element of wonder about it for thoughtful men and women as well as for little children. The little ones wonder what their gifts will be. Grown-ups know that the real gifts are spiritual ones, not material; namely, God's Son for their salvation. As we gaze at the little image of the Christ-Child on the straw in the Christmas Crib this year, may we keep in mind the wondrous Fact that makes Christmas a reality, the Fact that once long ago, there was a real crib housing a real, living Child, and that Child was really God!

May this Christ-Child be in your heart always. This is our Christmas wish and prayer for one and all. Merry Christmas!

FATHER CLEMENT
Maryknoll Chapel

(Father Clement, who is a member of the Southwest Los Angeles chapter, is well-known to JACLers who heard his prayers of invocation during the last national convention in Los Angeles. The Christmas Story has been told and retold for centuries and it would be amiss if this Holiday Issue failed to devote space to the reason for this joyful occasion.—Editor.)

Native Daughter in Washington

Story of the first Nisei lobbyist
—Miss Suma Sugi of Los Angeles

By MARY OYAMA

LOS ANGELES—That quietly efficient and pleasant Nisei woman named Mrs. Yokotake who is employed as Personnel Clerk in the Food Service Board of the L. A. City Board of Education, is none other than the first Nisei lobbyist to Washington, D. C., the former Miss Suma Sugi.

She was one of the charter members of the original Los Angeles JACL from away back in 1929, when some of our present crop of younger JACLers were mere dawdling babies—if born at all. The following year must have been the year of the first National Convention in Seattle, because as Suma recalls, the 1932 convention was held in San Francisco. "By then," says she, "we (the Nisei citizens) were comparatively well-organized compared to the very beginning of a united Nisei group as conceived and first organized in the middle 20's."

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We first met Suma through snapshots in a photo album belonging to a schoolmate: the picture of a pert young girl wearing a gym middy outfit and autographed with a neatly flowing self-confident hand.

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"Who's that?," we inquired, impressed by the friendly, pleasant face. "Suma Sugi, a very bright girl," replied our chum.

"She used to live near San Jose where I hail from, but she's moved to L. A. You'll have to meet her some day."

And so we did some few years later. Though we can't recall exactly when, if our rusty memory serves us correctly, we do remember one New Year's Eve along about 1930-31 and a dance held at Newman Hall at the L. A. City College campus, after which a group of JACLers and friends went for "breakfast" or post-midnight snack at Lyman's which was still down on Broadway in those days, and in our party were such old-timers as: "Chaz" Kama-yatsu (now of the Hollywood chapter); "Tokie" Slocum, the World War I vet and prominent American Legionnaire; "Chuck" Yoshii, who later became a radio announcer in Japan, and young ladies like Carol Tokunaga (now Mrs. S. Sashihara) and our own Suma who is now Mrs. Hitoshi Yokotake.

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The first Nisei and only lady lobbyist to Washington, D.C., was born in Alviso, Calif., acquired her earliest schooling in Santa Clara county schools, proceeding on to Lincoln High in Los Angeles and graduated from the old UCLA's Teachers' College, which was still on Vermont Avenue. She majored in Business Administration and Commerce, graduating in 1924.

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School life in those days was quite rugged for it was the era of the so-called "anti-Japanese legislation days" prior to the passage of the anti-Japanese Immigration Act of 1924.

As Suma recalls, "It was a tough time to be going to school. Public sentiment was against the Japanese with biased editorials and printed propaganda material fanning racial feelings. Although there was no open or downright hostility expressed against the few Nisei students in attendance, one was more likely to get stared at

rather than met with warm or friendly welcomes at school social functions.

"For this reason, we seldom attended school social functions; we led a more restricted academic life more or less divorced from the purely social side of campus life. Why one semester I even got by without a Student Body card because I had no use for it. No one noticed the difference!"

We agreed that student life in our day was much the same—the cool indifference on the part of non-Nisei toward one at social functions was enough to discourage any sensitive Nisei. Even for a person of Suma's natural friendliness and out-going temperament, this universal coolness was no easy fog to dissipate. Life was easier if one followed the let-alone and be-let-alone policy.

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Now that the climate of the times has changed so radically, it is difficult to understand the furor of protests raised by some parents when John Also (who later became Judge) was elected to the honor of a student body office at Hollywood high.

And even as late as the early 30's there was that tempest at Univ. of Southern California when the girl students hotly debated as to whether Phys. Ed. major Yae Kusayanagi (now Mrs. Gen Nakamura) should be pledged to join the Phys. Ed. honor society or not.

With Suma, we agreed that USC has come a long way with Janet Fukuda (1954 National Convention Queen) now acting as Vice-President of Women at the Trojan institution.

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"Compared with the 'old days,'" Suma added, "both the Nisei and the schools have come a long, LONG way!" If some of our younger Nisei and newer Sansei only knew—

During her school days Suma was member of the Scholarship Club, winner of the Business Essay for 1923, and also a researcher with Henry Shimanouchi (now of the Japanese Foreign Office) under Prof. Edward K. Strong of Stanford University on a vocational research project.

Miss Sugi also served as interpreter for the U.S. Immigration Department.

Each honor and each widening experience well qualified the young Nisei woman as the person to represent JACL at the national Capital and to present the League's views on the matter of restoring full citizenship rights to American women who had lost their American status through marriages to foreign nationals.

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Armed with numerous letters of introduction from California Congressmen to VIPS and other congressman in Washington, the little Nisei lady was sent to the Capitol on funds raised by the JACL aided by interested Issei organizations and friendly supporters.

She did surprisingly well for one so young, so new to Washington, so swaddling babe in the political jungle. Congressman Crail of California gave her a letter to his twin brother, a Judge Crail in D.C.; Congressman Evans and Congresswoman Florence Kahn also gave her assist and eventual entre to the sanctum of Congressman Cable of Ohio who was in-

strumental in the passage of his Cable Bill through both Houses. Suma says she was fortunate in having such influential persons as the daughter of William Jennings Bryan (who had lost her American citizenship by marriage to a Danish citizen) personally interested in the passage of Cable's amendment which restored citizenship rights to such women.

The rights and privileges restored by the Cable Act were particularly pertinent to Nisei, because in the early 20's and 30's and Nisei women had married Issei Japanese nationals and thereby lost American citizenship automatically.

Suma had gone to Washington with her letters of introduction plus special privilege letters to the White House, and with unbounded courage, born perhaps of political naivete but certainly not of ignorance, blithely started storming important doors in February of 1931. Three months later, on the third day of the third month — March 3rd which was significantly enough the Japanese Girls' Festival Day, the Cable Act was passed: assuring retention of American citizenship rights of all women regardless of marriages to foreign nationals, and restoration of full citizenship rights to those who had lost it by such action.

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Thus, the first Nisei woman lobbyist was highly successful in accomplishing her mission and the JACL in its initial step in lobbying experience and securing remedial legislation on the national level, chalked up a worthy group accomplishment.

After her triumphant return, Suma Sugi toured the state giving talks on her experiences before various young peoples' organizations, church groups, JACL chapters, etc., inspiring her fellow Nisei to continue their efforts to establish a place in the sun of full and equal American citizenship.

Along about 1935 Suma married a Nisei man from the Hawaiian Islands, Mr. Hitoshi Yokotake, settled down to a happy domestic life and like the rest of us Nisei living a fairly normal one until the Evacuation upheaval, pushed her through chaotic and stormy ups-and-downs. For a time she lived in the Hawaiian Islands but eventually returned here, where she has been living in our L.A.'s Eastside, quietly and unobtrusively.

However, we have a hunch that after this appears in print, Suma may be in demand by the East L.A. JACL and other chapters for interesting recaps of her pioneering legislative days. Full of lively humor and wit as well as down-to-the-earth innate modesty, Suma Sugi Yokotake is a swell person to be with, to talk and listen to (prepositions be hanged!) —as we wasted almost an hour of her valuable time interviewing her one evening when she was swamped with work. She had a deadline to meet and so did we but with graciousness she took our "snooping queries" in stride, and we in turn, took with high good humor several hours of nocturnal pounding until one ayes. Chore concluded, with kosher vinegared herring-filets and Longhorn cheese washed down with Vino Paisano we stopped to drink a silent solo toast first to Suma, then a second to both the good old days of JACL and the better new days to be.

DR. THOMAS T. YATABE; 1934-36

Grand-father of JACL

By SHIG WAKAMATSU

In seeking a prototype of the Nisei for the central characterization in a novel or a definite history about the Japanese Americans, one would find rich source of material in the personality and life story of Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, the "Grand-Daddy of JACL." Against the background of mixed emotions and problems of an immigrant group in the early twenties, Doc, by his outlook and active leadership, presented the first clear picture of the emerging Nisei Americans and the road they were destined to follow. Born in San Francisco in 1897, one of his early experiences, which in retrospect is symbolic, was the school segregation case in 1906. Very few Nisei today realize that such a problem was faced.

Doc recalls, "We were kicked out of our grade schools that year. Under the ignominious regime of Mayor Eugene Schmitz, the city fathers ordered all Oriental children to attend a segregated school in Chinatown. Unlike the Chinese, we were scattered all over the city, and the intent of the order became obvious."

"But you know," his voice turning somber, "you have to give credit to our Issei parents. They refused to send us to a segregated school. Even though, they, themselves, were not citizens, they thought of their children's constitutional rights as Americans and they fought back on that basis."

At the White House, where the matter became an international issue, President Theodore Roosevelt thoroughly denounced the action of the city and dispatched his Secretary of Commerce and Labor, Victor H. Metcalf, to investigate. It was finally settled when the entire school board and Mayor Schmitz were invited to the White House to meet an angered President.

American Loyalty League discussed in 1919

The story of Dr. Yatabe's contribution toward the formation of the American Loyalty League, forerunner of the Japanese American Citizens League, actually started back in 1919.

Fresh out of the University of California Dental College in 1918, Doc was one of a meager handful of "older" Nisei in the Bay area who were already bumping against hard knocks of discrimination and were doing some thinking about it. Among this group were George Toganaki, now publisher of the Nippon Times, Kay Tsukamoto of San Francisco, Tom Okawara now of Fresno, and Dr. T. Hayashi of Berkeley. The original idea of the American Loyalty League was conceived out of their discussions.

"We realized that our faces were our biggest drawback, in that it sort of created a mental block in the minds of a lot of fellow Americans. We needed something to counteract this, to 'educate' and to get across to the American public that we were loyal American citizens."

They acutely felt the need to know such simple procedures as registering and marking a voting ballot, and perhaps meeting a few political candidates and familiarizing themselves with the issues. At any rate, this informal group called themselves the American Loyalty League. Little did they realize that it was to later develop into a national organization.

By 1922 the group had scattered and Dr. Yatabe became established with a growing dental practice in Fresno, Calif. There he found the Issei community comprised of progressive as well as aggressive men, many of whom operated



The coveted JACL ruby-studded pin awarded for distinguished service to the community is presented Dr. T. T. Yatabe, first JACL national president by JACL Queen, Junko Yoshimoto at Salt Lake City in 1948.

large landholdings despite the existing Alien Land Law. Their problems and concerns in the face of a rising number of discriminatory acts and ordinances caused Doc to recall to mind the 1919 discussions and the philosophy of the American Loyalty League.

Issei fought strong 'yellow peril' press

It was the era of the virulent "yellow peril" press and of the Issei struggle for existence accentuated by political antagonism from all parties. Thus, the Alien Land Law had already cast its black shadows. It was the heyday of the Native Sons of the Golden West, the old American Legion, the Farm Grange, of McClatchy's Sacramento and Fresno Bees, and of Hearst's Examiner. However, there were papers like the influential San Francisco Chronicle and its publisher, Chester Rowell, who gave the people of Japanese ancestry a break and often was outspoken in their behalf.

In communities like Florin and Walnut Grove, attempts were again being made to segregate schools for the Nisei. If every town were to be searched for an ordinance restricting sites for Japanese-owned businesses, it would have been a simple matter.

Motivated by the need for a united effort, Dr. Yatabe plunged into action by organizing the young Nisei in the area with the hopeful support of their Issei parents. This compelling force on Doc's part was to become a lifetime of devotion and sacrifice to the purposes, ideals and traditions of the Japanese American Citizens League.

In due time, contacts were made with leaders in each community between Fresno and San Francisco, and with the financial aid of Issei leaders a statewide meeting of all Nisei groups was called in San Francisco in May, 1923. This became the historic first meeting of the American Loyalty League, which name was proposed by Dr. Yatabe and readily accepted by the group.

"I was so much older than the other delegates that I found myself telling them what to do on most things. Wasn't very democratic," he observed.

A glance at the picture of their first meeting reveals just what Doc meant. Walt Tsukamoto, later to become National JACL President, Shu Sumii, Harry Hata, Hank Tanda, George "Pop" Suzuki, and others appear to be barely out of their teens. It was only natural that sandlot baseball held more attention for them and their contemporaries than a serious discussion on problems that clouded their future.

Doc urged the delegates to return to their communities, organize their chapters, and become active in community affairs. Some 15 chapters with 300 members were formed throughout Central and Northern California. Dr. Yatabe, himself, became the first president of the Fresno Chapter of the ALL.

Observers from Seattle attend 1924 ALL talks

Another conference was called in San Francisco in 1924. The progress of the ALL activities had reached the Pacific Northwest, where an older-aged Nisei group in Seattle had formed the Progressive Citizens League. The lines of communication were being developed as this group sent Clarence Arai, their leader, and Shigeru Ozawa as observers to the 1924 meeting.

In the ensuing years, between 1924 and 1929, Dr. Yatabe's main efforts hinged upon keeping the various ALL chapters alive, but it was an up-hill fight.

"We didn't have the numerical strength to do much about the discriminatory laws on a national level, nor did we have the know-how. So we worked on a community level," he recounted. "Sometimes we got to talk to the people about our problems and other times we couldn't even get an audience with them."

He now had the moral support of his wife, the former Mary Tsumaru, of Santa Rosa, Calif. They were married in November, 1923. "And what we didn't do to keep the chapters alive!" she remarked, indicating that type of behind-the-scenes struggle that is seldom mentioned.

In 1927 Doc called a conference in Fresno in an all-out effort to

revive some of the chapters and to re-organize the entire set-up. Gradually, the ALL learned to function as an organization. Men like Saburo Kido, later to become wartime National President, Walt Tsukamoto, Tamotsu Murayama, and Sim Togatashi were graduating from school and were able to devote their time and energy. This "new blood" gave the much needed impetus on the long road towards the realization of a national organization.

JACL organized at 1929 S. F. conference

In 1929 a delegation from the Northwest, headed by Clarence Arai, met in San Francisco with various representatives of the ALL chapters, including Sab Kido of the Bay area and others southward to Bakersfield. The result of this meeting was the formation of the National Japanese American Citizens League.

Prolonged discussion and arguments followed on the decision of naming the new national organization. Dr. Yatabe's opposition to the name was based on the very grounds that others advocated it—that it carried a racial connotation to the group. There is a warm spot in Doc's heart for the Fresno unit, which is still known today as the Fresno ALL Chapter of the JACL.

So enthused was the Seattle delegation over this 1929 meeting that they bid to sponsor the first national convention over the Labor Day holidays in 1930. Although Doc was unable to attend this first convention due to the impending arrival of his son Dudley, he has not missed a single one since.

The entire Southern California area was non-active at this time. In order to fill the gap, the second national convention met in Los Angeles in 1932. Up to this point, the JACL operated without a nationally elected cabinet.

By 1934 the National Constitution had evolved to the point that Dr. Yatabe was elected JACL's first constitutional president at the '34 National Convention in San Francisco. His fellow cabinet officers were James Sakamoto, vice-president; Sim Togatashi, as treasurer; and Saburo Kido, executive secretary.

Other leaders of those days whom he vividly recalls were Clarence Arai, Seattle; Dr. Harry Kita, Salinas; Dr. George Hiura, Sebastopol; Fred Hirasuna, Fresno; Tom Shimasaki, Lindsay; Frank Ishii, Long Beach; Ken Matsumoto, John Ando and Kiyoshi Higashi, Los Angeles; and Mamoru Wakasugi, Portland.

Little were the pre-war critics' "mere social organization" aspects evident upon examining the National program during Dr. Yatabe's administration from 1934 to 1936. We speak of "JACL attaining maturity" after the experience of the mass evacuation and the war, but certainly it was not the lack of maturity or vision on the part of its national leaders to which the phrase applies.

National program of 1934 with four targets

Let us consider the fact that in 1934, with less than one-fourth of the potential eligible Nisei as members, the National program consisted of the following salient objectives:

- (1) To secure amendment to the Cable Act.
- (2) Citizenship for the Oriental Veterans of World War I.
- (3) Naturalization privileges for the Issei.
- (4) Endowment Fund of \$100,000.

One can wonder what would have been the effect on our wartime experiences if the hopeful support of 20,000 members who flocked to JACL on the eve of evacuation were available in 1934 to help attain the third and fourth

objectives. The intrinsic value in such a question lies in the lesson it carries for us today in the necessity of achieving present-day objectives.

The Cable Act, it may be recalled, abridged the American citizenship affecting Nisei women who married alien Isseis. To carry out the necessary work in Washington, JACL called upon a brilliant and charming Los Angeles miss, Suma Sugi, to be its first Washington lobbyist. She ventured into the Capitol armed with a few letters of introduction from California congressmen and a round-trip train fare in her handbag.

Whether or not she enchanted the legislators into concession, she seemed to have encountered little difficulty in chalking up the first National JACL legislative victory, which enabled these women to regain their citizenship. What became of Suma? "Wish I knew," Doc drawled, "she sort of disappeared into the Los Angeles population along about the time of evacuation..."

In connection with the second objective, there were approximately 700 Issei who served in the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe. JACL believed that at least the privileges of the franchise could be bestowed upon them. The campaign to secure this piece of legislation centered about a colorful Canadian-born veteran, Tokutaro Nishimura Slocum.

A gifted orator, his job was to appear and speak before the various national encampments of veterans organizations which were scheduled that year. On a shoe-string operation he started out with just enough funds to get himself to Kansas City.

Struggle of Slocum for AEF Issei veterans

Meanwhile, Doc, Sab Kido and Company were scurrying around to raise funds, much of it from their own pockets, for the next leg of his trip to Indianapolis. Tortuously, after frantic wires for more funds and by way of New Orleans, Tokutaro finally reached Washington and successfully completed his mission. The support he gained from the national chairman of the American Legion's Americanization Committee and the late Congressman Bud Gearhart of Fresno, who introduced the bill in Congress, figured prominently in the passage of this legislation.

Naturalization privileges for the Issei as the strategic legislative objective was given its first formal policy status by JACL during Dr. Yatabe's tenure. It was recognized that with the granting of citizenship rights, the basis of all discriminatory laws against the Issei can be abolished. However, in the face of massed opposition, prospects for its early achievement were bleak. Nevertheless, this objective was followed steadfastly in the thinking and action of National JACL leaders through each successive administration. At a precious price of blood and property demanded by a world war, it finally became a reality in 1952.

The need for an emergency "war chest" was also recognized by the National Council. In 1936, with the formation of the National Endowment Fund for \$100,000, Dr. Russell WeHara of Oakland donated the first \$1,000 to spearhead the drive. Here again, vision outstripped capabilities, for at the time of Pearl Harbor, only \$5,000 had been accumulated. "If there was a fund created as envisioned," Mike Masaoka often reiterates, "the evacuation with its consequent suffering and losses might never have happened."

Two goals of 1934 finally achieved

In retrospect of his term of (Turn to next Page)

JIMMIE Y. SAKAMOTO: PRESIDENT 1936-38

Blind, But With Vision

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Jimmie Sakamoto, one of the colorful of Nisei personalities, was national JACL president from 1936 to 1938. As Nisei history goes, that was a long time ago. His name may be unfamiliar to many of "The Pacific Citizen's" newer readers, but no one who ever met Sakamoto could forget him. He is that kind of man.

Sakamoto was elected at the national JACL convention held in Seattle where he published "The Japanese American Courier," the first all-English Nisei newspaper. I happened to talk with him soon after he was told he had been elected. He was stunned. He had

not expected the office. He was overwhelmed by the honor and honestly concerned about his ability to meet the responsibilities of the presidency.

In the privacy of his sparsely furnished newspaper office, Jimmie talked over his doubts with his wife, Misao, and a few close friends. Only then did he feel free to accept, with humility, the call to office.

In reality, Jimmie Sakamoto was the only person worried in the least about his fitness to lead the Japanese American Citizens League. His election was acclaimed universally as overdue recog-

nition for nearly a decade of stubborn, unremitting, unrewarded labor on behalf of the Citizens League movement.

During those years it was impossible to distinguish between Jimmie Sakamoto's twin roles as newspaper publisher and JACL mainspring. He had founded "The Courier" as the voice of the Nisei, and in his mind the JACL movement was the Nisei movement. But while "The Courier" spoke eloquently and well, it was never a financial success. The Northwest Nisei population was not ready to support a newspaper of its own. The result was that "The Courier" yielded meager material returns and much of the time the Sakamoto family was on the border of actual want.

No doubt it was this knowledge that made Jimmie hesitate about accepting the presidency. But if Jimmie was something less than a money-making success as a pub-

lisher, he had many another quality to fit him for the job of national JACL president.

★ ★ ★

Jimmie was a man of ideas and action. He was no intellectual, but he was intelligent and he had an instinct for timing. He was also a man of powerful convictions. One of them had to do with the destiny of the Nisei as Americans.

Long before most of them were aware of the meaning of the words, Jimmie was saying as often and as forcefully as he could that the Nisei had both opportunity and responsibility to contribute to the welfare of the greater American community.

★ ★ ★

Dynamic and persuasive, he inspired others to follow his lead. He was a powerful old school orator. When he rose to speak, others listened. Few who ever

heard him could forget that pale, intense face, the words that poured from his lips.

Most of all, Sakamoto had faith—faith in the goodness and opportunity of America and the Nisei's ability to utilize their heritage of two Pacific cultures.

I first met Jimmie nearly a quarter of a century ago. I was just a kid out of high school and he offered me a job on his newspaper. It wasn't much of a job really, but jobs were pretty scarce in the depression year of 1933. I worked for him for nearly four years while going to college and it was the best kind of journalistic training. I got to know Jimmie pretty well.

★ ★ ★

Jimmie was, and is, completely blind. The first time I met him he noticed he had the

(Continued on Next Page)

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Yatabe —

(Continued from Preceding Page) office, Dr. Yatabe derives his greatest satisfaction and pride from the fact that the campaigns for Issei naturalization privileges and the Equipment Fund were given their initial start at the time. Today, 20 years later, thousands of Issei have become American citizens, and the Endowment Fund has reached the \$100,000 level with an even higher goal of a million dollars for the future.

What were the other concerns of JACL in 1935? Mainly they were internal and local in nature. Representations were instituted against various state discriminatory laws, in such matters as fishing and hunting privileges for Issei and, of course, the Alien Land Law.

A serious threat to the unity of the young organization presented itself when Southern California insisted upon proportional representation in the National Council. This was resolved successfully on the argument that JACL must preserve its national stature by retaining the system of the single vote per chapter regardless of size.

"Things are different today," Doc said, "Southern California is now a backbone of the organization."

Meeting the national budget was a perennial headache, as it is today. Doc continued, "In those years it was \$2,000 annually which we couldn't make, and we had a spectacle at the convention with the chapters quibbling for two days over a 25-cent raise in the subscription rate of the Pacific Citizen."

A measure of how far we have come since those days was demonstrated at the 1954 Los Angeles Convention when the proposal to raise the per capita national dues from \$1.50 to \$2.00 was acted upon with such perfunctoriness that it left Sim Togasaki and Dr. Yatabe scratching their heads.

Sim Togasaki was the driving force behind the Pacific Citizen, as he still is today. The paper was published in Seattle in James Sakamoto's Japanese American Courier plant.

Since there was no national director, as we have in Mas Satow today, visitations and correspondence to the 20-odd chapters which comprised the national organization fell upon the shoulders of the national officers.

Along with other officers and chapter representatives, Dr. Yatabe attended the emergency National Council Meeting called by National President Saburo Kido in San Francisco in February, 1942.

Their experience of meeting with General De Witt's staff in an effort to stave off the threatened evacuation was "like running into an absolute stone wall."

This was the bitterest of Dr.

Yatabe's long experiences. "It would have been an easy matter to throw up the whole thing and show defiance which we naturally felt inside. But that was the trap our old enemies were waiting for us to fall into. We had to think responsibly, not only of the immediate welfare of our people but of the future welfare of generations to come."

After the decision at San Francisco, there was no alternative but to cling Jason-like to the faith in the ultimate triumph of justice and fair play during the dark days that followed.

As soon as Doc and his family reached the Jerome Relocation Center in Arkansas, he was summoned along with Frank Ishii, James Yoshinobu and Tom Shimazaki to attend the grim emergency national council meeting of November, 1942, in Salt Lake City.

With the JACL fighting for its very existence, "some of the hardest decisions affecting the future of Japanese Americans had to be made then," he said, "but that would be getting into Sab Kido's story."

Attending that meeting had its consequences for him. Whatever anguish he had suffered, no bitterness remained as he described the attempt that was made on his life in the relocation center.

"My glasses flew off in one direction and the next thing I knew I was on the floor under a pile of bodies. A pair of shears was coming down and I remember gripping a wrist. . . . His injuries confined him to doctors' quarters for a month. It was a black winter and the lowest point in his life."

No sooner did the Yatabe family unpack their suitcases at the Brethrens Hostel in Chicago in April of 1943, and a wire from Sab Kido arrived requesting Doc to take charge of the Chicago JACL office. The office on Madison Street was opened in February by George Inagaki to help the evacuees in their relocation; however, a month later Inagaki was called into service.

It was the challenge again, the same as it was 20 years before in Fresno, only this time Doc was an older warrior, aged 46, with a protesting family to contend with. Setting aside his hopes of establishing a new dental practice, he accepted the \$125 per month position. "I couldn't turn Sab down," was the way he explained it.

With the former Fumi Yaki, now Mrs. William Hoshiyama of San Francisco, as secretary, he tackled the job of public relations to pave the way for the arriving hundreds from relocation centers.

Cooperating with the WRA, the American Friends, and other civic and church agencies, he spoke before countless groups at factories,

student bodies, churches, and civic organizations. He relied upon the same principle of education that he had applied from the days of the old American Loyalty League—to break down the barriers of employment and housing for evacuees. During this phase of work, the one person whom Dr. Yatabe remembers as being most helpful and effective was Dr. Homer Jack, the hard-hitting Executive Director of the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.

Dr. Yatabe completed two extended speaking tours in 1943 and 1944 outside the Chicago area. They were made possible through funds from a \$5,000 grant of the Carnegie Endowment Fund for Peace, which was the work of Teiko Ishida, now Mrs. Mickey Kuroiwa, who served as Eastern JACL representative.

Featuring Soprano Ruby Yosino, Dr. Yatabe on the Eastern trip spoke on the story of the Japanese Americans in every major city between Boston and Washington, D. C. Contacts and schedules were made possible through the efforts of Peter Aoki, the then New York JACL representative. Some of Doc's memorable experiences were a talk before the Harvard Executive Club in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a sermon in Trinity Church one Sunday afternoon in Boston, and a rugged schedule of five speeches in one day in Philadelphia.

On the Midwest States tour he took along his whole family. His son Dudley, then 14, was a boy soprano and an accomplished pianist and usually stole the show from his dad, while his charming wife Mary acted as observer.

In all of his experiences on the tours, Dr. Yatabe found ample vindication of his faith in the innate sense of justice and fair play of fellow Americans.

Members of the Harvard Executive Club, after hearing his story directed questions at him and inquired how they can help to reaffirm the Nisei's faith in America. A little old lady came up to him after his sermon in Trinity Church and pressed a neatly folded dollar bill into his hands, a simple gesture which touched Doc's heart very deeply.

After helping to establish the Chicago JACL Chapter, Dr. Yatabe re-entered the dental practice in 1945. He is still very much active today, as an elder statesman of the National Board, truly the Grand Father of JACL. There was a twinkle in his eyes as he looked at his wife Mary.

"I can't recall how many times she's had her bags packed and ready to go home because of JACL. And she still may do just that yet!"

Blind But With Vision-

(Continued from Page 4)

odd mannerism of raising his sightless eyes and looking toward a calendar on the wall whenever he mentioned dates. I got the weird feeling that he could see.

He was so independent, so sure and natural in his movements that people often forgot he lived in darkness.

Some individuals, persons who knew Jimmie as a boy, used to say he never would have amounted to darn if he hadn't lost his eyesight. This is a cruel thing to say, even in jest, and I disagree. I believe his native intelligence and ambition would have carried him to the top under any circumstances. What these old friends were doing was to remember only that he was a spirited, strong-willed youngster who was not at all averse to going far out of his way to raise all kinds of hell. The loss of sight only accelerated the maturing of Jimmie Sakamoto.

He was one of three children, and the only son, of Osamu and Tsuchi Sakamoto, natives of Yamaguchi Prefecture. They arrived as immigrants in Seattle in March, 1894, soon moving to Tacoma to work in the kitchen of a Japanese restaurant.

After that Osamu Sakamoto worked as a farmhand and in a sawmill at Port Blakely before returning to Seattle in 1897 to start the first Japanese restaurant there, a place he called Kagetsu.

The older Sakamoto was a pioneer in ways other than the fact of being an early immigrant. In 1898 he started the first Japanese-owned used furniture store. Both he and his wife were in their nineties when they died a few years ago.

Jimmie was born in Seattle in 1908. He was named Yoshinori, but he preferred Jimmie, spelled with an "ie." He went to Pacific grade school, and then to Franklin High in Seattle where he became an athletic immortal.

Although he weighed little more than 120 pounds, Sakamoto was a star halfback on the Franklin varsity football team that defeated arch-rival Broadway in 1920 for the first time in the history of the schools. Speedy, pugnacious and tough, Sakamoto was a brilliant ballcarrier and a defensive heart. He also played basketball at Franklin and was something of a star at judo which he had taken up at the age of 6.

Meanwhile, he was showing more than ordinary interest and skill at boxing. He loved to fight. More than once he was admonished by his judo instructor, Prof. Tokugoro Ito, for being too strongly devoted to boxing. But he didn't begin to box seriously until he drifted off to New York, soon after being with the vague intention of going to college.

New York was a fascinating place. School, he soon found, held little appeal. Sakamoto took a job as English editor of the "Japanese American" in New York City. One night a week he went to the Dutch Reformed Church hall on West 123rd and Lenox avenue to teach boxing to members of the Japanese Christian Institute.

Judo and fencing also were being taught there. The fencing instructor was a Japanese actor named Seisue Hayakawa.

One day when Jimmie was offered a bout on a pro card he snapped it up to make a little extra money. It was a decision that affected the course of his entire life.

Jimmie cannot recall today exactly how many professional bouts he had. He says they were not numerous, but others remember that he went into the ring often, sometimes under an assumed name so that he could fight more frequently than the regulations allowed. He fought as bantamweight, featherweight and junior lightweight and most of his opponents, he says, were mediocre.

But he met some top-notchers, too, and was the first Nisei to appear at Madison Square Gar-

That was the night he boxed Jackie Snyder in the special feature preceding the Kid Kaplan-Babe Hermann world's featherweight championship bout. The names of his other opponents don't mean a great deal today, but for the record they included Clark Anderson, bantamweight title contender; Emanuel Flores of the Philippines and Phil Richards of England.

One day in 1926 Jimmie took a clout on the head that didn't seem to be anything extraordinary at the time. Unknown to Jimmie, the blow had started a detachment of the retina in the left eye.

He continued to fight until some months later another blow completely detached the retina of his good right eye. Only then did an examination reveal that sight of the left eye was failing, and soon he would be blind.

Sakamoto took the news philosophically and with characteristic courage. Winding up his affairs in New York, he returned in November, 1927, to his parents' home in Seattle. To prepare for approaching blindness he would tie a handkerchief over his eyes and walk up and down stairs and through the house to familiarize himself with every room and hallway.

The Jimmie Sakamoto who came home to Seattle at 24 was a more thoughtful, more mature man than the lad who had gone east a half dozen years earlier. He was disturbed to find the Japanese community divided by a bitter rivalry between two athletic clubs, the Taiyos and the Nippons.

President and founder of the Taiyos was George Ishihara, a boyhood friend of Jimmie's. Sakamoto urged Ishihara to unite the Taiyos with the Nippons to end the ill feeling. Ishihara countered with a proposal that Sakamoto try to unite the community by revitalizing a semi-defunct local organization with the formidable name of Seattle Progressive Citizens League.

This was a group founded in Seattle in the spring of 1921, after Sakamoto had gone east, with the hope of combating an anti-alien land law movement in Washington. Shigeru Osawa, one of the Northwest's first Nisei, was elected president. Ishihara was secretary and Miss Yuki Higashi was treasurer.

Despite the Progressive Citizens League's efforts, Washington adopted the anti-alien land law and the organization all but folded up. From 1921 until 1928 it held but three meetings and the original officers continued in their posts.

Sakamoto saw the League as a logical rallying ground for all Seattle area Nisei. He also realized that the Nisei need a voice, a newspaper.

On the basis of his three years experience as English editor in New York, and with the meager savings he had accumulated, he launched "The Courier" as a weekly newspaper on Jan. 1, 1928. He was practically blind at the time.

The first issue carried an editorial which outlined the need for reorganizing the Progressive Citizens League. Shortly, with Osawa's approval, a League meeting was called. Clarence Arai, an attorney, was elected president. Other officers were George Ishihara, vice-president; Kimi Takahara, secretary; Yuki Higashi, treasurer.

The first order of business was to re-align the League's aims. It had been organized to combat anti-Japanese legislation. Sakamoto insisted that this negative stand should be scrapped for one of positive Americanism.

"Instead of worrying about anti-Japanese movements," he said, "we must exert our efforts toward building the character of the second generation so that we may become loyal and useful citizens who can contribute toward the greatness of American life."

This was the theme he was to reiterate through the years, both as publisher and JACL leader. From the beginning the new



Jimmie Sakamoto (second from left) stands in front of his newspaper office with members of his staff, including his wife and the author of this story (to the right).

Citizens League adopted a strong missionary attitude. Soon after its reorganization, Arai was dispatched to help Oregon Nisei found the Portland Progressive Citizens League.

Meanwhile, similar movements were stirring among California Nisei. In August, 1928, the Seattle group was invited by the American Loyalty League of Fresno (where Dr. T. T. Yatabe was a prime mover) to a conference of Nisei leaders. Arai and Ishihara were delegated to attend.

The two were en route to Fresno when Sakamoto's office received a telegram saying the meeting had been cancelled. After hurried consultation it was decided to instruct the two emissaries to continue their trip and carry word of the "Citizens movement" throughout California. They traveled as far as Los Angeles. In San Francisco they met with Saburo Kido, Susumu (Sim) Togasaki, Dr. Henry Takahashi, Tamotsu Murayama and others to lay plans for a coast-wise conference there in April, 1929.

That meeting was held as scheduled. Representing the Seattle group, Arai presented three proposals which had been drawn up in "The Courier" office: To form a national organization; to hold a founding convention in Seattle in 1930; to call the organization the Japanese American Citizens League. These proposals were adopted and Arai was elected president pro tem.

A sturdy handful of Nisei registered for the convention in Seattle. California sent delegates from Brawley, Fresno, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Newcastle, Stockton and San Jose, Washington had representatives, in addition to Seattle, from Bellevue, the Yakima Valley, Auburn, Spokane, Vashon Island, Fife, Tacoma, Kent, Winslow, and five members of the Uno family from the town of Foster. Portland was represented by five Nisei. Hawaii sent Tasuke Yamagata. Seichi Konzo came from Urbana, Ill. Tokutaro Nishimura Slocum registered from New York.

And thus was the JACL born, fathered in some considerable part by the vision of sightless Jimmie Sakamoto.

Jimmie is the first to disclaim credit. In response to some questions I asked him while preparing this story, Jimmie wrote: "Whatever credit people gave me while doing JACL work really belongs to others who in their kind way favored me with their support. I say this not out of modesty since I could never have done anything myself without the wholehearted cooperation and efforts of others."

"The man I would like to see given greater recognition for his JACL work is Sim Togasaki. Without him, I doubt that the JACL could have become the organization that it is today. He was the man behind the scenes, giving the JACL strength and vitality to carry on as a national organization."

The JACL movement grew rapidly. As more and more Nisei became of age, chapters sprang up in various parts of the three Pacific coast states.

But Sakamoto's "Courier" was having a rough time. Within four months of its founding, the newspaper was in financial straits. Within nine months the stock

market crashed and the depression began. Somehow "The Courier" limped along from week to week with Jimmie and his bride, Misao, managing to meet deadlines and bills only with heroic effort.

By the fall of 1931 "The Courier" had progressed to the point where the Sakamotos thought they could see daylight ahead. Then tragedy hit the entire Northwest Japanese community with a body blow in the shape of a bank failure. The Japanese Commercial Bank in Seattle, where virtually all the Japanese did business, went broke.

All "The Courier's" money was tied up in the bank. So were Jimmie's personal funds, and his father's. Worse yet, "The Courier's" advertisers and subscribers were hit, too, and out of consideration for them no bills were issued for several weeks.

When at last some funds were collected the Sakamotos deposited the money at the American Exchange Bank and prepared to do business again. Sixty days later this bank, too, closed. Some "Courier" checks, written originally on the Japanese Commercial Bank, re-written on the American Exchange Bank, were caught short again. The Sakamotos paid some bills three times. The economy of the community hit rock bottom and "The Courier's" income reflected this state of affairs.

Jimmie, his wife, infant daughter and parents were living at this time in a dark, rickety old house on Washington Street. The house was not far from the red light district, high on a hill overlooking downtown Seattle. It had a wonderful view but not much of a foundation. The hill was slowly sliding away. Each new storm threatened to send the house crashing down the slope and, as everyone knows, it rains almost all the time in Seattle. Eventually the Sakamotos did move, and the house was demolished soon afterward.

Meanwhile, "The Courier" was performing yeoman service for the community. In addition to publishing the news, it sponsored baseball, football and basketball leagues for young Nisei, ran a radio program for the Issei, sponsored a cooking school.

Unfortunately, the athletic leagues had the cream taken off them by the English sections of the two daily Japanese newspapers. They published scores and detailed accounts of the games the day after they were played while "The Courier" had to wait a week.

Most Nisei in those days were hard put to scratch together \$2 for a "Courier" subscription. They thought "The Courier" was swell, but they looked for their news in the English sections of the papers their parents subscribed to.

Throughout "The Courier's" 14½ years of life, ended by Gen. John DeWitt's evacuation order in 1942, Sakamoto insisted on devoting a large amount of space to matters that failed to interest the majority of Nisei.

Accounts of national and international events took up a large part of the front page. On page 2 were lengthy editorials about matters such as tariffs, Europe, congress and occasionally, "the second generation." ("Nisei, a

non-English word, was taboo, which made headline writing somewhat of a problem.)

The succession of Nisei newsmen who worked for Jimmie argued often for a more popular level of editorial content but he was adamant. He insisted that the Nisei must be made aware of the world about them. It was a noble ideal, but practically speaking the Nisei were scarcely ready for such a reading diet.

Jimmie ran the editorial side with the help, over the years, of a number of aspiring Nisei newspapermen. Misao had charge of the backshop, kept the books, sent out the bills, swept out the office with the help of young Satoshi Hoshi who lived with the Sakamotos. Jimmie covered the town by telephone. He memorized scores of numbers and dialed them himself. He typed out his stories on a little Underwood portable.

When the issue was off the press, Misao and the current secretary would wrap and mail the papers, after which Misao and Jimmie would set out together to try and sell a few ads or collect overdue bills.

"The Courier" was leading just such a precarious existence when Jimmie was elected JACL president. Together with the problems of his own existence, he took on the issues that beset the national organization.

One of his first acts was to launch the "second generation development program" under the direction of Masao Satow, then assistant national secretary. Sakamoto's intention, once again, was to press for strong, loyal Nisei citizens who could contribute to America socially, economically, and politically as intelligent voters.

The JACL attracted international attention when Sakamoto was moved to reply to the Japanese foreign minister, Koki Hirota. Bunji Suzuki, a left-wing member of the Japanese diet, had questioned Hirota about the government's plans for educating the Nisei, and Hirota's reply was not to Sakamoto's liking.

Bristling, he promptly issued the following statement:

"As Foreign Minister Hirota said, we are Japanese by race. However, we are Americans at heart. Legally, we are American citizens and that legal status is our most cherished possession over which we do not desire, nor will we ever permit, Japan or any other foreign power to exercise influence or control. Loyalty is the higher essence of ethics. Being American citizens is not only a matter of pride with us, but a matter of loyalty to the United States."

A copy of the statement was dispatched to the Japanese ambassador in Washington, and the wire services picked it up. The story was printed on both sides of the Pacific. Hirota followed up quickly with a statement to the effect that his reply to Suzuki had been misconstrued, and that the Japanese government had no intention of influencing the education of the Nisei in America or in any other country. It was exactly what Sakamoto wanted.

When war came, Sakamoto as past national president was among those summoned to the JACL emergency conference in San Francisco. There, JACL officers and counsellors decided to move national headquarters to Salt Lake City, and agreed that an evacuation order, if it came, must be obeyed.

"You will recall," Jimmie wrote to me, "we in Seattle agreed to march loyally, if the evacuation order came, to assist the American war effort. The same spirit was expressed at the conference and I am happy to say that while there was sadness in the hearts of everyone there, not a dissenting voice was raised to fight the evacuation if the government should order it. That was a major test of our Americanism and we came through flying colors."

In Seattle, Sakamoto had organized a local JACL emergency committee to cushion the shock

(Continued on Next Page)

Blind But With Vision—

(Continued from Preceding Page) of war, interpret bewildering government red tape and otherwise ease the burdens of the community. Under his direction the committee collected a mass of information about the economic contribution Japanese Americans were making in the Northwest. This information, which surprised the Nisei themselves, was printed and widely circulated after it had been submitted to the Tolan Committee in an effort to forestall the evacuation order.

Appearing before the committee, Sakamoto spoke eloquently against indiscriminate mass evacuation. He concluded his testimony by pledging loyal cooperation if the government would that he and his people must be uprooted.

But once the urgency of the dark days immediately after Pearl Harbor had been replaced by the tensions and frustrations of relocation center life, Sakamoto suddenly found himself being made the scapegoat.

Disgruntled individuals, first at Puyallup Assembly center and then at Minidoka WRA camp in Idaho, blamed him for everything from the evacuation itself to inadequate food and clogged latrines. For Jimmie it was a period of disillusion. He quietly bowed out of camp politics. He made one gallant, futile gesture—volunteering for military service. The army had no place for a blind man.

Relocation divided the Sakamoto family in the summer of 1944. Misao took her two older daughters, Marie and Marcia, to St. Mary's College in South Bend, Ind., where she could work and the children go to primary school. Jimmie remained in Minidoka with his parents (both 81 years old at the time) and one-year-old Denise who had been born at Minidoka.

When the west coast was reopened Jimmie returned alone to Seattle in July, 1945. Some old friends, Harold Schaeffer and his wife, helped Jimmie locate a house. Two months later Jimmie's parents joined him in Seattle. In June, 1946, Misao, with her baby and the other two children came home.

Many friends urged Jimmie to start up "The Courier" again. Jimmie pondered his sense of responsibility toward the people then returning to the Northwest. He remembered the lean years as

a publisher, considered his obligations to his growing family.

Other friends offered to set him up in business. One proposal was to take over a dress manufacturing concern. Another was to go into the investment and realty business. Jimmie was still undecided when his good friend, Father Leopold Tibesar dropped by and invited him for a ride. Father Tibesar was the Maryknoll priest who had converted the Sakamotos to Catholicism.

Jimmie remembers the day Father called. It was the hot, sultry afternoon of August 22, 1946. Father said he wanted to see Pete Emt, general manager of the St. Vincent de Paul Salvage Bureau. Says Jimmie:

"Being a member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, it did not seem odd for me to go along. Father and I sat in Pete's office, talking about one thing and another, for almost an hour. Then suddenly Father Tibesar asked me if I would like to work at the Bureau. Pete joined in the question. I told them about the business propositions I had, but after another half hour of discussion they finally got me to agree to come down on Monday and try it out. I am still trying it out, in my tenth year now."

Emt had been skeptical about employing a blind man when Father Tibesar first talked to him about Jimmie. "Jimmie Sakamoto can do anything," Father Tibesar assured him. "Give him a desk, a telephone and two weeks and see what happens."

Jimmie started a telephone solicitation campaign. All day long he called from a list of numbers that had been prepared for him, asking for discarded goods that cluttered basements and attics. The salvage business boomed.

A year ago, Jimmie Powers of the New York "Daily News" had occasion to remember Sakamoto in his daily "The Powerhouse" sports column. Quoting a correspondent, Powers wrote for his millions of readers:

"Jimmie is head of the pickup and telephone solicitation department of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul on the shores of Lake Union in the center of Seattle...

"It is one of the largest salvage operations in the world and you can find Jimmie at work there from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. sparking the operations of the bureau, sal-



Rare and valuable items sometimes show up in the salvage collection. This pair of Shinto images were returned to their original owners when newspaper publicity brought attention to its real value. Salvage Bureau employees call the pair, "Leo, the Lip" and "The Visiting Fireman."

vaging everything from broken glass fishermen's floats to several old ships that are tied up at the dock. The Maryknoll Fathers got Jimmie his job and his superior says: "I was doubtful as to what a blind man could do in this 3½-acre madhouse... but Jimmie's coming raised the standards of personnel performance and office practice... the undertaking was parlayed up from a handful of clothes and shoes to a yearly gross of \$500,000, a payroll of \$390,000 for 200 workers. More than 52,000 free meals were served last year and food, clothing and furniture distributed from 14 branch retail stores by 28 trucks..."

The grim, hungry days seem far away now, but the Sakamotos have not forgotten those times. They recall, for instance, when they wept over a check

they found in the mail one morning after they returned to Seattle.

Unknown to the Sakamotos, old friends like Dr. Russell Wehara and Sim Togasaki had raised a fund among Jimmie's prewar associates.

They had sent the money to Jim and Misao, suggesting that it be used to get a Seeing Eye dog, or be spent in any other way that would help the Sakamotos get on their feet.

Jimmie decided there were GIs who needed one of the limited number of dogs more than he did. Some of the money went for an operation he needed. The rest was applied on a down payment for a modest house.

"We were so grateful for the money," Misao says. "But we wept because we were so happy

to have been remembered."

Jimmie's day starts now at 4 a.m. He goes through some brisk calisthenics, showers, makes his way alone to the bus while the streets are still uncrowded. He is at his desk by 6:15 or 6:30 a.m. and spends a brief period planning the day's work mentally. He works steadily through the day, is home by 5 p.m. He listens to radio newscasts, enjoys conversation with the family at the dinner table. By 7 p.m. he is usually ready for bed.

On Sundays and holy days Jimmy and Misao go to church together. Sometimes he visits with his daughter Marie and her husband, George Ishii, and plays with his grandson, James Roby, born last June 16. His second daughter, Marcia, entered Seattle University this last fall. Denise, now 12, is in grade school.

"I'm just an ordinary individual now," says Jimmie, "and I'm enjoying it immensely."

But he has not forgotten that he is a Nisei, nor has he lost any of his crusading spirit. Pressed for a statement on the destiny of the Nisei, he voiced anew the old ringing ideals. It was almost like old times to hear him say:

"The destiny of the Nisei in America should be a most enviable one. As first generation Americans of Japanese ancestry, they are pioneers in their own right. The challenge of the future still faces them, the challenge to fill a more substantial niche in American life.

"Upon the proper and solid establishment of their spiritual, civic and economic foundation will be told the true greatness of this generation. The destiny of the third generation, processed into a pattern of American life through the ideals and principles of American democracy, should be truly a bright one.

"This will depend in large measure upon what we of this generation can accomplish as Americans, just as the boys of the 442nd and other vets of Japanese ancestry did for those of us who remained at home. In the destinies of both the second and third generations rests an obligation and responsibility of contributing their efforts toward the advancement of the

(Continued on Page 11)

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LT. COL. WALTER TSUKAMOTO: 1938-40

Loyal American

★ ★ ★
By MIN YASUI

WALTER T. TSUKAMOTO... loyal American... an Attorney-at-Law, licensed by the State of California... Past National President of the Japanese American Citizens League... hailed as the "Nisei of the Year" in America, in 1940... an Army career man, having served on occupation duty in Japan... at present, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the United States Army...

Such would be a brief thumbnail sketch of the highlights of the life of Walter A. Tsukamoto, who has dedicated himself to prove that Americans of Japanese ancestry are as much American as Americans of any other ancestry.

His intelligence and integrity have been demonstrated in his profession as a successful lawyer in Sacramento, California in pre-war years, and by his attainment of high rank in the U. S. Army.

His outstanding service to fellow Nisei is culminated in his election as National President of the JACL, and his selection as the "Nisei of the Year" in 1940.

But, we think his proudest achievement would be that he has become living proof of the Americanism of Nisei in the United States. And this, despite bitter animosities directed against us during the war with Japan, and in spite of the exasperating experiences of the desert relocation camps during the war.

Walter T. Tsukamoto was born 51 years ago, in 1904, in Reno, Nevada. Despite obscure origin, of Japanese immigrant parents, in a city mostly known for easy divorcees and legalized gambling, Tsukamoto is now among the high brass with the U. S. 6th Army Headquarters in Germany.

He attended public schools in Sacramento, and while still a high school student, he was instrumental in organizing the American Loyalty League in Sacramento in 1922. This group is probably the

origin of the present Japanese American Citizens League, although the JACL was not formally organized until 1930.

Graduates law school with Juris Doctor degree

Tsukamoto graduated from the University of California School of Jurisprudence in 1927 with the degree of Juris Doctor. He was a brilliant student and a successful lawyer. During 1931, he took the initiative in organizing the Nisei in the Sacramento area into a JACL chapter, and he served six years as chapter president, until 1936. During 1935-36, he served as Chairman for the Northern California District Council.

Meanwhile, the National JACL was in its painful formative years, and although officially the JACL was organized during 1930, it was not until 1934 at the convention in San Francisco that Dr. T. T. Yatabe was elected national president, with Saburo Kido acting as executive secretary. In 1936, at the convention in Seattle, Washington, Jimmie Sakamoto was elected national president, and Walter Tsukamoto became executive secretary.

Sim Togasaki, an old-time JACler, speaks of Tsukamoto as being "efficient, responsible and dependable, with plenty of know-how, in order to put the JACL on a business-like basis."

As executive secretary of the National JACL, Tsukamoto was concerned about the difficult problems of expatriation and dual na-

tionality of Nisei from Japanese records, the urgent drive for naturalization privileges for Japanese veterans of World War I led by Tokutaro Slocum, and continually recurring anti-alien legislation that kept the anti-Japanese prejudice a live issue in California.

In 1938, at the national convention in Los Angeles, Walter J. Tsukamoto was elected national president. From a beginning of 21 chapters in 1934, by 1940, Tsukamoto saw the National JACL grow to 50 chapters with 10,000 members. The JACL movement spread eastward, and Idaho chapters, the Ogden and Salt Lake City chapters in Utah, and the Arizona chapters joined the JACL. The JACL was no longer a purely west coast organization.

When Tsukamoto became national president, he spoke out the basic philosophy of the JACL movement. He said, "We believe in this organization because it is dedicated to all Americans, be they members or not; because its purpose is entirely unselfish and because it seeks to instill in the minds and hearts of all Americans of Japanese ancestry a deep love for and appreciation of this great country of which they are an inseparable and integral part."

Again in 1940, at the national JACL convention in Portland, Oregon, Tsukamoto spoke out strongly. "We have affirmed and reaffirmed... our undivided loyalty to the United States. To this principle, there can be no compromise and regardless of sacrifices which might be entailed, we must not forget that we are Americans, first, last and always."

Loyalty to US would mean Nisei sacrifices

During the late 1930's there was considerable hostility towards Americans of Japanese ancestry, and the JACL through its national president, Tsukamoto, took an unequivocal stand of loyalty to the United States of America. He was almost prophetic when he spoke of sacrifices, but he was unyielding in his expression of Americanism which has been and continues to be the bulwark of the JACL movement.

But more than being concerned with the narrow interests of the Nisei alone, Tsukamoto expressed a broader Americanism. He said, "It is incumbent upon all of us to openly show our true allegiance to the United States, and our supporters for all views which are for the protection and welfare of the country, and opposed to all legislation or action which are based upon intolerance and racial prejudice."

Tsukamoto's views in regard to the function of the JACL is still a basic policy. As a racial minority, we cannot expect preferential treatment nor do we desire it. But expressed in brave words in 1940, the JACL must "be unalterably opposed to any form of discrimination against any group of citizens based on race or color."

During the early years of the JACL, fortunately there were men of the calibre of Walter T. Tsukamoto, Saburo Kido, James Sakamoto, Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Mike M. Masaoka, and a host of others, who directed the JACL movement into the broad streams of American life, rather than narrowly restricting themselves to West Coast problems and difficulties.

Tsukamoto's career in military began early

Meanwhile, Tsukamoto since his college days had been a reserve officer in Judge Advocate General's department, and had by 1938 attained the rank of Captain at Ft. Lewis, Washington. With the war, and evacuation, Tsukamoto and his

family were moved to the Tule Lake WRA camp. During 1942, Tsukamoto acted as special counsel for the JACL in the suit of John T. Regan vs. Cameron King, wherein it was attempted to eliminate Nisei names from the register of voters in San Francisco.

However, Tsukamoto resigned as special counsel, when during February, 1943, Nisei enlistments were accepted by the U. S. Army, and Tsukamoto volunteered. He left for Camp Thomas, Kentucky, with his wife and five children, in 1943.

Before he left the desert camp at Tule Lake, he said: "Nisei must realize in time of war, rights are subordinate to obligations and that their first duty is the obligation to serve their country without condition or reservation. We can fight for our rights when peace is again restored, and upon our record will depend how successful or unsuccessful the outcome."

Tsukamoto was prophetically right in those views. The sacrifices of Nisei GIs during World War II has made possible the gains of the last eight years. And Tsukamoto knew in building a strong

organization for the JACL that it would require a nationally organized JACL to translate the brilliant record of the Nisei fighting men into present-day achievements.

After serving at Camp Savage, Tsukamoto was promoted to Major at Ft. Snelling, Minn. During 1945, he was shipped over to Japan to serve on the War Crimes commission. After his tour of duty in Japan, he was assigned as Lt. Colonel with the 6th Army Headquarters in Germany, where he is at the present time.

His service to the cause of Nisei was recognized in 1940, when the JYPA of Chicago, Illinois, under the leadership of Franklin Chino, another attorney, selected Walter T. Tsukamoto as the "Nisei of the Year." Presentation of the award was made by Larry Tajiri of the San Francisco Japanese American News, and certainly the citation that "Walter T. Tsukamoto is honored as the Nisei who has contributed the most to the cause of the Nisei in America" was a fitting tribute to the leadership that he gave during the years the JACL was growing up into a mature organization.

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SABURO KIDO: 1940-46

A Silver Dream

A silver anniversary could not be more significant to JACL's great founder, Saburo Kido. His own silver wedding anniversary just recently celebrated this, the 25th year of the national JACL, is next most meaningful in his eventful life.

For Kido, Hawaiian-born Nisei of mature vision, sensed the need of an organization such as the Japanese American Citizens League at a time when few other adult Nisei could grasp the scope of organizational channels by which to resolve the manifold problems peculiar to the Japanese American community.

Born on October 8, 1902, in the town of Hilo, Hawaii, Kido was the third son of a family of four boys and three girls. Little known to his many friends is his baseball prowess as a shortstop on his high school team. Tennis was another sport he excelled in. A serious

student, he diligently attended Nihon gakko to master his parents' language, which ability served him in good stead in his future career.

Precocious in his evaluation of community needs among his people, even during high school he determined to enter a profession through which he could serve persons of Japanese ancestry. He had entertained strong feelings of entering the ministry, and was active with the Union Church of his community.

He ultimately settled on law and after graduating high school came to Berkeley, in 1921, and attended two years of pre-legal schooling at the University of California.

It was on the Berkeley campus that he became a life long friend of his roommate at the old Japanese Student Club on Euclid Avenue, Susumi "Sim" Togasaki. Another

resident of the group was Masa Atsu Harada, later to become an M.D. and his brother-in-law.

He moved across the bay to Hastings Law College in San Francisco which he attended from 1923 to 1926, receiving his LL.B. from University of California. He took and passed the State bar examination in 1926 and hung out his shingle in August in San Francisco.

It was on a stroll through San Francisco's Chinatown with friends that year that he first met Mine Harada who was working in a Grant Avenue gift shop. Mine came from a prominent Riverside family and had four brothers and a sister. Saburo and Mine were married in Riverside in 1928.

Introduced to JACL Movement in 1928

An important period in his law career was his association from 1930 to 1935 with attorneys Albert H. Elliott and Guy C. Calden, eminent defenders of Japanese American rights in Alien Land Law matters, the latter of whom is still in active practice in San Francisco.

The year of his marriage was also a year of destiny for Saburo because he was introduced to the JACL movement through Clarence Arai of Seattle who was then head of the Seattle Progressive Citizens League, forerunner to the JACL in the Pacific Northwest.

In California, the several chapters of the American Loyalty League had become inactive except for the Fresno unit. It was with the hope of reviving the Nisei movement that Clarence, Saburo, and others conferred, as a result of which a conference in Fresno in the fall of 1928 was held. A

second meeting in San Francisco in April, 1929, was chaired by Saburo who was then president of the New American Citizens League, and which was attended by those still prominent in JACL circles, George Togasaki and Tamotsu Murayama, now in Japan.

At this conference it was decided to hold a national convention in Seattle of these existing organizations over Labor Day, 1930, and Saburo set about to draft the framework of a national constitution. The official name of the Japanese American Citizens League was finally determined after some hassle as to the use or omission of the hyphen, the latter prevailing.

The Seattle convention arrived at two important legislative objectives of the JACL. The first was to restore American citizenship through naturalization to Nisei girls who had lost their citizenship through marriage to aliens, and to prevent such loss of status in future such marriages. This bill was lobbied by Miss Suma Sugi of the Los Angeles chapter and was enacted by Congress in 1931 as an amendment to the Cable Act.

The second goal was to secure American citizenship for Issei and other Oriental aliens who had served the United States armed forces in World War I. This bill, the Oriental War Veterans Naturalization Act of World War I, was successfully lobbied in 1935 by Tokutaro Slocum, adopted Issei child of a North Dakota general and who is probably the best known Japanese American hero of World War I. Enactment of this veterans' legislation was the beginning of a continuing interest of the JACL in securing equality of

consideration for all persons of Oriental ancestry, not just the Japanese.

Elected president at 1940 convention

In the early years of national JACL, it was the policy of the president of the host chapter to a national convention to serve as the national president for the coming biennium. The national constitution was rewritten so that from the 1934 national convention held in San Francisco, the office became elective and Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe of Fresno became the first national JACL president to be elected to his office. Serving as national executive secretary under Dr. Yatabe was Saburo Kido.

At the 1940 national convention in Portland, Kido was elected JACL national president, little realizing then that he must serve three consecutive terms during the critical war years. His acceptance speech at that convention was a prophetic one. In the face of mounting tensions in the Pacific, the new president forthrightly spelled out the duty of the JACL: to protect the welfare of the Issei and Nisei in this country during this period. He reiterated the basic and prevailing philosophy of the JACL of uncompromising loyalty to the United States.

At an emergency national board meeting in San Francisco in August, 1941, President Kido nominated Mike Masaoka to serve under him as field secretary and proposed a budget of \$5,000 for the national JACL for the coming year. The national board also agreed to maintain a national headquarters office, strengthen the organization, and organize

(Continued on Next Page)

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Silver Dream—

(Continued from Preceding Page)

additional chapters. Kido's law office, located at 1623 Webster Street in San Francisco, shared two rooms for the new young field secretary.

The suddenness of Pearl Harbor brought an immediate response from President Kido. He immediately dispatched a lengthy telegraphic message to President Roosevelt reaffirming and pledging loyalty of the Nisei to the United States and of their willingness to bear arms against any nation in defense of this country.

The next problem Saburo turned to was to get his new field secretary out of jail. Mike Masaoka was in North Platte, Nebraska on Pearl Harbor Day talking JACL to the local chapter. That night, he was picked up as a suspicious character and thrown into the local jail that had an ironic name, the Palace Hotel. It took special efforts by the late Senator Elbert D. Thomas and Senator Abe Murdock, both of Utah, and the FBI to get Mike released after one week.

Decision to leave West Coast made

With rising hysteria, distorted charges of Nisei disloyalty and government steps to evacuate persons of Japanese ancestry, President Kido called an emergency meeting of the JACL national council in San Francisco on March 2, 1942. Informed by Tom Clark, special representative of President Roosevelt and now Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and Colonel McGill, Provost Marshal under Lt. Gen. DeWitt who headed the Western Defense Command, that by executive order of February 19, 1942, the evacuation was the inevitable fate for all persons of Japanese ancestry, the national council, among other action, made its great decision to cooperate as an organization with the government on the predetermined evacuation as JACL's contribution to the national security, but at the same time protesting its necessity and legality. Subsequent events vindicated this courageous judgment.

With the almost immediate closing off of Zone 1, Saburo's family, by now comprised of three children, moved to the so-called "free area", or Zone 2, to a town called Ivanhoe near Visalia in Central California. Saburo was to have gone to Salt Lake City where national JACL headquarters had moved, but he volunteered to enter a relocation camp with his family and from there communicate with

outside people as to the needs of the camps.

He joined his family and with them entered the Poston Camp II Relocation Center from where he administered by remote control the affairs of the JACL, by now a shattered and near-disillusioned organization.

He left Poston briefly in August, 1942 to attend a staff conference in Salt Lake City to confer with Mike Masaoka, George Inagaki, Hito Okada who was then national JACL treasurer, and Teiko Ishida, JACL staff secretary.

Urged reopening of draft to Nisei

On the first Thanksgiving after Pearl Harbor, President Kido convened a special meeting of the JACL national council in Salt Lake which was attended by delegates from all ten of the relocation camps and from each of the surviving chapters in the non-evacuated areas. This meeting was also attended by WRA Director, Dillon Myer, and Colonel Kai Rasmussen of the MISLS at Camp Savage, Minn.

The two most important decisions from this gathering was the resolution requesting that selective service re-accept Nisei for the armed forces and for the normalization of life for the evacuees through an extensive program of resettlement.

He had not been back in Poston two months when the War Department announced the recruiting of Nisei volunteers. The evening of the day this news reached Poston, Kido was ruthlessly attacked by nine young hoodlum residents of Camp II, his wife and children threatened but unharmed. Severely beaten by this cowardly 2 a.m. attack, the JACL president was hospitalized for three weeks. The first message he received during his convalescence was from Mike Masaoka reporting that he had volunteered for the United States Army.

As soon as he recovered, Saburo and his family left for Salt Lake City in late February. With Mike who had not yet been called by the army, Saburo went to Washington in May to attend the Supreme Court hearings on the Hirabayashi and Yasui test cases challenging the constitutionality of the 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew law declared for all persons of Japanese ancestry.

While in Washington, they were received by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt at the White House. In response to her offer of assistance, they suggested that she visit the relocation camps to personally see actual living conditions to refute the distorted charges of government pampering of the camp residents. Mrs. Roosevelt kept her word in a subsequent tour of these

camps on which she reported extensively.

They conferred with officials of the War Department, the WRA, and with leaders of national organizations at a meeting in New York to request assistance in developing a rapid and successful resettlement program.

When Mike was finally called by the army on June 23, 1943, to join the 442 RCT at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, Saburo took on the additional duties of executive field secretary.

Resettlement and return to West sought

Throughout 1943, 1944, and 1945 the JACL under Saburo's leadership constantly fought for an expeditious resettlement program and the lowering of exclusion bars to California. The JACL public relations program was implemented with a lecture tour by Pfc. Thomas Higa among the relocation centers in the fall of 1944, and a goodwill community education tour by Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe and soprano, Ruby Yoshino, under a contribution of the Carnegie Endowment For International Peace.

In October, 1944, the famous Korematsu and Endo cases were heard before the United States Supreme Court. The former concerned the constitutionality of the evacuation, which was upheld in a close decision.

The Endo case, initiated through efforts of President Kido, challenged the constitutionality of detaining American citizens in the relocation camps without hearing.

The JACL position was upheld in a unanimous decision of the Supreme Court, and which proved to be catalytic in the subsequent speeded-up resettlement program of the WRA.

That same month, Saburo with Teiko Ishida went to California to confer with Major General Charles H. Bonesteel, who had replaced Lt. Gen. DeWitt, concerning the reopening of California to the excluded evacuees. On December 18,

it was announced that the West Coast would be reopened from January 3, 1945. Meanwhile Teiko remained in San Francisco and opened up the first post-war JACL office in California in early January, thanks to facilities provided in the attic of the old International Institute by the executive secretary of the I.I., Annie Clo Watson, long time friend of the Nisei.

Joe Grant Masaoka, Mike's brother, whom the JACL had appointed to serve on its staff as regional representative in Denver from 1943, was sent to San Francisco to take over duties at the new JACL office.

California acts to escheat real property

The immediate problem confronting Japanese Americans returning to California was the cumulative action by the State of California to escheat properties owned by Japanese Americans on the grounds of violation of the state Alien Land Law.

In the fall of 1945, Joe Grant organized the Civil Rights Defense Union solely for the purpose of fighting these escheat cases. The CRDU, reaffirming the JACL position dating back to 1942 that naturalization privileges must be granted to the Issei to remove the underwriting source of countless legal restrictions faced by Japanese Americans; memorialized Congress to make the Issei eligible for American citizenship.

Meanwhile action was begun in the Oyama and Takahashi cases challenging the constitutionality

of the Alien Land Law and the anti-Japanese Commercial Fishing License Law, both of the State of California, with Saburo Kido deeply involved in the legal battle against these discriminatory statutes. Dean Acheson, former Secretary of State, argued both cases before the United States Supreme Court without fee. Victory in the Takahashi and Oyama cases was handed down by the high tribunal in 1948.

President Kido, three-term wartime president of the JACL, played a great role in shaping the destiny of all persons of Japanese ancestry in America. His inspired judgment was again evident in the drafting of the future objectives of the JACL at its first post-war national convention in Denver in 1946 before handing over the JACL gavel to Hito Okada.

JACL's ambitious program has since been completely accomplished through the impetus given the organization by its past president, Saburo Kido, and effected by the leadership of its Washington representative, Mike Masaoka and supported by the JACL legislative arm, the Anti-discrimination Committee, during the years 1946 to 1952. During this time, Saburo served as the JACL legal counsel, a position he relinquished in 1953 when he became publisher of the New Japanese American News in Los Angeles.

Saburo's was a deep and constant faith and conviction that only through JACL could the

(Continued on Page 10-B)

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HITO OKADA: PRESIDENT 1946-50

Service First

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By KEN UCHIDA

Hito Okada, for a quarter of a century an active JACler, has served as an elected national officer for 12 years—a record for outstanding service. Continuously from 1938, when elected National JACL Treasurer, to 1950 when his second term as National JACL President ended, Mr. Okada served unselfishly to attain the goals of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Mr. Okada has recently completed a series of speeches to various groups of newly naturalized Issei citizens. He has made more public speeches in the past year than he did during his two terms as National President.

Often appearing on the same program with civic dignitaries he has advanced the part played by the newly naturalized citizens.

At a recent gathering in Ogden,

Mr. Okada was complimented by the press for an outstanding job done by the JACL. The representative of Utah's Governor J. Bracken Lee, E. R. Callister, discussed with him many of the problems facing persons of Japanese ancestry in Utah.

To his many friends, it is of interest to note that Hito Okada has developed into a good after-dinner speaker.

He was born 48 years ago at Tacoma, Washington. Hito was the first Nisei in Tacoma to receive the Richard Graff Memorial Award for scholarship and sportsmanship as the outstanding senior graduate of Stadium High School of that city. The next few years saw Hito attending the University of Washington at Seattle. He was graduated with a BA de-

gree majoring in Economics in 1929.

Mr. Okada's first inoculations of JACL came in Seattle right after graduation from the University. A stock and bond company for which he worked was located across the street from Jimmy Sakamoto's Japanese American Couriers, newspapers.

He often helped Jimmy by proof reading copy of the newspaper. Along with Jimmy Sakamoto, George Ishihara gave Hito the first shots of the ideals of JACL organization.

★ ★ ★
In 1934 while working in Portland, he was invited by Mrs. Hana Yamada to attend a meeting of the Portland JACL chapter. The chapter had suffered a considerable let down after the District Convention and wasn't too active.

Hito came out of his first meeting elected as chapter president. After a lot of hard work as chapter president over a period of several years the chapter really got going again.

"I can really appreciate the work of a chapter president," Hito says. "This experience really helped me to understand the position of the chapter president during the terms as a National JACL officer."

After a superior job on the "Second Generation Development Program" of the JACL, for which he received the commendation of the National JACL, he was elected National JACL treasurer at the Los Angeles Convention in 1938. He was reelected Treasurer of the national organization in 1940.

★ ★ ★
After the outbreak of World War II, Mr. Okada offered his services to assist the National

JACL Headquarters in their move to Salt Lake City, Utah, in April of 1942.

Together with Mike Masaka, George Inagaki, Larry Tajiri, Guyo Tajiri, Telko Ishida and others, he set up the headquarters. He served without pay.

★ ★ ★
During the years that followed, years of great decisions affecting persons of Japanese ancestry, Hito played a prominent part in making those decisions.

It is said that many great decisions are made in "smoke-filled" rooms. Hito with his ever present pipe aided greatly in making the smoke and the decisions.

In November of 1942, the emergency National Council meeting in Salt Lake City was attended by delegates from the relocation centers. Their seriousness of purpose as it passed the resolution to request the Government of the United States to open up the Armed Services for volunteer enlistments by the Nisei impressed him greatly.

On the final evening of the meetings, the delegates instead of dancing and engaging in the social activities at the Memory House were in one of the rear rooms discussing the problems facing the Nisei.

During the evacuation period, credit sources were sorely needed by members of the JACL. In September 1943 the National JACL Credit Union was organized under the direction of the National Treasurer Hito Okada.

Subsequently many other chapters have started similar credit unions, but the National JACL Credit Union remains the granddaddy of them all. Mr. Okada is still the treasurer of this credit union. The latest financial statement indicates this credit union to be doing one of the largest volumes of business in the credit union field in Utah.

★ ★ ★
Mr. Okada was elected to the first of his two terms as National President in 1946.

During his terms as president, Mr. Okada presided over

the organization which was faced with the monumental task of carrying out the mandates of the 1946 Denver convention.

The mandates were: first, citizenship for the Issei, second, evacuation claims adjudication, and third, stay of deportation for hardship cases.

To accomplish these objectives the organization was faced with the gigantic task of raising funds. Hito says, "it is amazing how the JACL staff people carried through with only a conviction of purpose and with only their abilities to see their convictions carried through". The fact that "the people could band together to accomplish a common objective" was proven during the fund raising campaigns of 1946-1950.

Mr. Okada is the "Father" of the JACL 1000 Club. In 1948 in Idaho Falls, Idaho, again in a smoke filled conference room, the 1000 Club was launched with Callahan Inagaki as its head. The 1000 Club was an outgrowth of the "buck-a-month" club idea.

Now the backbone of the National JACL organization, the 1000 Club and the JACL owes much to the foresightedness of its founder, Hito Okada.

An active sportsman, Hito spends his leisure time, what little there is, in fishing. He is getting a bit old and lazy for stream trout fishing, so spends his time fishing from a boat in the many reservoirs and lakes in Utah and Idaho.

During the fall season, Mr. Okada spends his weekends duck and pheasant hunting. His outdoor activities has kept him in top physical condition.

During the winter months he bowls regularly in the JACL league. His average at present is around 160. Hito is proud of a small trophy prominently displayed in his office which he won in 1952 for winning second place in a city-wide tournament.

His Okada Insurance team won the National JACL team event in 1948. Hito was the JACL representative on the National Committee for Fair Play in Bowling. His committee was able to petition and gain for the Nisei bowlers, membership in the American Bowling Congress which here-to-fore was limited to "Caucasians Only". All bowlers recognize and commend the work done by this committee to take out racial discrimination in this sport.

Civic minded Mr. Okada is also the Captain of a Civil Defense Radiological Monitoring Team comprised of a number of local insurance agents.

During the war many insurance companies cancelled out policies of their Japanese policy holders. There became a definite need for insurance protection. Hito looked around and became associated with a number of different types of insurance companies. He now specializes in casualty type of insurance.

One evening a friend phoned him from the Salt Lake City airport that he had a couple of hours

(Continued on Page A-11)

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Hito Okada, two-term (1946-1950) national JACL president, preparing for a hunting trip last fall.

between planes. He met his friend at the airport and talked about JACL matters, and after that, the friend talked Hito into selling him a substantial life insurance policy. He rushed this friend into Salt Lake City to a doctor for a physical examination and had his name on an application and a check before he got back on the plane.

Hito stated that he hasn't had a sale, since that took as much "pressure" from the client.

"JACL friendships and acquaintances are and have been good clients," says Hito.

★ ★ ★

Hito Okada's philosophy calls for "service to fellow men."

His mother, a staunch Metho-

dist, always told him that "to serve your fellow men is the biggest and most honorable thing anyone can do in a lifetime."

It is this philosophy that prompted Hito to work for JACL and to accept the Presidency of the National Organization for two terms over the desirability of returning to Oregon and getting back into the export lumber and log business.

He feels that he did not do as much as he would have liked to. To all Nisei, Hito's work will be one of the outstanding contributions made for their welfare and to the welfare of all persons of Japanese ancestry.

Sakamoto--

(Continued from Page 6)

civic, economic, social and cultural life of America.

"With what this generation has gone through, there is much that can be drawn from their background which should prove to be of benefit to this nation, and in particular toward the advancement of human understanding."

★ ★ ★

(As a finale to Bill Hosokawa's main story, which was submitted to us about a month before Jimmie Sakamoto met death while crossing a Seattle street, we are reprinting part of Bill's eulogy made two weeks ago in his regular PC column.—Editor.)

★ ★ ★

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 on New Year's Day, 1928. Tooru Kanazawa in New York, Jimmie's managing editor of long years. Takeo Nogaki in New Jersey, Toshio Hoshida 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 Yoshinori 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 and wise and good 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.

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GEORGE J. INAGAKI: 1952-56

One Score and Three

(A Bio-Sketch by the Sea/Wester)
By TATS KUSHIDA

George J. (for Joji) Inagaki, national president of the Japanese American Citizens League, was born a farmer and still proudly claims to be one and to JACLers he is real George. He was born in Sacramento, Calif., on Feb. 2, 1914. His dad was an asparagus farmer in Isleton and later, 1920 to 1934,

was one of the largest producers of hops in Northern California.

A leader even during his youth, George was prominent on the athletic field, in school and at church. Somewhat a non-entity at Lincoln Jr. High, he came into his own at Sacramento High School where he won letters in track (he was a dash man on the relays team, Ripley says), football and forensics. He wound up as the first Nisei valedictorian at this school, an honor that presaged his future eloquence as a speaker in both English and Japanese.

It was about this time that the early monster-horror film "Ingagi" made its appearance. Immediately, this husky 165-pounder who bulked the championship football team's line, was thus dubbed. He continued sandlot football for the Sacramento Taikus, a Nisei team, but took up only boxing at Sacramento Junior College where he made the Phi Theta honor society before graduating in 1934. In 1933, during a short visit to Japan, he managed to join a team of Nisei mostly attending Meiji University in a winning football game against a Hawaiian eleven.

An active member of the Sacramento Japanese Methodist church, George served several terms as president of its Epworth League, and was chairman of the Young People's Christian Conference of Sacramento Valley. A few of his church contemporaries have since become JACL chapter presidents: Mas Oji in Marysville, Ginji Mizu-

tani in Sacramento and the late Dr. George Hara in San Diego.

Leaves Sacramento for Venice nursery business

While at junior college, George entertained notions of someday becoming a lawyer. Family circumstances, however, made him move to Santa Monica in the spring of 1935 and there he entered a retail nursery business. A year later, he began working for a greenhouse, the Uchida Investment Company, that he's been with ever since, and is now its president and owner.

This greenhouse began cultivating the famous Mystery gardenia in 1932. No other nursery in the United States, or even the world, can successfully grow them commercially. Consequently, George's beautiful and fragrant white blooms are shipped throughout the country. A sport (mutation offshoot) from a Cape Jasmine type gardenia, the Mystery is grown under George's 100,000 square feet of glass.

Two important events happened to George in 1939. First, he married Yukie Yagi of Salinas, Calif. Incid, her brother Steve is president of the West Los Angeles Chapter this year. The second was his becoming a member of the Culver City Rotary Club where he's kept a fifteen year record of per-

fect attendance, war service excused.

How George became a JACLer and his first impressions of the JACL are told in his own words elsewhere in this issue. But it dates back to 1932, a score and three years ago.

When he joined the Sacramento chapter, he immediately became one of its officers. That's how it was in almost all of his activities—his leadership qualities were soon recognized and put to use.

When he moved to Southern California, he became a charter member of the Bay District JACL which covered the Venice, West L. A. and Santa Monica area. He later aided in the formation of separate chapters for each community and served as a chapter president for a term. He attended his first national JACL convention in 1936 in Seattle. At the Long Beach convention of the Southern District (now the Pacific Southwest District Council) in 1941, he was elected as executive secretary for the district.

Station wagon junket with Masaoka to D. C.

Pearl Harbor and the resultant scapegoating of the local Japanese American community brought many crises and emergencies which inspired the formation in Li'l Tokio under JACL district auspices, of the Anti-Axis Committee in which he helped vigorously. In March, 1942, he attended an emergency JACL conference in San Francisco, after which he set out in his station wagon with Mike Masaoka to go to Washington, D. C.

This conference set forth a three-point national JACL program: 1) On the home front, to lend aid and service to Japanese American residents being evacuated by the Army to relocation camps 2) In public relations—to antidote the inflammatory distortions about Japanese American loyalty and Americanism, a program which included the appointment of Larry Tajiri as editor of the JACL's "Pacific Citizen" in Salt Lake City, Utah, to where the national headquarters had been moved from San Francisco. 3) A Washington, D. C., program of conferring with government agencies and officials concerning the welfare of Japanese Americans.

The two stalwarts braved a hysterical public in driving across the country, being detained or questioned at practically every hotel stop. They attended, enroute, a national social conference in New Orleans.

Just outside the city, they were apprehended as Japanese spies and thrown into the local parish jail where they were placed under guard of bloodhounds and where village folk were permitted to gawk at "the dirty Japs" and even spit on them. Fortunately the FBI got them out of the sputum pit.

While in Washington, George and Mike conferred with Undersecretary of War John J. McCloy (who later became U. S. High Commissioner to Germany and president of the World Bank), White House staff, WRA director Milton Eisenhower (President Ike's younger brother) and officials of agencies such as the Office of War Information and Selective Service. Then in New York, they sought and secured the support of numerous national organizations including the International Institute and many religious bodies.

George, a JACL field man at a monthly salary of \$75 as was Mike, returned to headquarters while Mike remained at the nation's capitol. While in Salt Lake City, George attended the national JACL wartime emergency conference called by wartime national president Saburo Kido in November, 1942. This conference was attended by delegates from the JACL chapters, mostly in the intermountain area, that had survived the evacuation, and from JACL units in several relocation camps.

Impressed by IDC action to support Nat'l JACL

From this meeting, two important actions are indelibly impressed on George's memory. One was the pledge of the chapters of the Intermountain District Council to financially maintain the JACL organization while its leaders and members were residing in the ten WRA camps. More importantly a forthright resolution was unanimously adopted to request that the Selective Service reinstate the draft for Nisei. In early 1942, the armed forces had refused to accept

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Short Story:

Enough Love to Share

By FERRIS TAKAHASHI

IN THE bedroom Aiko began a first, exploratory moaning. She was always uncomfortable after the treatments. Although Robert Sano had come to know Aiko's condition well after seven years, he could not yet decide whether certain of her pains were of the body or of the mind—whether such moans as these were reaction from the treatments (which never seemed to benefit her) or a response to familiar persons and loved touch.

The moans became squeaky, almost careless, like the sounds made by a petulant child. Eline Sinclair was in the bedroom with his wife, Robert could visualize Eline's white firm hands slipping under Aiko's neck and stroking the places where it was soothing to be stroked—heard Aiko cooing now in pleasure.

Seven years of disaster—then they had met Eline. It was now over a year, Robert counted. He'd heard of her, seen the bakery she operated in their small town of Postal. But he had no memories of her before the night of the Schreiber's party. All evening Eline had sat with Aiko and talked with the handicapped woman. She had not seemed to mind as words, sometimes sensible and to the point, sometimes irrelevant, formed through the writhing lips and were born in the damaged cortex of the brain. Unlike the rest, Eline's eyes had not shrunk from Aiko's twitching hands, the little patch of slobber which usually formed at the corner of her mouth.

Later that evening Robert had talked with Eline: he saw her standing alone in the Schreiber's garden, under the bright patina of the summer sky and gone out to thank her.

"But whatever for?" she said. "I needed someone to talk to, too. It was very nice of the Schreibers to ask me here, you know. Usually people feel they can't invite a widow unless they've dug up a single man. And she has to captivate that single man at once, or else."

"And I suppose it's always pretty obvious why that single man is single?" Robert said.

"Oh yes, always," she answered, laughing.

Eline was not really witty, nor, heaven knows, was he, yet their conversation seemed to ride a peak of lightness and relaxation he had never known. It had been a shame to go back to the party but he finally became nervous. . . . And in spite of many talks and almost daily association with Eline since then, he remembered that first episode as one so subtly gratifying to the ego: almost the unique moment of his life when he had felt truly at ease in the company of a pleasant woman: a memorable feeling indeed, a floating in delicious mastery, poised, alive and ready. . . .

Eline made him feel as though somewhere in the staid, serious personality of Robert Sano another self existed. Not the passive, undecided self of everyday but one more vigorous: sum up, a fellow who could learn some of the secret formulae the rest of the world seemed to employ so glibly and with such success.

Why had he and Aiko never been able to talk, really talk together? In their young courtship they had giggled and shared wonderful silences, even in the shadow of the Great Dislocation. Afterwards, there had been relocation or rehabilitation or perhaps even rebirth in friendly little Postal. Their only child Tamsen had been born, Robert had purchased Whitney's Market and who knows? They might have gone on into the thirties even more placidly or they might have plunged past the mysterious barriers of personality and found each other if the brain never had not struck and snatched Aiko away for good. Yes, snatched away from her husband and

daughter, leaving behind a woman only as like Aiko as a reflection in an uneven mirror, a woman whose only thoughts and desires were not entirely wiped out but moved backward in time to prepuberty.

This woman remembered her life and her illness but only as a story often told. She could not go to the bathroom by herself yet she adored the trappings of a woman's life: pretty clothes, cosmetics. She remembered, too, the warmth and comfort of the marital bed, which she still insisted on sharing, although it was a torture for Robert. Aiko chafed when he rose suddenly in the dark and went away or spent long night hours reading. Her vexed whimpering, once so pitiful to him that it had brought on him spasms of his own hot sobbing, had become an irritant in the unendurable nights. For, although often fretful or wandering, Aiko retained her happy spirit. The brain damage, sparing some of her functions, had numbed forever the circuits along which the impulse of desire could speed. Like a little girl, Aiko sought to kiss and cuddled to known security—the rest was a terrible innocence, the death of instinct.

ROBERT choked back a groan and rubbed nervously across his forehead. Other fingers met his, and, startled, he pulled his hands away from the contact. Eline Sinclair, who was now standing behind him, hesitated.

"You have a wonderfully soothing touch, Eline," Robert joked nervously. You should have been a masseuse."

"I get enough practice kneading bread dough."

"Just imagine you have a big lump of dough in your hands right now."

Eline massaged his head and neck.

"My husband—Sid—used to like this when he was tired. Aiko likes it too. She's slipped right off to sleep."

"What was Sid's work, Eline? I never rightly knew."

"A cost accountant, Robert. A college graduate, too. But he had this old T.B. scar so we came out to Utah for the climate. Sid did bookkeeping for local outfits and then when he went to the hospital for minor surgery, we never dreamed—well, it seems an age, now. Five years."

"Wait til it's seven years."

Eline's hands slipped away.

"I never heard a bitter turning in your voice before, Robert." She crossed the room to the kitchenette and he heard the clink of dishes and the gush of water. Her voice came back, muffled: "Where's Tamsen?"

"She went skating with some of the kids."

"You should take her out yourself sometimes, Robert. Tamsen shirks her chores around here more than she used to."

Robert felt the pressure in his head renewed. Under Eline's fingers there had been a thrill to contact and intimacy. He could not banish a certain recent dream from his mind: even with Eline nearby, the sweet shame of it flooded him. There had been Eline and a new warmth and the mating and the bodies in perfect fulfillment. . . .

He got up abruptly.

"You do so much for us here that Tamsen thinks she can goldbrick. You have work of your own all day and then work and our troubles here. . . ."

"That's no trouble. What have I at home? Just that girl who shares my apartment and she's always out on dates. She says I'm too particular about dates."

"What about Andy Baxter? It's been all over Postal that you two were an item. Of course, he hasn't your education."

"Andy's a good rancher. A dependable man. Every friend I have in town has told me so. Told me a widow of thirty-five might not have another chance. . . ."

"Right now you look about twenty-five."

"Kind Robert. You always build my ego. You're the kindest man I think I've ever known."

"Andy Baxter's probably much kinder—in his way."

"Andy's going to be married," Eline said. Her arm brushed Robert as she reached up to the wall-cabinet for cups.

"He's marrying—you?"

Eline turned. She seemed to read Robert's thoughts as she responded quickly:

"Not me, Robert. Andy did ask—but you see, it didn't take long for his heart to mend. . . . Guess I just don't have what it takes. . . . She paused on a little breath, her lips half parted and then they were kissing at last. Eline held him so closely that Robert felt the tremors which were shaking her. Suddenly she pulled away.

They both turned then as though they knew they would see Aiko in the bedroom doorway, crutching herself on the doorframe. To their stricken faces she presented her bright, unblemished smile.

Eline moved, then, to catch Aiko before she could stumble forward.

"Aiko—" she said. "Robert and I were kissing each other because—because we love each other. Do you mind, Aiko?"

Aiko's lips blubbered together in the familiar strain, working against their paralysis. Her eyes, still so dark and expressive, twinkled brightly. Hoarsely the syllable were forced out:

"I love—you—too. You kiss me? You—Robbie?"

Robert saw Eline close her eyes, then bend and kiss Aiko's forehead. She pulled away from Aiko's clinging hands gently, caught her coat up from a chair and ran out.

THERE followed two days during which Robert neither called Eline nor tried to see her. At eleven o'clock on the first evening Robert went down for the first time to the better of Postal's two taverns and drank three weak beers. The talk, a monotony of crops and sex jokes, made his head ache and he went home. In the morning, Tamsen had her first menstrual period and refused to go to school. Robert did not get down to the store till noon. A shipment of produce came in frozen, a total loss and a chain store representative wanted to talk business.

On the second night, at ten minutes past ten, after losing his temper with both Aiko and Tamsen, Robert sat down to try to read a detective novel. The phone rang at his elbow sending the blur of the printed page up at his eyes like a glare of headlines.

"Robert? Is everything all right? How's Aiko?"

"She's been asking for you." Robert studied the trembling of his hand. Aiko's exact words had been:

"I like Eline here. Tamsen doesn't take care of me as well as Eline."

"—Poor dear—" Eline was saying. "I should have dropped in but you hadn't called and Tamsen hadn't been in the shop after school like most days."

"There's been so much business piled up—and Tamsen—" He told her, briefly.

"Oh, bless her heart! Send her over tomorrow, Robert and I'll set her mind at ease. And Robert—I want to talk to you, too. Why don't you come on over? Gerda's out on late date. Coffee's on. A new type of pastry I baked today came out so pretty I just couldn't put in the window. Ever tried a Coupe St. Jacques?"

"I'm just an old reformed rice eater. Thanks a lot, Eline, but I can't get over tonight. It's pretty late." Trim and tidy apartment comfort, tiny spark of firelight on polished silver and tempting food he pushed away from him with each word. "I'll be in to see you in the morning. I just can't walk

NO HOLIDAY issue would be complete without a short story and we are glad that Mrs. Ferris Takahashi of Boulder, Colo., wife of a Seattle-born pediatrician, has submitted this poignant story. Her first contribution to the Pacific Citizen years ago was by-lined M. H. Constable and since that time she has been successful in selling several literary pieces with a Nisei slant to the other publications.

out tonight when they've been so upset."

"Of course not, Robert. I love your considerate good sense. Shall I come over? Anything I could help with?"

"No, they're asleep now. I'll see you tomorrow."

"Of course. What are you doing now, Robert?"

"Just sitting. Wondering why anything like me even exists. Maybe better if it didn't."

"That's dreadful, don't even think such things. . . . Robert, please come over here for just a little."

"Don't mind me, Eline, I'm just tired and woolly-headed. I'll be all right. Goodnight."

She hung up unexpectedly and Robert had the untidy apartment to himself. There were noon dishes in the sink and Tamsen had not mended a torn hook on the window drapes, leaving it, no doubt, for Eline's next visit.

Twice a week a neighbor woman came in to clean and set up a roast. Eline constantly brought breads and baked goods. Left to themselves, Tamsen and Aiko would produce an endless menu of cha-zuke and peanut butter sandwiches. Aiko could still cook after a fashion but she was forgetful. Each day something burned in its pot or pan because she had turned to some other occupation.

Robert would not sleep that night, he knew. He would pace and drink coffee, go through inventory figures and try to get a start on his tax returns.

He looked in on Aiko in their bedroom and Tamsen in her room. Both were sleeping.

The front door opened and he returned to find Eline standing pale and evidently quickly dressed. Her hair straggled, the top buttons of her cardigan were open.

"I had to come, Robert. Your voice—not hearing from you—something frightened me and I just had to come over."

"You look all in, Eline. How about some coffee? I haven't anything fancy like that Jack's Coop, but—"

"Coffee sounds wonderful. And—I brought the Coupe St. Jacques. Aiko and Tamsen will love it, even if you won't."

With simple pride she opened a white carton and set a fine structure of glazed pastry, candied fruits and whipped cream on a kitchen plate.

Robert leaned over it and found Eline pressed tightly by his side. Her arms sought him eagerly, letting him go only when she sensed his constraint. She pushed at her tumbled hair.

"Let's not fence about, darling. Tell me why you've been avoiding me."

"Not avoiding you, Eline. There've been some important decisions to make—and I've made them on my own, this time, I think. Fellow from Daytona has been trying to buying out the business for a chain—made a pretty good offer."

"To sell the store?"

"Yes, and I said yes. We'll wrap up the deal tomorrow. I might not get as good a cash offer again. You see, I think we ought to leave Postal."

Eline's reaction was bright and immediate.

"Of course, I see. It's the best thing, really. I've loved it here but some people might not understand."

"But you understand why we're leaving?"

"It was abrupt, the way you came out with it. But so like you, dear! I've enjoyed building up my little business, too, but I could do it again somewhere else, even if

it took a little more capital. But I can work—oh, how I can work! Even a string of enterprises, some day. Sano Enterprises! Wouldn't Aiko love a new car with big soft seats! And Tamsen could have new clothes, too. Oh, planning is such fun!"

Robert shrank away from her glowing face, lifted now to his nakedly.

"Eline, I've taken advantage of you. Not meaning to, but I have taken advantage of you."

Eline put her hand over her mouth. She too began to stammer:

"You don't mean—Robert, tell me quickly—aren't you for me? And I for you?"

"Don't, please don't drag it out of me. You know it, you said it the other night. But it's wrong."

"Then this sudden pulling-out—"

"Is the only right thing to do. What else did you think?"

"What else—?" she faced him bravely. "I thought you would want me—would want us all together. That's the way I want it, that's what Aiko wants, I'm sure, and Tamsen, I don't have any doubt of THAT. When we all leave here, you can get a divorce or annulment or whatever is under the law for a case like yours. Then I can become legally responsible for the duties Aiko doesn't want to—can't possibly—fulfill. And take care of her, too, don't you understand? She'll never be deposed, never be unwanted, never."

Robert beat his clenched knuckles together. He had talked to himself, almost in these words, so often. Why now did argument after argument appear in his mind?

"They'd never permit it, Eline. They'd call us unholy. How could we throw Aiko to the wolves?"

"That's unfair!" Eline said, close to tears. "But we can protect her from the wolves! This way, what happens to her if you're not here? Robert, I'm needed here."

"I've needed you since I was born, Eline—but how can we live with Aiko? Her demands intruding on us? Her life—part of our lives? Can't you realize how I felt when she saw me kiss you? I'd wanted that kiss, ever since the night of Schreiber's party, I guess. But—how could you stand it?"

"You may not have enough love to share, but I have," Eline said, beginning to cry.

Robert could not move. He felt a conflict of duties: the command to hold Eline in his arms, the admonition to restrain himself.

"Robe—" Eline said brokenly.

"Maybe the books wouldn't say so, but I'll ask you something else. If divorcing Aiko is so—unholy—how about us leaving out that part—about my—status? I only thought—it would be better—if we had children—for all of us. But I'll be your housekeeper. It can be the way it is now only we'll be together under the same roof. That's how humbly true love can stoop, just to be under the same roof—"

"It wouldn't stay that way, you know it, Eline, not even one day."

"I know."

"But Eline, for God's sake!"

She walked past him, not looking at him. Automatically, as a wife does even in the midst of familiar marital debate, she began to stack the soiled dishes in the sink. Robert sat, thought and emotion in chaos, unable to speak. Finally Eline began again:

"I don't know much about men, it's true. But I didn't think you'd be so shocked. . . . Why, Robert, why? Do you think I'm damaged goods? What have I had in the past five years? No lover, no child of my husband's body and not even the corpse of a marriage to warm my bed—or is it because your folks and mine came from some different countries in some different times? Yes, I asked you to take me to live with you, Robert. It would seem right to be legal about it, but I can't bargain. I've nothing to bargain with but myself."

Robert's mind gave him no conscious premonition of the words he heard himself saying—he shuddered as he had said them, had followed them with a forced, unnatural laugh:

"You've been alone too long, Eline. Lots of better fellows than me would take you up on your offer."

She looked at him as though he

(To Page D)

Detroit's Chapter Growth Seen in Leaders, Toilers

By Mary Seriguchi
Detroit Chapter Historian

DETROIT. — In roughly less than a decade of existence, the Detroit chapter has seen many personalities who have guided it from a small organization with 51 members to a robust one with 355.

Membership statistics become all the more impressive when one considers that there are less than 1,000 Japanese now as compared to about 2,500 relocatees before 1946.

This constant depletion in the Japanese populace makes awkward the job of reporting the impact of different personalities on the chapter. For instance, Peter Fujioka is the only one out of the Constitution and Nominations Committee and of the original cabinet who remains.

It would be remiss if tribute was not given here to the so-called work horses — gluttons for punishment, if you will, for they labor long and hard without much glory and little appreciation. Without these willing volunteers, the chapter would have become inactive eons ago.

So, to them, a big salute from a grateful chapter for many years of unselfish service:

Misses Kay Miyaya, Nobuko Nanjo, Chiyo Sato, Jane Togasaki; Mrs. Irene Abe Hatate, Rose Leong, Doris Fujioka, Betty Nimura, Aiko Nakatani Nanjo, Miyo Mano O'Neill, Toshi Shimoura, Mr. Frank Ebisuya, Louis Furukawa, Lloyd Joichi, Art Matsumura, Ben Ouchi, and many others.

Writing about Peter Fujioka is like tracing the history of the chapter, for he has played a major part in the inception and subsequent growth of the organization.

When Mas Satow, then director of the Midwest Regional Office visited Detroit in April, 1946, to sound out possibilities of forming a chapter, Fujioka served as chairman of the meeting which was attended by 40 people.

At the organizational rally held on June 7, 1946, he was chosen as chairman of the Constitution and Nominations Committee which included Doris Sese, Michi Ohi, Shu Miho, Steve Takiguchi, Eiji Suyama, Sam Hada and George Tanaka. Out of some 75 attending the rally, which featured Mas Satow and Eiji Tanabe as speakers, 51 officially signed as members.

Peter was elected as the first president of the chapter in July 1946 and under the most trying conditions (cabinet officers as well as staunch members leaving town; general antipathy, if not open hostility, from Japanese community), he formed the nucleus of what is now an organization which embraces the

majority of Japanese families in Detroit and vicinity.

He was reelected as president in 1947 and 1948 and served as chairman of the ADC drive in 1947. In 1949 he was elected as official delegate.

On the regional and national plane, he was Detroit's delegate to the organizational meeting of the MDC held in Chicago in April 1947 and served as treasurer of the temporary cabinet. He also attended the Midwest Leadership Training Workshop in Chicago in October, 1947. He served as publicity director of MDC in 1949-51 and MDC representative on the National JACL Standing Committee on National Planning in 1949. He was delegate to the 1st Biennial MDC Convention in Cleveland, 1949 and executive chairman of the 2nd Biennial MDC Convention in Cleveland, 1949 and executive chairman of the 2nd Biennial MDC Convention in Detroit, 1951.

He was nominated for second vice-president in the National JACL elections for 1949 and 1950. He has been a member of the 1000 Club since 1948.

Reviewing briefly Fujioka's personal history, it is not surprising to find it one of indefatigable service to his fellow man.

It was during the early days of relocation that he used his influence generously to find temporary and permanent employment in and around Detroit for the Nisei. Almost immediately upon arrival, he went to work with the resettlement committee set up by the Caucasian group interested in relocating Japanese evacuees in Detroit. During this period, he spoke before many YWCA, church, young peoples and business groups on evacuation and Nisei problems in general. He also appeared on panel discussions over the radio.

Fujioka has been married since 1942 and has three children, Jo Ann, 10; Ellen, 6; and Alice, 3. Golf is his favorite sport and he likes to putter around the house during his leisure hours. "Just a family man," he says.

Roy Kaneko's relationship with the JACL dates back to the pre-war era when he was active in the San Francisco chapter. Born in Hanford, California, he received his education in the Bay Area.

He arrived in Detroit from Topaz, Utah, in 1942. A highly successful insurance agent, he has qualified for the Top Club Convention of the Guardian Life Insurance Company for the past few years.

Because of pressure of his other activities Kaneko has not been a cabinet member since his term as president in 1949.

Nevertheless, whenever there is a need for a man to represent JACL in community functions, or someone to run an errand, he is always ready to help. The numerous times he has expended time and money on behalf of the chapter are all too often unacknowledged.

During his presidency, a great many people received valuable aid with their evacuation claims. A directory of Japanese in Detroit and vicinity was also published then.

His interest lies in sports, being a better than average bowler and golfer. In pre-war years, he was active with the basketball program of the San Francisco YMCA. His wife is the former Sumi Henmi and his children are Ken, 13; Gail, 11; and Larry, 5.

When Sutemi Murayama, 1951 president, had to leave town to accept a position in New York, Wally Kagawa, who was then 1st vice-president, had no trouble filling the vacancy thus created.

He has worked for the chapter since its inception and knew his way around. Some of his outstanding activities include 1st vice-president in 1949, co-chairman of the 2nd biennial MDC Convention, 1951, and display adviser for the local publicity of "Go For Broke," 1951.

After 24 months overseas with the 442nd, he returned to his Alma Mater to earn his M.S. He arrived in Detroit in 1946. A modest and unassuming person, he is an associate member of the architect firm, Leinweber, Yamasaki and Hellmuth.

He is married to the former Yori Yamasaki of Modesto and has two children, Kathy, 6½; and Paul, 4½.

Min Togasaki is one of the many latter-day converts to the JACL cause in Detroit. Before his term as president in 1953, he did not participate in any JACL activities but since then he has served on almost all the committees. He also has been a 1000 Club member since 1953.

Combining a sharp wit with a facile manner, he is a good public relations man and often represents the chapter in community functions. The newsletter through which the members are made aware of local and national JACL activities was started during his presidency.

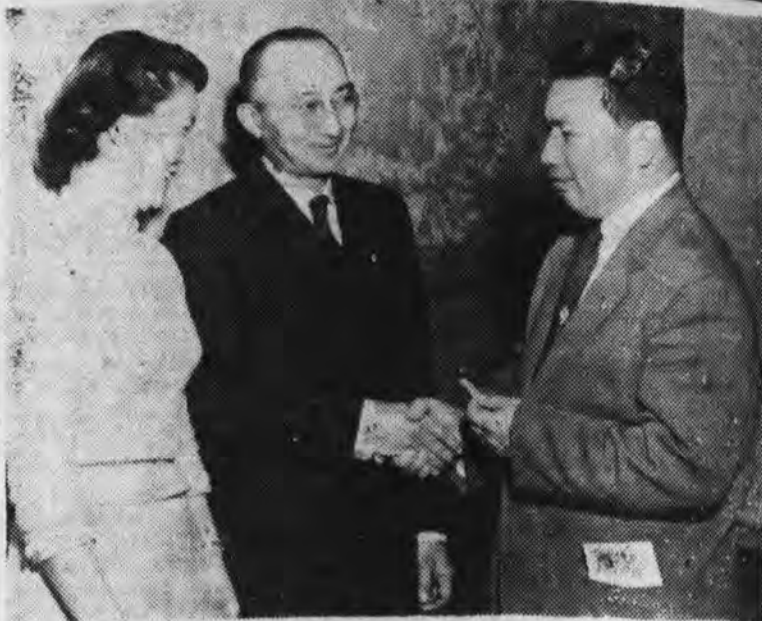
Ever since Kenneth Miyoshi arrived in Detroit in 1950 as an exchange teacher from Hawaii, he has plunged into JACL activities with enthusiasm.

Possessor of a keen mind and calm temperament, he served the chapter well as 3rd vice-president in 1953, president in 1954 and co-chairman of the Testimonial Dinner for Issei citizens in 1955. He received his B.A. from the University of Hawaii and M.A. from Wayne University.

At present, he is teaching social sciences at Barbour Intermediate School and is a member of Phi Delta Kappa, national social science organization. He is also active in the Strathmoor Methodist Church. He and his wife, Laura, also from Hawaii, bought a home in 1952, thus the chapter can look to them both for many years of help.

The president for the current year is Sud Kimoto, long time work horse of the chapter. Always preferring the background, he has worked hard over the years on many committees, especially on the important membership and ADC drives.

Elected unanimously as president, he still finds time to lend a welcome hand on all projects.



Frank F. Nakamura (center), one of the veteran JACLers of Marysville chapter, is presented the JACL sapphire pin from then NC-WNDC Regional Director Haruo Ishimaru. Mrs. Nakamura stands at the left. The pin is awarded for outstanding contribution and continuous service rendered to the organization over the past decade.

Frank Nakamura of Marysville aided Chapter since founding

By DAN NISHITA

MARYSVILLE — Frank Nakamura was awarded the JACL sapphire-studded pin during the Marysville installation banquet with Haruo Ishimaru presenting the pin.

Frank Nakamura is a charter member of the YSBC (Yuba, Sutter, Butte, and Colusa Counties) Chapter, now the Marysville Chapter, and since its organization in the summer of 1935—except for two years spent attending college—he has demonstrated by outstanding leadership and dedicated service, his loyalty and devotion to the JACL.

During the war years, Frank

was custodian of all records and property of the chapter and its nominal head. With the end of hostilities and the return of the evacuees, Frank provided counsel and assistance in the name of JACL, making a difficult situation less so for hundreds of returning families.

When some semblance of order and normalcy was established over the chaotic conditions, he set himself to the task of reorganizing the present chapter.

In recent years, Frank has fulfilled the role of adviser and "elder statesman" as it were. He continues to devote time and energy in chapter activities, particularly in the field of public relations.

Marysville celebrates 20th year

MARYSVILLE — The 1955 calendar of events for the local JACL chapter, headed by Dan Nishita, was reported by Frank Nakamura as follows:

January—The Chapter begin its twentieth year of JACL activities with the installation dinner-dance and reception for the newly naturalized citizens. Lt. Col. Darrell Reed, of Beale Air Force Base, was the principal speaker. Frank Okimoto, retiring president, received the past-president pin. Frank Nakamura was awarded the JACL sapphire pin.

February—John A. Rossi of the Social Security office in Sacramento discussed the social security regulations and benefits. Pres. Dan Nishita chaired.

March—Preparations begun for Annual Community Picnic with George Kinoshita and Isao Tokunaga appointed co-chairmen . . . Women's Auxiliary, under Lucy Tokuno, holds dance sessions . . . Nisei baseball team is organized . . . Assisted and gave financial contribution to the Marysville Community Hall Committee . . . Japanese Cooking class sponsored with Mrs. Senichi Hata-miya in charge. Viewed beautiful colored slides of Japan, shown by Lt. Col. and Mrs. Darrell Reed.

April—Chapter voted to present a Scholarship to Yuba Junior College, to a student enrolling from either Yuba, Sutter, Butte, and Colusa counties. The selection to be made by the College Faculty Scholarship Committee . . . The Annual Community Picnic and Benefit Show attracted several thousand people to Marysville.

May—Women's Auxiliary members visited Weimar Sanitarium.

June—Parents' Day Tea sponsored with Yukimi Shingu, chairman . . . Graduation Outing held at Bidwell Bar; Lorraine Komatsu-

bara and Dolly Fukumitsu headed the committees . . . Formal presentation of the JACL Scholarship made at the Marysville High School Awards Assembly by Frank Nakamura.

July to September — Annual barbecue held at Lake Van Giesen in Placer County. Co-chairmen: Harry Fukumitsu, Frank Komatsubara, and Tom Teesdale . . . Get-together Dinner held with Haruo Ishimaru, Regional Director . . . George Inouye represented chapter at Salinas District Council Meeting.

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Following Mike Masaoka's footsteps by being SLC's third-term prexy

SALT LAKE CITY. — Rupert Hachiya has been with the Salt Lake JACL only three years. In his second year, he volunteered to serve as president as there was no other candidate for the office. In other words, the chapter had practically died. With the National office moved to San Francisco, the membership was lost without leadership. Although Rupert was new to JACL, he realized the need to save the chapter by rallying the community together.

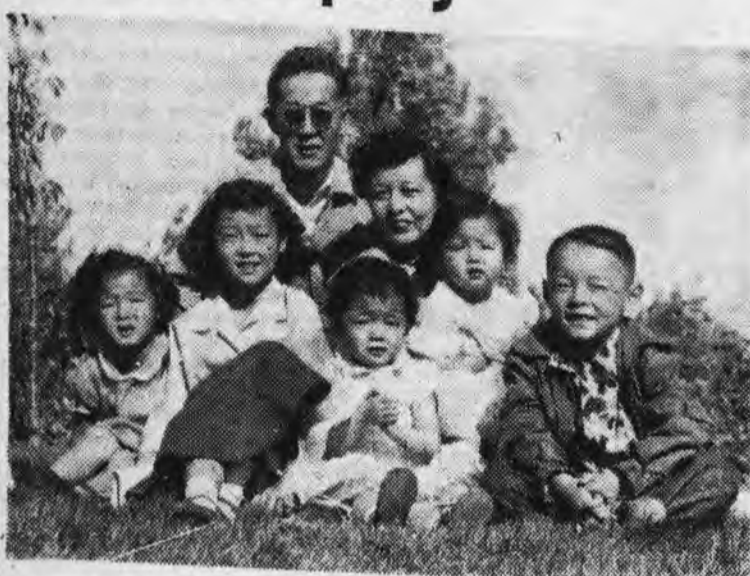
AND SAVE IT HE DID! So in terms of years, although he is still very young with the organization, the board felt he was deserving of any honor that an individual might be singled out to receive from among our membership today.

Rupert was born in Rupert, Idaho (from whence came his name), Jan. 31, 1915. He was an active honor student at Twin Falls, being a member of Beta Sigma Club, editor of the school newspaper, and participating in various sports.

His mother passed away when he was 12, leaving him with three sisters and a brother. He was active in his Baptist Church. In 1937, he was president of Japanese Nisei Club in Southern Idaho, which became an associate member group of IDC. This meant the community did not have the 25 required members to be accepted as a chapter, and according to the IDC files, Mike Masaoka, as IDC Chairman, mailed him the district constitution.

He married Josephine Gikui in Twin Falls on Nov. 2, 1941, and then moved to Salt Lake City. They started the Good Laundry and Cleaning business with his immediate relatives and are now well established. They have five children: Kathy Kerry, Sherrie, Diane, and Barbara. His hobbies are sports, music, and dancing.

On his birthday last January, board members and close associates surprised him with an orchestra dance in his honor.



Rupert's family (left to right) Sherrie, Kathy, Rupert and Josie behind Diane and baby Barby with their only son Kerry.

At the following public dinner to honor the newly-naturalized citizens, he was presented with the JACL pin which customarily is not given until the end of the term, but the board could not wait to show their appreciation.

Never in my long years of experience with this chapter have I witnessed such a demonstration of spontaneous consideration for their fellow leader. This gesture was but an evidence of affection as felt by his co-workers for all his unselfish effort and interest in behalf of the local JACL. This esteem was verified last year at the IDC meeting in Ogden, when he was cited and commended for having re-established a fallen chapter to the top ranks.

Hachiya restored chapter honor by paying off a three years' debt in the IDC, more than doubled the membership, and pulled together the reins of Issei, the older Nisei, and the Junior groups. He received letters of appreciation from both Mike Masaoka and Mas Satow.

He has been re-elected unopposed for the third term, which has been accomplished only by Mike Masaoka and Dr. Jun Kuru-

mada in the history of Salt Lake Chapter. He is currently serving as assistant scout master to the local Japanese American Troop and, as busy as he is, makes time for outings and overnight camping trips with them.

Of course, behind every successful man, there is always his helpmate and inspiration, as no man reaches great heights alone. Josie, as his wife is known to friends, has been a typical JACLer's wife, having to assume her share of both home and organization duties as well as share her husband with the entire community. She says since he's been president, she has rare occasions to see him at home, and has to take care of the constant calls that invade the privacy of their home. She served as chairman of the Auxiliary for the past year.

For a young and beautiful wife, Josie stands second to none for her understanding, cooperation, and push she gives her husband in addition to her duties as mother to five small children.

The Salt Lake Chapter points with pride and hails Rupert and Josie Hachiya, representing the kind of sacrificial leaders that have made JACL great.

By Alice Kasai—1955

Salt Lake Junior JACL Stands On Own Feet in Three Years

BY EDNA MASUDA

SALT LAKE CITY.—The Salt Lake Jr. JACL was made possible by the hard work of Dr. Shig Matsukawa and a number of the local JACL leaders who were willing to give their time and effort to the young Nisei of Salt Lake. They decided to compose this organization of young business people, university students and high school students who had reached or nearly reached the age of 18 years.

The possibility of the formation of a Jr. JACL was met enthusiastically by most of the young Salt Lakers. When the "Get Acquainted Rally" was held in the middle of January, more than 90 people came. During this important evening, an appeal was made for the need of a younger division of the JACL. A discussion was held and it was easily found that we were interested in the JACL but were very vague as to its real purpose and value. But by the end of the evening, we decided to give such an organization a try.

In February, 1954, the first officers were nominated and elected. Carl Matsuda was appointed to the difficult position of being the first president of this new group. He was, however, ably assisted by his cabinet and his advisers and helped to establish the Jr. JACL in the eyes of the community.

A membership drive was started during the month of March and although it was off to a late start, the membership grew to 67 people. Although not a very large group, it was a solid one, for every one of these 67 young people were interested and active.

Most of the first activities held by the Jr. JACL were meetings where guest speakers such as Mas Satow, Hito Okada and various other leaders of the JACL, spoke to us about the functions of the JACL and its purposes. After these meetings, most of the group

began to realize the importance of such an organization and were proud to actually be a part of it.

The first real test of responsibility in throwing a social came when we were given the task of planning the annual Grad Prom for the Nisei graduates of the entire state of Utah. The prom was a success. The "Jr.'s" had proved that they could carry on the load themselves!

The second cabinet of the Jr. JACL, led by Pres. Shig Kanegae, was installed at the Installation Dinner-Dance with the local JACLers. It was the first time the Jr.'s felt as if they were actually a part of this national organization. The socials held this year were a combination of many activities. The annual Prom for the graduates was again taken over and again marked down as another successful dance in the short history of the Jr. JACL.

The Sr. JACL has invited us to its board meetings and its activities so that we feel more and more a part of them rather than as an entirely separate group. Most of the big socials are divided among both groups and the experience we get from them is something we could never get working alone.

George Tamura leads the officers for the third year of the Jr. JACL. His job, by any means, won't be easier than the other presidents', even if the organization is three years old. But with the enthusiasm of his cabinet and the members, the Jr. JACL will grow and become stronger as the years go on.

The Jr. JACL is well on its own feet and on the road to infinite success. The main thing is that the younger people of Salt Lake have a single unit to belong to—a unit that is part of a national unit. For this, we can thank Dr. Shig Matsukawa and the others who made it possible.

Hollywood CL honors 200 Issei new citizens in top '55 event

By MIDORI WATANABE

HOLLYWOOD.—The year 1955 shall always be a memorable year in the memories of many Hollywoodites for the chapter demonstrated the strides that can be made under the dynamic leadership of Miss Miwa Yanamoto, president. Assisting her were the following members of her cabinet: 1st vice-pres., Noboru Ishitani; 2nd vice-pres., Midori Watanabe; 3rd vice-pres., Charles Kamayatsu; treas., Danar Abe; auditor, George Saito; cor. sec., Hiroko Kunitake; rec. sec., Terry Kuwata; members-at-large, Seiko Ishimaru and Art Endo; editor, Dick Zumwinkle and 1000 Club chairman, Art Ito.

One of the outstanding events was a highly successful banquet honoring our new citizens on April 17, 1955. Close to 200 new citizens, chapter members and entertainers were present to congratulate the Issei who finally achieved American citizenship. Short addresses were presented by Frank Chuman and Judge John Aiso. Dojun Ochi of the Rafu Shimpo responded on behalf of the new citizens.

sumori and Dorothy Mukai arranged the evening which included a tasty meal prepared by the girls.

Past social chairmen were called to conduct the final meeting May 14 until the fall season. Held at the Meadow Brook golf club, 70 members ate chicken dinners, engaged in Li'l Las Vegas Night (using play-money, of course). Each member was presented with \$1000 in play-money and at the end of the evening after all the "gambling," the men with the most and the least money were presented a prize. Ida Tateoka and Shig Hoki headed this very original program.

The chapter bowling sweepers

Another special event of the evening was the presentation of an American flag and standard by Miss Yanamoto on behalf of the Hollywood JACL to the Hollywood Community Center.

On March 28, over 70 new citizens were given an opportunity to learn more about functions and procedures of voting for a local election by the Hollywood Chapter. Motion pictures were presented and explained by Harold Jones, deputy in charge of Election Division.

Miki Moriwak, citizenship teacher, chaired the meeting and explained the details of the balloting.

Responding to community needs, the Hollywood Chapter recently donated their services to the Japanese Children's Home by providing lunch for 50 volunteers who were landscaping the newly-built Japanese Children's Home.

In addition to these events were numerous social functions including classes in ballroom dancing, a bridge class, a beach outing at Playa del Rey and a gala Hallo- we'en Barn Dance.

were held June 11 at the Ritz Bowling Palace.

Summer activities were opened with Lagoon Night at the popular Salt Lake resort on July 11. The annual canyon party Aug. 11 was held at Storm Mountain in Big Cottonwood Canyon. Softball, horseshoes, and volleyball ushered the late evening chicken barbecue. Yoshio Katayama donated the tasty victuals.

With summer ended, the married group presented our first indoor meeting since spring. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Matsumori, Mr. and Mrs. Walt Bills and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Okazaki "chaired" the event.

The year closed with the October election, November installation meetings, the annual turkey shoot and dance classes.

Mt. Olympus forms '100 club' (like 1000 club) for quota

MURRAY, UTAH — Installation ceremonies for the newly-elected officers for 1955 of the Mt. Olympus JACL Chapter were held on Nov. 29, 1954 at the Art Barn in Salt Lake City. A tasty steak dinner was served to approximately 90 members of the chapter, followed by the showing of colored slides presented by the Jordan School Board of Education.

The officers were installed by Mrs. Alice Kasai. The officers for 1955 were as follows:

President Mas Namba
1st Vice-President Kiyo Nishida
2nd Vice-President Lou Nakagawa
Corresponding Secretary Ko Takeuchi
Recording Secretary Hannah Namba
Treasurer Nob Mori
Social Chairmen Amey Harada
Tom Tamura
Harry Okubo

Selma Mori was selected historian and Tom Matsumori was elected sgt.-at-arms by the Board members at their first meeting of the year. Chapter advisers for the year were Toby Hirabayashi and George Fujii, past presidents. The year has been of the most successful and eventful in our chapter history. New organizations were developed within the chapter.

Ladies Auxiliary
The Mt. Olympus JACL Ladies Auxiliary was organized at the opening of the year and consists of all the matrons in the chapter. The group has elected the following officers for the year:

President Mabel Okubo
Vice-President Fumi Tateoka
Secretary & Treasurer Suzie Akagi
"100" Club

The "100" Club was originated by our president, Mas Namba. The purpose of the "100" Club is for the chapter to be self-sustaining and to assist in meeting our IDC quota without the aid of benefit moies, etc. It is synonymous with the National "1000" Club. Chairman has been Miss Kiyo Nishida and she has really done a wonderful job in getting the membership to what is. To date, we have approximately 80 members. To become a member of the "100" Club, a person contributes \$5 to our treasury. We are proud of the success of this "100" Club.

Mt. Olympus Bowling League
For the first time in our chapter history, a bowling league consisting of eight (8) teams was organized. Each team consists of three men and two women. Initial play commenced in September.

Officers elected to guide the new organization were:

President Lou Nakagawa
Secretary Kiyo Nishida
Treasurer George Tamura

The new officers launched the forthcoming year by sponsoring a New Year's Eve Social which was held at the Mexican Branch Ward in Salt Lake City, Utah.

JANUARY

January 17 was the chapter's most outstanding program, Issei Appreciation Night, held at the Murray B. Allen Blind Center Auditorium. Under the direction of general co-chairmen, Toby

Hirabayashi and George Fujii, assisted by Kiyo Matsumori and Selma Mori, chapter members worked vigorously to make this night a success. Turkey and ham dinners were served. Yukus Inouye presented the following awards: 1. Oldest Issei, 2. Youngest Issei, 3. Longest married couple, 4. Parents with most children, 5. First Issei to become a citizen, 6. Issei with most hair, and 7. Issei who has resided in Utah the longest.

Members and Sansei were featured in skits and Japanese numbers. Yukio Isaki was terrific as master of ceremonies. After the program, the parents participated in a cake walk using cakes that were baked by the girls in the chapter. An Issei mother, Mrs. Okubo, presented our chapter with an American flag.

Toru Shimizu taught naturalization classes in January to some 90 Issei. The men of our chapter were always on hand to assist in transportation. Min Matsumori was class chairman.

On Feb. 5, president Mas Namba chaired his first meeting consisting of business, games, dancing and steak-fry, which was headed by George Tamura and Merry Atagi.

Capt. Golden Haight of the Salt Lake City police youth division spoke on juvenile problems at the Mar. 5 meeting held at the South Salt Lake city hall. Harry Okubo and Tak Iwamoto were co-chairmen. Following the meeting, the group gathered at a skating rink.

Square-dancing with Skip Tabata calling was featured at the April 4 meeting at the Mexican Branch Ward. The chapter women under the direction of Mary Mat-

Kazie Yokoyama best remembered for sterling membership drive

SEATTLE — Although Miss Kazie Yokoyama is not a 25-year veteran, her interest and leadership in the JACL program will offset the lack of those years to qualify her for such recognition.

In 1952, after returning to Seattle from New York, Kazie immediately began her participation in JACL activities. To highlight some of her contributions — in 1953, while serving as vice-president under Dr. Kelly Yamada, president, she was appointed chairman of the membership drive.

At that time, membership in the Seattle chapter reflected approximately 153 members. A big campaign began and after a hard push, the results showed that membership in the JACL had been stimulated to well over 300, a showing of 100% increase. Membership in the "1000" Club was also increased almost three times during her chairmanship, and today she continues to serve as membership co-chairman of the "1000" Club.

Yama serves as member of the Board of Governors.

Not only is it her participation

The naturalization program was also underway in which she was constantly sought to administer for its success.

Our salute goes to Dr. Kelly K. Yamada, a long-term veteran of our JACL. Having played an active role in JACL work at San Francisco, Oakland, Chicago, and finally in Seattle, his name will strike a familiar note and fond approval for this Holiday Issue.

Dr. Yamada is not new in JACL work. His first association with the JACL dates back to 1933 when he joined the San Francisco chapter. The Oakland chapter had not as yet been formulated.

Almost immediately, he participated in the functions of the organization through the years serving in such positions as entertainment head at the 1934 national JACL convention in San Francisco; acting as vice-chairman of the Northern California District Council; vice-president in 1938; and president, Oakland chapter, in 1939. The early postwar years found Dr. Yamada as associate member of the national JACL while attending college.

walk unsupported. Clumsily she hulked to the sofa and kept hold of Robert's hand, placing it childishly upon her head. He let it lie there listlessly. Strands of grey were beginning to lighten her heavy black locks. Aiko's face had become even rounded in the past year. As he stared into her twinkling eyes, so narrow and bright in the pale face, he could not decide whether mere animal alertness or a self-aware intelligence glimmered there. She still had a sweet smile, the winsome feature of her young days, spared by the paralysis which crippled her speech.

Aiko pointed across the room to the elaborate pastry, ready for eating. Her innocent and radiant smile trembled away into a working of lips and gathering of saliva. Robert bent to catch her words.

"Poor Eline. No more cakes," Aiko said.

Short Story:

(Continued from Page A)

had struck her. An instant later she was at the door, while he was still wondering what he had said, why he had said it, and as he hurried to seize her and apologize, she closed the door crashingly in his face.

He reopened the front door.

"Eline!"

But across the room Aiko suddenly appeared, blinking small-eyed against the lamp-light.

"Coffee?" she asked. "Coffee?"

"Eline!" Robert called again. He heard her car door slam, the motor race. He must run out, stop her. But Aiko? Had the slamming door roused her so quickly, so inopportunely?

"I like nice, fresh coffee." She was holding out her arms, reaching for his shoulder. She could not



Mas Yamasaki was responsible for forming the Dayton JACL chapter and elected its first president, serving two years. In private life, he has been with Borden Milk Co. for the past 13 years and is now assistant sales manager of the wholesale division.

Never Had It So Good, Says Santa Barbara

SANTA BARBARA—In the year of the Silver Jubilee of the JACL, the Santa Barbara Chapter is happy to report that in looking back over the year 1955 we realize that we have never had it so good.

Never so good in terms of the largest membership in the chapter's history, 109 members as compared to 70 in 1954.

Never so good in terms of finances as we now enjoy a chapter savings account.

And more important, never so good in terms of the interest, support, respect, and goodwill of not only of our own people but of the community as a whole.

★ ★ ★

And as always our chapter successfully raised the chapter financial quota.

How was it that in 1955 our chapter made such advancements? By working at it. By good leadership on the part of the cabinet, ably supported by the general membership.

★ ★ ★

In May our chapter hosted the Biennial P.S.W.D.C. Convention "Fiesta by the Sea," attended by 300 delegates. We are delighted that many out-of-town delegates to it are still talking about how much they enjoyed it. The work of planning and executing the convention called up every available member to participate which in turn built up a spirit of JACL comradeship to a degree never enjoyed before. Staging the convention in Santa Barbara created fine public relations for our chapter with the officials and people of our city.

In July we sponsored the annual Japanese community beach picnic attended by some 150 persons. The weather was beautiful and an enjoyable time was had by both the young and the old.

In November the chapter commemorated the 25th anniversary of the JACL with a special Issei-Nisei potluck dinner, attended by 150 persons. The new Issei citizens were honored on this occasion. Past National President Saburo Kido gave an inspiring address, both in English and Japanese, in observation of the Silver Anniversary of the JACL. A varied and interesting entertainment program followed the dinner.

At the time of this writing another important event is being planned, a New Year's Eve social.

You will note that no individual's name is given in this report. To name one for credit is to name them all. From beginning to end of 1955, ours has been a cooperative effort on the part of the chapter members.

As we reflect on the past year, we also look forward to another good year in JACL in 1956.

Coachella Valley loses two most active members in auto accident

INDIO— The Coachella Valley JACL held its annual dinner honoring the Issei in January. At this time, Mrs. Hisako Shibata and Roy Watanabe were the honored guests, having received their citizenship. Other Issei present at the dinner were presented with a book on "Citizenship" hoping to arouse enough enthusiasm to start a class here in the Valley.

In February, arrangements were made by Mas Oshiki through the adult education class of the Coachella Valley Union High School and a special class was started. Faculty members were amazed at the large attendance of the class and an almost 100 per cent attendance throughout the course.

The following passed their examination and are now proud to be American citizens: Kay Doibatake, Ishi Sakamoto, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kitagawa, Mrs. Yos Kono, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Mizutani, Mrs. F. Okamoto, Mr. and Mrs. H. Nagata, Yos Hirose, Mr. and Mrs. S. Nagata, Mrs. Mary Sakemi and Mr. and Mrs. Yanagisako.

Charles Shibata, chapter president, helped Mr. Pepper, acting as interpreter for the Issei.

Other activities for the year included an outing at Idyllwild honoring the graduates, Thanksgiving potluck dinner and the annual Christmas party for the youngsters.

The Coachella Valley Chapter members lost two of their most active members, Alice and Henry Sakemi, who both lost their lives in a tragic accident. Henry was the first president after evacuation and Alice has served as secretary and vice president.

Tom Sakai, who followed Henry in the office of presidency, and the only member serving the same office for two years is now called "liaison" officer. He will keep this position as a permanent fixture of the cabinet. Tom is a prominent rancher and produce agent. The latter position keeps him in contact with members who live as much as 30 miles away and his untiring work for the Coachella Valley JACL is recognized by all.

Tom is married to the former Alice Wake and has four boys. He is active in the Lions Club, is Indio Methodist Church lay leader, Farmer's Association president and has been a Thousand Club member for many years.

Junior JACL Movement Active In Redwood City's Sequoia C.L.



Joe Omachi, an attorney-at-law, has been long respected by Stockton JACLers for his advice and leadership. He was chapter president in 1947 when the group was being reactivated, is a 1000 Club member and currently on the chapter board of directors. Also cited by the Stockton chapter as among its leaders is Jack Matsu-moto (below), prominent businessman who has devoted much time and effort since its reactivated days. He was chapter president in 1948-49, is a 1000 Clubber, member of the chapter board of directors. He is well-known in golf circles also.



Citizenship Cited As Stockton's Best

STOCKTON—Mrs. Marie DeCarli, vice-president of the Stockton Chapter and citizenship class instructor for the Adult Education Dept., and Mrs. Greyce Kato, secretary of the Stockton Buddhist Church and instructor, aided considerably in teaching and preparing the Issei for their examinations to become citizens.

REDWOOD CITY—The Junior and Senior Tri-Villes, affiliated with the Sequoia Chapter of the JACL, are composed of girls living in Redwood City, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto. Members of the Junior's are freshmen through seniors in high school, while those of the Senior's are high school graduates.

Because the clubs are affiliated with the Sequoia JACL, Senior Tri-Villes members are also members of the Sequoia JACL, part of their dues going back into the Tri-Villes treasury. Meetings are held monthly by the Junior's and bi-monthly by the Senior's, while copies of the minutes are sent to the Sequoia JACL.

In carrying out the common interests of the girls of the club, a diversified program was enacted.

Some of the activities as a service to the community included the annual "Fun Night," projects, workshop, annual Children's Christmas Party, and graduation party.

Last year's proceeds from the "Fun Night" were contributed to the Emergency March of Dimes of San Mateo County.

This year the girls chose to contribute to the building fund of the Shonien Orphanage in Los Angeles.

For a project the Junior Tri-Villes baked cookies for the Menlo Park Veterans' Hospital. Stuffed animals were made by the Senior's for the children's ward of the Stanford Convalescent Home.

The workshop consisted of three discussion groups, moderated by members of the Sequoia JACL. With the theme of "Junior JACL-er, Tomorrow's Citizens," the three groups were (1) The Obligation to Vote, including the mechanics of voting, (2) Programming, discussion of effective programming, (3) Cultivation of Leaders.

The annual Children's Christmas Party is jointly sponsored by the Junior Tri-Villes and the Redwood City Athletic Club.

Annually, the Junior JACLers gives a party for the graduates, with the expenses being paid by the Sequoia JACL.

For their athletic program, the Junior's included bowling and roller skating and the Senior's had a ski trip.

The social events of the year were the following: outing, annual Christmas Eve Dance, spring formal, public dances, and parties.

To honor the parents, a Parent's Day was held; the program included a fashion show and entertainment by the members.

Season's Greetings SONOMA COUNTY JACL CHAPTER

SONOMA COUNTY JACL

Kanemi, Dorothe Ono & Children, 1025 Goldridge Rd., Sebastopol.
James & Jean Miyano, 3090 Skillman Lane, Petaluma, Calif.
Edwin & Anne Ohki, 930 McMinn Ave., Santa Rosa, Calif.
Mike, Isako & Patty Yoshimura, 2307 San Miguel Rd., Santa Rosa, Calif.
Sam, Clara Miyano & Children, 2971 Skillman Lane, Petaluma.
Harry & Alyce Sugiyama, 774 Thompson Lane, Petaluma, Calif.
George & Mary Hamamoto, 105 W. 8th St., Santa Rosa, Calif.
Takishi, Yukino Kameoka & Children, 1041 Middle Two Rock Rd., Petaluma, Calif.
Miyo & Yuriko Masaoka, 3011 Guerneville Rd., Santa Rosa, Calif.
Frank, Ruth Oda & Children, 1526 Gravenstein Hiway N., Sebastopol, Calif.

SALINAS VALLEY JACL

George & Masaye Tanimura and Family, 303 Boeing Ave., Salinas
Oscar Itani Family, 132 Rico St., Salinas
H. Tashiro Family, 124 Rico St., Salinas
John & Yoshiko Terakawa and Family, 25 E. Market St., Salinas
James Abe and Family, 150 Hitchcock Rd., Salinas
Y. Ichikawa and Family, 616 Archer St., Salinas
Bill Inouye and Family, 561 South West St., Salinas
Tony and Hatsumi Itani and Family, 72 Villa St., Salinas
S. Kanow Family, 536 Lincoln Ave., Salinas
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Sato and Family, 145 Davis Rd., Salinas
Harry Shirachi and Family, 532 Lincoln Ave., Salinas
S. Shiratsuki and Family, 60 Hitchcock Rd., Salinas
Henry and Margaret Tanda and Family, 332 Geil St., Salinas
James and Marian Tanda, 303 Lang St., Salinas
Lloyd and Fumi Urabe, 339 Alexander St., Salinas
Ikey and Mickey Miyana, P.O. Box 714, Salinas
Lefty Tom Miyana, P.O. Box 714, Salinas
Noboru Shigemasa Family, 23 E. Lake St., Salinas
Kunio, Sam, Atsuko Ikeda, 618 Sherwood Dr., Salinas
Fred Sakasegawa and Family, 316 Palma Dr., Salinas
Saburo and Mary Iwamoto and Family, 7 E. Lake St., Salinas
George, Janice and Carolyn Higashi, 37 California St., Salinas
Bob, Doris, Steven and Gordon Yamamoto, 39 California St., Salinas
Eva, Roberta and David Urabe, P.O. Box 703, Salinas
Mat, Catherine and Haru Matsumune, 25 E. Market St., Salinas

Inagaki —

Japanese Americans, denying them even this ultimate proof of loyalty. The resolution had a profound effect on the War Department which, until that time, had been divided in opinion concerning the acceptance of Nisei into the armed forces, George recalls. Under-secretary McCloy favored the re-opening of selective service to Nisei while others opposed it.

The JACL resolution, coming from the only representative organization among the very people concerned, greatly influenced the decision of selective service to accept Nisei on a voluntary basis early in 1943.

The occasion was one which George took time off from his new duties in Chicago, where he had just opened the JACL Midwest regional office, to attend at the Pentagon in Washington.

He was the second Nisei to volunteer; Mike Masaoka was the first. Later that year, the selective service draft was again reopened to the Nisei.

Soon after the Salt Lake City conference, and in response to reported maltreatment and exploitation of Nisei workers who had been induced to leave relocation camps to "save the sugar beet crop," Scotty Tsuchiya, who was later to become the first postwar regional director in Los Angeles in 1946, and George conducted a three-week survey visiting numerous sugar beet contract farms. They prepared a report with recommendations which resulted in the elimination of many of the abuses experienced by the beet workers.

(NOTE: The next few paragraphs deal with our national president's wartime service which few JACLers know about and which this writer feels will be of interest to many. Needless to say, the information was pried from a reluctant interrogatee.—S'w'er.

The third time was a charm for George. As soon as he had learned that Nisei could enlist in the armed services he volunteered for the Army which was then considering the formation of an all-Nisei regiment, later to become famous as the 442nd Central Postal Directory. Twice, he was rejected because of high blood pressure. Finally, pulling strings, he was accepted into the military intelligence language school at Camp Savage, Minn., entering its June, 1943 class.

Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, "Grandfather of the JACL"—its first national president—took over George's assignment as Midwest regional director in Chicago, a post subsequently taken over by Masao W. Satow, followed

by the Sou'wester.

After a six-month grind, George, now a T-5, became one of the first Nisei—a group of 30, including his wife's brother, Steve—to be assigned to the Navy.

Translated for Navy command in Hawaii

Based in Honolulu, he shuttled back and forth in the central Pacific operations to Saipan, Tinian and Okinawa. At Navy headquarters, he was placed in charge of Japanese army organization working with intelligence information on enemy army units. In between, he taught Japanese to naval officers at the Pearl Harbor naval language school.

In the field, he was a combat interrogator. Landing on Okinawa on D-Day, George, by now a tech-sarge, was exposed to heavy combat. He, with two marines, was credited with capturing the first Japanese prisoner on Okinawa. In addition, he received a Navy citation for discovering two army division headquarters and the top Japanese army headquarters on Okinawa.

Shipped with the 5th Amphibious Corps in September, 1945, for the occupation of Kyushu, he was then assigned to the 4th Marine Division in Nagasaki until just before Christmas. He rejoined his outfit, the Naval Technical Mission, in Yokahama from where he returned to the States and received his discharge at Fort MacArthur, San Pedro, on Jan. 29, 1946.

Meanwhile, his folks, who had been in the Poston Relocation camp, had moved to Salt Lake City, as had his wife who during his army service had shared an apartment in Milwaukee with Etsu Masaoka, the San Jose lass Mike Masaoka married in 1944 with George himself as *baishakunin*. George was able to join his family in time to celebrate his birthday before returning to Venice to take up the reins of his greenhouse business.

No sloucher, George immediately plunged into JACL activity, helping to reactivate the Venice chapter (now Venice - Culver JACL) in 1946. He attended the first postwar JACL biennial con-

CALLAHAN'S CORNER:

No Reason for Qualms In JACL's Next 25 Years

By GEORGE INAGAKI

National President, 1952-56

vention in Denver where he was elected as JACL national first vice president. At the following biennial in Salt Lake City in 1948, he was appointed national chairman of the JACL 1000 Club (see center spread this issue), a brilliant financial brainchild of the then national JACL president, Hito Okada, and conceived at a convention of the IDC at Idaho Falls in 1947.

After a second term as top knight of the "Order of the Tie and Garter," a title he relinquished to Sir Tokuzo Gordon of Chicago. George was unanimously elected national JACL president by the delegates at the 12th biennial national convention held in San Francisco in 1952, succeeding the late Dr. Randolph M. Sakada.

George was re-elected to his second biennium term as national president at the 13th biennial held in Los Angeles in 1954.

Despite his many responsibilities in the business world, George has shackled himself with additional JACL duties, serving now as national chairman of the Committee on Japanese American Evacuation Claims (COJAEC) and participates in JACL affairs at all levels—national, district and chapter—even if he has to baby along his recently acquired occupational disease, the JACL duodenal ulcer.

As president of the Southern California Flower Growers, Inc., George is probably the most prominent Nisei in the flower growing industry. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Bank of Tokyo of California and is a past officer and board member of his Rotary Club which some years ago gave him his Irish monicker,

Callahan, a well-fitting handle. He also belongs to various veterans and civic organizations and in the free time he manages to squeeze out of his busy schedule, he goes fishing (fresh water) or golfing (around 80).

He is devoted to his children, Patti, age 5, and Chris, 3. He lives in a comfortable home in a smog-free section of Venice just off Ballona Creek and Centinela. His immediate neighbor is his sales manager, Ike Masaoka and his growing family of wife Sue and three boys. Ike, Mike's younger brother, is a disabled vet of the 442nd R.C.T.

Going into our tenth year on the JACL staff, we've had the privilege of working with great JACL leaders. We unhesitatingly nominate George to join the ranks of whom we consider the JACL standouts we've come to know in this decade—Mike Masaoka, Saburo Kido, Tom Yatabe, Randy Sakada, Mas Satow and Hito Okada. Certainly there is no less dedicated JACLer than Callahan Inagaki.

(Joji Inagaki is an incongruous name to this student of etymology. The phonetic translation of *Joji* is a "love affair." No comment. And that for *ina-gaki* is "No, hungry devil!", strangely the very words he uttered when we asked for a fifth serving of cake and ice cream during our recent visit to his home. At least he could have used sign language, for *gaki* also means deaf-mute. Actually, *Joji* means "a nice guy" and Inagaki means fenced rice plants, symbolic of a good farmer.—S'w'er.)

LOS ANGELES—A short note from Harry Honda suggesting a 25th Anniversary message from me for the Holiday Edition has set my mind to reminiscing. And, as I look back to the day I first became associated with the JACL, I cannot help but feel surprised that I should be serving as the National President on the occasion of this celebration.

I certainly had no such thoughts when I wandered into my first meeting at the Presbyterian church in Sacramento back in 1932, exactly 23 years ago. I had just turned 18, a senior in high school, active in church and athletic organizations and quite satisfied with myself. I recall that it was merely a matter of curiosity as to what these old "fogies" were up to that led several of us to the meeting. That and the fact that we had nothing else to do.

It turned out to be an election meeting with Walter Tsukamoto, who was chairing the meeting, being re-elected president. In the course of the election of the other officers, I found myself being elected to the post of assistant treasurer.

I don't quite recall how I felt about this sudden turn of events, particularly in view of the fact that I wasn't even a paid-up member. And, as far as that goes, I doubt very much that I had the money for membership since this was in the midst of the depression. However, I'm inclined to think that my ego was somewhat stimulated at finding myself suddenly listed among the older personalities of Sacramento.

(Continued on Page A-19)

We hope the Christmas joys you're sharing
Are repeated every day.
So the year ahead brings pleasures
And real happiness your way.

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PHONE RI. 7-1912, 9-0651

Season's Best Wishes and

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JACL
ON ITS TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

I am grateful for the progress I and other Nisei have been able to make in the business world. The high degree of our acceptance, though intangible, is very real to me and I would like the readers of the Pacific Citizen to know that I am among those who attribute our success in large measure to the great work of the JACL, through whose efforts our saas as businessmen has been elevated to that which we now enjoy.

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ON ITS 25th ANNIVERSARY

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Los Angeles 12, California

BEST WISHES

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HOUSTON HOTEL
1226 Georgia Street
Los Angeles 15, California

Season's Greetings

KYODO GRILL

316 East First Street
Los Angeles 12, California

DR. RANDOLPH M. SAKADA: 1950-52

Frustration to Fruition

By ABE HAGIWARA
Chairman, Midwest District Council

CHICAGO — The 12th biennial National President of the Japanese American Citizens League was the late Dr. Randolph M. Sakada of Chicago, a diminutive but dynamic Nisei leader who left for himself the honor and reputation of being called JACL's No. 1 Goodwill Ambassador.

Dr. Sakada was elected President at the National Convention held in Chicago, Illinois in 1950. He had just completed a masterful and herculean job as General Chairman of the 11th Biennial JACL Convention. No JACL President in history was to have served a more eventful two

years.

The biennial reign of the late Dr. Sakada, who died in June of this year after a long illness, can be characterized simply by two complicated words — frustration and fruition.

Numerically speaking, there were more accomplishments during this period than failures, but the impact of the failure of the Walters Resolution to pass Congress was so great that JACL did not feel that it had achieved victory.

★ ★ ★

The never-to-be-forgotten two years that was to be Dr. Sakada's two greatest years in the JACL was punctuated emotionally by the repeated and frustrating failures of the JACL's effort to secure citizenship rights for the Issei aliens. Never was JACL more wrapped up so completely on any issue than its struggle to win this right for our parents.

The time was right and the feeling all over the country was that the Congress of the United States was finally ready and prepared to correct a grave error it had made over 25 years ago.

★ ★ ★

On the other hand, speaking of achievements, there were many. JACL found further success during this period of legislative campaigning. The compromise settlement amendment to the original evacuation claims bill had

passed in 1951. The state of California through its Attorney General declared its alien land law affecting Japanese aliens, unconstitutional. The American Bowling Congress opened its ranks to all Americans, regardless of race, creed or color on May 12th of 1951. Through private bills and assist from public officials, several aliens were stayed deportation to Japan. And the JACL played its effective part in all of these hard fought achievements.

On the home front, Dr. Sakada served the JACL well. For two years he was kept busy with performing his presidential duties. His correspondence alone kept him busy with greetings, messages and acknowledgements. He represented the national organization with personal appearances at Regional and District meetings throughout the country. And everywhere he went Dr. Sakada made new friends for the JACL.

★ ★ ★

Dramatic News of M'Carran Bill Victory

No National JACL President will ever experience a more dramatic ending to a term of office than Dr. Sakada. It was during the morning session of the National Council assembled in San Francisco's famed Sir Francis Drake Hotel, that the electrifying news from Washington, D. C. was brought into the meeting of delegates attending the Convention.

★ ★ ★

The Senate of the United States had just over-ridden President Truman's veto of the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Naturalization Bill by a two-third majority vote with five votes to spare. The impact of this announcement was dramatic. At first the delegates appeared stunned as if hard to believe. The first to feel the real impact of the news were the old-time JACLers who literally fell into each others arms and wept unashamedly. Everyone was too excited to settle down.

The presiding officer, Dr. Sakada himself, was visibly moved and found it difficult to maintain his composure. The news was enough to break up the meeting, therefore, a quick recess was ordered.

The events which led up to this dramatic moment were equally exciting. Earlier in the week the House of Representatives set the stage by over-riding the Presidential veto. And only the night before the memorable event, the delegates attending the convention received special instructions from Mike Masoka, who was in Washington keeping in close touch with events there, to wire

their respective Senators immediately to support the move to override the Presidential veto.

Over 200 telegrams were promptly dispatched, taxing the hotel's facilities. The result, to say the least, was gratifying and unbelievable.

★ ★ ★

In looking back to the many years the JACL struggled with this problem, what took place was like a dream come true.

In the 81st Congress, the effort to eliminate the remaining racial restriction in naturalization and immigration law was scuttled three separate times by Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia. Earlier the Walter Bill, as it was then called, passed over President Truman's veto.

It should be noted that the JACL up to this point was trying to secure passage of a bill to wipe out racial restriction from our federal naturalization laws on its own merits. The many efforts to do this dating back over many years had failed.

When this provision finally became part of the Omnibus Immigration and Naturalization Bill, which was an overall codification of all the federal immigration and naturalization statutes dating back 150 years, the equality in naturalization as well as in immigration became a reality.

What made the new law controversial was the security and restrictive provisions included in the new McCarran and Walter bill.

★ ★ ★

When Dr. Sakada became the National President in September of 1950, President Truman had already vetoed the Walter resolution, objecting to the "security riders" attached to the original resolution. The House overrode the Presidential veto on Sept. 16, but the Senate decided to withhold action on over-riding the President and recessed until Nov. 27.

★ ★ ★

\$104,000 ADC Budget Approved in 1950

Instead of celebrating the passage of the Walter Resolution, the 1950 Convention delegates were faced with immediate problems of further action on legislation to win naturalization right for Japanese aliens.

Despite some justifiable feelings of pessimism, the delegates voted to stand by their "number one legislative aim." A budget of \$104,000, an optimistic goal, was approved by the JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee to continue the legislative battle. Thus the victory celebration was delayed by almost two years.

Another major legislative accomplishment during Dr. Sakada's tenure was the compromise settlement amendment to the evacuation claims bill. Evacuation claims program first passed in July of 1948 through the combined efforts of the JACL and the ADC ran into adjudication problem.

In 1949, for example, of the claims adjudicated for a total of \$13,543.99 only \$6,882.20 was paid. In the calendar year of 1950 only 211 claims out of which

(Continued on Page 20)

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DR. GEORGE Y. TAKEYAMA: 1931-32

Growing Pains of L.A.

By HENRY K. MORI
English Editor, Rafu Shimpō

There were few Nisei adults out of high schools and colleges in Los Angeles some 25 years ago. Consequently an organization like the Japanese American Citizens League limited its activities to social and maybe a political rally or two every year when ambitious office seekers brought their campaign promises to the local leaders.

There were fewer legal horizons to conquer on a practical scale a quarter century ago because of the lack of a Nisei majority but that did not prevent the older community Nisei leaders from dabbling in Li'l Tokio politics.

When the Japanese American Citizens League expanded its activities to a national scope following the first National Convention in Seattle in 1930, the Los Angeles Citizens League—as it was then known, and predecessors to the Downtown L. A. Chapter—automatically gained power and more recognition since it had one of the largest memberships in the then 40 units in the country.

Unlike today's rather dormant type of elections which "draft" an eligible candidate into the office of chapter presidency, the old Rafu Shimpō files reveal the campaigns conducted by the die-hards to gain the coveted post in the thrilling years of the 1930s had all the makings of a knock-down, rat-race of personality clashes and an almost mud-slinging word calling. It is all patched-up history and everybody laughs at the goings-on now but in the midst of the 1930s the campaigns were serious.

Each year's election then would dig deeper the factions which grew out of previous campaigns. There would be emergency night meetings, distribution of leaflets to promote a candidate, and bitter words would be printed in the Japanese vernacular papers by both oppositions.

Buying space in the publication like we saw in the Rafu Shimpō for political purposes, was not strange practice in those days. Yet announcements would be made on radio programs to entice JACL members to support an aspiring candidate.

Chapter presidency might be the organization's highest office indeed held for the winner the prestige and recognition that any ambitious person would enjoy during his year's tenure. It might even mean more business and social advancement for that individual.

There were no "dodges" from accepting the nomination for a presidential post and the glory that was to follow.

One of the biggest election "scandals" on the picking of a Los Angeles JACL chapter president came about almost 20 years ago, the old files show. The aftermath of the reckless and vicious campaign for presidency lasted almost two months before peace reigned in the Los Angeles Citizens League.

Oldtimers like Dr. Yōgorō George Takeyama, John Maeno, Kay Sugahara, Elmer Yamamoto, and Dr. Masaru M. Horii still recall with vivid memory the explosive year of 1936 when the chapter election turned into a three-way race with Maeno emerging victorious in the finale. It required a re-run.

The Sugahara administration, and that's about how the president and his officers were looked upon, had certain pet projects and policies they wanted to retain.

While Sugahara hammered away at his opposition, as an incumbent trying for his third term, he suddenly shifted his position in favor of nominating Maeno, an attorney, in his stead as head of the Los Angeles Citizens League.

The streams of Nisei politics ran swift and hard on First and San Pedro and cliquishness prevailed in strong and pronounced segments. You either belonged in a group or were "out."

The bombshell resulted in a protest petition, signed by 32 members and which was later sent to Sugahara by Dr. Takeyama who acted as mediator.

What happened was that while "dark horse" Maeno managed to win the "first" election, 42 to 25, over Dr. Horii, the protestors—not all Horii's backers—questioned the constitutionality of placing a fresh candidate on election eve. The pressure forced the Maeno administration to quit, temporarily, and the power was reverted to Sugahara and his cabinet.

After two months of bickering and more stormy campaigning—which had the town in an uproar of speculation—Maeno finally won the election, defeating Elmer Yamamoto, who decided to run during the interim, and Dr. Horii by a substantial margin of 89-60-9.

Today the whole incident becomes a good after-dinner conversation piece, in the words of one attorney Yamamoto. "We weren't politically strong so we had to do something to drum up interest," he chuckles.

In the backdrop of the beginning of a more active Los Angeles Citizens League comes this story of Dr. Takeyama who is now a public health physician of the Los Angeles County Health Dept., with offices at 6538 Mill Ave. in Huntington Park.



DR. GEORGE TAKEYAMA
Second National JACL
Convention Chairman
Los Angeles - 1932

izens League comes this story of Dr. Takeyama who is now a public health physician of the Los Angeles County Health Dept., with offices at 6538 Mill Ave. in Huntington Park.

Dr. Takeyama mediated 1936 election row

It was Dr. Takeyama, the mediator who quieted the grumbles of the 1936 JACL election and later to be the vice-president that

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year, who was named chairman of the 1932 National Convention held in Los Angeles. He modestly milestones that year as the "new era of activities" for the local chapter.

It was at that time the Los Angeles Citizens League became an established group—just two years after some of the Southland's Nisei leaders like Charles Kamayatsu, Suma Sugi and Clarence Arima trekked to Seattle for the first biennial national meeting.

With their new found experience they were requested and given the national confab in Los Angeles in 1932. The dates, July 27-30, were picked to coincide with the 10th Olympic Games that summer.

The Sacramento-born physician, remembering how very few older Nisei were on hand then, said the

convention committee appointed him chairman and George Nakamoto, publicity chairman.

Dr. Takeyama's effective and valuable contacts with civic personalities resulted in a pretty wonderful affair. There was Mayor John C. Porter who delivered a message of welcome to some 200 delegates, mostly from the West Coast.

There was the dance, the banquet, and a parade from the City Hall steps to the heart of Li'l Tokio. It was a rare treat for the out-of-town visitors.

"One of the biggest stumbling blocks during these days was the lack of a hall or a place large (Continued on Page A-17)

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Pioneer Issei Regime Began to Fade After Passage of Alien Land Laws

By TAMOTSU MURAYAMA

"Nisei"—an American of Japanese ancestry—began to appear in the Japanese vernacular press on the West Coast in the 1920s. As a term used by the Japanese editors then, it bore a sting as if someone had called you a "Jap". The term was used when the younger generation was being accused on something not Hoyle.

With the passage of the "anti-alien land law by the California legislature in 1921, however, the Japanese Association of America realized the need of organizing the "Nisei", still young of age and small in numbers. From this turn of events, the use of "Nisei" has been popularized to its present height and even inserted in the latest American dictionaries.

With the very enthusiastic leadership and appeal of Tamezo Takimoto, then secretary-general of the Japanese Association of America (Nihonjin Kai), the American Loyalty League was organized in 1922. Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe of Fresno was recog-

nized a leader among the young Nisei then, and ever since has been at the helm for the Nisei cause. He has done probably more for the welfare of Nisei than any other single Nisei.

The Progressive Citizens League was organized about the same time in Seattle with leadership such as Clarence T. Arai and James Y. Sakamoto. The Nisei leaders of the Northwest were unknown to the Nisei in California until Takimoto made an effort to convene Nisei leaders on the Pacific Coast in 1928.

My part during the early days was greatly inspired by Dr. Yatabe and Mr. Takimoto. I was sitting quietly in the corner of a San Francisco room in 1923, listening to Dr. Yatabe and other leaders. They were very young. While the first Japanese was born in the United States in 1879, a majority of the Nisei was born after 1900 and particularly during the

"picture bride" era of the 1914-20.

The Nihonjin Kai, which was then headed by Potato King George Shima, fought desperately to check passage of the California alien land law in 1921 and later the Japanese Exclusion Act in 1924. The Issei pioneers thus realized that they could not do anything without the power of franchise. It was natural for Mr. Takimoto to conclude that only by presenting a strong Nisei front wielding its right to vote would the professional agitators desist from further anti-Japanese campaigns.

It is interesting to recall the fight the pioneer Issei had waged against the avalanche of anti-Japanism. The Nisei cannot dream the fire of anti-Japanese hysteria the pioneers sustained. The 1921 alien land law initiative proposed:

a) To prohibit land ownership by the Japanese.

b) To prohibit the leasing of farm land to Japanese.

c) To prohibit the acquisition of real property by American-born Japanese minors under guardianship of their parents.

d) To deprive Japanese parents their natural right to serve as guardians of their minor sons or daughters from owning real property.

e) To escheat real property to the state upon certain prima facie presumptions; and

f) To prohibit Japanese from taking any interest in any company or corporation owning real property.

Issei group fights alien land law

It was not until the end of World War II (a quarter-century later) that the Issei pioneer was granted the privilege of naturalization after their sons and daughters displayed heroism in the field of battle. This could never be dreamed in the early 1920s when the Japanese in America became targets of malicious accusations and bodily assault.

To counteract the alien land law initiative, the Japanese Association of America made the following appeal:

"If you study the growth of Japanese farming carefully, you will observe that most of the increase in farm lands cultivated by the Japanese appeared during the (first World) war. As a war measure, both the federal and state governments encouraged the increased production of food materials."

Appeal after appeal was made. The Food Administration urged farmers to expand their acreage and increase their crops. The Japanese Association and Japanese farm groups in California were repeatedly called upon to render assistance in carrying out the wartime agricultural policy. These organizations translated the government pleas into Japanese, and had them published in Japanese vernaculars or in pamphlet form.

The Issei farmers in California willingly complied to the call of the President and the Food Administration. Not only did they expand their acreage, but some without any farming experience embarked into this venture from motives of public duty to replace experienced farmers who lost heavily in earlier crops and had withdrawn from this field.

Hence, with the restoration of normal economic conditions and the decline in food prices, the Japanese total acreage dwindled.

The Japanese Association reported California's farm products valued \$507-million, of which the Japanese provided 13 per cent of that total—\$67,145,000. Of this sum representing the value of Japanese production, landowners gained a rent increase as high as 35 per cent, up to 45 per cent in wages for farm hands leaving but 20 per cent to Japanese tenants.

While the Japanese grew things, they had little or no power over the price of their commodities. Crops in which the Japanese have most interest like fruits, beans, berries, and rice were price-controlled by associations and agencies, in which Japanese growers themselves had no voice. Yet, the Japanese in California were not exactly excited over this fix. They were philosophical—optimistic that American fair play and good heart and innate sense of justice would prevail.

Disappointed at Issei attempts to stem tide

In the meantime, the Issei pioneer farmer struggled desperately as any attempt to seek out new ventures for a livelihood was blocked by anti-Japanese agita-

tors. Takimoto of the Japanese Association of America was a disappointed figure for not making any headway against the titanic onslaught of anti-Japanese poison.

I was working for him in 1928-29. I was greatly influenced by his devotion for the cause of Japanese-American relations and combatting anti-Japanese elements in the United States. Prior to this, a Nichibei Club was organized at San Francisco's Lowell High School, where I endeavored to introduce Oriental History into its regular curriculum. The movement spread to Sacramento, where the late Gov. James Rolph, Jr., was very much in favor of its adoption throughout California high schools. The governor's help enabled the course to be taught at Lowell High. George Lorbeer is still teaching the course at Lowell.

Takimoto was instrumental in organizing the first Nisei leaders conference in San Francisco, April 5-6, 1929, when Clarence Arai came from Seattle. It was probably the most important meeting of meetings to get a Nisei league started. Saburo Kido, of course, was there all the time to assist Takimoto.

"With Kido's leadership and ability, the Nisei league will be all right in the future," Takimoto once confided. Kido was a young lawyer then, starting his career in San Francisco where the reputation of Hawaiian-born Nisei was poor. He fought to re-establish the reputation of these boys.

At the April meeting, various names were proposed for the movement and finally Japanese-American Citizens League was decided. There was a hyphen between Japanese and American then.

Slocum's campaign for AEF vet citizenship

It was Tokutaro Nishimura Slocum, who started to attack the JACL as a "hyphenated" group during his campaign to gain American citizenship for World War I Issei veterans with the aid of JACL. Slocum, a sergeant with the American Expeditionary Forces, was quite a character as many people can remember. He married Sally Yabumoto of Paso, Texas. I personally admire him for getting support of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars to get Issei veterans their citizenship. These two servicemen organizations were among the anti-Japanese elements.

Slocum appeared at the first JACL national convention in Seattle in 1930. His orations won him many friends and enemies. He could not understand Japanese psychology. He hoped everybody would work with him; we did some didn't.

One of his biggest fights was the one against Shu Tomii, Japanese consul general at San Francisco. Tomii was a fine person individually, but had tendency to look down upon the Nisei and the immigrant Issei.

Slocum's fire upon him was really timely and good as far as I could see. Tomii changed his attitude tremendously after Slocum shouted at him. Slocum waged a long five-year campaign to get citizenship for those naturalized.

Slocum's fire was a cement factor for JACL because Japanese Associations in various parts of California, Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Utah, and Arizona had invited me to speak on the "Nisei travelling" Nisei.

The elders of the Japanese communities finally realized their

(Continued on Page A-17)

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Dr. George Y. Takeyama—

(Continued from Page A-15)

enough to hold a convention," Dr. Takeyama recalled.

Apparently public figures sought Japanese American support then as they do today. It was Dr. Takeyama, whose national convention chairmanship at that time was equivalent to national JACL presidency, who asked Councilman George Baker for a room or two in the City Hall to conduct a Japanese American Citizens League convocation.

Parley convenes in City Hall chambers

It was the first time in the history here that persons of Japanese descent occupied one of the City Hall chambers for such a purpose. And such important topics as farming, Nisei economics, and goodwill projects between the United States and Japan were discussed at length.

Even the talk of forming a Junior JACL was brought out. Such a group in the 1930s would have covered persons 18-21 years of age. The second biennial convocation was really a huge success. It was highlighted by a parade of delegates led by Boy Scouts from Troop 64 and Troop 79 drum and pipe corps. The city took notice. One of the leaders in supervising the event was Joe Koseki, a World War I veteran.

"We feel that meeting was the

milestone in consolidating the local chapter. It brought new interest among the younger sets and stimulated their participation," Dr. Takeyama said, adding that No. Calif. JACLers like Thomas T. Yatabe, Sim Togasaki and Dr. T. T. Hayashi placed their bid and were unanimously voted to host the third biennial gathering in San Francisco in 1934.

The platform of the JACL, then as is now, hasn't changed too much. The aims were:

(1) To promote the general welfare of the American citizens of Japanese ancestry; (2) To encourage citizens to register and exercise their voting rights to secure and insure justice and liberty; (3) To participate in civic affairs; (4) To promote Japanese American friendship; and (5) To cooperate with other Japanese American Citizens Leagues in the country.

Dr. Takeyama comes from an interesting and pioneering family of many "firsts." He is the seventh of eight children reared by Dr. and Mrs. Suketsugu Takeyama. He was born in 1896.

His father, a noted physician also, came to the United States in 1880 and was considered the first Issei doctor in this country.

Dr. Takeyama establishes himself as the first American-born Japanese physician and has been practicing in Los Angeles since 1924, barring the years of the

out to be successful and many parents learned the significance of JACL and it was followed by speaking tours explaining the JACL cause.

I was convinced that if we had bowed to Mr. Akiba then, the new movement would have died. Many early-day leaders were shy to mention this "great" incident in which I was greatly responsible. However, it has taught me many lessons.

I was surprised to learn that George Togasaki was really the father of JACL. I had rather considered the position to belong to Dr. Tom Yatabe, Saburo Kido, Jimmie Sakamoto or Clarence Arai, who all had sacrificed so much in the early days. Kido carried on convincingly without argument or fight. His leadership should be well remembered.

Nisei in Canada also organized in 1931

During my 1931 trip through the Northwest, I spoke to audiences in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Clarence Arai also accompanied me into British Columbia where we helped to organize the Japanese Canadian Citizens Association. Since the Nisei born in Canada had no voting privilege, we formed the first Nisei committee appealing for the franchise.

Chapters were also organized in the 1930s in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas as an aside to my speaking tours there. One interesting incident to be recalled happened in Salt Lake City. Henry Kasai was arranging my speaking tour to organize JACL chapters through the Intermountain district.

Mike Masaoka was then a handsome young man, very popular among the girls. When I spoke at the SLC Buddhist Temple, Mike was very argumentative and opposed any move to organize a JACL chapter there. However, he became a great JACL leader today.

I went as far as New York and Chicago to spread the JACL gospel. In Washington, D. C., I appealed for Nisei passport cases, which was finally decided in our favor in 1937.

Dr. Roy Akagi told me in my early attempts for the Nisei league that "if each Nisei came to know at least one American neighbor, sincerity and persistence would keep this relationship fast." He also advised, "Let there emerge out of the second generation Japanese great scholars and scientists, great artists and musicians, great religious leaders and social workers, great journalists and writers—great figures in everything through encouragement and inducement from the parent generation."

evacuation and relocation when he was with the Indian Service, 1945-1953, in North and South Dakota. He became the first and only Nisei medical director at Turtle Mountain Hospital in North Dakota during the 1945-50 period. He was transferred to Cheyenne River Hospital in South Dakota where he served another three years.

Dr. Takeyama, with an M. D. degree from the Univ. of Stanford in 1923, today holds a prominent position as a public health physician.

He is one of the organizers of the Commodore Perry Post 525 of the American Legion which recently observed its 20th anniversary. He served as commander in

1937 and 1940-41 when it was inactivated because of war. The post was reactivated in 1946.

He confesses with great respect and admiration the advancement made by the JACL in the last 25 years. "While our hearts were set on winning citizenship rights for our alien parents, there wasn't enough political power and know-how in the organization to push such an undertaking."

He praised the legislative gains made by Mike Masaoka in Washington. He gave credit to the active chapters and their cabinet members for supporting Masaoka to the hilt. "We oldsters can take it easy and relax now, so to speak,

knowing that an organization like the JACL is continuously working in behalf of persons of Japanese ancestry."

He pointed to the passage of the McCarran Act of 1952, which grants alien Japanese their right to naturalization, as one of the biggest achievements made by the ambitious JACL.

When the McCarran Act became effective, Dr. Takeyama's wife, nee Mary Naka of Livingston, was one of the first to apply for citizenship through naturalization. Although raised in America most of her life, she was born in Japan. "My pledge of allegiance has a deeper and finer meaning," she smiles proudly.

— CHICAGO —

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CLARENCE T. ARAI: 1930-32

Like Revere, He Aroused

By BUDD FUKUI

Nowadays when one speaks of the Japanese American Citizens League, the most frequently mentioned name that bobs up on the JACL horizon is that of Mike Masaoka. To the thousands of young and old Japanese Americans who, during World War II, jammed relocation centers, settled in the Midwest and East, went to war in our nation's defense and came home triumphantly as first-class citizens, Masaoka is it—Mr. JACL.

But quite some time before the fabulous Masaoka ever appeared as champion of our common cause, there was another person who figured prominently in the JACL. He was Clarence Takeya Arai of Seattle.

Now, Arai's mark on JACL lacks the royal luster of publicity and glamor and medals and heroes generally associated with the all-Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat Team. But it is that of the quiet "unsung hero" who sacrificed much of his time to let the general public know, through JACL, that people of Japanese ancestry were just as good American citizens as any other Americans.

If historians would pardon us for a moment, we should like to compare part of Arai's work with that of Paul Revere's famous midnight ride so vividly described by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

Arai traveled from Seattle in the tall pine country of the Pacific Northwest as far south as Los Angeles of the rich fruit land in Southern California to arouse the people. But, to a smaller degree, Arai was more than a Revere.

In all his talks both before small and large groups, he accented the point that while the Nisei should not forget their ancestry they should become more conscious of the fact that they are Americans and exercise their franchise.

Arai, of course, did not have a monopoly on foresight and vision. There were others: Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Fresno; Saburo Kido, San Francisco; Dr. Morimoto, Stockton; Kiichi Iwanaga, Los Angeles, and Dr. Frederick Tayama, Portland. But it was Arai who planted the seeds among Japanese Americans on the West Coast leading to the growth in 1930 of the National Japanese American Citizens League in Seattle.

What manner of man was this? Born in Seattle, he was the son of T. Arai, one of the first Japanese to settle in the Northwest, having come here during the 80's, and who served as a trustee of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition held in 1909 in Seattle.

He attended Rainier, Washington and Pacific schools. In 1919, he was graduated by Franklin High School and in 1924 he received his degree from the University of Washington law school.

Extra-curricular activities, all linked with his ideals on being a good American citizen:

1) Organized first Japanese American boy scout troop in Seattle in 1919 and became its first scoutmaster. ("I had to do practically everything.")

2) Boosted from 1st Lieutenant to Captain in the 7th Army Reserve in 1931.

3) Elected in 1933 to board of trustees of Washington State Repeal Association, an organization carrying on repeal campaign and assuring full liquor-selling rights in the state of Washington.

4) Won fight in 1933 against proposed alien-beer bill in Seattle City Council.

5) Became first member of his race in Washington to file as candidate for delegate to state convention for repeal of 18th amendment in 1933. (Defeated in



CLARENCE T. ARAI

special repeal election in his first step into political field.)

6) Singled out in 1933 for honors when he received an appointment from Seattle Municipal League to special board to study beer regulations in the city and state.

7) Received in 1934 a letter from executive offices of Allied Veterans of Washington, state headquarters, complimenting him for his thorough and trustworthy work in Olympia as a lobbyist representing Japanese interests. ("As a diplomat, a scholar, and an attorney of very high standing.")

8) Entered as Republican candidate for state legislature from 37th District in 1934. (First second-generation Japanese on coast to run for state legislature, Vice-President of 37th District Republican club, Republican precinct committeeman of his precinct, and member of executive committee of Central Republican Club and Young Republican League.)

9) Mentioned by Seattle Star in 1934 as "American in background, education and experience."

10) Rated "qualified and competent" in 1934 by Seattle Municipal League for office in state legislature, and accorded "favorable" rating from Washington Congress of Parents and Teachers.

11) Polled only 320 votes but he "took his defeat in good grace," commented Japanese American Courier in 1934. ("At least today there are many more Americans who know of the existence of American citizens of Japanese ancestry than they did before Arai ran for office.")

12) Remarkd in radio talk in 1934: "We are all liberty-loving people; and communism, fascism and the rest of the so-called 'isms' should have no place in our government... In times of economic distress, as we are experiencing today—'liberty' is challenged by its enemies. Communists and fascists have both attacked it..."

13) Toured all parts of Washington state with four other young Republicans in series of rally meetings in '35.

14) ("He even studied meat cutting so he could coach Issei preparing for examinations as meat cutters," his wife said.)

Those facts don't excite people's imagination like who-done-it mystery stories, but they are important in bringing up to date the background of the man who did so much for the JACL.

His was a life full of "firsts" in practically every line of endeavor he undertook; not all of them were successful but they served as a ruler by which other

Japanese Americans could set their margin for the future.

And about Arai's crusade for the National Japanese American Citizens League, which is the meat of our article, the servings could be passed out in this order:

He was a young man in his early 20's when he began to stump up and down the coast, preaching the great need for unity among Japanese Americans in order to fight for their constitutional rights.

In 1921, he was a member of the Seattle Progressive Citizens League which had Shige Osawa as its first president. And eight years later, his efforts bore fruit with the forming of a national Japanese American organization in Seattle.

In the beginning, Arai's task of selling the idea of a unified national group to Japanese Americans, heirs to an unwanted anti-Oriental feeling of that time, met but mild response. No hoop-de-doo greeted Arai. Just enough interest to stimulate the Nisei thought of the day was all he needed, wanted—and got. The rest was up to Arai, and he did an excellent job. Today, there are approximately 80 chapters of the JACL in our country.

Not much activity was recorded in the earlier days of the Seattle Progressive Citizens League. In 1924 about Labor Day time, however, the group stirred a little. Its members elected Osawa and Arai to be observers to a so-called meeting of citizens league bodies in San Francisco. At that gathering's banquet, Arai was the main speaker. He was one of the youngest among the leaders which included Dr. Yatabe, head of the American Loyalty League, who presided.

His hopes for a national Japanese American group still high despite several inconclusive meetings, Arai took a bus and headed for California as a Seattle delegate to attend a citizens league convention called by the Fresno American Loyalty League in San Francisco.

George Ishihara, the other Seattle delegate to the parley, was already in the Bay area, and he wired Sakamoto that the "convention blew up."

"I was on my way to Portland then," Arai said. "But I didn't want to quit so I continued the trip."

Arai, not one to be easily discouraged by such a trifling matter as postponement of a conven-

tion, called on Japanese newspaper editors and various Nisei and Issei leaders, including T. T. Takimoto, secretary of a prominent Issei organization. A Stanford graduate, Takimoto was very much interested in Nisei, according to Arai. "The purpose was to urge the revival of a citizens league on a national scale."

From San Francisco, Arai went to Stockton where he spoke at a mass meeting to a group which also heard Miya Sannomiya, editor of the Japanese American News. Later, they met in Lincoln Hotel which was owned by the father of Bill Wong, presently associated with William Mimbu, Seattle Nisei attorney.

Arai left Stockton for Fresno and Los Angeles where he repeated his stand on the importance of American citizenship to the Nisei.

On his trip back, Arai also stopped over at Santa Barbara for another talk. He didn't say so but we suppose that was the time he also met charming Yone (Yamada) Utsunomiya, whom he later married.

Arai didn't dangle any cash prizes like smiling masters of ceremonies do on TV quiz programs as an incentive for superior action. His only "prize," if assurance could be called such, was that through a group devoted to good citizenship the lot of the Japanese Americans could be much improved in our country.

He cited the achievements of the Seattle Progressive Citizens League with a membership of almost 100 as an example, pointing out its rich experience during the municipal elections in which it participated.

Undoubtedly, Arai's untiring often thankless efforts to organize Nisei citizenship units on the coast made an indelible impression in the Bay area. The Japanese American News of San Francisco was prompted to state in its news columns:

"... For some time past the need of such a body was felt among the leaders of the Bay Japanese, but this meeting will be the first definite step toward realization of their plans. Influential New Americans (citizens of Japanese blood) who are sponsoring this gathering, expect that with the formation of a league here a new era in the political history of the second generation will be launched."

"... Great interest has been aroused among the Japanese of the Bay district over the mass meeting... It was pointed out, at a luncheon conference, that Seattle, Los Angeles, Fresno, Stockton and Honolulu have already formed citizens' clubs and that a similar organization in the Bay district might of benefit to the community."

The San Francisco meeting was not a howling success, but nevertheless successful enough.

His tour of California completed, he sped towards familiar Pacific Northwest territories. The first stop, en route home, was in Portland where—now an old story—he reiterated the duties of a citizen and coupled it with the plea that every city with a nucleus of Japanese Americans should take practical steps to form a citizens' organization. Later, it was Winslow, Kent, Fife-Puyallup, and Bellevue.

Home again! And at a banquet of the Seattle Progressive Citizens League in Bush Hotel, Arai reported that the great number of second generation voters in California is stimulating political interest with each passing year. "In a few years from now, the Japanese American votes in California should become a large factor in every national election..."

The only drawback was the lack of proper spirit to participate in the elections but this is dying out with the increasing number of

Japanese American votes every year."

The year of decision was 1929. As president of the Pacific Coast Council of the Japanese American Citizens League, Arai, in a Seattle meeting, announced that the first convention would be held in the fall of 1930 in Seattle.

Arai expressed keen appreciation of the Seattle turnout of the feminine element although it did not outnumber the masculine wing.

If anything, he was enthusiastic in the knowledge that women voters were interested and supported the conclave. The Seattle league decided to raise \$1,000 for convention expenditure.

The convention site settled, Arai went to San Francisco that he learned meantime, had organized a citizens' unit with outlying districts.

It was in San Francisco that Arai suggested the national organization be named the Japanese American Citizens League without the hyphen between Japanese and American, and it was in San Francisco also that he suggested that the JACL be composed of all similar units from the West coast.

And it was in San Francisco that Arai with an eye towards the Nisei's political future remarked, "Circumstances are so favorable to this group of citizens that do not doubt that in five years we shall have a candidate from our group elected for one of the municipal offices."

Arai's dream of a national JACL was realized with the first biennial convention of the JACL during Labor Day holidays, 1930 in the Japanese Chamber of Commerce hall, 316 Maynard Avenue. Delegates representing California, Oregon, Idaho, Washington, and Hawaii attended the session bringing them together for common cause.

Arai does not pretend to be a prophet, but he noted then that "the convention has been of wide import. Delegates here represent more than 60,000 second generation Japanese."

The key to Arai's success JACL may be linked to the Alpha Kappa Delta key which Arai received when he was doing postgraduate work on the University of Washington campus. His wife says she was often attracted to the key which dangled on her husband's watch chain but "I never bothered to ask him about it. Alpha Kappa Delta is an honorary in sociology."

Well, that's it—the highlight to Arai's contribution to the Japanese Americans and the JACL.

Today at 54, Arai, an attorney, has his offices, coincidentally perhaps, at 316 Maynard Avenue, the site of the first annual National JACL convention. His, however, is one of limited practice because of health—high blood pressure and weak heart.

Taking his doctor's advice the man has slowed down considerably. The spirit and vigor which spurred him on to towering heights in laying a foundation for the JACL, has been subdued. He has lost weight and he now leans on cane for support when he walks. He is particular, not by choice about what he eats.

Arai misses working JACL. But as he says: "He comes first."

We left with a better insight and understanding of a man who has worked so unselfishly for JACL.

Clarence Takeya Arai may not have a monument built in his honor, but he surely deserves one or two of praise. We did our bit.

Callahan's Corner-

(Continued from Page A-13)

To this day, I feel it a credit to Walter Tsukamoto, who, as you know, later became national president, that instead of ignoring this teen-age farm boy, cultivated me by making sure that I attended the cabinet meetings and by taking me along to organization meetings of other

chapters. I distinctly remember tagging along to such meetings in Marysville and Vacaville.

I feel certain that it was this close contact with the heart and spirit of the early JACL leaders that imbedded in my mind for all time my love for the JACL.

The old family farm became a victim of the depression and a few

years later we moved to Santa Monica seeking a new chance at life. I, of course, was among total strangers but the good people of the area soon accepted me as one of them.

Along about this time a move was started by Frances Kitagawa, nee Wakamatsu and a recent recipient of the Sapphire Pin, to organize what was the Bay District Chapter of the JACL, taking in the communities of Santa Monica, Venice and West Los Angeles. And, I found myself back in the thick of JACL activities once again.

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This was the period in which the organization was making rapid strides in Southern California with the prime activity centered naturally in the Los Angeles Chapter which, at that time, took in the entire city.

New chapters were springing up in all the Japanese American communities and in the case of my own Chapter, it was divided into three new chapters of Santa Monica, Venice and West Los Angeles with each having a larger membership than the original Bay District Chapter.

In due time, I moved up into the District Council work and at the time of the fateful Pearl Harbor incident, I was serving as the executive secretary of the Council under Chairman Fred Tayama.

What happened after Dec. 7, 1941 belongs in the realm of recent history and all JACLers are familiar with it. However, what prompted the wartime leaders to appoint me to accompany Mike Masaoka to Washington, D. C., in 1942 is still a mystery to me.

Perhaps Mike came close to giving me the answer when he stated at the joint EDC-MDC meeting in Washington early this year that he took me along because he needed a man with a car and a gasoline credit card.

In any event, this period during and after the war has been one of the greatest satisfaction to me because this is the era in which the JACL vindicated the efforts and trials that the early leaders underwent in laying the foundation of our organization. I cannot help but feel that what the JACL accomplished since the beginning of the war has far surpassed the highest hopes of these people.

A great many like Tom Yatabe, Saburo Kido, Susumu Togasaki, to name but a few, are still closely associated with the organization while a number are no longer so close.

However, regardless of their present status with the JACL, they all must sense a tremendous feeling of satisfaction and to all of them belong the glory for the foresight that was theirs and certainly our everlasting thanks for the time and effort they gave to the formative years of the organization.

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Without them, there would hardly be an occasion to celebrate at this time. It is only fitting and proper that we dedicate this 25th anniversary to these early leaders of the JACL.

Of course, there is no denying that all of us who are presently working with the JACL are also proud and happy of the organization's accomplishments. Such tributes as that paid us by Congressman Walter H. Judd of Minnesota and the fact that so many thousands of our Issei parents have become, at long last, American citizens are rewards which make our efforts and sacrifices so completely worthwhile.

With our first 25 years behind us, we now look ahead to the next quarter of a century and, in so doing, I see no reason for any qualms.

We are now 88 chapters strong with a membership that is increasing every year. And, in every locale, I see new leadership growing to enhance the older ones.

As long as this trend continues, there is little need for worry because the organization is bound to grow and to conquer new fields in its avowed efforts to improve the well-being of the Japanese American people.

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Sakada-

(Continued from Page 14)

were dismissed, \$63,595.16 were paid out in the 137 payments authorized. The cost of the government to hear each case was on the average almost \$1500 to pay an average award of \$450.

The 11th biennial convention, among its many recommendations, set a high priority on bringing about a speedy liberalization of the evacuation claims program, thus on Aug. 17, 1951, President Truman signed the evacuation claims compromise settlement bill.

The compromise amendment in effect authorized the Attorney General to settle claims on affidavits and other available records up to three quarters of the compensable items claimed or \$2500, whichever was less.

According to the best estimate given, this amendment shortened the adjudication program of the smaller claimants from 100 to 5 years, thus, the aged and the needy were able to realize the financial aid for rehabilitation in their lifetime.

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The JACL can well be proud of the part played in bringing about an early settlement affecting 24,000 claimants. The total amount authorized for payment under the compromise settlement is nearly 26 million dollars.

'Go for Broke' Movie Boosts Nisei Status

The biggest boost for good public relations for the Nisei came from the MGM's "Go For Broke" movie which came out in 1951 and played all over America. The JACL seized this opportunity to publicize the many contributions made by Japanese Americans during World War II. The Nisei in America felt more secure.

One of the most optimistic events took place in Los Angeles. On Oct. 27, 1950, the third naturalization and citizenship class, sponsored by the JACL and the Southern California Japanese Chamber of Commerce, conducted its commencement exercises. These graduates subsequently became the first Issei group to become American citizens over two years later.

Many Nisei realized that they had a stake in fighting against bias in public housing program. In fact in Denver, the JACL actively supported one of the nation's first urban renewal program, because the program affected the Japanese.

Although the JACL maintained an effective watchdog organization nationally, on the local front increasing participation among JACLers in political campaign was developing, not necessarily as members of a racial minority, but as citizens.

When Dr. Sakada's tenure as National President came to an official end in 1952 at San Francisco's 12th Biennial Convention, JACL's work reached a milestone but much unfinished work remained.

Unfinished Work Left As Randy Ends Term

Many Nisei were still stranded in Japan. Deportation cases were still pending. Adjudication of larger claims program had bogged down. The organization's financial problems had not improved. Problem of integrating Issei members into active chapter participation appeared.

Retiring from the National Presidency in 1952 did not mean the end of Dr. Sakada's service to the JACL. The designer of the official JACL pin became the Chairman of the National JACL Bowling Tournament held in Chicago in March of 1954. He continued to serve as an active member of the Chicago Chapter. He was the Chairman of the National Recognition Committee until his untimely death this year in June.

Despite his many affiliations, JACL was Dr. Sakada's life and JACL was closest to his heart. JACL will never forget Randy Sakada for his many fine contributions. He brought prestige and dignity to the organization. He helped JACL to grow up into maturity. He gave each JACLer a feeling of worth and a sense of belonging.

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ELA marks year with 'big 4' fetes

By Roy Yamadera

LOS ANGELES—In February, the chapter sponsored the second annual PSWDC chapter clinic at the International Institute. Approximately 300 JACLers attended the all-day program which included discussion groups, luncheon, business meetings, a banquet and a dance. Fred Takata was in charge of general arrangements and Sam Furuta acted as toastmaster at the banquet where the main speaker was City Councilman Edward R. Roybal.

In August the chapter sponsored the first annual Emerald Ball to raise funds to put on a Issei Recognition Program for the newly naturalized citizens of East Los Angeles. The elaborate dance, co-chaired by Roy Yamadera and John Watanabe, was held at the beautiful Elks Club overlooking MacArthur Park. Jose Pablos' orchestra made a hit with the crowd which included many prominent figures and among them, Keiko Takahashi, Miss Japan of 1955, and Stella Nakadate who was crowned Nisei Week queen a week later.

On Sept. 15 at the International Institute, the chapter sponsored a meeting on discrimination in housing. The program consisted of talks by Mrs. Shon, sister of Dr. Sammy Lee who had encountered discrimination when attempting to buy a home in Garden Grove. John Ty Saito, local real estate broker, and John Buggs from the County Conference on Human Relations. Wilbur Sato was the chairman and Mary Ann Takagi acted as moderator.

Chapter president Jim Higashi narrated during the showing of a film on housing discrimination produced by Paul Coates.

The biggest and most successful activity ever put on by the chapter was the Issei Recognition Program on Nov. 6 at the International Institute. Two hundred and twenty-eight newly naturalized citizens were honored guests of the chapter. They listened attentively to congratulatory messages from Jim Higashi, chapter president; Frank Chuman, national JACL legal council; Tats Kushiida, JACL regional director; Dave Yokozeki, PSWDC chairman; and Miss Esther Bartlett, director of the International Institute. The main speech was delivered by Congressman Chet Holifield.

Buichi Watanabe, 92, and Junjiro Sato, 87, were presented certificates of achievement from the chapter. Following refreshments, guests were treated to an elaborate entertainment program of Japanese dances, featuring Hanayagi Rokka and her pupils. Koto shakuhachi, shigin numbers as well as magic tricks by Dr. Tsuneo Murakami were presented. General chairman for this event was Roy Yamadera and the committee included Jim Higashi, Tami Kurose, Ritsuko Kawakami, Sam Furuta, Akira Hasekawa, Sakae Ishihara and Fred Takata.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY 1956

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BERKELEY JACL

Mr. & Mrs. Tosh Nakano, 1363 Northside, Berkeley.
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Fukutome, 3217 Acalanes Ave., Lafayette.

WEST LOS ANGELES JACL

Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Uchida, 1921 Stoner Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kishi, 1940 Stoner Ave., W.L.A. 25
Daniel Uchida, 2021 Butler Ave., W.L.A. 25
Kaye Ichihara, 1950 Barrington Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. David Akashi, 2143 Federal Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. Akira Ohno, 2007 Barry Ave., W.L.A. 25
Miss Ruth Miyada, 2041 Butler Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. Nobo Ikuta, 1707 Butler Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Ikuta, 1818 1/4 Barry Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. George Sakamoto, 2014 Barrington Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. Abe Watanabe, 1752 Westgate Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. James Kitsuse, 219 Corinth Ave., L.A. 64
Mr. & Mrs. Steve K. Yagi, 2049 Butler Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Ikkanda, 2041 Corinth Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. George Kimura & Family, 1540 Armacost Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. Takeo Yabuta, 2031 Corinth Ave., W.L.A. 25
Mr. & Mrs. George Dote, 2922 Delaware Ave., Santa Monica
Mr. & Mrs. George Ishizuka, 3124 Kansas Ave., Santa Monica
Mr. & Mrs. Sho Komai, 2805 Delaware Ave., Santa Monica

MILE-HI (DENVER) JACL

The Fujimotos — George, Jean, Delight, Lynda, Allen,
2511 Race St., Denver 5, Colo.
Ben and Masako Furuta and Family, 2415 York St., Denver 5.
Chiye Horiuchi, 3000 Stout St., Denver 5, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Carl H. Iwasaki and Family,
1465 Monroe St., Denver 6, Colo.
Bill & Mae Kuroki and Judy Rae, 2926 Ash St., Denver 7, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Edward M. Matsuda, 1813 E. 33rd Ave., Denver 5.
Irvin S. Matsuda, 1320 E. 20th Ave., Denver 5, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Willie T. Mikuni, 3435 W. 4th Ave., Denver 19, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. George S. Miura, 925 S. Emerson St., Denver 9, Colo.
Ben Miyahara, 3310 W. 14th Ave., Denver 4, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. John Noguchi and Family,
2218 W. 28th Ave., Denver 11, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Ring,
348 S. Oak St., Lakewood Sta., Denver 15, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Sakata, Brighton, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. John Sakayama, Ronald and Janis,
1838 W. 47th Ave., Denver 11, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Karon Sanda, 2011 Humboldt St., Denver 5, Colo.
Larry & Guyo Tajiri, 1810 S. Newton St., Denver 19, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Tol Takamine, Joyce and Connie,
3001 Ivanhoe St., Denver 7, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Tanaka and Gene, 2844 Elizabeth St., Denver 5.
Oski & Gladys Taniwaki, 3055 Milwaukee St., Denver 5, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Shig Teraji, Cary and Shauna Kay,
2343 Cleveland Pl., Denver 5, Colo.
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Y. Uyenishi, 2463 California St., Denver 5.
Dick & Ethel Yanase, 5678 Wadsworth Ave., Arvada, Colo.
Art & Kana Yoritomo, Carl and Christine, 1853 Vine St., Denver 6

SANGER JACL

Tom and Maybelle Nakamura, 809 "I" St., Sanger
 Joe and Yoshiko Tanaka, 13912 E. Buckway Ave., Sanger
 Tom and Shiori Tanimoto, 1710 W. Metzler Ave., Sanger
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kumano, 12909 E. North Ave., Sanger
 Mr. & Mrs. Ben Matsunaga, 3419 So. Bethel Ave., Sanger
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Hasegawa, 1233 No. Riverbend Ave., Sanger
 Mr. & Mrs. George Nishimura, 1816 No. Newmark Ave., Sanger
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Nagamatsu, P.O. Box 145, Del Ray
 Mr. & Mrs. Johnson Shimizu, 4702 So. McCall Ave., Del Ray
 Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Ishimoto, 4188 So. Bethel Ave., Del Ray
 Mr. & Mrs. Howard Hatayama, 11100 E. Adams Ave., Del Ray

MARYSVILLE JACL

Frank & Hatsue Nakamura, 15 E. 15th St., Marysville, Calif.
 Arthur & Mitsuo Oji, Rt. 3, Box 222-AA, Yuba City, California.
 Frank & Sachiko Okimoto, 7 D St., Marysville, California.
 George Ishimoto, 121 Elm St., Marysville, California.
 Albert & Tomi Okamoto, Rt. 3, Box 338, Yuba City, California.
 George Okamoto, Rt. 1, Box 133, Yuba City, California.
 Tom Teesdale, Rt. 1, Box 44, Yuba City, California.
 Miss Mitzi Fukui, Rt. 1, Box 22-B, Wheatland, California.
 Miss Masuko Toyoda, 123 Second Street, Marysville, California.
 George & Aya Nakao, Rt. 2, Box 411, Yuba City, California.
 Ben & Marie Kawata, 221 Second St., Marysville, California.
 George & Betty Inouye, Rt. 3, Box 112, Yuba City, California.
 Tom & Alice Matsumoto, Rt. 4, Box 174, Yuba City, California.
 Bob & Gladys Inouye, Rt. 1, Lincoln Rd., Yuba City, California.
 Ray & Molly Kamikawa, 225 1/2 Second St., Marysville, Calif.
 Bill & Mel Tsuji, Rt. 1, Box 95-C, Yuba City, California.
 Akiji & Hizeko Yoshimura, 120 Tenth St., Colusa, California.
 Dan & Mary Nishita, Rt. 4, Box 53, Yuba City, California.

Season's Greetings SAN BENITO COUNTY JACL CHAPTER

SAN BENITO COUNTY JACL

Mr. & Mrs. Tak Kadani, P. O. Box 315, San Juan Bautista, Calif.
 Mr. & Mrs. Kay Kamimoto, P. O. Box 261, San Juan Bautista.
 Tsutae Kamimoto, P. O. Box 261, San Juan Bautista.
 Sho Nakamoto, Route 2, Box 577, Morgan Hill, Calif.
 Mrs. Gladys Nishita & Family, 570 Breen Rd., San Juan Bautista
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Nishita, 570 Breen Rd., San Juan Bautista.
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nishita, 570 Breen Rd., San Juan Bautista.
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Nishimoto, 3035 San Felipe, Hollister, Calif.
 Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Shingai, 460 Breen Rd., San Juan Bautista.
 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Shingai, 460 Breen Rd., San Juan Bautista.
 Mr. & Mrs. Sam Shingai & Family,
 460 Breen Rd., San Juan Bautista.
 Thomas Shimonishi, P. O. Box 608, Hollister, Calif.
 Mr. & Mrs. Sam Shiotaka, 267 Maple Ave., Hollister, Calif.
 Mr. & Mrs. Tadao Yamanishi & Family,
 2184 San Juan-Hollister Hwy, San Juan Bautista.
 Tony Yamaoka, 331 Lucy Brown Lane, San Juan Bautista.
 Mr. & Mrs. Y. Yamaoka & Family,
 331 Lucy Brown Lane, San Juan Bautista.
 Mr. & Mrs. Kay Yamaoka, 1543 Hillcrest Rd., Hollister, Calif.
 Mr. & Mrs. A. Teshima & Family,
 481 Lucy Brown Lane, San Juan Bautista.
 Mr. & Mrs. John Teshima, 302 Olympia Ave., San Juan Bautista.

TWIN CITIES UCL

Miss Hatsume Akaki, 1168 Hague Ave., St. Paul
 Sadao Akaki, 1168 Hague Ave., St. Paul
 Mr. & Mrs. Sam Hara and Family, 1821 - 3rd Ave North, Mpls.
 Henry Makino, 3335 - 15th Ave South, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Takagi, 3018 - 23rd Ave. South, Mpls.
 Henry Omachi, YMCA 9th St. South, Mpls.
 Miss Emi Takato, 3137 Clinton Ave., Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Art Matsuura and Family, 3900 Girard Ave. North, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. James Sugimura and Family, 6701 Columbus Ave., Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. George Rokutani and Family, 1725 James, St. Paul
 Mr. & Mrs. Howard Nomura and Family, 1821 Goodrich, St. Paul
 Mr. & Mrs. Tsutomu Kumagai and Family, 994 Oakdale, W. St. Paul
 Mr. & Mrs. Tadashi Kumagai and Family, 2305 James Ave. North, Mpls.
 Masao Teramoto, 1054 W. Central, St. Paul
 Miss Sumi Teramoto, 1054 W. Central, St. Paul
 Miss Yoshiko Teramoto, 1054 W. Central, St. Paul
 Mr. & Mrs. Chester Fujino and Kathy, 3125 Colorado, Mpls.
 Dr. & Mrs. Paul Shimizu, Diane and Randy, 2701 Dakota, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Les Abe, Teddy & Steve, 3328 - 5th Ave. South, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Tatsuda and Chucky, 5145 Washburn South, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Takuzo Tsuchiya, 3633 Quebec, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Kazuo Yemoto, Dennis, Wesley and Gerald, 1017 Fuller, St. Paul
 Dr. & Mrs. George Nishida, Dennis, Carolyn, Terry, 5124 Winsdale, Mpls.
 Miss Alice Nishida, 5124 Winsdale, Mpls.
 Paul Ohtaki, 2017 - 23rd Ave. South, Mpls.
 Fred Ohno, 5218 - 40th Ave. South, Mpls.
 George Yoshino, 2608 Pleasant Ave., Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kanno, 1926 - 15th Ave. South, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Don Mayeda and Janet, 1417 Talisman Rd., St. Paul
 Mrs. Kay Kushino, 3136 - 5th Ave. South, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hayano, 3312 Dupont South, Mpls.
 Mr. & Mrs. George T. Shiosaki and Family, 1355 Hague, St. Paul
 Dr. & Mrs. Isaac Hijima and Family, 2019 - 3rd St. North, So. St. Paul
 George, Tatty and Glen Alan Yanagita, 2851 Hampshire, Mpls.
 William and Anice Hirabayashi, Ronnie and Larry, 7433 - 1st Ave. South, Mpls.

Sonoma County hosts district council parley

SEBASTOPOL — The Sonoma County Chapter began the year of 1955 with the annual installation of officers held on Jan. 22. Kanemi Ono and his cabinet were installed at a potluck dinner held at the local Memorial Hall. The naturalized citizens were also honored at this affair.

Following the installation, the annual membership drive was begun under the leadership of Sam Miyano, Miyo Masaoka and Hiroshi Taniguchi with a goal of 170 members as the target. During the two-month membership drive, 249 members were signed up. Never in the history of this organization have we ever come near this figure.

In March, a benefit movie was sponsored to acquire the necessary funds for the program of the organization. This event was a financial success.

Also during this month, plans were made to organize a Women's Auxiliary. A meeting was held with Miss Vi Nakano and Mrs. Joyce Enomoto of the San Francisco Chapter in attendance to outline what their auxiliary had accomplished.

The Auxiliary was formally organized with Mrs. Ann Ohki elected as its first president. Under Mrs. Ohki's able leadership, various types of program meetings were held each month with outside guests demonstrating flower arrangements, gift wrapping, and other subjects appealing to the women members.

Despite the approach of the summer season, the activities of the organization did not cease. On July 3, the annual community picnic was held under the chairmanship of Tak Kameoka. The Women's Auxiliary assisted in sponsoring this successful affair.

Also during the summer months, the chapter's bowling league play-off series was held with Hamamoto Insurance defeating the Diamond Market for the league championship. Although the league consisted of five teams with five bowlers each, it appealed to those members interested in bowling. This has been the second year this league has functioned successfully. Paul Otani served as president of the bowling league.

At the August meeting of the Northern Calif. Western Nevada District Council held in Salinas, the chapter was successful in bidding for the district convention.

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Under the chairmanship of Frank Oda, the convention committee met weekly to plan this two-day gathering. The committee chose the theme "A Quarter Century of JACL." The committee planned many features for the convention while, perhaps minor in nature, yet had not been done in any of the local or even National Conventions.

For the welcome dinner, the local members made various Japanese dishes to greet the out-of-town delegates. A bowling tournament, dance, dinner, and a bass fishing derby rounded out the convention.

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The local chapter was represented at all district council meetings held during the year.

Under the capable leadership of president Kanemi Ono, the year's program was planned in such a manner that the newly naturalized citizens, older members as well as younger members, could take part. During the last several months, a fishing derby was held for the fishermen which included many Isseis. A basketball team was also sponsored to appeal to the younger group. Among the officers was James Miyano who chaired numerous fishing derbies for the sportsmen.

The chapter will have concluded the year with the election of officers in December.

SNAKE RIVER JACL

Mr. & Mrs. Roy Hashitani, 101 Verde Drive, Ontario, Oregon
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas T. Itami, Rt. 2, Box 329, Ontario, Oregon
 Nellie and Joe Saito, 2408 S.W. 4th Ave., Ontario, Oregon
 Mr. & Mrs. George Sugai and Family, 1134 Center Ave., Payette, Idaho
 Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ogura, P.O. Box 715, Ontario, Oregon
 Mr. & Mrs. George Hashitani and Family, Rt. 3, Weiser, Idaho
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Saito and Family, Rt. 3, Weiser, Idaho
 Mr. & Mrs. Sam Wakasugi, Rt. 3, Weiser, Idaho
 Heizi Yasuda, Rt. 2, Payette, Idaho
 Mr. & Mrs. George Iseri, 173 No. 20th, Payette, Idaho

SAN JOSE JACL

Shig and Hiroko Masunaga, Rt. 6, Box 383, San Jose
 Eichi and Suzuye Sakauye and Carolyn, Rt. 6, Box 342, San Jose
 Wayne and Betty Kanemoto, 829 N. 6th St., San Jose
 Phil and Sue Matsumura, 329 Lyndale Ave., San Jose
 Henry and Ada Uyeda, 11711 Francis Drive, San Jose
 Esau and Kay Shimizu, 1115 East Parr, Campbell, Calif.
 Sam and Tomi Tanase, 601 North 13th St., San Jose
 Ben and Alice Nagashima, 4069 Rose St., San Jose
 Tom Mitsuyoshi, Rt. 6, Box 348, San Jose
 Bill and Mary Yamamoto, 595 Boynton Ave., San Jose
 Yoneo and Yoshi Bepp, 1015 N. 2nd St., San Jose, Calif.
 Peter and Aiko Nakahara, 979 Spring St., San Jose, Calif.

SELMA JACL

Mr. & Mrs. George Abe, Arlene, Maxine, Christine and Steven,
 1327 S. Van Horn Ave., Kingsburg
 Mr. & Mrs. Keny Yamamoto, Kathleen, Jany Lynn, 5097 E. Nebraska Ave., Selma
 Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Okazaki, Randolph, Karen and Beth, 12383 S. Clovis Ave., Selma
 Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Baba and Steven, 14273 S. Fowler Ave., Selma
 Mr. & Mrs. Akira Iwamura and Family, 11159 E. Dinuba Ave.,
 Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Miyata & Ronnie, 11383 E. Saginaw Ave., Selma
 Mr. & Mrs. Takami Misaki, Rodney and Marsha, 900 E. Rose
 Mr. & Mrs. Ben Ono, Arlene, Gary and Teddy, 7044 E. Saginaw
 Mr. & Mrs. Dale Okazaki, Gayle and Glenn, 10418 E. Manning
 Miss Ethel Otomo, 10135 S. Bethel Ave., Selma
 Mr. Geo. Tanaka, 1527 Pine St., Selma
 Mr. & Mrs. Kaoru Kobashi, Elmer, Ruth and Robert, 10362 E. Mt. View Ave., Selma

SOUTHWEST L.A. JACL

Mr. & Mrs. Dick Fujloka and Family, 4215 Second Ave., L.A. 8, Calif.
 Mack and Hide Hamaguchi, 3045 - 10th Ave., L.A. 18, Calif.
 Toru Iura, 3445 - 2nd Ave., L.A. 18, Calif.
 Hiroko Kawanami, 1128 So. St. Andrews Pl., L.A. 19, Calif.
 George Nakamura, 1124 So. Gramercy Dr., L.A. 19, Calif.
 Joe Nakamura, 1124 So. Gramercy Dr., L.A. 19, Calif.
 Sumi Nerio, 2700 1/2 W. Jefferson Blvd., L.A., Calif.
 Dr. & Mrs. Roy Nishikawa, 1237 W. Jefferson Blvd., L.A. 7, Calif.
 Ruby S. Okubo, 2851 So. Orange Dr., L.A. 16, Calif.
 Tom Shimazaki, 2719 1/2 So. Sycamore Ave., L.A. 16, Calif.
 Takao Shishino, O.D., 4565 Centinela Ave., L.A. 66, Calif.
 Hana Uno, 1259 1/2 W. 31st St., L.A. 7, Calif.
 Terumi Yamaguchi, 3425 Wellington Rd., L.A. 16, Calif.
 Peter Yano, 3022 - 6th Ave., L.A. 18, Calif.
 Tut Yata, 1103 So. Dewey Ave., L.A. 6, Calif.

STOCKTON JACL

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Kusama & Family, 1118 S. Lincoln, Stockton.
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenzo Ohashi, 214 W. Washington, Stockton.
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Inamasu & Family,
 1511 So. California, Stockton.
 Mr. & Mrs. Fred K. Dobana & Family,
 1917 So. Eldorado, Stockton.
 Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth K. Fujii & Mark,
 1428 So. Eldorado, Stockton.
 Mr. & Mrs. Masaru Saiki, 37 1/2 N. Center St. Stockton.
 May & Teddy Saiki, 1927 So. Grant St., Stockton.
 Mr. & Mrs. George Baba, 1703 So. Lincoln St., Stockton.
 Jack & Lila Matsumoto, 36 W. Washington, Stockton.
 Sam & Sachi Itaya, 1719 Princeton Ave., Stockton.
 Lou & Alice Tsunekawa, 528 Spruce, Stockton.
 John & Terry Yamaguchi, Rt. 1, Box 1897, Lathrop, Calif.
 Arthur Nakashima, 1121 S. Grant, Stockton, Calif.

FRESNO JACL

Bill, Setsu, Ken & Lynne Nikaldo, 1227 W. Cambridge, Fresno.
 Jim, Sumi, John & Maya Murashima, 2925 Harvey Ave., Fresno.
 Hugo, May, Cheryl & Kirk Kazato, 3753 Olive Ave., Fresno.
 Jin, Tomiko, Gail & Bobbie Ishikawa, 4117 Kerckhoff, Fresno.
 Robert, Aya & Scott Kimura, 1137 W. Cortland, Fresno.
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert Yabuno, 505 W. Vassar, Fresno.
 Mr. & Mrs. James Kubota, 1516 W. University, Fresno.
 Mr. & Mrs. Willy Suda, 4821 E. Harvard Ave., Fresno.
 Dr. George & Sumi Suda, 1447 W. San Bruno, Fresno.
 Ben & Betty Nakamura, 1240 Waterman, Fresno.
 Masao Nakata & Family, 9541 S. Marks, Fresno.
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom T. Inouye, 823 Mayor Ave., Fresno.
 Mr. & Mrs. James H. Sakata, 221 Strother, Fresno.
 Fujiye & Geo. Umamoto, Joyce & Kenneth, 3905 Thomas, Fresno.
 Ben & Susie Tsudama, 836 "E" Street, Fresno, Calif.
 Dr. & Mrs. George Nishio, 1533 N. Eleventh St., Fresno.
 Dr. & Mrs. I. S. Namba, 56 Myers Ave., Fresno

SEQUOIA JACL

Mr. & Mrs. Richard N. Arimoto, 1507 Valota Rd., Redwood City.
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar K. Arimoto, 1914 Oak Ave., Redwood City.
Toshiharu and Miss Barbara Arimoto, 1507 Valota Rd., Redwood City.
Mrs. Masako Akimoto Baba, 409 California Ave., Palo Alto.
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Enomoto, 1201 Redwood Ave., Redwood City.
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Enomoto, 1201 Redwood Ave., Redwood City.
Mr. & Mrs. Mamoru Fukuma, 1939 Clarke Ave., Palo Alto.
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Higaki, 1371 St. Francis St., Redwood City.
Mr. & Mrs. Hiroshi Honda, 1576 Valota Rd., Redwood City.
Miss Namiko Honda, 1301 Redwood Ave., Redwood City.
Mr. & Mrs. Hiroji Kariya, 1959 Clarke Ave., Palo Alto.
Floyd and June Kumagai, 1731 Embarcadero Rd., Palo Alto.
Mr. & Mrs. Takuo Kawauchi, 1374 Sevier Ave., Menlo Park.
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Madsen, 2337 Greer St., Palo Alto.
Mr. & Mrs. Shozo Mayeda, 1933 Clarke Ave., Palo Alto.
Mr. & Mrs. Torao Mori, 925 Woodside Rd., Redwood City.
Mr. & Mrs. Satoru Yamada, 1411 Oxford, Redwood City.
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Yamane, 1962 Clarke Ave., Palo Alto.
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshio Nishimoto, 798 Bryant, Mt. View.

SAN DIEGO JACL

Hiroshi Runt Amano, 3381 Polk Ave., San Diego.
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Owasahi, 6338 Detroit Ave., San Diego.
Mas Hironaka, 2640 National Ave., San Diego 13.
Dr. & Mrs. Tad Imoto, 3381 Polk Ave., San Diego.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ito, 1715 Vulcan Ave., Encinitas.
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur S. Kaihatsu, 3871 Chippewa Ct., San Diego 17.
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kida, 1910 Berry St., Lemon Grove.
Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Kodama, 1329 Felspar, San Diego 9.
Mr. & Mrs. Hiomi Nakamura, 7218 Fay St., La Jolla.
Mrs. Miye & Greg Hara, 414 S. San Jacinto, San Diego.
Mr. & Mrs. Hedi Takeshita, 3313 Vulture St., San Diego 10.
Mr. & Mrs. Take Taniguchi, 5290 Coban St., San Diego 14.
Mr. & Mrs. James Urata, 3947 Marine View, San Diego 13.
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Sugita, 943 Reed, Pacific Beach.
Ben Segawa, 5835 Ward Rd., San Diego 10.

SAN FRANCISCO JACL

Victor Abe, 258 - 16th Ave., San Francisco
Mr. & Mrs. Yasuo Wm. Abiko, Joan, Grace, Beth, Billy and Kenneth, 1907 Baker St., S.F. 15
Lucy Adachi, 3145 Washington St., San Francisco
Amei and Hatsu Aizawa, 711 Anza St., San Francisco 18
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Y. Ashizawa, Sandra, Donna and Joyce, 255 Frederick St., S.F. 17
Florence and Frank Dobashi, 1632 Steiner St., S.F. 15
March and Teru Dobashi, Pamela, Michael and Patricia, 1634 Steiner St., S.F.
Joyce and Jerry Enomoto, 2439 Cabrillo St., S.F.
Takafusa and Hisayo Fujisada and Naomi, 454 - 39th Ave., S.F.
"The Women," Mary Hamamoto, Prop., 133 Geary St., S.F.
Dr. & Mrs. Tokuji Hedani, Janet, Barbara and Dean, 775 - 34th
Taxy and Yo Hironaka and Marcia, 1908 Anza St., S.F. 18
Kiye and Jack Hirose, 1510 Masonic Ave., S.F.
Pearce and Tsuyu Hiura, Alan and Ronnie, 730 - 48th Ave., S.F.
Wilfred and Chiye Hiura, Kent and Glenn, 1420 Polk St., S.F. 9
Sumi Honnami, 1974 Bush St., San Francisco 15
Florence and Tatsu Hori, Bruce and David, 1725 Post St., S.F. 15
Helen and Kei Hori, Keith and Kent, 1725 Post St., S.F. 15
Irene and Fred Hoshiyama and Donna, 1474 - 48th Ave., S.F.
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Hoshiyama, Junior, Danny, Gary, Lorna and Caleb, 1519 Webster St., S.F.
Misao and John Hoshiyama, 2240 Geary St., S.F. 15
Fumi and William Hoshiyama, Gail and Billy, 2240 Geary St., S.F.
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Imazeki, Joyce, Constance, Denis and Ca-reen, 1105 Divisadero, S.F.
Terry and Beulah Ishijima, Lyn and Karen, 1416 Geary St., S.F. 9
Sachi and George Ishida and Lynn, 52 Niantic Ave., S.F. 27
Frank and Elaine Itaya, 4174 Coulombe Dr., Palo Alto, Calif.
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Kiwata, Richard and Howard, 1910 Anza St., S.F.
Teiko and Mickey Kuroiwa, 761 - 27th Ave., S.F.
Mr. & Mrs. Yukio Kumamoto, Emy, Larry & Arlene, 146 - 23rd
Miye Magota, 1701 Turk St., S.F.
Grace and Harry Makita, Suzanne and Ronald, 1331 Broderick, S.F.
George, Kayo and Linda Nakamura, 2230 Geary St., S.F. 15
Viola Sadako Nakano, 1701 Turk St., Apt. 1, S.F. 15
Dick Nishi, 256 - 10th Ave., S.F.
Wallace and Katherine Nunotani, Karen, Pamela, Marsha and Daniel, 169 Cook St., S.F. 18
Fred Obayashi, 174 - 7th Ave., S.F.
Takae and Dick Ogawa, 143 - 23rd Ave., S.F.
Katherine Reyes, 60 Leavenworth St., S.F.
Tom and Yasuko Sakai, 1629 Balboa St., S.F. 18
Katherine and George Sakai, Pamela, Sterling and Bonnie, 631 - 18th Ave., S.F. 21
Virginia and Sam Sato, 2285 Pine St., S.F. 15
Irene Satoda, 605 Lyon St., S.F.
Harry and Babe Sentachi and Vicki, 1585 Post St., S.F. 15
Margie and Alice Shigezumi, 871 Sanchez St., S.F.
Norma and Anna Sugiyama, 2280 Pine St., S.F. 15
Marshall and Misako Sumida, 1431 Eddy St., S.F.
Helma Takeda, 531-A Second Ave., S.F. 18
Miki and Joyce Tanaka, 1854 - 40th Ave., S.F.
Hi Tanamachi, 3027 Washington St., S.F.
Kenji, Kiyo and Hisashi Tani, 241 - 19th Ave., S.F.
Tommy and Suzy Toda and Mrs. Setsu Toda, 1916 Pine St., S.F.
Tom and Fred Tsujimoto, Nina and Ronnie, 1226 Shafter Ave., S.F.
Helen and Helen Utsumi, 474 - 35th Ave., S.F.
The Uyeda Family, 526 - 43rd Ave., S.F.
Kiyo and Yori Wada, Eddie, Ritchie and Patty, 565 Fourth Ave., S.F.
Masako and Yukio Wada, Brian, Roddy, Paul and David, 266
Wade and Massie Yamamoto and Robin Jo, 334 Spruce St., S.F.
Norma and Ruth Yamana, 71 Central Ave., Sausalito, Calif.
Mr. & Mrs. Glichi "Smiley" Yoshioka, Vernon and Allena, 25059
Soto Rd., Hayward, Calif.

Boise Valley C. L. history starts in '39

BOISE — Records of the Boise Valley JACL are not intact so that our chapter summary doesn't go back further than 1939. Approximately 85 members originally organized as the "Japanese American Citizens Club" and included what is now recognized as the Boise Valley Chapter and the Snake River Valley Chapter of the JACL.

It is interesting to note that George Ishihara of Nampa, who is presently a Boise Valley JACL member, was one of the 19 charter members of the Seattle Progressive Citizens League of September 27, 1921, a forerunner of the present JACL.

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It was during 1942 meeting of the Intermountain District Council that the Boise Valley Chapter was organized as one of its members. Martha Nishitani was president at the time.

Also active were Henry Suyehira, who has donated a lot of time to the club. Kay Inouye is another of the early promoters. Hanabu Yamada has continually given help and is also credited for seven years as a 1000 Club member. Seichi Hayashida and Dyke Itami both served as chapter presidents and both doing creditable jobs.

Tom Takatori holds the distinction of serving as president for two different terms. Paul Takeuchi and Frank Tanikuni are remembered for doing conscientious jobs when they were chairmen of the membership drives in the past.

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A brief resume of chapter activities for the current year leads back to the annual Christmas Holiday Bowling Tournament last held in 1954 in Boise. Steve Hirai was chairman of the affair which proved quite successful. Harry Hamada is the one who is taking care of this tournament in 1955.

New officers were installed during a dinner-dance held during February in Caldwell. Seichi Hayashida, acting as social chairman, took care of all details.

Manabu Yamada arranged a special meeting this spring and a government field representative gave an informal discussion on the new social security laws and their effects upon the farmer.

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Dyke Itami devoted a lot of time this summer coaching a midget baseball team participating in the Nampa City league. Highlights of June include a dinner-dance for local graduates and also a banquet for naturalized citizens. Kay Watanabe included these in his job as social chairman. He has also taken care of several skating parties held in the Nampa Rollerdom. Another project Kay arranged was the community picnic held in the Nampa City Park during the first part of July. Attendance has been good and support has been exceptional.

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A judo class has been started as a fall and winter project and interest has been keen. Those instrumental in promoting this program include Mas Yamashita, George Nagasaka, Jim Oyama, and George Koyama.

The trap shoots held during the Thanksgiving period are handled by Joe Itano.

Our membership drive this year was ably managed by Warren Tamura and Roy Kubosumi. The results have been impressive and show that their coverage was thorough.

MIDORI MARIE JOINS ETSU and MIKE MASAOKA
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GREETINGS from the NATIONAL PRESIDENT and his FAMILY

On the occasion of JACL's 25th Anniversary, may we wish each and every JACL member our sincerest best wishes and the warmest of greetings.

CHRIS, YUKI, PATTI, GEORGE INAGAKI

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POSTSCRIPT

Some last-minute changes in preparing this undreamed-of 82-page Holiday Issue at the shop has necessitated some switches in the location of some advertising. We trust that they do not feel lost for, if had we attempted to place each account within its own region, we might not have made it.

I must thank Blanche and Tats, the office sidekicks at JACL regional, for the yeoman-like work and unrelenting stand trying to help us make the deadline.

Believe me, we didn't intend to lose sleep over this—but it's been 48 hours since we "hit the sack."

—Editor.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS



Japanese American Citizens League

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SEASON'S GREETINGS INTERMOUNTAIN DISTRICT COUNCIL

SEASON'S GREETINGS

from the

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CHAPTERS

ALBUQUERQUE - DENVER (MILE HI) - MONTANA
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This is the rare photograph of the first meeting of the American Loyalty League in May, 1923, at the San Francisco YMCA, when it was situated on Post St. between Webster and Buchanan. Published for the first time, the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue editors feel honored it was made available by Dr. T. T. Yatabe (seated from left) for the JACL Silver Anniversary issue. To the right is Mary Tsumaru, then betrothed to "Doc" and now Mrs. Yatabe. After some 30 years, it is understandable that names of everyone in this picture are not known. As could be recalled by "Doc", they are:

Seated (left to right): Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Mary Tsumaru (Mrs. Yatabe), Miss Yoshida, Miss Yamamoto, T. Yokoyama, T. Takimoto.

2nd Row: Henry Tanda, Bill Yamamoto, James Nishimura, Walt Tsukamoto, George "Pop" Suzuki.

3rd Row: Tosh Takeda, Shu Sumii, Victor Ikeda.

4th Row: Tak Yatabe, Harry Hata.

PACIFIC CITIZEN

Silver Jubilee 1930-1955

December 23, 1955

—Section B



A SALUTE TO THE AMERICAN LOYALTY LEAGUE

By DR. THOMAS T. YATABE
First National JACL President

The 25th anniversary of the JACL certainly marks a milestone in the history of Nisei in America.

Through heartaches, disappointments, discouragement and criticisms, today we stand as a solid organization recognized and respected as an organization vitally interested in the welfare of the people of Japanese descent.

What were the motivating factors that led to the formation of the present JACL?

To the older Nisei in and around Seattle and San Francisco perhaps should go the credit of planting the seeds for a Citizens League movement.

Informal Meeting in 1919

We in San Francisco in the fall of 1919 met at the Japanese YMCA which was more or less a bull session to discuss what steps we could take to make it known to the public that we Nisei were American citizens and were vitally interested in our respective

communities.

This, I believe, could be called the forerunner of the present JACL. Present at that meeting were San Francisco's older Nisei, George Togasaki, Tom Okawara, Dr. T. Hayashi, Kay Tsukamoto, Harry Suze and Dr. T. Yatabe.

Thinking of Future

Discussions centered around how and why we should vote for certain candidates and amendments, for still at the time anti-orientalism was quite the vogue, much of it coming from the labor groups.

Though we were only a handful of Nisei of voting age, the fact that we were thinking in terms of the welfare of our people and their future was far ahead of the average thinking of the Nisei at the time.

Unbeknown to us at the time, I believe these men actually laid the groundwork for our future security.

The few banded together to further study

the possibilities of how to gain further recognition from the American public as well as make ourselves better understood.

We chose the name of the American Loyalty League purposely to emphasize our loyalty to the land of our birth.

1923 Conference Held

Through the intervening years, little progress was made, but it gave us somewhat of a formula for future use. Thus, it was not until May, 1923, that this formula was reused with the help of the leading Nisei in various parts of California.

The first conference of the American Loyalty League was convened in San Francisco to attempt to inculcate in the minds of the young Nisei, and I emphasize young, to make them civic-minded as well as to realize the responsibility they had to the future Nisei and to the people of Japanese descent.

Turn Next Page

Spiritual values still motivating force, influence in Democracy

By JAMES Y. SAKAMOTO
Past National JACL President

THE THANKSGIVING from an humble heart wells up in gratitude to our Almighty Father and to our Country on this 25th Anniversary of the Japanese American Citizens League. The guidance and security that have been ours are blessings for which we can be deeply thankful.

My congratulations are extended to the past and present members and officers of the JACL. Their untiring effort to keep the organization alive, alert and active throughout these years has not only been courageous but, indeed, praiseworthy.

As a pioneering organization of Americans of Japanese ancestry, the JACL blazed a trail into the national realms of social, civic and political activity. It was not an easy task. The trials and burdens of responsibility were heavy. They seemed beyond the capacity of its young members to shoulder.

Were it not for their belief and faith in the ideals and principles of our democratic institutions, the JACL may have been just another meaningless and short-lived venture of this second generation era.

TODAY, however, the organization has grown in numbers and stature through a fullness of accomplishments. The recognition of the second generation as a part of the national life and the extension of the right to citizenship to their parent generation have been richly compensating results. The equality, for which the organization and its members stood and fought, has been won.

It may not be amiss to state here that the heroic record of the 442nd Regimental Combat team and all other American veterans of Japanese ancestry hastened the day of this recognition.

In consulting the past, the record of the JACL speaks for itself as constantly watchful of second generation welfare. Now, however, with this Quarter Century span of experience behind it, the JACL must play a greater part in the advancement of the national welfare.

In this day and age, when isolationism can no longer be realistic, our national philosophy and policies of action

are possible of undergoing changes. In this transitional period, it becomes the duty of all Americans to be vigilant. The ideals and doctrines upon which our country was founded and the institutions of Democracy which sprang from them, must not go into decay. Their preservation will be of increasing importance and responsibility.

While isolationism may no longer be realistic, it does not and must not mean that nationalism must also go by the board. It will be well to remember that there is no such thing as good internationalism without first having good nationalism. Just as people wish to and should retain their individuality, nations too must possess their own character.

Americans of Japanese ancestry are in a position together with others to ever keep aloft and alive the spirit of American Democracy. The initiative that every JACL member can exercise in helping to retain our own national character is by going to the foundations of life. The home, family, work, and not least of all the Church and religious principles and ideals must be zealously guarded from the inroads of godless schools of thought and teachings. It is a heavy and responsible duty.

FROM GOOD and wholesome families and homes will come the youth who tomorrow will be the men and women to guide the destiny of our Nation, — as AMERICAN in soul and character. The way of life with which we are so proudly identified today finds its roots in the thinking of a democratic people whose lives were influenced, nurtured and centered around the family and the sanctity of the home.

In preserving and strengthening this way of life, we must solidify the foundations from which it stems. The development of the material and physical aspects of our existence cannot alone preserve or strengthen it. The spiritual values of life, which were the motivating force of the forefathers in founding this nation, and which still remain our guiding influence, must win deeper and greater acceptance by family and home that the men and women of tomorrow may enjoy our heritage of DEMOCRACY.

—James Y. Sakamoto

(This is probably the final piece of writing by the late Jimmie Sakamoto, who was struck down while crossing a street earlier this month.—Editor.)

JACL STANDS THROUGH CRITICISM, HEARTACHES AND DISAPPOINTMENT

From Front Page

With the exception of a few, the majority at this conference were not too enthused, nor could they fathom or imagine the potentialities of a Citizen League movement.

If it were not for the foresight of the Nisei leaders and their support, I am sure the American Loyalty League would have folded up as just another organization.

Fresno Nisei Organized

It was my good fortune to organize the first American Loyalty League chapter in Fresno during the early summer of 1923. With people such as Fred Yoshikawa, Bob Itanaga, Ken Ino, Miss Kazuko Matsumura (Mrs. George Fujiwara), Miss Mimura (Mrs. Konishi), Miss Lillian Tomita (Mrs. Wilson Abe), we were able to create not only interest, but programs to make the League noticeable.

In the early days, though the chapter was small, few of us gave up a great deal of our personal time and participated in every civic program that came about.

If we could not make the Nisei conscious of the organization, we were determined that the City of Fresno would recognize us; so we took every opportunity that came about to actively participate in every affair which, by so doing, gave us a great deal of publicity, making the average Nisei conscious of our League.

Leadership Lacking

As the days went by, one by one, the other existing American Loyalty League chapters in other cities became defunct, mainly because of lack of leadership and the age of the average members.

It gives me a great sense of pride to know that the Fresno American Loyalty League weathered these years and still exists as the oldest chapter in California.

Not only has the chapter grown, but many more new chapters in the area have been organized, which is a credit to the Fresno chapter for its splendid leadership.

Early JACL Pioneers

I cannot help but reminisce and recall the names of some of those that worked and cooperated with me during my days with the Fresno American Loyalty League.

I know that age is creeping upon me and my memory is not as keen as it should be, but I do want to salute on this occasion those whom I have not mentioned beforehand, namely, Fred Hirasuna, Dr. Ernest Takahashi, Johnson Kebo, Tom Nakamura, Dr. Joseph Sasaki, Dr. Kikuo Taira, Yosh Honda, Howard Hatayama, Sam Nakano, Mrs. Bessie Yano, Mrs. Sally Yamada and numerous others whose names I do not recall at this writing.

It is certainly heartwarming to know that chapters like the original Fresno Loyalty League had set the pace to bring about the present JACL with its 88 chapters scattered throughout the nation.

For at long last, it has become a reality that "Security through Unity" is now obvious.

Silver Anniversary

Membership alone without the concerted and combined efforts of all chapters could never have brought us to our present peak.

The motivating factor behind the strength of JACL has been the unselfish cooperation of the chapters and its membership to a principle; equality, justice, brotherhood and truth.

These are the fundamentals, whether we have realized it or not, that have gained for us the respect we now hold.

During these 25 years we have accomplished much, far more than we had ever anticipated which is a credit to the fine leadership JACL has been able to mold.

These accomplishments must be kept permanent and unblemished, a responsibility that we have brought upon ourselves.

Thus, the JACL's work has not finished but requires a wider vigilance to still protect and improve our future welfare.

Yes, JACL has come a long ways.

Tokyo Chapter nearly organized in 1947

TOKYO.—JACL chapters were being organized east of the Rockies for the first time by 1947 and one nearly caught hold in Tokyo.

Roger Baldwin of the American Civil Liberties Union, visiting Japan at that time, urged its formation to aid Nisei stranded in the occupation forces, but the temporary status of military-civilian personnel made chapter programming difficult and the idea never had time to jell.

Registration of delegates at 1930 Seattle biennial

SEATTLE.—Forty-eight persons were registered at the first National JACL biennial convention, which met here Aug. 29-Sept. 1, 1930.

(Looking over this historic roster today as we celebrate our 25th anniversary, there is a sense of pride and gratitude to recognize many names of persons still faithfully serving the organization.—Editor.)

San Francisco — Saburo Kido, Lloyd Enomoto, Ryuzo Maeyama, Akira Horikoshi, H. Sono, M. Isonaka, Toshi Takao.
Los Angeles — Suma Sugi, Charles Kamayatsu.
Newcastle — Thomas Yego.
Bellevue — S. Tominaga, K. Fukumoto, H. Tominaga, T. Sakaguchi.
Auburn — John Arima, N. Terada, M. Okura, T. Naito.
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New York — Tokutaro Nishimura.
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Kent — F. Okimoto.
Forrester — M. Uno, Mary Uno.
Wapato — George Honda, Johnson Kiyomizu, T. Uno.
Portland — Charles Yoshii, Ruth Nomura, Francis Mayeda, Paul Nomura, George Sonoda.
Yakima — Kiyoshi Matsumura, Mary Masuda, Roy Nishimura.
Seattle — Clarence Arai, N. Sakamoto, K. Nogaki, S. Nishimura, Thomas Yoshimura, Yurino Takayoshi, Kimiko Takayoshi, Mitsuo Fukano, J. Shinohara, Toshie Hoshide, James Nobuyama, Kiku Mihara, Victor Nakashima, T. Nakayoshi, Teru Watanabe, Tomi Nakayama, George Ishihara, Edith Tsuruda, Rei Ota, Sada Seki, T. Nakamura, Billy Tashiro, Fusako Yoshioka, K. Suzuki, Shizuko Nakasawa.

Cherry Trees Donated to Utah Capitol

SALT LAKE CITY.—Among the many projects accomplished by the Salt Lake JACL Chapter the past year, one of the most outstanding is the planting of 18 flowering cherry trees on the west entrance to the State Capitol building.

The Utah State Capitol building here is completely surrounded on the front and east sides by cherry trees, and each spring the dome of our capitol stands serenely above a mass of pink blossoms.

This spring on May 8, at the peak of blossoming time, the thousands who gather each year were able to witness the dedication program presenting these 18 trees to the State. Many of the Nisei and Sanele girls were clad in kimonos with parasols, making the picture complete, and inducing a sense of tranquility and peace between our peoples.

The Japanese community of Utah was honored in being privileged to participate in this public relations project, and the program of dedication was sponsored by the Salt Lake JACL.

The program consisted of greetings from Rupert Hachiya, Salt Lake JACL president, a talk on the significance of the cherry tree by Masuo Namba, 2nd vice-president. Other prominent Utahans participated on the program.

Lamont F. Toronto, Secretary of State, accepted the trees on behalf of the State. The Rev. George Hirose of the Japanese Church of Christ offered the prayer of dedication. The kimono-clad girls, directed by Miss Yuri Shiba, highlighted the program with several Japanese dances. Ichiro Doi was in charge of the music for the dancing.

Contributions to this project were acknowledged from various organizations as follows:

Salt Lake Buddhist Church, Japanese Church of Christ, Nichiren Buddhist Church, Seicho No Iye, Ogden Buddhist church, Hiroshima Kenjin Kai, Kiwa Doshi Kai, Okayama Shinyu Kai, Salt Lake Vegetable Growers Assn., Mount Olympus JACL, Ben Lomond JACL, Salt Lake Nisei Women's Bowling Assn., SLC Nisei Basketball Assn., Salt Lake Bukkyo Sonen Kai, Utah Nippon Wildlife Federation, BSA Troop 84, Utah Nippo, Masuo Nambu and Henry Kasai.

Who's Who—

Pacific Northwest

Columbia Basin

Organized Dec. 14, 1954
1955—Bill Utsunomiya

Gresham-Troutdale

Organized Mar. 11, 1950
1950-51—Shio Uyetake
1952—Jack Ouchida
1953—Mas Fujimoto
1954—Toshio Okino
1955—Kazuo Kinoshita

Mid-Columbia

Hood River JACL—1931-35
Organized 1931
1931—George Kinishita
1932—Kumto Yoshinari
1933—Kazuo Kanemasu
1934—Min Yasui
1935—Kumeo Yoshinari
1936-37—Kazuo Kanemasu
1938—Harry Morioka
1939-40—Mits Takasumi
1941—Mark Sato
1942—Kumeo Yoshinari
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated May 19, 1946
1946-47—Mamoru Noji
1948—Masami Asai
1949—Ray T. Yasui
1950—Sho Endow, Jr.
1951—Taro Asai
1952—Setsu Shitara
1953—Koe Nishimoto
1954—Ray Sato
1955—Bob Kageyama

Portland

— PIONEER CHAPTER —

Organized September 1928
1928—Charles Yoshii
1929-30—Dr. K. Kayama
1931-34—Roy Yokota
1936-36—Hito Okada
1937-38—Mamoro Wakasugi
1939-40—Howard Nomura
1941-42—Dr. Newton Uyesugi
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Apr. 30, 1946. Kenzo Nakagawa (org.)
1946—Toshi Kuge
1947—George Azumano
1948—Makoto Iwashita, Toshi Kuge
1949—No officers
1950—Hiram Hachiya
1951—Mamoro Wakasugi
1952—Dr. Matthew Masuoka
1953—John Hada
1953—John Hada
1954—Dr. Mitsuo Nakata
1955—Nobi Sumida

Puyallup Valley

Organized February 1931
1931-32—James M. Yamamoto
1933-34—Daiichi Yoshioka
1935-36—Toru Kuramoto
1937-38—Dan Sakahara
Howard Sakura (Eat.)
Mas Nakamichi (Eat.)
1941-42—Lefty S. Sasaki
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Feb. 19, 1948
1948-49—Kaz Yamane
1950—Art Yamada
1951—Tom Takemura
1952—Hiroshi Sakahara
1953—John Sasaki
1954—Bob Mizukami
1955—Dr. Kay Toda

Seattle

— PIONEER CHAPTER —

Organized Sept. 27, 1921
1921-24—Shigeru Osawa
1925—Inactive
1926—Shigeru Osawa
1927—Inactive
1928-30—Clarence T. Arai
1931—James Y. Sakamoto
1932-33—George Ishihara
1934-35—Takeo Nogaki
1936-37—Clarence T. Arai
1938—Saburo Nishimura
1939-40—Takeo Nogaki
Ichiro Nagatani (B.I.)
Arthur Koura (B.I.)
1941—Toshio Hoshide, Kenji Ito; Muts Hashiguchi (Bell.)
1942—Clarence T. Arai

The Who's Who of JACL Chapter Presidents

One of the projects undertaken by the Pacific Citizen for the 1955 holiday edition was this compilation of chapter presidents as far back as records would tell. We have long felt the Nisei who have taken charge of a chapter deserve as much credit, if not more, than the personalities who have paraded in the headlines in the years past.

Of course, the chapter president will rightfully add that some of the glory should pass down to his cabinet members and committeemen. And while we dare not begin to list them because of the immensity of the task, we can assure our readers that gathering what we present at this time was equally challenging. Search was made through our own files first, then National JACL Headquarters forwarded some old chapter histories prepared in 1939. Next, a survey was made for names that we didn't get from our own sources by checking page-by-page through prewar files of the Rafu Shimpō. We even had a group in San Francisco spend a night thumbing through the old Shin-Sekai, and another in Seattle perusing the Japanese American Courier of the late Jimmie Sakamoto's.

And in special instances, we asked specific old timers to dig into their memories for names none of the above sources could provide.

As it will be noted, some years still appear without a name of the chapter president. If persons having such knowledge can drop the Pacific Citizen a postcard, it would be gratefully appreciated and help compile a complete record.

1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Aug. 5, 1948
1947—Joe Hirabayashi, chmn
1948—Toru Sakahara, Mrs. Shigeko Uno, Kengo Nogaki
1949—Mac Kaneko
1950-51—Harry I. Takagi
1952—Kenji Okuda
1953—Dr. Kelly K. Yamada
1954—George S. Kasihwagi
1955—Howard Sakura

Spokane

Organization Date Unknown
1942—Jot Okamoto
1943—Saburo Nishimura
1944-45—Inactive. Reactivated Apr. 13, 1946
1946—George Numata
1947—Joe Okamoto
1948—Ed Tsutakawa
1949—Blanche M. Shiosaki
1950—Sab Hisayasu
1951—Harry Kadoya
1952—Shingo Hirata
1953-55—Harry Kadoya

Tacoma

Organized 1934

1934—Ted Nakamura
1935-36—Inactive
1937-39—Ted Nakamura
1940—Kaz Yamane
1941—Tsuyoshi Nakamura
1942—Takeo Yoshihara

White River Valley Civic League

Organized Sept. 15, 1930

1930-31—John Arima
1932—George Yasumura
1933—Minoru Terada
1934-36—Tom Iseri
1937—George Yasumura
1938—Minoru Okura
1939—Charles Toshi
1940—George Terada
1941—Tom Iseri
1942—George Yasumura

Yakima Valley

Organized 1932

1932—Johnson Shimizu
1933-34—Roy Nishimura
1935—Harry Manuto
1936-39—Roy Nishimura
1940—Harry Honda
1941—Harry Masuto
1942—Jesse Nishi

No. Calif. - Nev.

Alameda

Organized April 6, 1932
1932—George Togasaki (org.)
1932—Haruo Imura
1933-34—Masayoshi Morino
1935—Kay Tsuchiya
1936—Haruo Imura
1937—Mas Narahara
1938—Tim Yamasaki
1939—Mas Narahara
1940—Kenji Shikuma
1941—Sakae Date
1942—Scotty Tsuchiya
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated June 13, 1947.
1947-48—John Towata
1949-50—Shiro Nakaso
1951—Haruo Imura
1952—Dr. Roland S. Kado-naga
1953—Yasuo Yamashita
1954—Tom Haratani
1955—Yasuharu Koike

Berkeley

Organization Date Unknown
1942—Kimio Obata
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated as part of Eastbay Chapter, May, 1947; decentralized in 1953.
1953—George Yasukochi
1954—Sho Sato
1955—Ben Fukutome

Contra Costa

Organization Date Unknown
1935—William Furuta
1936—Katsumi Harano
1937-38—Hideo Ajari
1939—Bill Furuta
1940—George Toriyama
1941—Henry Terazawa
1942—George Kanagaki

Cortez

Organized Jan. 30, 1948

1948-49—George Yuge
1950-51—Sam Kuwahara
1952-52—Jack Noda
1954-55—Ernest Yoshida

Delta

Organized Feb. 20, 1935

1935-36—Dr. Akio Hayashi
1937-40—Harry Shironaka
1941—Harry Y. Itogawa
1942—Sadayoshi Yagi

Eastbay

Organized May, 1947

1947—Tad Hirota
1948—Masuji Fujii
1949—Tad Hirota
1950-51—Wataru Miura
1951—Masatatsu Yonemura
1952—Tad Masaoka
1953—Decentralized to Oakland, Berkeley, Richmond-El Cerrito chapters.

Eden Township

Organized 1935

1935-37—Kan Domoto
1938—Mitsuteru Nakashima
1939-40—Giichi Yoshioka
1941—Yoshito Shibata
1942—Fukashi Nakagawa
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated July 25, 1947.
1947—Tom S. Hatakeda
1948—Toichi Domoto
1949—Minoru Shinoda, Kenji Fujii
1950—Yoshimi Shibata
1951—Minoru Shinoda
1952—Dr. Keichi Shimizu
1953—Dr. Frank Saito, Kenji Fujii
1954—Dr. Frank Saito
1955—Kenji Fujii

Florin

Organized Aug. 16, 1935

* In the late 1920s, there was an American Loyalty League organized in Florin, but records are missing.

1935-36—Yoshio Kiino
1937—Alfred Tsukamoto
1938—John Hirohata
1939-40—Hugh M. Kiino
1941—Samuel Okamoto
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Dec. 10, 1947.
1947-48—Alfred Tsukamoto
1949—Woodrow Ishikawa
1950—Charles Nishi
1951—Jack Kawamura
1952—Sam Tsukamoto
1953—Bill Okamoto
1954—Oscar Inouye
1955—Paul Ito

French Camp

Joined JACL in 1949*

* As an independent French Camp Progressive Citizens group, the members voted to join the National JACL at this time.
1949-50—Bob C. Takahashi
1951—John T. Fujiki

1952—Hiroshi Shinmoto
1953—George Ogino
1954—George Matsuoaka
1955—Harry Ota

Gilroy

Organization Date Unknown

1942—Jack Izu
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Feb. 1, 1954.
1954—Hiroshi Kunimura
1955—Joe Obata

Livingston-Merced

Organized Jan. 22, 1948

1948-49—David Kiriha
1950—Biyo Yoshino
1951—Buichi Kajiwa
1952—Tom Nakashima
1953—Frank Suzuki
1954—James Kiriha
1955—George Yagi

Lodi

Organization Date Unknown
1941-42—Sam Funamura

Marysville

YSBC JACL—1935-47

Organized July 18, 1935*

* Originally organized as American Loyalty League in 1920, the earlier records are missing.
1935-37—Dr. Charles M. Ishizu, Jack K. Maruyama
1938—Harry Fukushima
1939-42—Frank Nakamura
1942-46—Evacuation.
1946—Frank F. Nakamura
1947—Sam Kurihara
1948-49—Frank F. Nakamura
1950-51—Akiji Yoshimura
1952—Masanobu Oji
1953-54—Frank N. Okimoto
1955—Dan F. Nishita

Mountain View

Organization Date Unknown

1940—Henry Kiyomura
1941—
1942—Henry Mitarai
1942-45—Evacuation.
1945—Masago Shibuya

Monterey Peninsula

Organized Jan. 25, 1932

1932—Hisashi Arie
1933—Sachi Sugano
1934—Hal Higashi
1935—Bob Sakamoto
1936—Fujisada Inada, Kaz Oka
1937—Hal Higashi
1938—Masato Suvama
1939—Chester Ogi
1940-41—James Tabata
1942—Kaz Oka
1942-46—Evacuation.
1946-47—James Tabata
1948—Kiyoshi Nobusada
1949—Henry Tanaka
1950—Mickey Ichijui
1951—James Tabata
1952—Kenneth H. Sato
1953—George T. Esaki
1954—Harry Menda
1955—George T. Esaki

Oakland

Organized June 7, 1934

1934—Dr. Chitoshi Yanaga
1935-37—Randolph M. Sabada
1938—Kay Hirao
1939—Kelly K. Yamada
1940—Frank Tsukamoto, Tad Hirota
1941-42—Kay Hirao
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Aug. 10, -946.
1947-53—Merged with Eastbay JACL.
1953—Takeo Tachiki
1954—Arata Akahoshi
1955—Paul Nomura

Placer County

— PIONEER CHAPTER —

Organized May 1928

1928-29—Tom Yego
1930-31—Kay Takemoto
1932—Sam Sunada
1933—Kay Takemoto
1934—Tom Yego
1935—Louis Oki
1936—Tom Matsumoto
1937—Cosma Sakamoto
1938—Masayuki Yego
1939—Bunny Nakagawa
(Turn to Next Page)

Who's Who—

(Continued from Preceding Page)

1940—Louis Oki
1941—George Sakamoto
1942-45—Kay Takemoto
1946—Jeff K. Asazawa
1947—Tom Matsumoto, Roy Takemoto
1948—Kay Takemoto
1949—Howard Nakae
1950—James Makimoto
1951—Frank Hironaka
1952—Homer Takahashi
1953—Tadashi Yego
1954—Koichi Uyeno
1955—Wilson Makabe

Reno

Organized Mar. 11, 1948

1948—Mas Baba
1949—Fred Yamagishi
1950—George Oshima
1951—Oscar Fujii
1952—Fred Aoyama
1953—Oscar Fujii
1954-55—Fred Aoyama

Richmond-El Cerrito

Organized February 1953

1953—Heizo Oshima
1954—James Kimoto
1955—Marvin Uratsu

Sacramento—PIONEER CHAPTER—
Organized 1922*

* Originally organized as American Loyalty League and chartered as JACL chapter on Oct. 31, 1931.
1922-24—Walter T. Tsukamoto
1924-31—Inactive.
1931-36—Walter T. Tsukamoto
1937—Dr. Jiro Muramoto
1938—Henry Taketa
1939—Edward Kitazumi
1940—Dr. George Takahashi
1941-42—Dr. Goro Muramoto
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Apr. 10, 1947.
1947—Henry Taketa (org.)
1948—Dr. Yoshizo Harada, Mitsuru Nishio
1949—Mitsuru Nishio
1950—Miss Kiyo Sato
1951—Bill Matsumoto

1952—Ginji Mizutani
1953—George Tambara
1954—Toko Fujii
1955—Dean T. Itano

Salinas Valley

Organization Date Unknown

1932—Harry Kita
1933—Tom Fujino
1934—Henry Shigemasa
1935—John Urabe
1936—Harry Kita
1937—Kenzo Yoshida
1938—Takeo Yuki
1939-40—Harry Shirachi
1941-42—Henry Tando
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated May 17, 1946.
1946-47—James Abe
1948—Henry Tando
1949-50—Roy Sakasegawa
1951-52—Tom Miyana
1953-54—John Terakawa
1955—James Tando

San Benito County

Organized June 22, 1935

1935-37—James Sugioka
1938—George Nishita
1939—James Sugioka
1940—Richard Nishimoto
1941-46—Henry Omoto
1947—Richard Nishimoto
1948—Takeichi Kadani
1949—Isaac Shingu
1950—Kay Kamimoto
1951—George Nishita
1952—Tom Shimonishi
1953—Glenn Kowaki
1954—Sho Nakamoto
1955—Joe Shingai

San Francisco—PIONEER CHAPTER—
Organized 1928

1928-29—Saburo Kido
1930—Henry Takahashi
1931—George Togasaki
1932—Saburo Kido
1933—Henry Takahashi
1934—Dr. T. T. Hayashi
1935—Dr. Carl Hirota
1936—Dr. Kahn Uyeyama
1937—Tamotsu Murayama, Mikio Fujimoto
1938-39—Saburo Kido
1940-41—Henry T. Uyeda
1942—David Tatsuno
1942-45—Evacuation. Reactivated May 11, 1945.
1945—Roy Takagi (org.)
1945—David Tatsuno
1946—Yoshiaki Moriaki, Dr. Tokuji Hedani
1947—Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki, Yukio Wada
1948—Yukio Wada
1949—Takehiko Yoshihashi
1950—Victor Abe
1951—Yasuo W. Abiko
1952—Fred Y. Hoshiyama
1953—Dr. Shigeru R. Horio, Kei Hori
1954-55—Jerry Enomoto

San Jose

Organized 1923*

* First organized in 1923 as the American Loyalty League, its subsequent years' records are missing. The name was changed to JACL in 1930 and when it was reactivated in 1945, it was merged with the Santa Clara County United Citizens League until 1954.
1923—Kay Nishida
1924-31—Records missing.
1932—Harry Takeda
1933-36—Records missing.
1937—Shig Masunaga
1938—Phil Matsumura
1939—Wayne M. Kanemoto
1940—Henry Mitarai
1941—Roy Ozawa
1942—Shig Masunaga
1942-45—Evacuation. Reactivated June 3, 1945 as part of Santa Clara County UCL.
1946-53—Tom Mitsuyoshi
1955—Phil Matsumura

San Mateo County

Organization Date Unknown

1935—Saiki Muneno
1936—
1937—Frank Kawai
1938—Joe Yamada
1939—Hirosuke Inouye
1940—Dr. George Takahashi
1941—Fred Ochi
1942—Dr. George Takahashi
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Oct. 22, 1946.
1947—Ken Kato, Hirosuke Inouye
1948—Howard Imada
1949—Hiroji Kariya
1950—Kaz Kunitani
1951—Dick Arimoto
1952—Robert Sugishita
1953—Dr. Andrew Yoshiwara
1954—Howard Imada
1955—William Takahashi

Santa Clara County

Organization Date Unknown

1932—Toshi Taketa
1933—
1934—Toshi Taketa
1935—
1936—
1937—Shigeru Masunaga
1938—
1939—Shigeru Masunaga
1940—
1941—Henry Mitarai
1942—Shigeru Masunaga
1942-45—Evacuation.
1945—Shigeru Masunaga
1946—Eiichi Sakauye
1947—Akira Shimoguchi
1948—Henry Hamasaki
1949—Esau Shimizu
1950—Mrs. Ruth Hashimoto
1951—Shig Masunaga
1952—Akira Shimoguchi
1953—Sam Tanase
1953—Merged with Jan Jose.

Sequoia

Organized May 18, 1952

1952—Harry Higaki
1953—Shozo Mayeda
1954—John Enomoto
1955—Hiroji Kariya

Sonoma County

Organized Aug. 4, 1934

1934-35—Masao Hasegawa
1936-38—Dr. George Hiura
1939—George Otani
1940—William Hiura
1941-42—Henry Shimizu
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Aug. 4, 1948.
1948-49—James T. Miyano
1950—George Kawaoka
1951—Chick Furuye
1952—Minoru Matsuda
1953—Arthur Sugiyama
1954—Riyuo Uyeda
1955—Kanemi Ono

So. Alameda CountyWashington Township JACL—1934-42
Organized 1934

1934—
1935—Harry Kondo
1936—
1937—
1938—Kazuo Shikano
1939—
1940—Tom Kitashima
1941—James Hirabayashi
1942—Vernon Ichisaka
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Feb. 5, 1949.
1949—Kazuo Shikano
1950—Yasuto Kato
1951—Miss Kiyo Kato
1952—Kiyoshi Kato
1953—James Fudenna
1954—Miss Sumi Kato, Harold Fudenna
1955—Ray Kitayama

Stockton

Organized 1933

1933—Dr. Roy S. Morimoto

1934—
1935—

1936—James Okino
1937—Stewart Nakano
1938—Dr. Roy S. Morimoto
1939—Ted Mikiritani
1940—Dr. Charles Ishizu
1941—Al Kawasaki
1942—Stewart Nakano
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Sept. 22, 1946.
1947—Joe Omachi
1948—Jun Agari
1949-50—Jack Matsumoto
1951—Miss Yoshimi Tera-shita
1952—Hiroshi Morita
1953—Sam Itaya
1954—George Baba
1955—Henry Kusama

Watsonville

Organization Date Unknown

1934—Tom Matsuda
1935—Sumio Miyamoto
1938—Pat Matsushita
1939—Frank Uyeda
1940—Harry Yagi
1941-42—James Hirokawa
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Nov. 18, 1948.
1948-49—Bill Fukuba
1950—Kenzo Yoshida
1951—Bill Fukuba
1952-53—William Mine
1954-55—Bob Manabe

Yo-Solano

Organized 1935

1935—
1936—Dr. Charles Ishizu
1937—Mary Obata
1938—Bill Kato
1939-42—Henry Aoyagi

(Turn to Next Page)

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Who's Who-

(Continued from Preceding Page)

Central California

Delano

Organized 1942
1942—George Nagatani
1942-46—*Evacuation. Reactivated Mar. 9, 1950.*
1950—Noboru Takaki
1951—Sam Yukawa
1952—Bill Nakagawa
1953—Sam Azuma
1954—Joe Katano
1955—Dr. James Nagatani

Fowler

Organized 1952
1952—Dr. George Miyake
1953—Harley Nakamura
1954—Howard Renge
1955—Tom Kamikawa

Fresno

—PIONEER CHAPTER—
Organized May 5, 1923
1923—Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe
1924—Fred Yoshikawa
1925—James Hirokawa
1926—Lillian Tomita
1927—Bob Itanaga
1928—Toshio Namba
1929-30—Fred Yoshikawa
1931—Fred Hirasuna
1932—Bob Itanaga
1933—Tom Kanase
1934—Yoshio Honda
1935—Hiro Yamamisaka
1936—Howard Hatayema
1937—Tom Nakamura
1938—Fred Yoshikawa, Bill T. Ishida
1939-40—Johnson Kebo
1941—Dr. Joseph Sasaki
1942—Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe
1942-46—*Evacuation. Reactivated Feb. 1, 1947.*
1947—Johnson Kebo (org.)
1948—Fred Hirasuna
1949—Seiichi Mikami
1950—Mike Iwatsubo
1951—Dr. George Suda
1952—Dr. Sumio Kubo, Jin Ishikawa
1953—Jin Ishikawa
1954—Seiichi Mikami
1955—Hugo Kazato
1956—Dr. Robert Yabuno

Kern County

Organized May 6, 1936
1936—Everett Itanaga
1937—Harry Tatsuno

Kingsburg

Organized 1952
1952-55—Mats Ando

Kings County

Organized 1939

1939—Kiyoshi Nobusada
1941-42—Tom Fujita

Parlier

Organized 1935

1935-36—Akira, Chiamori
1937—Byrd Kumataka
1938—James Kozuki
1939—Akira Chiamori
1940—Byrd Kumataka
1941-42—James Kozuki
1942-46—*Evacuation. Reactivated Jan. 29, 1949.*
1949—Byrd Kumataka, Akira Chiamori
1950—Kengo Osumi
1951—Marcel Takata
1952—Gerald Ogata
1953—Kaz Komoto
1954—Bill Tsuji
1955—Ronald K. Ota

Reedley

Organized June 8, 1935

1935—George Ikuta
1936—Bob Okamura
1937—
1938—Charles Iwasaki
1939—
1940—Sevichi Kiyomoto
1941—Heiji Kitahara
1942—George Ikuta
1942-46—*Evacuation. Reactivated Sept. 25, 1948.*
1948—Masaru Abe
1949—Marshall Hirose
1950—Charles Iwasaki
1951—Mas Sakamoto
1952—Jack Shimono
1953—Dr. Akira Tajiri
1954—Masaru Abe
1955—Charles Iwasaki

Sanger-Del Rey

Organized April 20, 1950

1950-51—Robert Kanagawa
1952—Tom Nakamura
1953—Tom Nagamatsu
1954—George Nishimura
1955—Johnson Kebo

Selma

Organized Mar. 17, 1950

1950-52—George Abe
1953—Masato Morishima
1954-55—George Okazaki

Tulare County

Organized Nov. 15, 1934

1934-36—Harvey Iwata
1937—Ben Yabuno
1938—John Kubota
1939—Chorge Kaku
1940-42—Tom Shimasaki
1942-46—*Evacuation. Reactivated Nov. 22, 1947.*
1947-49—Tom Shimasaki

1950—Hiroshi Mayeda
1951—Kenji Tashiro
1952—Edward Nagata
1953-54—Ted Hiramoto
1955—Yeiki Tashiro
1956—Mike Imoto

Pacific Southwest

Arizona

Organized 1934

1934—Togo Iida
1935—
1936—
1937—John Yamashita
1938—
1939—
1940—John Hirohata
1941—Roy Uyesaka
1942—Bill Kajikawa
1943—Tsutomu Ikeda
1944—
1945—Tsutomu Ikeda
1946—*(Inactive). Reactivated Nov. 1, 1947.*
1947—Kenneth Yoshioka
1948—Carl Sato
1949—George S. Saito
1950—Masao Tsutsumida
1951—Sam I. Okuma
1952—John M. Tadano
1953—Mas Inoshita
1954—Tom Kadamoto
1955—Minoru Takiguchi

Bay District

Organized Mar. 7, 1936

1936—Frank Mizusawa
1937-38—George Inagaki
1939—Philip Nakaoka
1940—Joe G. Masaoka
1941—*Decentralized to Santa Monica, Venice and West Los Angeles chapters.*

Brawley

—PIONEER CHAPTER—

Organized Dec. 15, 1928

1928-29—Lyle Kurisaki, Sr.
1930—James W. Ito
1931—Charles M. Akita
1932—William Kawasaki
1933—Ernest Fujimoto
1934-37—*(Records missing).*
1937—Lyle Kurisaki
1938—Harvey Suzuki
1939—George Kubo
1940—Ernest Fujimoto
1941—Hatsuo Morita
1942—Shigeo Imamura

Coachella Valley

Organized Oct. 4, 1946

1946-47—Henry Sakemi
1948-49—Tom Sakai
1950—George Shibata
(Turn to Page 24)

Jr. JACL program successful in Orange Cnty. with big cabinet

SANTA ANA—The story of the Jr. Orange County Japanese American Youth (better known as O.C. JAYs) reveals the keen interest the parent organization, the local JACL, has taken in the Junior JACL program.

Bill Marumoto, Whittier College junior, and first president, was recently asked to expound a bit. These are the words received:

"Our preamble reads as follows—

We, the Japanese American Youth of Orange County, in order to maintain and foster loyalty for this organization, to seek to represent its real spirit and to publicize it abroad, to install the motive of service without the desire for reward, to carry on a social and cultural program and to be helpful to all and to create and maintain activities for the betterment of the members of the Orange County Japanese American Youth, do hereby establish this Constitution.

Students living in Orange County through high school and college, no matter where they attend school, are eligible to join upon payment of \$2 dues.

For activities in the past year and a half, after it was organized in 1954, the O.C. JAYs have held picnics, a carnival, service projects, public dances, four general meetings a year, monthly executive meetings and have joined the Orange County Council of Communities Agencies.

Serving on the executive committee are:

President: Bill Marumoto, Santa Ana, junior at Whittier College.

Vice-President: Suzie Ohara, El Modeno, sophomore at Fullerton

Secretary: Jeanne Takido, Fullerton, senior at Fullerton Union High.

Treasurer: Hiro Shinoda, Garden Grove, freshman at Orange Coast JC.

Social Chairmen: Helen Nakamura, Anaheim, senior at Anaheim High; Mike Ota, Huntington Beach, senior at HBUHS.

Public Relations: Jane Asari, Huntington Beach, sophomore at HBUHS.

Athletic Chairman: Benny Marumoto, Santa Ana, senior at Santa Ana High.

Historian: Nancy Fukuda, Garden Grove, freshman at Orange Coast JC.

Members-at-Large: Marilyn Nishioka, Santa Ana, freshman at Santa Ana JC; Alice Nakawaki, Fullerton, freshman at Fullerton JC; Richard Matsumoto, Garden Grove, freshman at Orange CJC; June Wada, Huntington Beach, sophomore at HBUHS; Bob Wada, Anaheim, sophomore at Fullerton JC.

On the board of directors are: Chairman Carl Honda, Huntington Beach, junior at UCLA; Jan Fukuda, Anaheim, senior at USC; Agnes Morioka, Orange, freshman at Redlands University; Lou Ann Fukuda, Anaheim, sophomore at California; Jun Nishino, first year of dental school at Western Reserve University, Ohio; Suzie Ohara, El Modeno, sophomore at Fullerton Junior College; Jim Matsunaga, Garden Grove, Long Beach State College; Richard Ikemi, Santa Ana Junior College; John Okamoto, Anaheim; Bill Marumoto, Santa Ana, junior at Whittier College.

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SOME ASPECTS OF JACL FINANCES

Three Proposals to Meet Chapter Quotas Discussed

By DR. ROY M. NISHIKAWA

National JACL Treasurer

Financial problems faced by the National JACL are much like the financial problems faced by the average individual.

How can finances be stabilized so that a steady income can be depended upon? How can expenditures be kept within income? How can income be increased?

If you, the average reader, has struggled with this familiar problem in your home or business, you can readily understand National JACL's financial problems—similar to yours—but undoubtedly on a larger and more complicated scale.

Financially speaking, National JACL has never had it easy. The problem of raising adequate finances seem to be a chronic one.

Every year, National Headquarters is confronted with the ever-present problem of receiving enough funds so that the organization can continue its operations.

For an organization which is relatively small in size and resources, JACL has an amazing record of accomplishments which have directly or indirectly influenced the lives of almost every person of Japanese ancestry in the United States. These accomplishments are well-known and need not be discussed here.

It has been said that the success of the National JACL depends upon three things: leadership, program and activities, and finances.

There is no question that JACL's leadership is outstanding. Mike Masaoka and Mas Satow are unique, almost unexpendable persons. At the same time, it is the hundreds of volunteer leaders on the local, district, and national levels which form the basic strength of the JACL. It is these leaders from National President George Inagaki down to the local chapter leaders who form the backbone of JACL.

As for JACL program and JACL finances, they are inextricably interrelated. They mutually support and enhance each other. One is hardly possible without the other. JACL's program in the past has been well delineated. Its future program too, has received much attention.

Likewise, since the fulfillment of a program is dependent upon adequate finances, the latter problem has received considerable attention on all levels.

In order to pin down the financial problems let us try to answer the specific questions raised in the opening paragraph of this discussion.

One of the greatest problems facing National JACL is how to stabilize finances so that the income received will cover budgeted expenditures. This is closely related to the second question: How can expenses be kept within income?

JACL has no trouble existing on its budget—provided the full budgeted amount is raised each year. For several years now, because some local chapters delay starting their membership drives until late spring or summer, the income received always lags behind the budgeted figures by several thousand dollars.

It becomes a question then, of keeping expenditures within the income received rather than keeping within the budgeted figures.

When income does not meet the budget, there is only one thing to do: Economize wherever possible

by postponing several national projects, such as the JACL Public Relations Brochure, study of Issei Old Age problems, cutting down on national aids to chapters, etc.

To the everlasting credit of some conscientious chapters, there are those who "make up" during the following years the deficit in quotas of past years, even digging into their own treasuries to square accounts.

On the other hand, there are some chapters who make no effort at all to make up deficits, allowing them to grow larger each year.

The solution to the problem is obvious: If chapters could be persuaded to go on EARLY membership drives, finances would be stabilized and at the same time memberships should be easier to obtain for the local chapter. What prospective member relishes signing up for a year's membership in September?

A related question arises at this point. If the budget is so hard to meet, why not cut expenditures, cut the budget, and cut the quotas?

This was tried unsuccessfully in 1954. Voluntary reductions were accepted by Mike Masaoka and Mas Satow of the Washington office and National Headquarters respectively. An absolute minimal budget was figured on the basis of these reductions and might have worked out except that here again INCOME lagged behind the BUDGET, and National JACL went through one of its worst financial crises during this year.

Some chapters often complain about high quotas, but lowering the quotas, we found in 1954, does not necessarily mean that such lower quotas will be met. Those close to the National JACL recognize that at the present time we are operating under a minimal budget and staff.

Further reductions in personnel would mean further reductions in services to local chapters, and this in turn would eventually mean the dying out of some of the weaker chapters.

Since staff salaries constitute 62% of the National Budget, further reductions in the budget do not seem feasible under the National organization as now constituted.

In fact, under the present budget, none of the fringe benefits such as pensions, health and accident protection and other incentive benefits for JACL staff members are available.

This makes for difficulty in retaining and obtaining good staff people and in my opinion is a condition which ought to be remedied. This is especially true in this age where businesses and industries compete with each other in making liberal benefits in order to attract employees.

Perhaps the tenor of the times manifested by some of the petitions for reductions in chapter quotas on the district council level, and the reduction of district quo-

tas on the national level does not make possible an increased budget in the near future.

However, I feel very strongly that income can be increased even though the budget remains the same and chapter quotas remain the same.

We come then, to our final question: How can income be increased?

Since 1953, the National JACL has been on a Supporting Membership basis. That is, the major part of our finances is derived from our members. Most informed and experienced members agree that this plan is far superior to the old basis in which chapters had to go on two annual drives (ADC and Membership) and because of limited facilities and manpower were unable, except for some exceptions, to do justice to either job. However, an analysis of gross membership income under the Supporting Membership Plan reveals some interesting figures.

Type of member	Strength	Income
Regular	92.14%	51.8%
1000 Club	6.1%	43.25%
Supporting	1.76%	4.95%

From the above table it is seen that 7.86% of the members who fall in the "Supporting" and 1000 Club categories raise almost one-half of the membership income.

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one of the bulwarks of JACL support. It has brilliant leaders such as George Inagaki, Harold Gordon, and Shig Wakamatsu. It is well organized, well publicized and a continuous and vigorous program is carried on to increase its membership. Yet, it has not been able to reach its goal of 1,000 members. It is reasonable to assume that it is reaching its maximum potential.

The Supporting Members per se (other than 1000 Club members) shows a very low percentage of total membership (1.76%). This certainly has been one area which has been neglected by local chapters, possibly because it is much easier to go after regular members.

Some tentative proposals have been brought forth in order to help solve these knotty financial problems. Since these proposals will receive preliminary consideration at the district level and may possibly be discussed and resolved at the next National Convention, it behooves every JACL member to become familiar with them.

Proposal No. 1: Why can't we really "push" the "Supporting" phase of our Membership Drives? Possibly start a "Sawbuck" Club with an annual Ten Dollar membership fee?

Proponents argue that there are many members who can afford more than regular membership but who cannot quite afford the 1000 Club and that a great potential exists in this virtually untapped area which could be made available once the project is organized and vigorously followed up.

Proponents further argue that local chapters will never push the present Supporting Membership Plan because there are too many vague and ill-defined categories and because regular memberships are easier to obtain. An analysis of the Membership Chart seems to bear out this contention.

Opponents of the plan point out that possibly a "Sawbuck" Club would cut into the 1000 Club membership and thus offset the greater potential income.

Some opponents also suggest that there should be only one class of membership and if more income

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DR. ROY M. NISHIKAWA

is needed, the regular membership fee should be raised. Which leads us to:

Proposal No. 2: Why not raise the regular membership fee?

Proponents argue that since most members (92.14% fall into this category this area has the greatest potential for raising income. A small increase can raise a large amount of funds.

They further argue that certain members of the JACL can afford to pay more than two dollars to support the National organization, that other national groups ask far more than this, and that chapters generally, in soliciting memberships have not found that the amount per se was the main obstacle, but that the obstacle has actually been that the membership drives were never planned, organized and executed properly.

Further, the proponents say, increased regular membership fees would make it easier for chapters to meet their financial quotas.

Opponents of the raise state that younger people whom we must develop as our future leaders would be discouraged by higher fees, that those who can afford to do so, should contribute more but that the basic fee should be kept low. Besides, the argument continues, if the fee were raised, there is no assurance that the increased income per member would not be offset by a decrease in number of members.

Proposal No. 3: Why not tie together a raise in Membership Fee with a free subscription to the official newspaper of the organization, The Pacific Citizen?

Proponents maintain that every member, as a matter of keeping abreast of the developments within his organization should subscribe to *The Pacific Citizen*. This would make for better informed and more loyal members which, in turn, strengthens the national organization and makes for much easier membership renewals for local chapters in subsequent years.

Also, there are other advantages such as the increased circulation resulting in increased advertising which, in turn, would make possible an increase in financial support which the national organization currently receives from the paper.

Opponents point out difficulties, such as, what to do with many

members in one family living at the same address who do not need more than one paper. They also raise the identical argument used against Proposal No. 2, i.e., that if memberships and subscriptions were tied together, the higher costs would discourage many younger members from joining.

Personally as one who has been close to the financial problems of the organization for several years, I would be in favor of any concrete WORKABLE plan that would enable the organization to attain the objectives as set forth in the beginning of this discussion.

Because the solution to the financial problems is difficult, and possibly unpleasant, does not excuse us from not trying to solve it. Certainly, the present hit and miss, unstable financial picture is an unhealthy condition which deserves the attention of all of us.

The writer has consolidated all of the various aspects of National Finances as discussed above and proposes the following tentative plans as a step towards solving some of the problems involved:

(1) Early membership drives by the chapters, with each chapter trying to complete this job by the first three months of the year and certainly no later than by the sixth month. This would help both the local chapters and national headquarters by freeing time for other activities.

(2) A moderate increase in Regular Membership Fees tied together with "The Pacific Citizen." Exact costs will depend upon the pro-rata costs to be figured by "The Pacific Citizen." But it seems reasonable to assume, at the present time, that total costs including local chapter membership would be about five or six dollars. In order to help younger people and students, perhaps a "half-rate" system could be offered to first year members. This has worked very successfully in many national organizations.

(3) Continuation of the 1000 Club with the possible addition of one more definite category such as a "Sawbuck" Club.

(4) Last, but not least, a national educational program designed to meet the needs of those who know little or nothing about the aims, ideals, purposes and benefits of the National JACL.

Even at the time that the National Supporting Membership Plan replaced the ADC, there were a few chapters who nevertheless continued under the old ADC system, because they maintained, "it was easier." Habit and inertia are hard to overcome.

Hence, it is realistic to expect that there will be some objections to these plans. Granted, there are many mechanical difficulties involved, there are many details which need to be worked out, but despite all of this a better method than the current one needs to be developed.

In discussing National Finances, a complete coverage would include other problems such as the National and District Quota System, the National JACL Endowment Fund, COJAE (Committee on Japanese American Evacuation Claims), JACL Reserve Fund, the need for JACL staff benefits, etc. Because of space limitations, however, these subjects, although important, must be by-passed at this writing.

A final word of thanks and appreciation is in order to the hundreds of loyal JACLers everywhere and particularly to the local chapter presidents—the true heroes of the JACL.

San Francisco Auxiliary aids main chapter in diversifying program for women CLers

BY VIOLA NAKANO
SAN FRANCISCO.—As 1955 approaches its end, and as we thumb through the accomplishment of the past month, "San Francisco at its best" can be applied to the San Francisco JACL Women's Auxiliary. The Auxiliary will long remember this as one of its most fruitful and successful years.

Since the inception of the Women's Auxiliary in August 1954 under the capable leadership of protem president Mrs. Tokuji Hedani, the Auxiliary is proud to say that we have materialized in some measure a fulfillment of our task which has been to accomplish both community and civic wide services.

Today, 40 staunch members constitute the Auxiliary under supervision of president Sumi Utsumi.

The most highly significant mecca of the activity undertaken by the Auxiliary was the "Fashion Interlude." This fashion show's keynote was Unadulterated Elegance. The show for the second year was superlatively coordinated by Mrs. Nancee Limjap and the commentary was favorably done by Mrs. Masao Satow. General chairman was Sumi Utsumi, auxiliary president.

Our special thanks to Flo Wada of Pasadena, guest model who displayed Ko Kaneko's exciting and original clothes. Of top interest was Ko Kaneko's dramatic and beautiful evening gown of gold brocade obi material. A tight fitting torso of utmost simplicity and incredible slenderness hugged

the figure to the knees, where it flared out for ease in walking.

The bevy of models parading down a flower bedecked runway with professional aplomb were Hana Abe, Kinu Abe, Kathy Asano, Sumako Fukumori, Mary Ann Furuichi, Yo Furuta, Mary Hamamoto, Flo Higa, Chiz Miyazaki, Hideko Maoki, Sumi Nagamura, Gladys Makabe, Mary Negi, Jeannete Okazaki, Chizu Okazaki, Jean Omura, Lei Sugimura, Elsie Uyeda, June Uyeda, Emiko Yamamoto and Ruby Yamamoto.

As we thumbnail the highlights of 1955, events were:

January — Installation of Officers (combined with Chapter).

February — Charm Session.
March — Spring Luncheon (Mrs. Taky Hironaka and Mrs. William Hoshiyama, co-ch.).

April — "Fashion For Your Home" Interior Decoration (Sawaya Fukumori, ch.); Visitation at Laguna Honda Home for the Age (Mrs. Hatsuro Aizawa, ser. ch.).

May — House & Garden Tour (Daisy Uyeda and Vi Nakano, co-ch.).

June — Summer Informal Dance (combined with chapter).

August — "Fashion Interlude" (Sumi Utsumi, gen. ch.).

September — "Thank You" Party to those who participated and helped with the Fashion Show.

October — Floral Demonstration (Margie Shigezumi, ch.).

November — Chef de Cuisine - Holiday Hors d'oeuvre (Thelma Takeda, ch.); Visitation at Laguna Honda Home for the Age (Mrs. Hatsuro Aizawa, ser. ch.).

December — Christmas Party (Mary Hamamoto, ch.), Election of Officers for 1956.

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SEQUOIA JACL CHAPTER

Section B

Four Chapters backbone of strategic Eastern District

By BILL SASAGAWA

Chairman, Eastern District Council

PHILADELPHIA—The story of the Eastern District Council is a short one with a big impact.

Although we are commonly referred to as the Baby Council, we feel that we shake a pretty big rattle. We are composed of only four chapters - New York, Seabrook, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.; however, we feel we are the most important, politically, of all the districts.

The Nisei who have established

themselves in the key metropolises are thoroughly integrated in American society and culture. They live in totally unsegregated areas, active in many groups and societies and engaged in professions and businesses of their choice and training. They are constituents of some of the most influential and powerful members of Congress.

At one time the New England Chapter at Boston was quite active in the Council but with the

exodus of many Nisei students of Harvard, M.I.T. and neighboring colleges, the Boston chapter has ceased to function.

In the past, the motivating force behind most of the chapters in the Eastern District Council was a social outlet for the gathering of Nisei to meet and converse with each other. As most of the members became involved in their families and with their businesses, there was a tendency for most of the chapters to lose their attraction as a social force.

However, many of the leaders of the Eastern District Council in their various chapters, such as Tom Hayashi, Aki Hayashi and Ina Jones of New York; Tetsu Iwasaki, Grace Uehara and Dr. Tom Tamaki of Philadelphia; Vernon Ichisaka, George Sakamoto and Charles Nagao of Seabrook; and Ira Shimazaki and Dr. George Furukawa of Washington D.C. were largely responsible for keeping the spirit of JACL alive and functioning on the Eastern Seaboard.

It is because of their belief, the good the JACL could do for the coming generation, that the Eastern District Council has matured to a definite and objective organization.

Although small in number both in membership and chapters the Eastern District Council is strategically important to the National Board both politically and socially—politically because it includes some of the most heavily populated areas in the country.

West L.A.'s Record Speaks For Itself: Quotas Met

WEST LOS ANGELES — West Los Angeles JACL Chapter was organized after World War II. Previously it was a part of the Bay District JACL Chapter, which covered Santa Monica, Venice and the WLA area.

In 1948, under the able leadership of Sho Komai as first president and with encouragement from such Issei leaders as Giisuke Sakamoto, WLA received Chapter charter from National Headquarters.

In line with the JACL's silver anniversary, the West Los Angeles Chapter had a most active year since the inception of the Chapter. With Steve Yagi, formerly active with the Salinas chapter, as president, WLA membership of 170 in 1953 grew to 425 members this year.

In January, West Los Angeles joined with other chapters of the Los Angeles Coordinating Council in the joint installation held at the Aeronautical Institute.

In February, the chapter held its own installation dinner-dance at which time all naturalized citizens of this area were honored. Appropriately for the occasion, Rep. Donald L. Jackson presented to the Japanese of West Los Angeles, through the JACL, the flag that

flew over our Nation's Capitol on June 14, 1954. Receiving for the JACL and Japanese community was Kenjiro Tanaka, guest of President Eisenhower last year.

Besides taking an active part in the East Los Angeles JACL-sponsored Clinic, the National Bowling Tournament at Long Beach, Santa Barbara convention, the chapter had a busy year helping Issei with alien registration, voter's registration, two teenagers' dances, and taking active part in the local playground Hallowe'en carnival.

As in the previous years, WLA JACL golf tournament was held at the Fox Hills under the chairmanship of Harry Hankawa with 103 participants.

During the year, two dance classes were held and a Hallowe'en dance with Tito Montoya's Combo furnishing the music for the occasion.

In June a carnival was held to raise funds for the 1955 Quota.

West Los Angeles JACL chapter may not be what some might call a "live-wire" chapter, but we are the proud possessor of the record that says our chapter is fully paid up with the National Headquarters through 1955 since our inception.

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Congressional Record

Tribute to JACL on its 25th Anniversary

SOMETIME THIS month, Congressman Walter H. Judd of Minnesota was to personally present an American flag which was flown over the Nation's Capitol to national headquarters of the Japanese American Citizens League at San Francisco on its 25th anniversary. During the last session of Congress, the distinguished congressman also paid tribute to the organization by tracing JACL's history in his Extension of Remarks that were published in the Congressional Record, Aug. 25, 1955, of which the text follows:

EXTENSION OF REMARKS OF HON. WALTER H. JUDD OF MINNESOTA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, August 2, 1955

"Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I would like to take this opportunity to report to my colleagues in the Congress that I have arranged to have presented to the National Headquarters of the Japanese American Citizens League, in commemoration of their 25th anniversary as a national organization, an American flag which has flown over the Capitol of the United States.

My colleagues, both here in the House and in the Senate, who are acquainted with the membership and purposes of the Japanese American Citizens League, more popularly identified as the JACL, and who have supported, particularly after World War II, many of its legislative suggestions which have not only greatly enlarged the area of racial freedom and human dignity in this Nation, but have also demonstrated our national and international good will toward those of Asian origin, will, I am confident, applaud this presentation of our flag, with all that it means, to this exemplary organization which has personified, as few organizations have, their slogan, "For better Americans in a greater America."

I know that many of my colleagues, of both political parties from every geographical section, join with me in congratulating the JACL on their first quarter century of dedicated service to our country, in general, and to our Americans of Japanese ancestry, in particular.

To appreciate just how much has been accomplished in the past 25 years, one need only look back in mind's eye to 1930, when the ill effects of the Japanese Exclusion Act of 1924 were still clearly visible and Japanese Americans were suspect people concentrated only on our west coast.

In contrast, examine their position today as accepted and assimilated fellow Americans who are known and welcomed throughout the entire land. To have accomplished so much, for any people, in such a short time, and against such odds of prejudice and discrimination, with so little in the way of financial and political backing, is not only a tribute to the leadership and membership of JACL but also to the system of government and the democratic processes which gave opportunity and incentive for such progress in human relations.

As we wish for JACL, its officers and its membership, another quarter century of successful attainment in the common cause of trying to make our land a better place in which to live and work, may I add the hope that the next 25 years to come will not be under the same trying circumstances either for our Nation or for Americans of Japanese ancestry.

JACL identified with Japanese in America

Seldom can the history of a people be identified with a single organization. But, uniquely and unmistakably, the annals of persons of Japanese ancestry on the United States mainland during their most crucial and tumultuous quarter century, when their destiny in this country was secured for all time to come, is the story of JACL.

Indeed, had it not been for JACL, with its skillful use of

the tools of democracy, it is doubtful that those of Japanese origin in this land would enjoy the healthy and promising status that is theirs today as integrated and loyal Americans.

JACL's record belies the facts that Americans of Japanese ancestry are among the fewest in numbers and the youngest in average age of all our many nationality groups, being only some 85,000, average about 30 years of age; that they are only one generation removed from the emigrants of an Asian land whose culture, language, and heritage are quite different from that of most Americans who trace their origins to Europe; and that they were persecuted and prosecuted as perhaps no other racial minority in our Nation's experience.

First convention in Seattle held in 1930

Over the Labor Day weekend in 1930, some 112 Nisei, or American-born citizens of Japanese ancestry, representing 10 local civic clubs in Washington, Oregon and California, met in Seattle and organized the Japanese American Citizens League to encourage Americanization among both the citizen and alien Japanese and to promote the general welfare of the group by securing the repeal or nullification of racially restrictive State and Federal laws which circumscribed their opportunities for full citizenship and economic and social development.

Indicative of their spirit, even so long ago, was their insistence that there be no hyphen between the words "Japanese" and "Americans," for these Nisei declared that they were not hyphenated Americans with divided allegiances, but only loyal Americans.

The word "Japanese," they carefully explained, was merely a descriptive adjective modifying the important noun "American" and was used only for purposes of identifying the special problems of the group.

At successive biennial national conventions held in Los Angeles in 1932, in San Francisco in 1934, in Seattle again in 1936, in Los Angeles again in 1938, and in Portland in 1940, JACL delegates met to review their program and progress and to chart new projects to make more meaningful for Japanese Americans the equality which should have been theirs as native-born citizens.

Each succeeding national convention witnessed a growth in membership and chapters, with the last pre-World War II convocation in Portland attracting almost a thousand delegates from over fifty chapters. In 1940, the national council, which is the policymaking agency, welcomed the Intermountain District Council, comprising Utah and Idaho, the first district council outside the West Coast where the overwhelming majority of all persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States resided.

Pre-World War II decade recalled

During their first decade of existence as a national organization, JACL was able to secure special legislation enabling alien Japanese who had served honorably in our Armed Forces in World War I to become naturalized citizens and providing for the expeditious naturalization of Nisei wives who



Congressman Judd

had lost their citizenship by marriage to alien Japanese.

But they were neither able to persuade the Congress to eliminate race as a qualification for naturalization, nor to repeal the Japanese and other Oriental exclusion laws. Success in these efforts might conceivably have averted war in the Pacific.

On local, municipal, and state levels, JACL chapters were active in promoting economic and educational opportunities, in eliminating discriminatory and prejudicial practices and ordinances which were the outgrowth of the "yellow peril" hate campaigns of an earlier era, and in refuting vicious charges of unassimilability by demonstrating civic responsibility.

In spite of their youth and inexperience, in spite of voluntary, part-time work, for there was never any money for staff or offices, the JACL was remarkably successful even in the prewar period when their major attention was devoted to building up an organization with responsible membership and leadership.

In this connection it should be remembered that unlike most other nationality groups in this country, because the alien parent generation from Japan was barred by Federal statute from the privilege of naturalization, the older, more experienced Japanese were not in a position to provide the leadership and guidance that proved so helpful to other national minorities in our midst in their earlier, pioneering days.

When it became apparent that international tensions between the nation of their birth and the land of their ancestry were increasing to the danger point, in August 1941, the national board composed of the nationally elected officers and the chairmen of the various district councils, who serve as the governing body between biennial national council conventions, met in San Francisco, voted for a modest budget, and appointed an executive secretary, a paid staff member for the first time in their history, to prepare if possible for any eventuality.

Did not shirk duties during World War II

But the war came before any real progress was made to build up the organization or to prepare the Japanese American communities on the Pacific coast for the tragic events that were to follow.

Because these Americans with Japanese faces looked like the enemy, and because hate and hysteria were fomented against this defenseless segment of our population, all persons of Japanese ancestry, through no fault of their own, became suspect in the minds of their own Government as well as their neighbors.

The leading alien Japanese, who were subjects and nationals of Japan because by our laws they could not become naturalized citizens, were interned as a precautionary measure by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Japanese language and other community newspapers were closed

down. The various Japanese settlements on the west coast were in confusion and in fear.

And so, the leadership of the whole suspect population was thrust upon the JACL, still a relatively young organization dependent almost entirely on voluntary help. The average age of the American-born Nisei at that time, it might be noted, was still in the late teens.

To the credit of JACL, they did not shirk their responsibilities even under the most trying of circumstances.

JACL tried to persuade the Government and the American people to distinguish between enemy Japan and loyal Japanese-Americans but in vain. Various interests, some legitimate, but most not, goaded the Army into ordering the mass evacuation of all persons of Japanese ancestry, citizens and aliens alike, to barrack camps in the interior wilderness, without trial or hearing of any kind, when martial law had not been declared and our courts were supposed to be functioning.

Evacuation orders followed under protest

JACL at first protested as best they could the validity and the necessity for the exclusion orders. But when the orders were described as having been dictated by "military necessity," even though disagreeing with that finding, JACL urged all its members and all others of Japanese ancestry to cooperate in their own removal as their ultimate contribution to the national defense, even though such cooperation would cause property losses in hundreds of millions of dollars and incalculable suffering, misery, and humiliation.

It was this unprecedented cooperation that resulted in the mass evacuation of some 110,000 civilians without incident and forced reappraisal of the so-called Japanese problem, for it was inconceivable that disloyal or dangerous persons would not have at least attempted to embarrass the Army and provoked bloodshed, thereby providing the enemy with valuable propaganda in its efforts to gain the support of fellow Asians.

Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, now president of Pennsylvania State College, paid tribute to JACL's leadership in this matter when, as the first director of the War Relocation Authority, which was established by Executive order to supervise the detention program following the military removal phase, he testified before a congressional appropriations sub-committee in 1942 for funds with which to effectuate his task.

Right to serve in military demanded

Over the Thanksgiving weekend, 1942, long after the evacuation itself had been completed, delegates from all 10 relocation centers and from the "free zones" gathered in emergency national session in Salt Lake City, Utah, and, after reaffirming their faith in their Government, unanimously adopted resolutions demanding the right to serve in the Armed Forces which had been denied them by selective service after the outbreak of war, and the opportunity for those remaining in camp to leave and seek normal lives and employment to aid the national defense in the Midwest and in the East.

The first of these resolutions paved the way for the formation of the now famed 442d Central Postal Directory, that most-decorated military unit in American military history for its size and length of service, composed entirely of volunteer Japanese Americans from the Territory of Hawaii, where, incidentally, there was no mass evacuation, and, more impressively, from behind the barbed wire fences of these desert camps where our own Government had incarcerated them. Seldom, if ever, has there been a

greater demonstration of faith in country than this.

Other Nisei troops served in Combat Intelligence against the Japanese enemy in the Pacific and with other Armed Forces units in Europe.

Meanwhile, the War Relocation Authority initiated a program of gradual resettlement from the wilderness centers to midwestern and eastern communities which discovered that Japanese Americans, too, were human.

Threefold program urged at postwar convention

After the end of hostilities, when many of its members who had served in the 442d and in G-2 in the Pacific returned to try to translate their wartime exploits into positive good for their parents and families, JACL held its first postwar biennial national convention in Denver, Colo., in the spring of 1946, and there determined upon a threefold program to secure the kind of acceptance and equality which would forever safeguard persons of Japanese ancestry in this country from a repetition of their World War II tragedies:

Legislatively, to secure equality in and under the law, and particularly in the matter of naturalization privileges in order that the alien parents of these gallant Nisei might share, at long last, in that precious United States citizenship which would nullify all of the hundreds of anti-Japanese laws sanctioned by that racially ineligible to citizenship classification in our Federal code; also, to repeal the Japanese Exclusion Act along with all of the remaining racial prohibition against immigration from Asia.

Judicially, to seek in the courts the invalidation of all discriminatory statutes, and especially the alien land laws of some 13 Western States by which the Japanese had been denied the right to economic opportunities through the ownership and occupation of land; and

Educationally, to conduct nationally a public information campaign to publicize the wartime record of devotion and sacrifice of all persons of Japanese ancestry and to gain the good will and support of their fellow Americans for their legislative and judicial objectives.

That in the 9 years since the Denver convention the JACL has just about attained all of their major objectives is plainly evident, although just how remains a "miracle of democracy," as one old Japanese pioneer described it at a recent naturalization ceremony.

JACL has utilized the tools of a representative government in such an effective manner that they are today a model that can well be emulated by others seeking justice and equality of treatment.

Many congressmen came to assistance

Many members of Congress, from the West as well as from other sections of the country, Republicans and Democrats alike, have actively participated in the enactment of these remedial and corrective statutes which have been enacted in the past decade.

Reading of the testimony before congressional committees and the Record on the debates in the Congress on the many bills which have given a new meaning to democracy to these recently "suspect" Americans amount to a testament of recognition and esteem seldom voiced by lawmakers.

For my part, I am proud of having been associated with JACL's postwar program from the beginning.

In fact, in Japan in 1925 I became convinced we must eliminate the racial barriers in our immigration and naturalization laws if we hoped to have lasting peace in the Pacific.

I urged such legislation in my first year in Congress, 1943. But (Cont. on next page)

Judd's Tribute

(Cont. from preceding page)

not until 1948 was it possible to get enough change in national thinking to give some hope for success.

I then drafted and introduced the so-called Asian provisions of what is now the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. These proposals provided that all racial, though not numerical exclusions to immigration be re-

pealed and that the privilege of naturalization shall no longer be limited to specially designated races and nationalities.

No person of whatsoever race or origin was to be ineligible to American citizenship because of race, color, or national origin.

Summary record of achievement told

Those noncontroversial features of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, providing for naturalization and immigra-

tion privileges to the Japanese and other Asians, would not have been attainable so soon after the war with Japan without the remarkable efforts of JACL and hence represent its most noteworthy achievement. For through their enactment alien Japanese were, for the first time in United States history, invited to become naturalized citizens in the land of their choice, and the citizenship of their American-born became unqualified and untainted.

The Congress has also approved legislation providing some compensation for certain real and personal property losses suffered as a consequence of the evacuation. Some thirty millions of dollars have been paid to more than 20,000 evacuees as a token of congressional regret that the loyalty of the Japanese American population was misjudged, and to provide restitution and simple justice.

The claims program is not yet completed, however, and amendments to expedite and liberalize the remaining payments are presently before the Congress.

Through general and private legislation, I have been told, some 500 ordinances and laws that were once directed against persons of Japanese ancestry in this country have been repealed or invalidated and that at the present time there are no statutes anywhere in the land specifically discriminatory against the Japanese.

The JACL coupled their congressional campaigns with special activities in the various State legislatures concerned to eliminate the remaining vestiges of the "anti-Orientalism" of the early 1900's.

In the field of litigation, too, nationally and in the States, JACL has successfully argued the unconstitutionality of discriminatory laws which restricted the opportunities of persons of Japanese ancestry and subjected them to indignities. The alien land laws, the prohibition against commercial fishing, racial restrictive covenants, segregation in public places and schools, exclusion of jury lists—all these and more have been determined in favor of the Nisei and the immigrant generation, their new citizen-parents—not al-

ways pleaded alone by the JACL but in some cases in concert with others similarly seeking more equitable consideration as citizens in this democracy.

The American people now know and welcome Americans of Japanese ancestry. They are no longer confined in the main to the west coast but are to be found in every State in the Union, accepted by their neighbors and completely assimilated into their respective communities.

I have been advised by the JACL as they prepare for their next quarter century of service, that Americans of Japanese ancestry enjoy a far better status in this country than ever before, even in the best of prewar days. Today they are confident of their future, for under the leadership of the JACL they are, in fact better Americans in an America made greater by their contributions.

In 1930, JACL was a few hundred members in 10 small chapters scattered in Washington, Oregon, and California. Today JACL, based upon its solid record of accomplishment, boasts more than 15,000 active members in 88 chapters in some 32 States and the District of Columbia.

JACL's 25 years big boost for democracy

The JACL story for their first 25 years is an inspiring document of democracy in action at the best, an epic which could have been written only in America and which completely refutes the hate and race mongers of only a few years ago who charged that the Japanese, by their very character, were unassimilable into the American cultural pattern, which itself, as we all know, is made up of the cultures and the contributions of all the many peoples who have immigrated to these shores since time immemorial, as did the ancestors of all of us.

But perhaps even more important in the long pull of history is that what the JACL has accomplished here in the United States is living proof to all the free peoples of the world, and especially to those in the Far East who are so important to us as a nation today, that the democratic way is best, for it makes possible the correction of abuses and wrongs and the

achievement of justice and redress on the basis of the complete record and of individual merit, not race, color, creed, or national origin.

Ours is an imperfect democracy, it is true. But the JACL has proved that it is a constantly improving one which continually strives to forge an ever more perfect union.

Congratulations to the Japanese American Citizens League, their officers, and their members on this historic milestone in human relations.

All of us have learned much from their quarter-century history, and all of us can gain much by putting into practice, as they have so nobly done their national slogan, "For better Americans in a greater America."

SILVER DREAM—

(Continued from Page 9-A)

needs of the Japanese American be met. He proved his point with the JACL, and he has extended his influence in promoting other organizational pursuits including the credit union movement within the JACL.

A journalist of note, prominent for his pithy contributions to pre-war Japanese American publications in San Francisco, he has helped the JACL's official organ, the Pacific Citizen, serving as chairman of its board, to attain recognition as the outstanding nation-wide Nisei publication.

With daughter Rosalind married, son Larry attending the University of Utah and son Wally in high school, Saburo Kido, now a grandfather, could well sit back and leisurely review the momentous events of his life in the past quarter century, and which he could with pride of achievement. But his is not the nature to relax nor to become complacent. He will throughout his life be ever alert to take up the cudgels to champion the cause of anyone who is oppressed or downtrodden.

He has the courage and the know-how to tackle any odds, to see that the square-deal and a fair-shake is given to every American.

As the JACL celebrates its silver jubilee, it could never do so without thinking first of its wartime president, Saburo Kido.

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Local 56

Don Komai, Harold Horiuchi Best Bets for D.C. Chapter

WASHINGTON—Charter member, president, board delegate—put together they spell out ever-dependable Don Komai.

Active ever since the birth of the Washington, D. C., Chapter in 1946, Don served as board delegate for several years and in 1948 represented the chapter at the National Convention held in Salt Lake City.

In 1951 he was elected president—this was the year the Capital City hosted the EDC Convention and attracted large numbers of Nisei from New York, Philadelphia and Seabrook. Throughout the years Don has always been on hand to extend advice or head this and that committee, always contriving to make a success of whatever project he has handled.

A native of Los Angeles, Don has lived in Washington, D. C., since November, 1941. He graduated from UCLA in 1938, majoring in psychology. In September, 1941, he was married to the for-

mer Sue Miyamoto. Donald (better known as Donny) completes this threesome JACL family.

As one of the charter members of the Washington, D. C., Chapter, Harold Horiuchi has held almost all of the offices of the executive committee at one time or another.

Beginning as vice-president during the initial year of the Chapter's organization in 1946, Harold served as president the following year and treasurer during the third year. In addition, he was ADC chairman and treasurer, EDC vice-chairman, and Chapter membership chairman.

Harold Horiuchi has been a resident of the nation's capital since 1944 when he accepted a position with the Foreign Broadcasting Division of the FCC. Currently as production manager for ACF Industries in Alexandria, Va., he is one of the outstanding local Nisei technical men as well as a leader in JACL Chapter activities.

Rare pair: Shimasaki brothers share triple JACL honors

WASHINGTON.—Probably unique in the annals of JACL in its first 25 years of history are the Shimasaki brothers, Tom and Ira.

Both have served as chapter presidents, as district council chairmen and as awardees of the JACL sapphire pin.

Both were charter members of the Tulare County chapter in 1934. Tom has served as chapter president before and after the war, served as N. Calif. District Council chairman during the war years and was instrumental in reactivating the chapter after the war. To the present day, elder Tom has continued to be a main force in the Tulare County chapter and Central California District Council.

Tom is a prominent vegetable grower in Lindsay, a member of the Kiwanis, Junior Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations. Married, he is the father of four children.

Although active in JACL before the war, younger Ira did not come into his own until he served two years as president of the Washington, D. C., chapter in 1948-49. He also served as Eastern Dis-

trict Council chairman in 1953-54.

A World War II veteran with duty in occupied Germany, he married the former Gladys Onoye of Salinas, Calif., and they have three children. He has been employed the past nine years as body-paint shop foreman for Flood Pontiac Co. The Ira Shimasakis live in Bethesda, Md.

Joint EDC-MDC Convention D.C. High Spot

WASHINGTON—The joint Midwest-Eastern District Council Convention held in March, 1955, was the Washington, D. C., Chapter's major event of the year.

Jam-packed to the brim with programs of absorbing interest, the inspiring presence of noted personages, the edifying and stimulating features that Washington alone can offer, the Joint MDC-EDC Convention "package" prepared by the Convention Committee contained ingredients which were to become unforgettable experiences and memories.

The Convention Committee worked smoothly and surely under the able chairmanship of Tad

This was the first Joint District Council Convention to be held in the history of JACL and the hope was voiced that many more such conventions might be held in the future as an effective means of bringing about closer rapport among district councils.

A potluck supper, followed by an inimitable show of local talent which included a can-can by prominent male members of the Chapter, was one of the most successful socials of the year—Mrs. Jack Murata was the chairman.

Another highlight was the annual joint Nikkeijinkai-JACL picnic which brought out the Japanese American community of Washington en masse in spite of threatening weather. To John Katsu goes the credit for this pleasant summer event.

Marutani of Philadelphia 'Go-getter' Chapter Prexy

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Chapter has been fortunate in having a "getting it done," "go getter" type of a nice guy for their President this year—the name, Bill Marutani.

Bill first joined JACL in 1947 as an associate member on a national basis, and Philadelphia is his first chapter affiliation. Chicago claimed him as a resident when he returned home from overseas duty in Japan with the Army—but now Philadelphia is his home.

For Bill, in his profession as a lawyer, is rapidly becoming quite a figure around Philadelphia. His activities are too numerous to mention; he's the guy that practices what he "preaches."

Bill believes that more Nisei should give expression to and of civic responsibilities, more activation is necessary if we are to be recognized.

Political education is sadly lacking among many of us and to learn and prove himself, Bill participated actively in the "door to door knocking" in the latest election campaign held in Philadelphia. His charming wife, Vicki, and their four youngsters are a compliment to Bill and the motivating force behind him.

I'm sure that this post as President of the Philadelphia Chapter will by no means be the first and only, but the beginning of many responsible positions for Bill to assume in JACL for he is certainly one of many

talents and would be a credit to the organization.

Among the many interesting meetings of the year were the Legal Clinic, Dentistry—causes of decay and care of teeth, Travelog—around the world, and our annual picnic.

The Legal Clinic was conducted by three outstanding young lawyers here: William Reynolds, who spoke on tax laws; our own Bill Marutani spoke on estate settlements. The third member of the clinic was District Attorney Samuel Dash, speaking on Criminal Law and rights of the individual. Mr. Dash recently has come into national prominence through the Ostreicher case, in Philadelphia. It was an evening well spent. We were all enlightened on all of these phases of law.

Dr. Dannenberg, dentist and instructor at the University of Pennsylvania Dental College showed slides and spoke on the growth and care of teeth at our June meetings, which were chaired by Sim Endo.

Did you ever think that you could travel around the world in one night? Well, the members of the Philadelphia chapter had a chance to do just that. Mr. and Mrs. Y. Nakano, who took such a trip over a period of two months, kindly presented the pictures taken on their trip. The countries included Japan, Egypt, Italy, France and England.

Miss Sumi Kobayashi, who has spent two years in Japan, also showed pictures taken during her stay.

Greetings from Seabrook JACL

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Issei citizen testimonial tops in Seattle

SEATTLE—Because of the deep significance of the naturalization program in JACL objectives, the New Citizens' Testimonial Banquet which honored approximately 350 new citizens on April 22, is considered the "most outstanding" activity for this past year.

Filled with pride and admiration for the first generation, friends and families of those honored gathered at the Chamber of Commerce Hall and listened to the words of Washington State Chief Executive, Governor Arthur B. Langlie, as he urged the newly naturalized citizens of Japanese ancestry not to give up entirely the customs and manners which characterized their homeland. He stated that the mixing of different cultures creates the best way of life in this great land.

Another distinguished guest, Mayor Allen Pomeroy, extended his congratulatory remarks.

★ ★ ★

The total of 350 naturalized citizens during this past year boosts the Issei citizen total to over 750 since the program began in early 1953. Most of them are in their 60's. It is interesting to note that 750 Issei applied for citizenship and passed with an average grade of 96.5 per cent—a remarkable showing!

★ ★ ★

On the same program, the installation of new officers by Masao Satow, national executive secretary of the JACL, was witnessed by the assembled guests. New officers included:

Howard Sakura, president; Dr. Kelly Yamada, James Matsuoka, and Mitsuji Noji, vice-presidents; Min Yamaguchi, treasurer; Marie Yamamoto, recording secretary; Aiko Matsuda, corresponding secretary; George S. Kashiwagi, board delegate; and Dr. S. Fukuda, Frank Hatter, Henry Miyake, William Mimbu, Ted Sakahara, Toru Sakahara, Yod Yamaguchi, and Kazie Yokoyama, Board of Governors.

A past-president's pin was also presented to George S. Kashiwagi by Masao Satow.

The success of this highlighted event is due to the able chairmanship of Hiram Akita. William Mimbu, Seattle attorney and active CLer, was appointed to act as toastmaster of this affair, and during presentation, "Bill" was introduced as the new secretary of the national board.

Mile-Hi JACLers 'miles ahead' pushing varied events of community-wide interest

DENVER.—The Mile-Hi JACL, with offices in Denver, got off to a flying start for 1955, with the traditional chapter Recognitions Dinner and Inaugural Ball in the Cathedral Room of the Albany Hotel, with popular Tak Terasaki heading the festivities as toastmaster.

With president-elect Harry Sakata vacationing in Japan, younger brother Robert, a capable community leader in his own right, graciously accepted leadership of the JACL on behalf of his brother. During the interim until March, while the president was vacationing overseas, Irvin Matsuda was 1st vice-president for program and activities, headed chapter activities.

Commencing again in January, through the JACL, volunteer interpreters continued assisting the I & NS offices in processing Issei applicants for citizenship. During 1955, 139 Issei were naturalized, including eight Japanese war brides.

Betty Suzuki, membership chairman, was faced with a terrific problem of surpassing the 602 membership mark set in 1954 by Fumi Katagiri. The undertaking was tremendous as the Mile-Hi JACL chapter has gone on year after year bettering its membership marks, climbing from a low of some 60-odd members in 1944 tenfold in ten years.

Members of the JACL assisted in the annual Alien Registration program.

Oski Taniwaki, pre-war newspaperman from the San Francisco Bay area, took over from Ben Miyahara, past editor, to publish the monthly "Mile-Hi JACL Bulletin," maintaining the high standards that make the local chapter publication one of the outstanding in the nation.

During February, Bob Sakata headed the Agricultural Institute in Brighton, Colo., and Seiji Horiuchi was named "Outstanding Young Man" by the Brighton JC's. Both are active JACLers and community leaders.

A dozen Nisei community leaders, headed by Bess Shiyomura, concluded the year-long participation in the Mayor's Inventory of Human Relations. Beans Yamamoto, Mary Nakamura, Dr. Mike Uba, John Sakayama, Tak Terasaki, Dick Yanase and others participated in the Mayor's Conference.

Tami Masunaga, assisted by Sam Y. Matsumoto, headed the committee for the JACL on "Citizenship Day" ceremonies.

The 1955 Red Cross Drive, headed by Tak Terasaki and John Sakayama, and assisted by eight team members including Tosh Ando, Willie Mikuni, Irv Matsuda, Sam Matsumoto, Sarge Terasaki and Joanna Tokunaga went 107.5% over the top of a quota of \$1,300.

The Mile-Hi JACL benefit held at the D-X Club in February, under the chairmanship of Billy Mattocks was a rousing success. Billy H. Mattocks, finance chairman, is one of the two non-Nisei members of the JACL cabinet (the other being Dorothy Uchida, as recording secretary), but lacking a Japanese name, has been rechristened "Tokutaro Matoka" to go one step further than Chicago's Harold "Tokuzo" Gordon.

John Sakayama headed the JACLers going to the Nat'l JACL bowling tournament in Long Beach in March. Twenty-three bowlers, making up three men's teams and one women's team, left for California.

Chiye Horiuchi represented the JACL in observance of Brotherhood Week during February.

In cooperation with the JACL office, Roland Tatsuguchi of Hawaii, a graduate at Kansas Uni-

versity, completed a master's thesis on the Japanese American community in Denver. Tatsuguchi planned continuing his studies as a Buddhist priest in Kyoto, Japan, following his graduation from KU.

During March, JACL and Issei leaders welcomed National President George Inagaki at an informal dinner at Ichiyo's. Pres. Inagaki reported on the Nat'l JACL, and explained progress of the evacuation claims program in Washington, D. C. Third Nat'l Vice-president Tak Terasaki and Mountain-Plains JACL District chairman Floyd Koshio were appointed co-chairman of the OOJAEC drive.

In April, members of the JACL attended the Hawaiian Luau sponsored by the DU and CU Hawaiian clubs, in the Memorial Union at Colorado University.

The Mile-Hi JACL participated in the showing of "Jigoku-Mon" at the Esquire Theatre in April, bringing favorable publicity to the Japanese American community, and emphasizing Oriental cultural background of Asiatics.

During June, Norman Yabe was nominated for the Pvt. Ben Masaoka scholarship; also, during June, the JACL cooperated with the National Conference of Christians

and Jews, an educational program of human relations.

During July, the JACL cooperated in the Denver Japanese Community Picnic at Genesee Park.

In September, the JACL participated in planning the 65th Annual Conference on Social Welfare, with Ray Gordon as chairman, and Dan Valdez as executive secretary.

During September, the JACL cooperated in the world premiere showing of "Madame Butterfly", with half a dozen Nisei girls in colorful kimonos to publicize the premiere, held in connection with the Italian Festival in Denver.

During the year, the JACL assisted many Issei and Nisei in eliminating their Japanese nationality, following naturalization for the Issei, or in eliminating dual citizenship for the Nisei.

The biennial Mountain-Plains JACL District Convention was held in November, under the sponsorship of the Mile-Hi JACL chapter, with Floyd Koshio acting as chairman.

During December, the elections of chapter officers were held, climaxed by the annual Recognition Dinner and Inaugural Ball in the Silver Glade Room of the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

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FROM THE SOUTHWEST LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

Southwest Los Angeles Chapter Enjoys Successful Year, Had 'Go-Go' Spirit

LOS ANGELES—With the sweet sounds of Christmas Cheer ringing in everyone's heart, the last Southwest Los Angeles Chapter activity, the Annual Benefit Box Lunch Social closed the curtain for 1955. It was a very spirited year that saw the SWLA Chapter imbued with the "Go, go, go" spirit emerge as the second largest chapter in the country.

"Operation '55," the first activity held on Jan. 13, began the new trend of chapter programming and active membership response. At that first successful get-acquainted social ably supervised by Haj Inouye, first vice-president, the general membership drive was also launched under the guidance of Pomeroy Ajima, second vice-president. The busy hum of approximately 20 teams organized to canvas the Seinan area produced the proud record of 754 members for 1955.

Akin with the great spurt in chapter interest was the stylish "Southwesterly," well-edited and artistic news bulletin under the eyes of Michi Asawa, Ken Miura, Kats and Kango Kunitzugu.

To honor the newly elected cabinet officers of the Los Angeles JACL Coordinating Council and their nine respective cabinets, National JACL President George Inagaki conducted the installation ceremony on January 22, at the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences.

At this time the Southwest Los Angeles Chapter cabinet members sworn in were president, Dr. Toru Iura; first vice-president; Haj Inouye; second vice-president, Pomeroy Ajima; third vice-president, Michi Kataoka; recording secretary, Ruby Okubo; corresponding secretary, Grace Oha; treasurer, Peter Yano; auditor, George Kakehashi; historian, Hiroko Kawanami; sergeant-at-arms, Homer Matsui.

The second annual PSWDC Chapter Clinic held on Feb. 15 at the International Institute was well attended by the busy SWLA Chapter which hosted the social program in the evening.



JOHN NAKA: Bonsai Artist

John Naka, one of the foremost authorities on Bonsai in Southern California, presented the bonsai lecture and demonstration at the monthly meeting at the Centenary Methodist Church on Feb. 17. This event was arranged by Haj Inouye.

With Hiroko Kawanami arranging for transportation and all the other necessary details, the chapter had a joint snow hike with the East Los Angeles chapter to Snow Valley on Feb. 28.



Ken Miura represented the SWLA at the Brotherhood Week panel discussion held with the B'nai B'rith young adults on Feb. 28, Hillel Building on the Univ. of Southern California campus.

To the 1955 National JACL bowling tournament, March 2-6, held in Long Beach, went many Southwest Los Angeles Chapter members: the Atlas Farm, the Tashima Brothers, and the Southwest produce. Back came the girls of the Tashima Brothers team, loaded down with championship trophies. SWLA prexy Dr. Iura emceed the Trophy Award Dinner.

and Nisei vocalist Masa Hamasu with the Miyako trio rounded out the big night of Mar. 12.

"Guys and Dolls" was a very successful social mixer under the magic touch of social chairman Roy Iketani and his committee. It was the first of the big chapter dances as it attracted a capacity crowd of 400. They were preparing for a modest 200-250 group. Terrific entertainment by Sonoi Reiko, Japanese interpretive dancer,

annual Easter egg roll held at Exposition Park was well attended.

"Know Your Social Security and California State Old Age Pension" was presented for the Issei on April 21, with attorney Saburo Kidô, Shin Nichi-Bei publisher, speaking in Japanese. Tut Yata, chairman of the SWLA Chapter's Issei Planning Committee began the chapter's first of a series of programs which include Issei in the area. The Issei membership program was initiated at this time under the leadership of Harold Toma. Letters in Japanese were mailed to Issei in the Uptown-Southwest area for their first meeting.

Misashi Horita began the new bridge classes on April 26 which continued for eight weeks.

A pre-convention rally for "Fiesta by the Sea", the PSWDC Biennial Convention, was held at the Parish Hall of St. Mary's Episcopal Church on April 27. Pomeroy Ajima, rally chairman, saw that the members were informed on the nature of the district confab, as well as to the arrangement of housing, transportation, and pre-registration. Roy Iketani, cochairman of the social hour had Songster Bob Kono; skit was presented under the direction of Jim Yamamoto; arrangements for dancing and re-

(Continued on Page B-14)

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PSW's Busiest Chapter

(Continued from Preceding Page)

freshments by Bebe Horiuchi, Terumi Yamaguchi in charge of transportation.

Southwest Los Angeles Chapter sent the biggest delegation to the PSWDC's fourth Biennial Convention held in Santa Barbara. The chapter's Janet Yamada was selected Queen. SWLA's high powered quartet composed of Kay Noda, Mas Hamasu, Bob Kono and Herb Murayama was featured at the beach outing. Kimi Matsuda was elected secretary of the PSWDC cabinet. Convention delegates from the chapter were Dr. Toru Iura and Kimi Matsuda, assisted by Rudy Okubo, Grace Oba, Harold Toma and George Hiraga, alternates.

Also conspicuous at the Santa Barbara convention were the Davy Crockett 'coonskin caps and the lapel pin reading: "Davy Crockett was a Southwester."

On May 25, Minoru Fujita, who moved from Chicago to Los Angeles, was signed up as the 500th member of the chapter. Richard Toyama signed him up.

Author James Edmiston of "Home Again" was the special guest at the May 25 general meeting. This book is now being considered for a movie script.

Second in the series of cooking classes was held on May 28, Centenary Methodist Church, with Hayao Shishino as instructor and Ruby Okubo as chairman. Reservations for the class were taken by Fumi Ushiyama and Lillian Orida.

Following an idea of Willie Funakoshi, a special group of 40 Southwest CLers toured the Los

five-piece combo from the Elliott Brothers' orchestra, who played for the Sayonara Ball at the 13th Biennial Confab provided music. Vocals were rendered by Tony Paris, a regular member of Jo Stafford's TV program. Others who helped Iketani were Terumi Yamaguchi, Harold Toma, Pomeroy Ajima, Ritsuko Kawakami, Hiroko Kawanami, Mas Kataoka, Ken Miura.

At the July 26 general membership meeting, typical scenes of WRA camp life and of various jobs held by evacuees as well as the 442nd RCT in training were shown at the Centenary Methodist Church.

SWLA'S "Get Salty" party at Paradise Cove proved to be another success July 31. Co-chairmen Jim Yamamoto and Bebe Horiuchi had reservations from 100 members, preparations were made for 150 and about 250 showed up. It was frantic, to say the least, to get additional hot dogs.

Ken Keenly, professional caller from the So. Calif Square Dance Callers, was on hand to call out "dig for oysters, and swing your partner and promenade" at the August 5 square dance at International Institute. Tats Sumida was chairman.

After a brief vacation during the hot summer spell, another sensational cooking class was held at the Senshin Buddhist Church on Sept. 17. The art of "osushi" making was taught by Mrs. Yoshiko Sakurai. All arrangements were smoothly operated by Ruby Okubo.



ognition award given him at the 13th Biennial. Tom Shimasaki and Ellen Kubo were in charge of the program.

The fourth cooking class, the proper way of preparing "Sukiyaka" to gladden any young man's stomach was held Nov. 12 for the ladies by Ruby Okubo. The instructor was Mrs. Yoshiko Sakurai.

With Hana Uno and Bob Iwasaki as delegates to the PSWDC quarterly session, the SWLA chapter was well represented. And on the eve of Nov. 12 chapter members and delegates attended a testimonial banquet to honor Assemblyman Edward E. Elliott at the New Clark Hotel. Elliott, serving his fifth consecutive term in the State Legislature, has long been identified as a champion of legislation concerning the welfare and interests of Japanese Americans and other minority groups. Among the guests was Assemblyman Augustus Hawkins, who worked with Elliott in bringing about special sports fishing law which gave Issei a lower license fee.

After the banquet, the SWLA chapter sponsored the tremendous "Big D" dance. This capacity-filled ballroom - and - roof - garden affair was under the direction of Roy Iketani and his committee of Hiroko Kawanami, Mas Kataoka, Bob Iwasaki, Tats Sumida, Pomeroy Ajima and Bebe Horiuchi. Jim Yamamoto arranged for the comedy skit and the hostesses.

Music was by Abe Most's combo. Rhythm and blues quartet, the Discords: Bob Wada, Tom Kamimori, Jack Iwakiri and Shiro Ono.

Southwest Los Angeles Chapter collaborated with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Nisei Memorial Post 9938, in paying tribute to the more than 800 newly naturalized Issei at a program on Nov. 18 in Dorsey High School Auditorium.

Keynote speaker was Congressman Gordon L. McDonough. Eiji Tanabe was M. C. Presentation of colors by the VFW color guards was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag led by Salem Yagawa, Post Commander. The Rev. R. K. Unoura of the West Adams Christian Church gave the invocation.

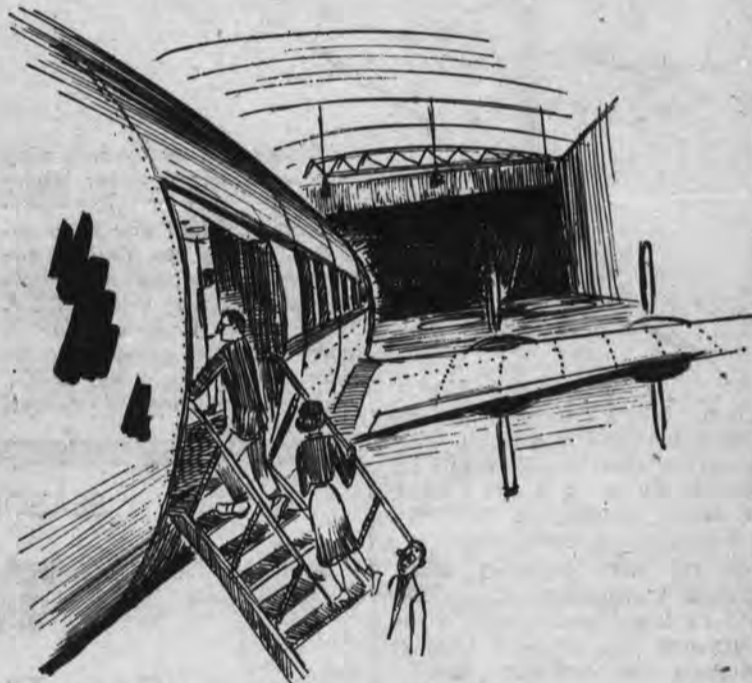
Greetings were extended by National President George Inagaki, and Principal of Dorsey Adult School George Homrighausen. Special guests on the stage included Dr. Roy Nishikawa, national treasurer; Tats Kushida, regional director. Response from the new citizens was given by Mrs. Mary Yamamoto. Benediction was given by Rev. Bumpo Kuwatsuki of the Senshin Buddhist Church.

Entertainment portion of the program had the Ginza group of Jim Araki, George Atsume and Masa Hamasu; classical Japanese dancing by Hanayagi Rokuka and her students; koto by Eto Sensei and his group; and the Akatsuki Band.

End of the year business meeting was held on Nov. 30 at the Centenary Methodist Church. At this time, additional names were nominated for the cabinet.

The annual Box Lunch Social for Christmas Cheer was held on December 10 at the Centenary Methodist Church. This joyful benefit was chairmaned by Tats Sumida, Grace Oba and Monte Ninami. Over \$200 was realized.

The 1955 cabinet not only consisted of the usual number of officers but also the board of advisers: Dr. Roy Nishikawa, National JACL treasurer; Hana Uno, Dick Fujioka, Tut Yata, Mack Hamaguchi, Hisashi Horita. On the Issei Advisory staff were Eiji Tanabe, Mrs. Mary Yamamoto, Matsunosuke Oi, Shikazo Mano, Hitsuji Chuman, Tokuju Shibuyama.



Angeles International Airport with Haj Inouye as guide. This was on June 17 and Mike Masaoka and George Inagaki were at airport by coincidence and were officially initiated as honorary members. Mike left for Washington wearing a Davy Crockett hat.

Approximately 600 fun-loving persons attended Southwest Los Angeles JACL sponsored "Neki Hokey Hop" on July 9, at Park Manor. Roy Iketani, chairman of the informal stag-stagette dance, had Hui O Hawaii (Club of Hawaiians) out in full force with a bevy of brightly-costumed hula dancers. The comedy team of Jim Hong and Don Parker kept the audience in an even more joyous mood. The

Naturalized citizens were honored guests at the Issei-Nisei weiner bake held at Playa del Rey on Sept. 18. The fun fare was under the direction of Tut Yata. Jim Yamamoto and Bebe Horiuchi were in charge of food, aided by T. Yamaguchi, Min Fujita, and Dorothy Sakaeda. Don Matsuda took care of the PA system. Mas Hamasu was on the entertainment committee.

On Oct. 26, the membership heard Attorney Loren Miller, who argued the school segregation cases before the Supreme Court of the United States. He was one of the counsels in the Masaoka Alien Land Law case in 1952 and was a recipient of a special JACL rec-

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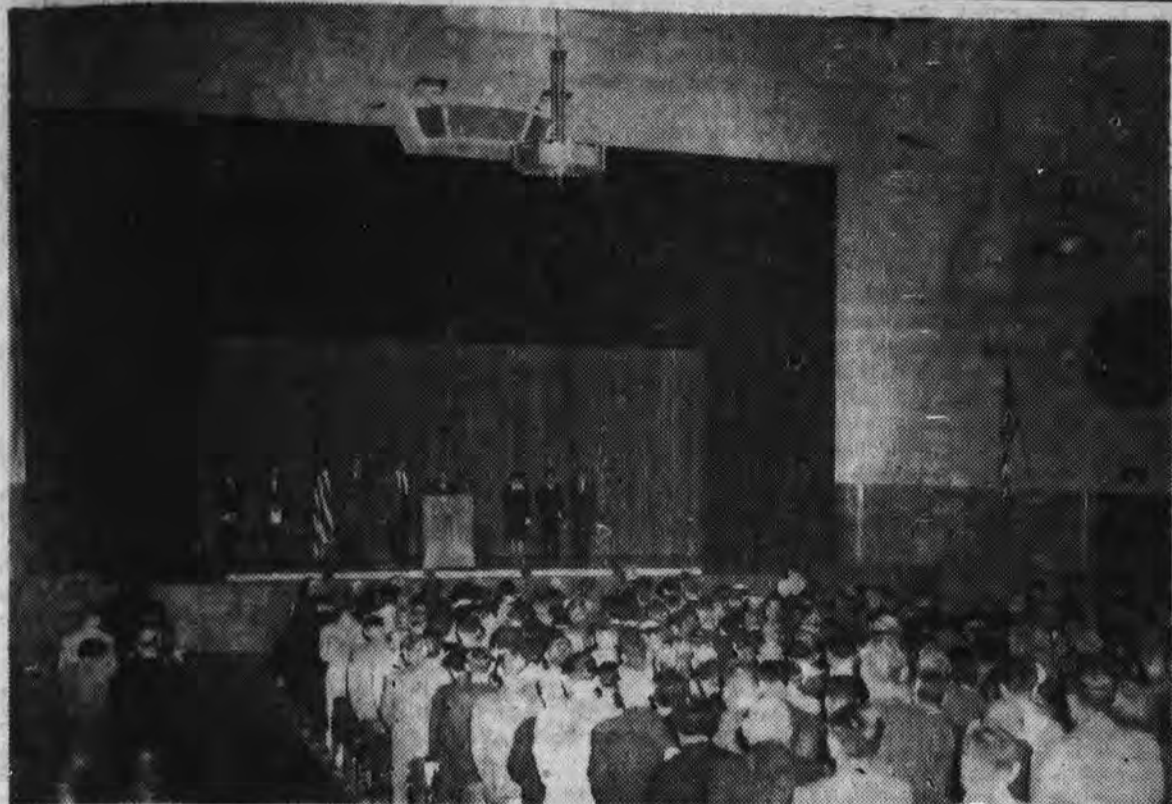
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Southwest L.A. Chapter started 50 strong in 1948 now boasts 754; background told

LOS ANGELES—Hear ye, the rapidly growing Southwest Los Angeles Chapter boasts an all-time membership record of 754 in 1955! Look out for 1956. The chapter modestly expects to have 1000 members.

With energetic president Dr. Toru Iura, as leader, the 1955 period saw the SWLA Chapter jet-propelled toward significant accomplishments. Much was programmed; much was done; much fun was had.

What is the background of this fast growing chapter?

On May 17, 1948, Saburo Kido, Frank Chuman, Mack Hamaguchi, George Inagaki, Eiji Tanabe (then regional director), and charter President Dr. Roy Nishikawa, organized this new chapter by breaking off with the parent Los Angeles Chapter. Beginning with only 50 members the membership was doubled by the end of the year.

At this time Nishikawa's cabinet had Mack Hamaguchi, first vice-president; Dr. Ryo Muneakata, second vice-president; Mabel Ota, third vice-president; Bessie Nagahori, corresponding secretary; Yemi Chuman, recording secretary; Mac Ishida, treasurer; Ben Takeda, auditor.

In 1949, again with Nishikawa as president, and Mabel Ota, Peter Yano, Bessie Matsuzawa, Mikio Miyamoto, Sadao and Akira Minamide, Yoshiko Hosoi making up the cabinet, the membership grew to 250. At this time, \$4400 was raised for the ADC (Anti-Discrimination Committee), and the traditional Box Lunch Social for Christmas Cheer was begun. The claimants were aided in the filing of evacuation claims. Halloween Dance Social was held. Miss Aiko Ota was sponsored as a Nisei Week Queen candidate. The late Carl Kondo started the bridge classes.

In 1950, President Tut Yata and his vigorous cabinet: Sadao Minamide, first vice-president; Yoshiro Befu, second vice-president; Dick Fujioka, third vice-president; Peter Yano, treasurer; Mary Oi, recording secretary; Norma Iura Ikawa, corresponding secretary; Matsunosuke Oi, Issei chairman, ADC Committee; began the yearly ADC program. The quota of \$1,800 was met by both the Issei and Nisei solicitors in the house-to-house canvassing. By mid-year under Yoshiro Befu, approximately 316 members were signed, making the SWLA Chapter one of the largest in the country.

The programming was instituted with regular monthly meetings, attendance ranging from 75 to 125 members. Speakers at this year included Tats Kushida, new regional director; William Palmer and Harold Sims of the Evacuation Claims Office; Hugh McAfee, California State Employment

Service; Saburo Kido, Shin Nichi-Bei; and various candidates for local political offices.

In 1951, Tut Yata was re-elected president. His new cabinet members were: Hana Uno, first vice-president; Dick Fujioka, second vice-president; George Oliver Omatsu, third vice-president; Alice Nishikawa, treasurer; Nami Nogami Fukuzawa, recording secretary; Joe Nakamura, auditor; ADC Committee: Matsunosuke Oi, Issei chairman; Tut Yata, Nisei chairman.

For the ADC drive, a systematic campaign covered the large Southwest Los Angeles area and again met its quota of \$1,800. The success was due to the splendid cooperation of the Issei and Nisei solicitors covering a large number of family units. The Annual ADC campaign was the largest single project of the year.

Also on the program for the membership: registration of over 100 aliens; informational lectures by Verne King, of the Social Security Administration; Miss Beryle Beringer, supervisor, Los Angeles County Bureau of Adoptions; Miss Helen Clark, applicant worker; movies and talk by Frank Wilkinson of the Los Angeles City Housing Authority; and demonstration in ceramic making by Kenji Fujita. Pre-Valentine Dance, luau at Baldwin Country Club, joint picnic with the East Los Angeles Chapter, weiner bake at Playa del Rey, Harvest Moon square dance, benefit Box Lunch Social for Christmas Cheer and hospitalized Nisei Veterans were the other events for the year.

In 1952, Dick Fujioka became president. His cabinet members were: Henry Yamamoto, first vice-president; Hana Uno, second vice-president; Yosh Hino, third vice-president; Garnet Horino and Sue Mori, corresponding secretary; Amy Yamamoto, recording secretary; Hy Shishino, treasurer; May Nishida and Machiko Uyemura, historians; George Kakehashi, auditor.

Due to the combined efforts of Dick and Fudge Fujioka and their hard-working committee, a canvassing system for the ADC, which helped to boost the quota over by 20%, was devised. The year's activities included a snow hike, Pismo clam dig, weiner bake and helping with the alien registration. Bridge classes were started with Hisashi Horita.

In 1953, the highlights were numerous under President Mack Hamaguchi and his cabinet of Dick Fujioka, first vice-president; Yosh Hino, second vice-president; Tats Ueno and Fuji Hashimoto, third vice-presidents; George Kakehashi, treasurer; Amy Yamamoto, recording secretary; Mae Nishida, corresponding secretary; Chieko Moritani, historian; George Tada, auditor; Hy Shishino, sgt.-at-arms.

Helping the Issei to file their naturalization papers, sponsoring citizenship classes for the Issei which were conducted by the Dorsey Adult School, showing of films on the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, snow hiking to Mt. Waterman. Lectures by Dr. E. Allen Peterson, author of "Hummel Hummel." Beginning the now traditional JACL dance classes under the able guidance of Gene Parker.

In 1954, Hisashi Horita was elected president. This was the big year of the 13th Biennial National Convention held in Los Angeles. The hard-working cabinet: George Kakehashi, first vice-president; Hana Uno, second vice-president; Sumi Nerio, third vice-president; Hiroko Kawanami, recording secretary; Jean Ogawa, corresponding secretary; Roy Uno, treasurer; Hajime Inouye, auditor; Satomi Kuramoto, historian and the chapter members helped to host the convention.

The chapter also handled the queen contest, bridge contest, and the gigantic weiner bake. During this period, an effort was begun to get more of the younger people interested in the JACL.

Then came 1955. A tremendous year.

And be of good cheer. An even more promising 1956 is being planned.

Geographically, the chapter was originally bounded on the north by Washington Blvd., on the south by Exposition Blvd., on the east by Vermont Ave., and on the west by Crenshaw Blvd. Now it has expanded to the north by Wilshire Blvd., to the south by Slauson Ave., to the east by Figueroa St., and to the west by Fairfax Ave.

Long Beach CL

LONG BEACH — Under the spirited leadership of Easy Fujimoto, well-known bowler who doubled in his responsibilities to rekindle the chapter as well as chair the 1955 JACL bowling tournament, the Long Beach Harbor District group is presenting a brief report at this time.

Since the bowling tournament in March, the chapter has scheduled special events each month for the community. They include:

Dance classes from April, a dinner in May for naturalized citizens; the June graduates' dance; movies in July, community picnic in August; carnival in September; Halloween party for children; start of the second dance class in November

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I.D.C. Mellows after 15 Years

By ALICE KASAI, IDC Historian

History of the IDC actually begins when the Seventh Annual Intermountain Nisei Convention met in Brigham City, Utah, on Nov. 24, 1939.

At this time, the Salt Lake JACL invited two representatives from every Nisei club in Utah and Idaho to consider formation of the JACL-IDC or an Intermountain Association of Nisei Clubs. This invitational meeting was held at the Civic Center, 544 S. Main, on Dec. 29, 1939. Mike Masaoka was unanimously chosen to act as temporary chairman and Miss Tomiko Kimura (now Mrs. Jiro Tsukamoto) was asked to serve as temporary secretary.

Three JACL chapters were represented; Salt Lake City, Northern Utah, and Southeastern Idaho (now comprising Pocatello, Idaho Falls and Yellowstone).

Actually, the Intermountain District Council is now 15 years old as this organizing committee met at Pocatello on Jan. 20-21, 1940 and elected their first set of officers.

They sent a petition for a charter to the National Board. Their territory embraced seven states: Utah, Nevada, Montana, Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska.

Nat'l JACL Charter Granted in 1940

The council charter was issued in February, but its actual confirmation came during the Portland Convention in September of 1940.

During that initial year, activities and enthusiasm zoomed under the guidance of inspired leadership, boldly suggesting that National JACL create a new national board office which shall be held by a woman; break-up the No. Calif. District Council which controlled 27 of the total 50 possible votes; sponsor a Japanese section in conjunction with the National oratorical contest; more tangible evidence of the National organization; and censure of the National Board for its attitude toward the IDC concerning the National Convention.

They discussed and promoted ways and means of raising money, such as sponsoring Japanese

movies. Each chapter was assessed the sum of \$35.

More Chapters in Seven States Promised

At this meeting, the three chapters of Salt Lake, Northern Utah, and Southeastern Idaho, given the responsibility of seven vast territorial jurisdiction, dedicated themselves to create chapters in each of the states by 1942.

A deputation tour of the states in the interest of IDC was also planned. If the war had not interfered, perhaps they could have fulfilled their plans, but with Mike's transfer to the National Office as field secretary, and later, to serve overseas, the IDC dream was nipped in the bud, so to speak.

They sent letters offering cooperation and services to Director LaGuardia, officer of Civilian Defense then, and to Thomas Dewey, President of United Service Organization. They urged cooperation with drives of all kinds, such as the Community Red Cross, etc. The National Endowment Fund Drive was also part of their program. They had an imposing list of standing committees and special committees with their chairmen, too long to list.

Three Groups Formed Out of One Chapter

By May, the Pocatello, Idaho Falls, and Yellowstone chapters were formed, thus dissolving the Southeastern Idaho chapter.

The climax of Mike Masaoka and his IDC came when he was selected as the 1940 Nisei of the Year, recipient of the first Yamagata Award. Tomiko Kimura was chairwoman of Mike Masaoka Nomination Committee and handled all necessary arrangements with Franklin Chino of Chicago, Nisei of the Year Committee chairman.

The Japanese American Creed written at that time still remains an outstanding masterpiece, having been printed in the Congressional Record May 9, 1941, and thousands of printed copies were sent to all the chapters for distribution.

His twin slogans, "Security

through Unity" and "For Better Americans in a Greater America" have been the guiding lights of thought all these years, and are still used for stationery and speeches. They have made significant history, not only for Mike, but for IDC as the cradle of his inspirations.

IDC's 1st Biennial Confab Held on Pearl Harbor Eve

The first biennial IDC convention theme was "Thank God, I Am an American." It was held in Pocatello Nov. 21-22, just previous to the outbreak of war. Their dedication read, "In these momentous times, it seems proper that we dedicate this program to the 2,700 young Americans of Japanese descent who are serving in the armed forces of the United States—the best per capita record of any two nationality groups combined." This convention awarded Tomika Kimura and Mike tokens of appreciation for their special services.

Then came the Pearl Harbor attack Dec. 7, 1941!

Of course, gatherings, socials, and traveling were all soft-pedaled even in the Intermountain areas during the first year of war.

However, the situation was critical, and it called for drastic and immediate decisions, with emphasis laid on the shoulders of the young IDC for emergency aid. Mike said, "It is your work now, not ours, to carry on and bear the torch." He cautioned, "We should do nothing which will jeopardize the wonderful situation we have here," and questioned whether IDC should carry the load and continue or give it up.

The representatives agreed they should continue as there must be a medium for the Japanese to work together for fair and decent treatment. Mike explained, "It is a tough job, and we wish that some other organization could take it over. No officer has received a cent, only enough for traveling expenses. The time now is to struggle through. We must raise \$26,000."

These were the words that vindicated and inspired the young IDC to "carry on the burning torch," financially and otherwise, during the crucial war years.

Davis County and Boise Valley were accepted as chapters. However, a probation period of one year for new chapters was im-

posed because of the slacking attitude of some groups. Also, at this meeting, Wyoming, Colorado, and Nebraska were dropped from the district area because of travel restrictions.

A working plan was also formulated to assist evacuees, and to publicize the true situation as it existed in the Intermountain areas in regard to problems created by the influx of evacuees.

1942
At a meeting held at the Japanese Christian Church in Salt Lake City on Aug. 23, the National staff consisting of Saburo Kido (the wartime National president), Mike, George Inagaki, Hito Okada (then serving as National treasurer), Larry Tajiri (Pacific Citizen editor) and Teiko Ishida gave their views as to the needs of National.

Thus, with this meeting, the original three chapters had grown to eight: Boise Valley, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, and Yellowstone in Idaho and Northern Utah, Ogden, Davis County, and Salt Lake City in Utah.

1943
The only minutes available for 1943 covered the meeting held in Ogden, Hotel Ben Lomond, on April 4. Bill Yamauchi, executive chairman, presided. Hito Okada introduced the newly-created credit union, and also the circulating library as part of the National service. Davis County was announced winner of combined membership and PC drive, with Ogden placing second.

IDC undertook to raise \$10,000 that year.

The ninth chapter was accepted at this meeting, Magic Valley, with George Makabe of Twin Falls as representative.

1944-45
These are the years of Mamoru Wakasugi. The records are missing from the files. I recall, however, my initial IDC experience when Kay Terashima, then Salt Lake Chapter president, introduced me to this meeting in 1945. It was held at Beason Bldg. and I met Wakasugi for the first time.

It was at this meeting that I first came to the realization of what JACL was trying to do for the people. Kido talked at great length to explain every phase of the organization.

1946-47
Kay Terashima was elected national treasurer in Denver at the first postwar National convention. Yukio Inouye spearheaded another campaign for \$10,000. (Eke, as he is known today, represents the big, generous kind of courage that was IDC, as I observed at my first National convention.)

Mt. Olympus and Snake River chapters had been added. Magic Valley, Davis County, and Northern Utah gradually dropped out, leaving at this time, three chapters in Utah and five in Idaho. Other IDC highlights were:

Repeal of Utah Alien Land Law was spearheaded by Glen Thompson, State VFW Commander.

National Encampment of Citizenship was attended by Tak Naruyama, co-sponsored with Salt Lake Chapter in the summer of 1947.

Second Biennial Intermountain District Convention was held Dec. 14-16 in Weiser and Boise, co-sponsored by the Snake River and Boise Valley chapters. Mamoru

Wakasugi was general chairman, with convention theme "Finish the Fight."

Fourth Intermountain District Convention was held Nov. 28-29, 1947, at Rogers Hotel in Idaho Falls in conjunction with National Board meeting. Theme then was "Job Ahead Calls for Leadership."

Tenth Biennial National Convention was held Sept. 4-8 in Salt Lake City, co-sponsored with Mt. Olympus and a 1000 Club main event by the IDC.

1948
The ADC pledge of \$8000 was completed successfully. Legislative Chairman James Watanabe and his committee investigated the Idaho Alien Land Law, the Oregon Alien Land law, and the Idaho Alien Fishing law.

CARE Packages were sent to France, and IDC participated in the Utah Nisei Unity Conference at Brigham City, Feb., 1948.

1949
Fifth IDC Convention was held Nov. 25, 26, 27, at Hotel Ben Lomond in Ogden. Kathy Tamura was selected IDC Queen and \$400 was set aside for her trip to the Chicago National Convention in '50.

Permit for Utah Aliens to Hunt and Carry Firearms was passed, spearheaded by Henry Y. Kasai, co-sponsored by the Salt Lake Chapter and the Utah Wildlife Federation.

1950
At a meeting on Jan. 22, at Eastside Cafe in Ontario, it was decided to have biennial district conventions after 1951, which would alternate with the National convention.

On Nov. 26, at the Mid-Way Lunch in Caldwell, delegates felt the ADC quota of \$5,000 increasingly difficult to raise and asked for a 50 per cent cut, making the total \$2,500. However, this decision was revoked on Nov. 23, the following year, when a special plea by National for immediate funds restored the ADC quota back to \$5,000.

1951-52
At 1951 meetings held Jan. 27 in Ontario and Sept. 13 at Idaho Falls, the \$1,000,000 Endowment Fund drive was discussed and support was urged.

Joe Saito, delegate to the National Convention in San Francisco, highlighted Naturalization Law Passage of McCarran Bill, which was the climax of six years of JACL's legislation, affecting, naturally, the entire nation. A sum of \$3,000 for Masaoka-Ennis "OREI" was raised by the Intermountain Issei—this drive spearheaded for JACL by Henry Kasai in collaborating with community Issei.

Tajiri Testimonial was held Sept. 27, prior to their leaving the PC and Salt Lake City, IDC chapters all joined in attendance and purchase of gift.

1953
At a meeting on May 29, in Salt Lake City's Capitol, Governor's Board Room, the Secretary of State Lamont Toronto, made a personal appearance to extend greetings in behalf of the Governor, and expressed regrets that the the National Headquarters had to leave Utah. Saburo Kido thought it was the first time that any JACL group was so privileged to

(Continued on Page B-17)

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Here are two old photographs (taken in 1934) of the little grave marker for the little Japanese girl, Okei. The front (left) is in English, the reverse side (right) in Japanese.

Lonely Marker of Okei-san Nestles in High Sierras

By ROY T. YOSHIDA

TO MOST NISEI having knowledge of early California history, Coloma is known only as the place where John Marshall discovered gold back in 1848.

It is a little-known fact that, nestled in this historic gold country of yesteryear between Coloma and Gold Hill on a lonely mid-Sierra hillside, lies a grave to which countless numbers of Northern California Japanese made a yearly pilgrimage before the war—a grave that holds not only the last remains of a brave pioneer Japanese girl colonist but also the broken dreams and shattered hopes of transplanting a bit of old Japan in California.

THIS UNKEMPT SHRINE that has withstood the ravages of element and human neglect is the last resting place of Okei-san, who passed away in 1871, when just 19 years of age. Legend is that she was the first Japanese colonist to die on this foreign soil, outside of the Japanese Empire.

According to an old self-styled historian of Gold Hill who made a study of the history of the Okei lore, Okei-san was a member of the first group of colonists to leave Japan for America, arriving in California in 1868. She was with a group of 40-laborers who settled at Gold Hill under the leadership of Matsudaira Snell, a Dutchman.

It is said that Snell was a high-powered opportunist who talked high Japanese government officials into the idea of starting a tea plantation in California. The venture, financed by the Japanese government, turned out to be a dismal failure. And Snell later returned to Japan. This was another mistake on Snell's part for he was duly executed for squandering the Emperor's funds.

OKEI-SAN'S GRAVE is located on the old Veerkamp property about three miles from Coloma. There is an old rustic iron fence around the grave to protect it from being trampled by domestic animals grazing nearby. This iron fence, though bent and rusted, also has a historic heartbeat for it was erected by a man named Matsushita, a member of the ill-fated colonization party. The grave is marked with a 2"x4" tombstone, a lasting memorial to the kind of courage that makes pioneers.

In possession of the Veerkamp family is a banner, which is said to be a Tokugawa Shogun banner, and a Japanese sword with a Matsudaira insignia. Both have been kept in excellent condition. Another memento left by the luckless, would-be tea growers is a giant "keyaki," a Japanese tree of undetermined age, growing by the Veerkamp house—undoubtedly brought over by Snell's party and planted there. This big tree is viewed with mysterious interest because it seems so much out of place in its present surroundings.

IF MEMORY SERVES, way back in 1933 or early in 1934 Placer JACL had taken into consideration as one of its chapter projects the program of beautifying Okei-san's grave. Although many Japanese were making annual visits to the grave, nothing was being done to give the shrine proper reverence. The place was hard to find and the grave difficult to reach.

Realizing that Okei-san's grave was a symbol of Japanese pioneering spirit, Placer JACL felt the Okei Memorial project should not be its sole property. In a significant historical project as this, all those interested should be given the opportunity to participate.

So Placer JACL introduced a resolution inviting coast-wide Nisei participation in the Okei Memorial project at the 1934 National JACL convention in San Francisco. The resolution, which received good notice by the delegates, was passed without a dissenting vote.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE RESOLUTION and the project got caught in what turned out to be an irreconcilable controversy. It touched off a civil war between two schools of thought as to what should be done. One camp proposed that an inspiring statue be erected at the grave. The other camp wishing to retain realism wanted the original simple setting kept undisturbed.

Admittedly, both sides had merits to their arguments and were sincere in their beliefs. But shot full of holes in the crossfire of misunderstanding, name-calling and suspicions of intent, the worthy project withered on the vine.

Later Placer JACL raised enough money locally to erect an iron gateway at the outer fence, improved the pathway to the grave and made improvements around its immediate surroundings.

PERHAPS SOME DAY with Divine Guidance, the Okei Memorial project will become a reality. Until then, may Okei-san rest in peace.

I.D.C. History

(Continued from Page B-16)

meet in the Governor's Board room.

Dinner-Dance honoring Mas Horiuchi for his National Office services, and Mas Saton's farewell was held that evening, when they were presented with fishing rod and briefcase, and wives received orchid corsages.

Seventh Biennial Convention was held Nov. 28-29, 1953, at the Bannock Hotel in Pocatello. Its theme was "For God and Country," suggested by Ben Kuroki, newspaper editor, who was known as "The Boy from Nebraska" only a few years ago.

The Ogden Chapter changed its name to Ben Lomond, which included memberships from Davis and Box Elder counties.

District convention problems were discussed. A sum of \$350 was made available for shortage in future conventions and \$50 per chapter to be assessed to reimburse this amount. The 50c per head to National was also thought to be excessive and requested resolution for reconsideration at National convention for amendment to Constitution.

1954

Jim Ushio, Mt. Olymp.....Chmn.
George Sugai, Snake River,
..... 1st V.C.
Mas Yano, Salt Lake City
..... 2nd V.C.
George Nukaya, Idaho Falls
..... Treas.
Dot Mukai, Mt. Olymp.....Sec.

The Jan. 24 meeting at Caldwell was of general nature with national report by Mas Satow. The convention travel pool theory was favorably received.

At the June 27 meeting at West Yellowstone, National requested a general survey of Issei who were citizens or were about to become

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one. Survey indicated about 350 new citizens at that time. "Operation Ichi Doru" was explained by Mas Horiuchi and IDC agreed to cooperate with this scheme of raising funds for National convention in Los Angeles that coming September.

Joe Saito was named as IDC's candidate to the Nisei of the Biennium.

On Nov. 20, in Ogden, the same IDC officers were returned to same offices, except in the case of the two vice-chairman, their positions being shifted.

A Recognition Committee was created to recognize the active chapters. IDC jurisdiction was revised to include Utah, Idaho, Southeast Oregon, adjoining counties of Nevada, and adjoining counties of Wyoming.

A bid for 1956 National convention by IDC at Sun Valley was proposed, which the National director did not think was feasible.

1955

At the March 20 meeting at Sun Valley, accomplishments in the state legislative fields were reported by George Sugai and Henry Kasai. Sugai reported on the repeal of the Idaho alien land law. Kasai reported on the amendment

in the Utah fish and game laws permitting alien Issei residents to pursue their hobbies at nominal fees.

Other events for the year included the Aug. 7 meeting at Idaho Falls, where Rupert Hachiya was named chairman of the JACL Americanization Committee to assist the new Issei citizen; and the eighth biennial district convention hosted by Snake River chapter over the Thanksgiving holidays.

It was urged that "Home Again," book by Edmiston, be used for public relations.

Alice Kasai was appointed historian to compile the IDC story (of which this report tells briefly and fleetingly).

Discriminations in housing and television were discussed and movements for cooperation with National committees on these issues were planned.

The later years have not been as colorful and exciting as the first years. However, IDC has matured and tempered from the years, making its function and relation with National Headquarters a much smoother business. We must keep in mind and appreciate the zeal and ambition of the youthful past as we progress in history.

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Historian Tomiko Makishima

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PLACER COUNTY CHAPTER FORMED IN 1927 TO PROMOTE WELFARE

By Roy T. Yoshida

PLACER COUNTY — Placer County JACL takes pleasure in saluting the 25th anniversary of the founding of National JACL. The chapter feels fortunate in having had a part in this "Quarter century of JACL," which is studded with scintillating, if somewhat startling, accomplishments that far surpassed all expectations.

It is also proud of its own record which also is replete with worthy achievements in the field of public relations, community service, and good citizenship.

To trace Placer JACL's history, we must go back some 28 years to the fall of 1927 when a small

group of young but serious-minded Nisei realized the need of an organized effort to protect their rights as American citizens.

Although there were church groups filling the need for religious guidance and various young people's clubs catering to the need of social and athletic activities, there was no organization to promote Nisei general welfare.

Such a dismal state of affairs to forward-looking Nisei of that time was a matter of great concern. If allowed to continue, they soberly reasoned, they were forsaking their future by default, which to them was utterly deplorable. Their only salvation then

was to unite—security through unity.

But action was to come much harder than words or ideas. When the proposal of forming a Nisei citizens' organization was brought up before various Nisei groups, immediate reaction was far from gratifying.

Out of many groups approached, only Newcastle Young Men's Endeavor Society went on record to support the proposed organization.

Despite discouraging turn of events, the group got together in the spring of 1928 at Newcastle and wrote out the articles of organization. It was a shaky start but with the help of Newcastle YMES, which advanced the necessary funds to get the group going, an association of Placer Nisei citizens was born.

Tom Yego of Newcastle, in tribute to his untiring efforts during the bleak organizational period, was elected first president of the organization.

Newcastle YMES, continuing its friend-in-need role, also underwrote the expenses of sending two delegates to the meeting of Pacific Coast Nisei leaders in San Francisco in April, 1929. The group met to discuss ways and means of forming a network of Nisei organizations up and down the Coast to look after Nisei interests and, with it, a parent organization to supervise and coordinate these local groups toward a common goal—Nisei betterment.

Tom Yego and Louis Oki, who attended this historic meeting, brought back a report that a tentative constitution and the present name of Japanese American Citizens League had been adopted at the SF meeting.

Then in August, 1930, Tom Yego again represented the local group as an official delegate to the first National JACL convention in Seattle, Wash. There, Placer County Chapter became officially affiliated with the National JACL.

Our chapter has come a long way since that memorable day back in 1928 when 16 charter members placed into one crucible their pioneering spirit and unwavering courage to grind a better life for Placer Nisei. As the years went by, our chapter slowly grew in influence and usefulness which, in turn, encouraged more and more Nisei to join the organization.

Thus, today, our chapter roster contains over 350 members—each a devoted guardian of good citizenship and fair play.

Our organization's scope of activities has widened unbelievably, particularly in the last five

years. Where, at the outset, a cabinet of four officers sufficed to handle chapter affairs, today an active corp of 12 cabinet officers and nine standing committees are required.

Whereas up to a few years ago, all meetings were held in borrowed halls and churches, today the chapter had its own headquarters with proper facilities for meetings and small social affairs. It also holds title to a 15-acre recreation park which is used for chapter-sponsored annual community picnic, drawing nearly 5000 people from all over Northern California, for baseball games and other outdoor activities.

As a group, the chapter has made giant strides in public relations work. Foremost is its annual goodwill dinner, which is considered by Mike (Mr. JACL) Masaoka as one of the finest public

relations work yet devised by any JACL chapter.

The annual community picnic is another successful goodwill venture in that participation in the picnic program is open to all who attend. Vying for valuable prizes in various events is unrestricted as to race or color. It is a junior "melting pot" where boys and girls—whether they be Smith or Gonzales or Olson or Yamamoto—all get together for a joyous day of fun and merriment.

PLACER Issei also have made a major contribution to the JACL cause by becoming American citizens—thus giving substance to JACL's argument and long fight for Issei naturalization rights.

At last count, over 200 Placer Issei have become naturalized and majority of them have reg-

(Cont. on next page)

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Placer Nine Cops State Nisei Championship Again

By HOMER TAKAHASHI

LOOMIS—Interest in Nisei baseball is still very much alive in this Sierra-Nevada foothill region that is Placer County.

Sponsoring two ball clubs among its many activities, the Placer County chapter of the JACL in the years since 1950 built up an enviable reputation among other Nisei organizations in the country as ambassadors of goodwill.

This year the senior team, which was awarded a permanent franchise in the semi-professional Placer-Nevada Baseball league after its first year as a member, came home for the second consecutive year with the highly-coveted California State Nisei championship overshadowing such baseball stalwarts as Fresno, San Jose, Lodi, Los Angeles, and Sacramento.

In the junior division, the local hopefuls comprised of high school talent performed admirably in the Sacramento Valley Nisei league.

Manager Chuck Hayashida and his lieutenant, Morio Hada, brought the team through in the Placer-Nevada League in its two best years.

The historic Placer-Nevada loop is in its 30th year of activity and to crash it is in itself an achievement; as once the locals were admitted, they belonged. Currently the Roseville merchants dominate the league. Other clubs are the Placer JACL, Grass Valley, Nevada City, Auburn, Lincoln, Placerville, and Colfax.

Prominent names known from pre-war years still are found on the local roster.

★ ★ ★

"As the pitching goes, so goes the club" is a popular expression among baseball men. And the locals were no exception. Stacked

Placer County—

(Cont. from preceding page)

stered to vote—thus proving conclusively JACL's contention that given the opportunity, Issei would fulfill their end of the bargain faithfully.

As individuals, our members have done fine public relations work in many ways. Some have joined service clubs, an ever-increasing number of Nisei parents are participating in PTA affairs, while many are actively supporting community activities.

Present commander of the John Stacker American Legion Post at Loomis is a Nisei, the second JACLer to hold this position. Current president of the Loomis Area Lions Club is a Nisei, as is chairman of the Loomis Area Farm Bureau, who is also the second Nisei to be so honored. And this semester's president of the Sierra College student body at Auburn is a very active and well-liked Nisei.

Today Placer Issei and Nisei, by being good, law-abiding citizens, by being good neighbors, and by being cognizant of their obligations to the community in which they reside, are living in an environment that augurs well for the future.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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with a hurling staff of five, George Goto, Russ Bivens, Gene Rodrick, Bob Takemoto, and Rolf Moeller, the JACL was destined to win its first P-N flag.

★ ★ ★

But such was not the case as Bivens did not have the stuff he had the first year with the Nisei club; Goto was on again, off again and his arm lacked the speed of previous campaigns; Rodrick was the boy but when he got wild he was through; Takemoto was good for several innings but the third time around he was hit freely; and Moeller played the outfield offener and lacked the punch when he was on the hill.

Norm Matsuoka, a permanent figure at first base and always dependable as a glove man, had a good year. He was a pull-hitter and opposing pitchers respected him in the clutch.

Bob Kozai saw a lot of action this year in the second base territory as Doc Haskell, Sacramento State sensation, took up Kozai's chore around the short-patch. Jim Enkoji played second base whenever his ankle permitted him. He also is a dangerous hitter in the clutch. Not a distance man, he poked his hits barely beyond the reach of the fielders.

Bill Nishimoto, all-state Nisei third baseman, handled himself like a veteran in his second regular year.

The outfield saw Koji Watanabe, a death on bases for the opposing pitcher, in left; Jackson Hayashida in center; and Moeller in right. Hayashida was always good for that long extra-base clout. Charlie Oseto was a handy utility outfielder to have. Catcher Bob Hayashida was, of course, always there when he was wanted. Like his brother, he too hit that long ball and broke up many a game.

Jimmy Yokota aided the club after he got out of the service but he still had too much air-corp poundage on him to play the game he was capable of.

★ ★ ★

All in all, it was a good season just finished. The crowds followed the team on the road just as faithfully as on the home field. Already at this writing there is talk for the spring campaign around this hot-stove of ours.

Selma Leaders

SELMA—The three most instrumental leaders here organizing the JACL chapter in 1950 were Robert Kanagawa, Tom Nakamura and Tom Nagamatsu, who all served as chapter presidents.

This report is affectionately dedicated to the late George K. Nishita, who was a tower of strength and a living inspiration to his family and all of his friends. George was past chairman of the Northern California-Western Nevada JACL District Council and was awarded, at the 13th Biennial Convention of the JACL held in Los Angeles last year, the Sapphire Pin which is the highest honor bestowed by the National JACL upon any of its members.

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA—On a sunswept hillside in California is a graveyard overlooking one of the myriad fertile valleys of the west. Here I visited the grave of George Nishita who was so recently laid to rest beside his father. There were a score of other Japanese names dotting this lonely graveyard.

As I stood beside George's grave and looked down, I could see the valley which contains San Juan Bautista and Hollister, two of the more important towns of San Benito County. I thought it exceedingly appropriate that George should lie beside his father in this final hillside home from whence he will forever overlook the valley he loved.

The PC Editor has commissioned me to narrate the story of the San Benito County JACL Chapter, which is one of the smallest chapters in our entire national organization, yet has consistently maintained a splendid record of activity and achievement.

★ ★ ★

In the whole county of San Benito, the official U. S. Census for 1950 reported only about 150 Japanese Americans including children; yet the San Benito County JACL Chapter has over 50 members, or more than 34 per cent of the total Japanese American population, whereas our national average is probably around eight or nine per cent.

This chapter is one of the pioneer chapters of the JACL. Although a number of Japanese American leaders of this community met informally prior to its chartering on June 22, 1935, the San Benito County JACL Chapter was officially organized with the following 33 charter members:

Tora Ikeda, Kay Kamimoto, Hideo Masumoto, Susumu Masumoto, Edward Masumoto, Edwin Matsuura, George Nishita, Frank Nishita, Ted Nekotani, Dick Nishimoto, Elaine Nishimoto, Frank Oshita, John Oshita, Henry Omoto, George Obata, Tom Shimonishi,

Jack Shimonishi, Ruth Shimonishi, Sugi Shimonishi, Charles Sera, James Sugioka, Mary Sugioka, Mae Sumida, Matsuo Taoka, Frank Tachiki, Carmen Tawamoto, Fred Teshima, Tatsumi Teshima, Henry Uyeda, Hiroshi Wada, Ikuro Wada, Shiro Yamamoto.

Many of the members were still in their teens but aware of the necessity for concerted effort by Japanese Americans. They helped to create this unit which has demonstrated twenty years of exemplary leadership.

Reading back into the history of the formation of this chapter, some of the reasons declared for the necessity of chartering a chapter were (1) "the realization of the need for an organization of semi-political nature to combat anti-Japanese legislation which threatened the livelihood of (our Issei) parents," (2) to further friendly relationships between the Japanese Americans and their white American neighbors in the vicinity.

The first cabinet consisted of James Sugioka, president; Ted Nekotani, first vice-president; Joe Oshita, second vice-president; Mae Sumida, recording secretary; Henry Uyeda, corresponding secretary; Mary Sugioka, treasurer, and the following members of the Board of Governors: Richard Nishimoto, Toru Ikeda, Fred Teshima, George Mishita, and Henry Omoto.

It is significant that this chapter was organized in one of the oldest communities in which Japanese Americans settled. A few of the Issei leaders settled in San Benito County shortly before the turn of the century.

From the very beginning the chapter functioned to organize and unify Japanese Americans in the community. Not only the Nisei but the Issei cooperated in building a strong Japanese American "esprit de corps" which was the basis for developing a solid sense of community spirit which enabled the Japanese Americans to become accepted and respected by their white American friends.

★ ★ ★

Whether it was due to a peculiar genius in the organization of this chapter or the chemistry of some inherent faith in democracy, in the San Benito County members, this unit was the only JACL chapter in the entire national organization to maintain its units and formal organization as a chapter despite evacuation.

Fortunately most of the members were evacuated together to the Post Relocation Center

where the chapter continued its meetings.

In July, 1942, members of the chapter met in the Poston Relocation Center to reassert their faith in the American way of life and to pledge their support of the national organization of the JACL.

Consequently, this chapter is the oldest continuing unit in our national organization with the record of twenty years of unbroken service.

★ ★ ★

Very recently it was my privilege to join the chapter in its celebration of their 20th anniversary. Special recognition was accorded George Nishita, his brother Frank, and Dick Nishimoto, only three charter members who were still living in that community.

One realizes the fame of an individual or an organization cannot rest on longevity alone. The San Benito County Chapter has always maintained a program which is outstanding in its scope.

I believe it would be safe to say that the Northern California-Western Nevada District Council and its member chapters need not bow to any of the other seven district councils in activity.

Even among the 25 chapters which constitute this District Council, the San Benito County Chapter has been a dynamic unit.

It is the custom in the District Council to make an award to the "chapter of the year." In 1953 the San Benito County JACL Chapter won this coveted award, and I would presume to say that even if the award had been made nationally, no other chapter would have exceeded the activities and accomplishments of this mighty little chapter.

Although it is impossible to point to all of the individual members who have contributed to the success of this chapter, I would like to recite the names of the chapter presidents who have served since its inception, starting with James Sugioka who was re-elected for two more consecutive years:

George Nishita, Dick Nishimoto, Henry Omoto, Tak Kadani, Isaac Shingai, Kay Kamimoto, Thomas Shimonishi, Glenn Kowaki, Sho Nakamoto, and Joe Shingai, who is this year's president.

The entire national organization of the JACL salutes the San Benito County Chapter for its years of service. Their courage was never dimmed by adversity or time, and these few bound together by an unflinching faith have written an important chapter in the glorious history of the American West.

—by Haruo Ishimaru

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'Sad Sam' Nickname for Boxing Promoter Misnomer

By TAD YAMACHIKA

Samuel Ichinose, Boxing Promoter

HONOLULU — Samuel Ichinose of Honolulu is one of those rare individuals you often hear and read about but seldom see or meet. He is the likely composite, half and half, of O. Henry's cosmopolite and man-about-town, a poor man's edition, just one of a kind among the more than one hundred and eighty thousand Japanese in the Hawaiian Islands today.

Though currently a boxing promoter primarily, probably the only one of his nationality operating as such here or in the United States, Sad Sam or the Melancholy One, as he has been dubbed by his many friends and "numerous" enemies, has been a man of varied vocations at various times.

More or less chronologically, the forty-seven-year-old Ichy Nose, (as some haoles prefer to call him) who is a father of two boys and a girl, has been a football player, a bum, an amateur fighter, a boxing trainer, a boxing manager of a world's champion, owner of a bar, a restaurateur, a horticulturist, a politician, both as a representative and a supervisor, and a boxing promoter. Moreover, there's no telling what he'll turn to next.

However, it is as a personage in the boxing world that he has become universally known. Through travelling to the far corners of the world as a boxing manager and a promoter, he has become some sort of a pseudo-cosmopolite who feels

equally at home in the Philippines, Japan, England, New York, San Francisco or even Korea.

The "pseudo" is prefixed because, in spite of it all, he still retains an intense love for his native grounds, such places as dingy Kekaulike Street near the fish market or Aala Park, the habitat of bums and loafers, both located in the wrong ventricle of Honolulu.

He knows everybody worth knowing in the boxing game and he calls such notables as promoter Jack Solomon of England, "Ring" editor Nat Fleischer or the world heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano by their first names.

Judging from the end result, it is logical to conclude that perhaps some earth-shaking event in his early childhood had something to do with fostering his subsequent bizarre tastes and preferences. But nothing like that.

True, he was brought up by poor, plantation working immigrant parents who were barely able to support a large family of eight boys and girls, but according to the living standards of the Island Japanese of that time, this wasn't the least bit unusual. As a kid Sam went around barefooted, even up to high school days, kept his curly black hair long and hanging over his ears, stole mangoes, went swimming and kept away

from Japanese language school as much as possible. But so did all the others.

Perhaps he grew up a little rougher and tougher than ordinary because he was always fighting with his brothers and others, but this was the outcome of his pugnacious nature rather than events or his environment.

Even Sam's schooling was normal though somewhat desultory. For a while he attended McKinley High School in Honolulu but later, for no apparent reason, he shifted to Lahainaluna High on the Island Maui. Here he played a little football, got into many fights and reached his greatest height when he made the school's debate team.

After high school he bummed around for a while, mostly in the vicinity of pool rooms and street corners, absorbing the fluent lingo of the street thugs. Even today he breaks out in this strange vernacular whenever he is riled.

Soon tiring of this life, he had a sudden yen to become an amateur fighter. He had one fight in which he "demolished" his opponent and retired just as suddenly with his perfect record.

In 1935 he made his first good move. Amateur boxing was the rage then and the Nisei were flocking to it like crazy. Sam foresaw the need for a training center for these boys and immediately or-

ganized the Japanese Amateur Athletic Association, starting out with very little capital. His ability as an organizer and his know-how in boxing soon made his club the outstanding one in the territory.

That same year Sam was rewarded for his outstanding contribution to amateur boxing by being appointed manager of Hawaii's boxing team which journeyed to St. Louis. Several years later he made two more trips, again as manager, to San Francisco in 1939 and to Boston, the following year.

Sam is pretty proud of the fact that a member of the 1939 team, flyweight Jose Mercado, was the first fighter to bring a national title back to Hawaii. The 1940 team did even better by copping two national crowns, won by flyweight Johnny Manalo and lightweight Paul Matsumoto.

One of the outstanding fighters on the 1940 team was Dado Marino. While Dado wasn't able to win a national title, Sam, even at that time, saw the potentiality of this brown gamecock. So when Dado decided to turn professional the following year, Sam also changed his status and became his manager.

Then for the next nine years the two travelled hither and yon in quest of the world's flyweight crown. At one time they went as far as England but returned home disappointed. In 1950, however, the prize they sought finally fell into their hands, paradoxically enough in Honolulu, when Dado wrested the title from Terry Allen of England.

In the meantime, since 1940, Sam had been delving in politics and, in 1948, was elected to the Territorial House of Representatives. Later he was also elected

to the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of Honolulu. As a politician he was well liked by his friends and respected by his enemies because he always fought courageously for his beliefs and kept his promises.

On top of all this he was running his downtown bar, referred to as his "joint", and for a while, also a restaurant serving Japanese foods. Besides, he and one of his brothers have been cultivating carnations and anthuriums commercially for several years.

In 1953 Sam joined forces with Ralph Yempuku, another local promoter, and formed the Boxing Enterprises, Ltd., for the promotion of boxing in the Hawaiian Islands, as well as in Japan.

When asked how they were doing, Sam put it this way. "Well, we're not getting rich, but we're not going broke." The truth is professional boxing in the Islands was at its lowest ebb when they took over and the fact that it is doing all right now with greater promise ahead is to their credit, the result of their persistence, especially Sam Ichinose's.

Actually the nickname Sad Sam is a misnomer. Insofar as his nature is concerned, he is far from melancholy.

And while he doesn't break out in a smile very often, especially among strangers, when he is among friends he is the most laughing, likeable, loyal, loud-arguing, good-time Charlie you ever came across.

And for all the things he's done, having been a politician, a manager of a world's champion, and a world traveller and all that, he's nothing but a fun-loving barefoot boy at heart. His kind, unfortunately, are few and far between.

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"Sad Sam" with Rocky Marciano, who was touring Japan in December, 1953.

Sequoia Chapter installation fete honoring Issei citizen best event

REDWOOD CITY — Most outstanding program sponsored by the Sequoia JACL this past year was the fourth annual installation dinner, when naturalized Issei were singularly cited for their achievement.

JACL chapters traditionally reserve the January installation of officers for new cabinet members, but with Japan-born residents of the Peninsula honored at a colorful ceremony, some 200 JACLers turned out Jan. 22 at Rickey's Studio Inn. It was the first time that the sons and daughters of the chapter were joined by their parents at a particular function.

Hirosuke Inouye was master of ceremonies. John Enomoto welcomed the Issei. Sidney Herkner,

Redwood City mayor, extended his congratulations to the new citizens.

Hiroji Kariya, president, was installed with his assistants by Haruo Ishimaru, No. Calif. regional director. Dean J. Hugh Jackson, graduate school of business at Stanford University, was the main speaker.

The chapter began in 1952 when the San Mateo County JACL, some 200 strong, divided itself to render two strong chapters in the county.

William Enomoto, one-time San Mateo County president and national ADC treasurer, of Redwood City was cited by the chapter as the person most active in the group.

Service to Issei Foremost '55 Events for Pasadena CL

By Mack Yamaguchi

PASADENA — The Pasadena JACL chapter was organized in the latter part of the lean 1930s, steadily grew and accomplished much.

Genial Tom Ito, aided greatly by his private secretary, Mrs. Ito, plus a go-getting cabinet and committee, came into his own in 1954 and 1955 as chapter president. He has refused to take the gavel for a third term, but the chapter will continue to pursue its policy of community service and assistance to the Issei and Nisei.

The 1955 activities of the chapter were:

January—Filled alien registration cards for Issei.

February—Honored 200 new ci-

tizens at the Community Center banquet. Mike Masaoka, unexpectedly in Los Angeles, was surprise guest speaker to an appreciative audience including city, school and JACL officials . . . Held annual Valentine dance at Santa Anita Carpenter's.

March—Sponsored benefit fashion show at the Haven residence. Mrs. Kow Kaneko was fashion coordinator with 13 models exhibiting Japanese material.

May—A representative group attended the PSWDC convention in Santa Barbara.

July—Spearheaded the Interclub carnival . . . held the annual family steak-bake at Brookside Park . . . final report treated Mas Fujimoto's membership team to the steaks on the losing team at a party at Tom Ito's home pool.

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PASADENA JACL CHAPTER

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

VENICE-CULVER JACL CHAPTER

September—Sati Ohashi continued her Wednesday dance classes at the Community Center.

October—Held annual Halloween dinner-dance at Santa Anita Carpenter's.

November—Registration of Issei voters with Blanche Shiosaki as registrar. JACL memberships were also solicited from the Issei . . . Spearheaded the Interclub Dance at Sierra Madre Women's Club.

December—The Christmas potluck featured elections, movies, talent show and caroling.

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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA DISTRICT HISTORY GOES BACK 30 YEARS

By KENJI TASHIRO

Second National JACL Vice-President

FRESNO—To get a true picture of the scope and history of the Central California District Council, we must of necessity go back more than 30 years ago, to the days prior to the inception of JACL itself as a national organization. For the history of JACL is synonymous with the JACL movement in Central California.

Through the foresight and untiring efforts of Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, now of Chicago, who is often referred to as the "father of JACL," the American Loyalty League of Fresno was established in 1923.

In subsequent years, as other Nisei organizations of similar nature were formed along the West Coast and the need for a national organization became apparent, the American Loyalty League became one of the charter chapters when it met with seven other organizations to form the National Japanese American Citizens League.

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During the 1930's, when the Northern California District Council was established, the American Loyalty League, as well as other chapters such as Parlier, Reedley and Tulare County, as they were organized, became affiliated with and remained a part of the District Council until 1950.

By mandate of the National Council at the 10th Biennial Convention, held in Salt Lake City in September, 1948, a regional office was established in Fresno to better assist in the resettlement program, to organize and reactivate new and old chapters and to facilitate fund raising campaigns

in the Central California area.

The area was fortunate in securing the services of a talented and capable man in Toru Ikeda of Reedley to serve as Regional Director. Through his efforts and the ground work laid by him, the Selma, Sanger and Delano chapters were subsequently organized. Toru served in this capacity until Oct. 1, 1951, when the Regional Office was closed.

Five chapters form council in 1950

With the reactivation of pre-war chapters and the organization of new chapters in the area, the JACL leaders of Central California felt the interests of these chapters as well as the national organization could be better served by the formation of a local district council.

Consequently, in 1949 the chapters petitioned the National Board for the establishment of the Central California District Council, and a Constitutional Convention was called on Feb. 5, 1950, at the Belmont Inn in Fresno with the American Loyalty League, Parlier, Reedley, Tulare County and Delano as charter chapters.

At this time, Johnson Kebo of Sanger, a long time and still active JACL leader, was elected the first Chairman. Others elected to the cabinet with him were:

1st Vice-Chrm. Tom Nakamura
2nd Vice-Chrm. Chorge Kaku
Treasurer Akira Chiamori
Secretary Mae Kuroda
Historian Eleanor Doi
Publicity John Kubota

Among the JACL notables who attended were Hito Okada, National President; George Inagaki, 1000

Club Chairman; Dr. Ray Nishikawa, PSWDC Chairman; Bob Takahashi, NC-WNDC Chairman; Masao Satow, National Director; Tats Kushida, Southern California Regional Director; Joe Grant Masaoka, Northern California Regional Director; and Toru Ikeda, Central California Regional Director. Saburo Kido, Past National President, gave the keynote address at the Convention Banquet.

During the first year, the Selma and Sanger Chapters were organized and joined the CCDC as member chapters.

On Nov. 14, 1951 the First Biennial Convention was held at the Hotel Californian in Fresno. About 250 delegates and boosters attended. Kenji Tashiro of Oroqui, President of the Tulare County Chapter, was elected Chairman. Those elected to the cabinet with him were:

1st Vice-Chrm. Dr. Geo. Suda
2nd Vice-Chrm. Masaru Abe
Treasurer Bob Kanagawa
Secretary Ethel Otomo
Historian Frances Yanase
Publicity Toru Ikeda
Mike Masaoka was the keynote speaker at the Convention Banquet.

The delegates at this Convention decided to de-emphasize the regular quarterly meeting and to hold instead a biennial conference on the even numbered years.

Accordingly, the First Biennial Conference was held on Nov. 18, 1952, at the Belmont Inn in Fresno. Dr. Roy Nishikawa, National Treasurer, addressed the Conference Banquet.

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In April, 1952, the District Council welcomed the newly organized Fowler and Kingsburg Chapters into its fold, which brought to nine the number of Chapters in the District Council.

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Annual conventions decided at '53 meet

The Hotel Californian was again the locale of the Second Biennial Convention on Nov. 14, 1953.

The delegates to this Convention, feeling that a term of two years placed too much of a bur-

den upon the Chairman, voted to limit the term to one year.

The CCDC has been the first and, so far, the only District Council to take this action. Tom Nakamura of Sanger, a long time JACL stalwart, was installed as Chairman. Other members of his cabinet were:

1st Vice-Chrm. George Abe
2nd Vice-Chrm. Kengo Osumi
Treasurer Bob Kanagawa
Secretary Frances Yanase
Historian Alice Yamamoto
Publicity Thomas Toyama

National President George Inagaki and National Director Mas Satow headed the impressive delegation of National Board and Staff members present. Among the score of honored guests were Congressman Harlan F. Hagan and Allen Oakley Hunter, and other state, county and civic dignitaries. The feature of the Convention Banquet was the address of Mike M. Masaoka, Washington Representative.

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One of the highlights of 1954 was the election of Kenji Tashiro, immediate past Chairman, to the office of 2nd National Vice President at the 13th Biennial Convention held at the Statler Hotel in Los Angeles in September, thereby honoring the District Council by being its first representative to serve as a national officer.

The 1954 CCDC Convention was held at the new Motel Hacienda in Fresno on Dec. 5th, at which time Hiro Mayeda of Dinuba, Past President and active member of the Tulare County Chapter, was elected as Chairman. His cabinet was composed of:

1st Vice-Chrm. George Abe
2nd Vice-Chrm. Toru Ikeda
Treasurer Tom Nagamatsu
Secretary Toy Hoshiko
Publicity Thomas Toyama

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Mass installation of chapter cabinets held

A new innovation of this Convention was the joint installation of all CCDC Chapter cabinets along with the new CCDC cabinet. National President George Inagaki was the installing officer.

So far as is known, this was the first joint installation of this nature conducted by any District Council. Saburo Kido as the featured speaker at the Convention Banquet. Congressman B. F. Sisk of Fresno was one of the many CCDC and Chapter's guests present.

The 1955 Convention again was held at the Motel Hacienda on Dec. 4, at which time Mike Masaoka was the speaker. Many local legislators and superior court judges were to be in attendance in addition to Congressman Sisk of Fresno.

The feature of this Convention, besides the joint installation of all chapter cabinets with the CCDC officers, was the admission of the newly organized Clovis Chapter as the tenth chapter in the CCDC.

Over the years the CCDC has raised a total of \$22,000 in support of the ADC and National budgets, consistently meeting to established quotas. And the abundance and high caliber of its leadership presages the ever growing strength and support the CCDC will impart to the National JACL in the years to come.

Fete 35 Issei New Citizens In St. Louis

By RICHARD HENMI

ST. LOUIS — Highlighting the active 1955 schedule of the St. Louis JACL, approximately 100 members, friends and honored guests gathered in the beautiful Tower Room atop the Congress Hotel on Saturday, Sept. 24, to honor the new American citizens of Japanese ancestry in the St. Louis area.

After a seven-course dinner, the program under the guidance of Master of Ceremonies Joe Tanaka began with two vocal selections beautifully rendered by Mrs. Momoye Ohmoto, accompanied on the piano by Miss Mae Kadowaki.

Certificates of Recognition were presented to 35 naturalized citizens by President Rose Ogino after which Ben Kadowaki gave the acceptance speech. Miss Barbara Shingu then played two fine piano selections.

Dean Arno Haack, dean of students and foreign student adviser at Washington University, who gave the principal address, in relating of his experiences with the Japanese people in the early relocation period noted immediate and complete assimilation by the Nisei, as a whole, to their new community.

On the other hand, he was also impressed with the older generation's retention of their heritage, such as appreciation for beauty, gentle and courteous ways, which he stressed should not be lost in the process of integration, but should be contributed to a richer American culture.

Dr. Thomas Yatabe, first national president and representing the National JACL, in his address paid tribute to the Issei for their many accomplishments through seemingly insurmountable odds and cited examples of the type of work they undertook in order to survive, such as the laying of the transcontinental railroad and the transforming of arid and swamp-land into some of the richest farmlands in the State of California. The Nisei, he further stated, owe a debt of gratitude to their parents.

The new citizens honored were Mrs. Shizue Archambault, Mr. and Mrs. Yotaro Arimura, Mrs. Satsue Doi, Mrs. Toki Ema, Mrs. Sachiko Eto, Mrs. Tomiko Eustase, Dr. Milton Honda, Ben Kadowaki, Mrs. Yoshino Kawahara, Mrs. Mura Kawanishi, Mrs. Niyuki Kurahara, Paul Maruyama, Sam Migita, Mrs. Katsune Nitori, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Miyasaka, Mrs. Yoshie Mori, Mr. and Mrs. Tsunetaro Nishimoto, Mrs. Kei Petty, Mrs. Sumiko Roy, Tomokichi Sakaguchi, Mrs. Kazuko Sceets, Mr. and Mrs. Katsuji Shoji.

Mrs. Haruko Snipes, Mrs. Kiyoko Spencer, Mrs. Sadano Taketa, Mrs. Gin Tanaka, Mr. and Mrs. Shosaku Tanaka, Torato Tanaka, Tom Uyeda and Mrs. Kiyoko West.

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Season's Greetings to the
Nisei Bowlers

JACL District Council Chairmen

During the first two bienniums (1934-38), the District Council (Chairman of the three district councils then existing (Northwest, Northern California and Southern districts) were regarded as vice-presidents of the National JACL. At the 1938 convention, the office of national vice-president was designated and district council chairmen were removed from the national board. At the 1940 convention, however, DC chairmen were reinstated to the national board as members where they still serve in addition to their district council duties.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

As the oldest district council (although at the time of this writing, the original membership by chapters is not available), it was organized Sept. 7, 1931.

1931-32—	1947-48—George Azumano, Chas. Shimomura, George Minato
1933-34—	
1935-36—	
1937-38—Mamuro Wakasugi	1949-50—Kaz Yamane, Roy Nishimura
1939-40—Mamuro Wakasugi	1951-52—Roy Nishimura, Harry Takagi, Kaz Yamane, Bob Mizukami
1941-42—Tom Iseri	1953-54—Dr. Matthew Masuoka
1942-46—Evacuation, Reactivated Dec. 1, 1946, Mac Kaneko, temp. chmn.	1955-57—Dr. Kelly Yamada (inc.)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA-WESTERN NEVADA

Originally organized Aug. 31, 1935, as the Northern California District Council, it has traditionally thrived as the largest of district councils from the standpoint of chapter membership. When it first met in Fresno in 1935, there were 15 chapters presented, namely: Alameda, Oakland, Placer County, Sacramento, Salinas, Santa Clara County, San Francisco, Watsonville, Monterey, Washington Township (So. Alameda County), Reedley, Tulare County, Livingston, Fresno and YSBC (Marysville).

1935-36—Walter Tsukamoto	1946-48—Cosma Sakamoto
1937-38—Dr. Harry Kita, Saburo Kido	1948-49—Tad Hirota
1939-40—Saburo Kido, Henry Mirai	1949-51—Robert C. Takahashi
1941-42—Tom Shimasaki	1951-53—Masuji Fujii
1942-46—Evacuation, Reactivated June 27, 1945, Roy Takagi, org. chmn.	1953-54—Giichi Yoshioka, Tom Yego, Jack Noda
	1955-57—Yas Abiko (inc.)

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

Youngest of the district councils, having been formed on March 2, 1949, its history actually dates back to 1935 when four chapters in the area comprised the Central California Region of the Northern California District Council.

1950-51—Johnson Kebo	1954-55—Hiro Mayeda
1951-53—Kenji Tashiro	1955-56—Jin Ishikawa (inc.)
1953-54—Tom Nakamura	

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST

Formed after the 1934 convention as the Southern District Council, it was comprised of seven chapters: San Diego, Brawley, San Gabriel Valley, Los Angeles, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo. When it was reactivated in 1947, there were 11 chapters present including Arizona to call for a change in the district's name to encompass the Great Southwest.

1936-37—John S. Ando	1947-48—Henry Sakemi
1937-38—Lyle Kurisaki	1948-49—Frank Chuman, Frank Mizusawa
1938-39—Henry J. Tsurutani	1949-50—Dr. Roy M. Nishikawa, Ken Dyo
1939-40—Kiyoshi Higashi	1951-53—Tut Yata
1940-41—Dr. Yoshio Nakaji	1953-54—Ken Dyo
1941-42—Fred Tayama	1955-56—David Yokozeki (inc.)
1942-46—Evacuation, Reactivated Dec. 21, 1946, Karl Taku, temp. chmn.	

INTERMOUNTAIN

As the only district council to remain in continuous service during the war years, when the Pacific coast district activities were suspended by evacuation, its record is proudly recalled in a special feature in this year's Holiday Issue. (See Page C-xx). Its predecessor, the Intermountain Nisei Convention was organized in 1932 of high school-college students.

1938-40—Mike M. Masaoka	1950-51—Joe Saito
1941-43—William Y. Yamauchi	1952-53—Yukio Inouye
1944-45—Mamuro Wakasugi	1954-55—Jim Ushio
1946-47—Shigeki Ushio	1956-57—George Sugai (inc.)
1948-49—Ken Uchida	

MOUNTAIN-PLAINS

Organized in 1947 as the Tri-State district council, comprising chapters in the states of Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska, it soon had chapters outside the original area seeking membership and the title was changed to present its true scope. No other district boasts the geographical expanse as this district—from border-to-border: Montana to Texas between the Rockies and the Missouri-Mississippi.

1948-49—Bessie Matsuda Shiyo-mura	1952-53—George Masunaga
1950-51—K. Patrick Okura	1954-55—Floyd Koshio
	1956-57—Robert Horiuchi (inc.)

MIDWEST

Organized in 1947 with six chapters in the Middle West, its creation depicts the dispersal of persons of Japanese ancestry during the war years to various well known metropolitan areas.

1947—Mari Sabusawa Michener	1951-52—Shig Wakamatsu
1947-48—Henry Tani	1953-54—Harry Takagi
1949-50—Noboru Honda	1955-56—Abe Hagiwara (inc.)

EASTERN

Organized in 1947, the district serves the Eastern seaboard areas where persons of Japanese ancestry are living in politically strategic areas from the standpoint of presenting a truly national effort to members of Congress.

1947-48—Tom Hayashi	1951-52—Aki Hayashi
1949—Ina Sugihara	1953-54—Ira Shimasaki
1950-51—Tetsuo Iwasaki	1955-56—Bill Sasagawa (inc.)

Annual carnival at Idaho Falls

BY GEORGE TOKITA

IDAHO FALLS—One of the biggest highlights of the Idaho Falls JACL Chapter program is the annual carnival, held during the month of January of each year.

This carnival is sponsored by the chapter with all Idaho Falls merchants graciously and generously donating different types of merchandise used for drawings and door prizes. Members also do their share by donating cooked foods boxed for sale, their time and tireless effort to work in the various concessions since this is an all-day affair.

This carnival provides entertainment for the children and old folks alike as well as meet the I.D.C. fund quota and chapter expenses in an independent way.

Feb. 12 dinner highlight of Omaha activities

By Mary Misaki

OMAHA—While Omaha JACL membership this past year topped all previous chapter records, the most outstanding single event for 1955 was the Feb. 12 dinner honoring new Issei citizens and the pioneer Japanese of Omaha.

The recognition dinner, toastmastered by K. Patrick Okura, honored 14 Issei citizens and eight pioneer residents. Eight-five attended the event held at the YWCA. Chapter president Frank Tamai was dinner co-chairman with Okura.

Other chapter events included the Easter social, graduation party, the annual Fourth of July picnic, back-to-school weenie bake, bowling night, carnival and a Christmas social.

Chapter personalities regarded "most valuable" since the start of the organization here in 1946 include Mr. and Mrs. K. Patrick Okura, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nakadoi, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tamai.

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Hollywood's Miwa Yanamoto Named Chapter Personality

HOLLYWOOD—Major credit for the phenomenal achievement of the Hollywood JACL must be accredited to its president Miss Miwa Yanamoto. All activities, social, civic, and community-wise, were undertaken with a thoroughness and with utilization of the best qualities of her fellow chapter members.

When the Hollywood JACL was organized in 1952, she was one of the charter members and immediately took office as recording secretary. Prior to this, she had

joined the Downtown L.A. Chapter in 1950.

Soon the PSWDC recognized her potentials and she was elected secretary in 1953. Her election to the board of directors of the PSWDC Credit Union soon followed.

This past year as president, we again recognized her enthusiasm and dedicated spirit in all undertakings. May we hope that Miss Yanamoto will continue to meet her civic responsibilities with comparable skill and dedication.

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DAvis 4-2842

GARDENA, CALIFORNIA

Plymouth 5-6885

Who's Who-

(Continued from Page 5)

1951—Jack Izu
1952—Mas Oshiki
1953—Elmer Suski
1954—Tek Nishimoto
1955—Charles Shibata

Downtown Los Angeles

Los Angeles JACL—1920-49
—PIONEER CHAPTER—

1929—Masao Igasaki
1930—Clarence Yamagata
1931—John S. Ando, Karl Iwanaga
1932—Karl Iwanaga
1933—Etsuo Sato
1934-35—Kay Sugahara
1936—John Maeno
Eiji Tanabe (Kibei)
Herbert Wada (Mkt.)
1937—Mike M. Horii
Masao Nozawa (Kibei)

1938—Ken Matsumoto
1939-40—Eiji Tanabe
1941—Fred Tayama
1942—Shigemi Aratani
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated July 31, 1946.
1946—Ken Utsunomiya (orig.)
1946-47—Frank Chuman
1948—John Aiso, Dr. Tom Watanabe
1949—Eiji Tanabe
1950—Dr. George Kambara
1951—Harry K. Honda
1952-53—Harry M. Fujita
1954-55—David Yokozeki

East Los Angeles

Organized Sept. 30, 1948

1948—Akira Hasegawa
1949—Bill Takei
1950—Lynn Takagaki
1951—George Akasaka
1952—Edison Uno

1953—Edison Uno, John Watanabe
1954—Wilbur Sato
1955—Jim Higashi

El Centro

Organized June 19, 1938*

* Citizens League of Imperial Valley was organized in August, 1927, but it was inactive for a subsequent decade and reactivated as the El Centro JACL. The original organization was chartered as a non-profit cooperative with the Secretary of State, Sacramento.

1938—Yutaka Nakashima
1939-40—Shinji H. Miyata
1941-42—Harvey Tanaka

Gardena Valley

Organized Jan. 25, 1939

1939-40—George T. Yamuchi
1941—Fred H. Ikeguchi
1942—James Yoshinobu
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Sept. 25, 1946.
1946—Sam Minami (org.)
1947-49—Paul Shinoda
1950-51—Henry Ishida
1952-53—Ryo Komae
1954—Yo Minami

1955—Frank Kuida
Glendale

Organized Mar. 27, 1936

1936—Miss Kiyo Kuramoto

Hollywood

Organized Feb. 28, 1931

1931-32—Henry Tsurutani
1933-50—Merged with Los Angeles.

1951—Noboru Ishitani
1952-53—Arthur Ito
1954—Arthur Endo
1955—Miwako Yanamoto

Long Beach-Harbor Dist.

Organized Oct. 12, 1938

1938-41—Frank T. Ishii
1942—James Hashimoto
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Aug. 12, 1947.
1947—Dr. Masao Takeshita
1948—Fred H. Ikeguchi
1949—John Morooka
1950—Fred H. Ikeguchi
1951—George Mio
1952—Mas Narita
1953—George Nakamura

1954—Fred H. Ikeguchi
1955—Easy Fujimoto

Orange County

Organized Oct. 26, 1934

1934-35—Frank Takenaga
1936—Kiyoshi Higashi
1937—Hatsumi Yamada
1938—Leonard Miyawaki
1939—Cap K. Tamura
1940—Harry Ogawa
1941—Yoshiki Yoshida
1942—Henry Kanegae
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Jan. 11, 1947.
1947-48—Frank Mizusawa
1949—Bill Okuda
1950—Elden Kanegae
1951-52—Hitoshi Nitta
1953-54—Ken Uyesugi
1955—George Kanno

Pasadena

Joined JACL 1941*

* It was first organized in 1938 as an independent Nisei Civic League and then affiliated with the JACL.
1941-42—Nobu Kawai
1942-46—Evacuation. Reactivated Apr. 3, 1948.
1948—Nobu Kawai
1949—Kei Mikuriya
1950-51—Dr. Tom T. Omori
1952—Ken Dyo
1953—Jiro Oishi
1954-55—Tom T. Ito

San Diego

Organized Aug. 13, 1933

1933—Hanako Moriyama (temp.)
1933—George Obayashi
1934—Frank Otsuka
1935—George Obayashi
1936-37—George Ohashi
1938—Isamu Fujita
1939—George Obayashi

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Watsonville, Calif.

Who's Who—

(Continued from Preceding Page)

1940—Isamu Fujita
1941—Fred Katsumata
1942—Frank H. Otsuka
1942-46 — *Evacuation. Reactivated Aug. 22, 1946.*
1946—Karl Taku
1947—Joe H. Komitsuka, Pat Nagano
1948—Hilo Fuchikawa
1949—Masuji Eto
1950—Karl Taku
1951—Pat Nagano
1952—Kazuo Ikeda
1953—Haruo Hayashi
1954—Saburo Ikeda
1955—George Nagano

San Fernando

Organization Date Unknown

1942—Tom Imai
1942-46 — *Evacuation. Reactivated Sept. 28, 1946.*
1946—Fred Muto (org.)
1947—Fred Muto
1948-53 (Inactive)
1954-55—Tom Endow

San Gabriel Valley

Organized Apr. 28, 1933

1933—Shizuko Shirane (org.)
1933-34—Frank Tanaka
1935—Tom T. Ito
1936—Dave Nitake
1937—James Katayama
1938-39—Masaru Kawashima
1940—Shigeru Hashimoto, Henry Kuwabara
1941—George Imai
1942—Henry Kuwabara

San Luis Obispo

Organized March 1931

1931-32—Ernest K. Iwasaki
1933 (Inactive) Reactivated Jan. 27, 1934.
1934—Mrs. Kofuji Fukunaga
1935—
1936—
1937—Ben Fujiwaki

1938—Sam Oda
1939—
1940—George Horiuchi
1941-42—Karl Taku
1942-46 — *Evacuation. Reactivated Aug. 22, 1946.*
1946—Karl Taku
1947—Joe H. Komitsuka, Pat Nagano
1948—Hilo Fuchikawa
1949—Masuji Eto
1950—Karl Taku
1951—Pat Nagano
1952—Kazuo Ikeda
1953—Haruo Hayashi
1954—Saburo Ikeda
1955—George Nagano

San Pedro

Organized Apr. 3, 1936

1936—George Fukuzaki
1937—Katsumi Yoshizumi
1938—Dr. Yoshio Nakaji
1939—Hisashi Hanamura
1940—Kiyoshi Higashi
1941—Misako Ishii
1942—Kiyoshi Higashi

Santa Barbara

Organized January 1930

1930—Taki Asakura
1931—Cora Asakura
1932—
1933—Darrel Utsunomiya
1934—
1935—James Ezaki
1936—
1937—
1938-39—James Ezaki
1940-42—Tom Hirashima
1942-46 *Evacuation.*
1946—Tom Hirashima (org.)
1947—Ken Dyo
1948-50—Tad Kanetomo
1951—Mrs. Lillian Nakaji
1952—Ikey Kakimoto
1953—Akira Endo
1954—Lillian Nakaji, Tom Hirashima, Ikey Kakimoto, John Suzuki (each served one quarter).
1955—Tom Hirashima

Santa Maria Valley

Organized Apr. 3, 1932

1932-33—Ken Utsunomiya
1934—Dr. Earl M. Yusa

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1935—Ken Kitasako
1936-37—Robert Hiramatsu
1938—Ken Utsunomiya
1939—Butch Y. Tamura
1940-42—Harry Miyake
1942-46 — *Evacuation. Reactivated August 1946.*
1947-48—Harold Shimizu
1949-55—Harry Miyake

Santa Monica

Organized 1941

1941-42—Henry Fukuhara
Southwest Los Angeles

Organized May 17, 1948

1948-49—Dr. Roy Nishikawa
1950-51—Tut Yata
1952—Dick H. Fujioka
1953—Mack Hamaguchi
1954—Hisashi Horita
1955—Dr. Toru Iura

Venice-Culver

Organized 1941

1941-42—John Aono
1942-46 — *Evacuation. Reactivated July 28, 1946.*
1946-47—Jack Wakamatsu
1948-49—George Mikawa
1950—Fumi Utsuki
1951—Kenichi Onishi
1952—James Yasuda
1953—James Fukuhara, Kiyo Nishi Tanaka
1954—Ken Amamoto
1955—George T. Isoda

Ventura County

Organized November 1937*

* It was organized as the Oxnard Nisei Civic League, an independent group, and joined the JACL in 1941.

1941—Brownie Furutani
1942—Allen Kurihara
1942-46 — *Evacuation. Reactivated Jan. 1, 1947.*
1947—Akira Kurihara
1948—Nao Takasugi
1949—Tomio Eto
1950—Toby Otani, Dr. Tom Taketa
1951—Akira Kurihara
1952—Taro J. Inouye
1953—Izzy Otani
1954—Dr. Sam Tokuyama
1955—Nagao Fujita

West Los Angeles

Organized 1941

1941-42—Tom Ikuta
1942-46 — *Evacuation. Reactivated Nov. 28, 1947.*
1947-48—Sho Komai
1949—Elmer Uchida
1950—Dr. Kiyoshi Sonoda
1951—Richard Jeniye
1952—Sho Komai
1953—James Kitsuse
1954—Elmer Uchida
1955—Steve Yagi

Intermountain**Ben Lomond**

Ogden JACL—1938-53

Organized 1938*

1940—Jiro Tamaki
1941—George Yoshida
1942—Tatsuo Koga
1943—Jiro Tsukamoto
1944-45—Toyse Kato
1946—Dr. Mike M. Horii
1947—Tsutomu S. Ochi
1948-50—Ken Uchida
1951—George Sugihara
1952-55—Toyse Kato

Boise Valley

Organized 1937

1937-38—Henry Suyehira
1939—Howard Fujii
1940—Joe Saito
1941—Yutaka Tamura
1942—Mrs. Martha Nishitani

1943—Abe Saito
1944—George Nishitani, Mas Yamashita
1945—Soapy S. Sagami
1946—Tom Takatori
1947—Edson Fujii
1948—George Koyama
1949—George Ishihara
1950—Dyke Itami
1951—Tom Takatori
1952—Seichi Hayashida
1953—Manabu Yamada
1954—Henry Suyehira
1955—Tom Arima

Davis County

Organization Date Unknown

1942—Takeo Nakano
1943—Ted Miva
1944—George Akasaka
1945—Yori Kozaiku
1946—George Fujiki
1947 — *Merged with Ogden JACL.*

(Turn to Next Page)

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Gila River JACL only WRA chapter

CASA GRANDE, Ariz. — The Butte JACL chapter was the first of its kind organized in a War Relocation Center on Oct. 21, 1942 — at a time when JACL popularity was at its lowest. Its office was situated at Block 42 at the Gila River Center.

Ken Tashiro, pre-war Del Rey president, and Nobu Kawai of Pasadena were instrumental in organizing the chapter. At an early November, 1942, general meeting, the following board members were elected:

Nobu Kawai, pres., Harry Miyake, Ken Utsunomiya, Charles Kikuchi, Taki Asakura, Mary Obata, Verlin Yamamoto and Nisuke Mitsumori.

Twelve chapters, suspended from service by evacuation were represented in founding the most successful of JACL organizations at three other WRA centers. The twelve were Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Lompoc, Parlier, Pasadena, San Gabriel Valley, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria Valley, Ventura County, and Yo-Solano.

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Oscar Inouye, Vice-President
Katherine Nakamura, Rec. Secy.
Judy Gotan, Corresponding Sec.
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Amy Kanemoto, Social Co-Chrmn.
Tom Kushi, Social Co-Chrmn.
Bill Okamoto, Activity Co-Chrmn.
Bill Tsukamoto, Activity Co-Chrmn.
James Kawamura,
Membership Chairman
George Kashiwagi,
Americanism Chairman
Jim Taniguchi, Official Delegate
Ben Sato, Official Delegate
Sam Tsukamoto, Member

Who's Who—

(Continued from Preceding Page)

Idaho Falls

Southeastern Idaho—1940-42

Organized May 17, 1940

1940—Yukio Inouye
1941-42—Mitsugi Kasai
1943-44—Yukio Inouye
1945-46—Eli Kobayashi
1947—Sadao Morishita
1948—Fred Ochi
1949—Charles Hirai
1950—Joe Nishioka
1951—Kay Tokita
1952—George H. Nukaya
1953—Takeo Haga
1954—Sam Yamasaki
1955—George Tokita

Magic Valley

Organized Apr. 3, 1943

1943—George Makabe (org.)
1943—Shigeo Morita
1944—Tsutomu Abo
1945—Yoshio Aizawa

Mt. Olympus

Organized Dec. 27, 1943

1943—Frank T. Tashima (org.)

1944-45—Shigeki Ushio
1946—George Fujii
1947—Tom Matsumori
1948—George Fujii
1949—Min Matsumori
1950—Helen Shimizu
1951—Mits Hoki
1952—Jim Ushio
1953—George Fujii
1954—James Hirabayashi
1955—Mas Namba

Northern Utah

Organized 1942

1942—Nobuichi Sato

Pocatello

Organized 1941

1941—George Shiozawa
1942-43—Paul Okamura
1944—Novo Kato
1945—Tom Morimoto, Tom Hatakeda
1946—Hiro Shiosaki
1947—Harvey Yamashita, Sam Yokota
1948—George Shiozawa
1949—Paul Okamura, Masa Tsukamoto
1950—Masa Tsukamoto
1951—Bill Yoden
1952—George Sato
1953-54—Ronnie Sato
1955—William T. Yamauchi

Salt Lake City

Organized Mar. 8, 1935

1935—Miye Asahina, (org.)
1935—Joe G. Masaoka
1936—Joe Kurumada
1937—William T. Yamauchi
1938-40—Mike M. Masaoka
1941—Shigeki Ushio
1942-43—Dr. Jun Kurumada
1944—Isamu Aoki
1945—Kay Terashima
1946—Mrs. Alice Kasai
1947—Tom Hoshiyama
1948—Dr. Jun Kurumada
1949—George Sakashita
1950-51—George Mochizuki
1952—Masami Yano

1953—Dr. Shig Matsukawa
1954-56—Rupert Hachiya

Snake River

Organized Feb. 26, 1944

1944-45—Joe Komoto
1946—Joe Saito
1947—James M. Watanabe
1948-49—Tom T. Itami
1950—George Sugai
1951—Tom Iseri
1952—Smith Morimoto
1953—Tom Ogura
1954—Paul Saito
1955—George Iseri

Yellowstone

Organization Date Unknown

1941—Fuji Hikida
1942—Kiyoshi Sakota
1943—Michio Yamagata
1944—Kiyoshi Sakota
1945—Stomie Hanami
1946—Haruo Yamasaki
1947—Thomas M. Hanami
1948-49—Hiroshi Miyasaki
1950—Kiyoshi Sakota
1951—Jack K. Matsuura
1952—Haruo Yamasaki
1953—Masayoshi Fujimoto
1954—Haruo Yamasaki
1955—Kiyoshi Sakota

* During the war years (1942-45), the Intermountain District Council was the sole regional organization in operation while the three west coast district councils suspended activities. The chapters in Arizona were then part of the IDC.

Butte

Organized Oct. 21, 1942

1942-43—Nobu Kawai
JACL committees were organized in the following WRA centers during the 1942-44 period, although there were representatives from all the camps at the emergency council sessions in late 1942 and 1944.

Topaz, Utah

1943—John Yoshino,
Henry Tani

Tule Lake, Calif.

1943—Walter T. Tsukamoto,
John Tanikawa

Minidoka, Idaho

1943—James Y. Sakamoto,
Milton Maeda

Mountain - Plains

Albuquerque

Organized Jan. 30, 1948

1948—Frank Matsubara
1949—Fred Yoshimoto
1950—Sam Yonemoto
1951—George Matsubara
1952—Art Togami
1953—Charles Matsubara
1954—Mrs. Ruth Hashimoto
1955—Mike Yonemoto

Arkansas Valley

Organized Apr. 4, 1950

1950-53—Ugi Harada
1954—Harry Shironaka
1955—Ted Maruyama

El Paso

Organization Date Unknown

1935—Willie Ando

Ft. Lupton

Organization Date Unknown

1942—Floyd Koshio
1944—Lee Murata
1945—(Inactive)

Reactivated 1946

1946—Sam Okamoto
1947—Jack Tsuchara
1948—Sam Okamoto
1949—Tom Yanaga
1950-51—Dr. George Uye-
mura
1952—Frank Yamaguchi
1953—Sam Koshio
1954—Frank Yamaguchi
1955—Sam Okamoto, Tak-
ashi Matsushima.

Greeley

Organized June 24, 1944

1944—Fred Hashimoto
1945—Hiroto Uno
1946—Deactivated

Mile-Hi

Organized 1948*

* Organized on an independent basis, the Denver JACL became part of the National JACL in 1944.

1938—
1939—Shimpei Sakaguchi
1940—Charles Suyeishi
1941—
1944—Reactivated
1944—George S. Kashiwagi
1945—Taki Domoto, Jr.
1946—Dr. Takashi Mayeda
1947—George Masunaga
1948—George Ohashi, Bess
(Matsuda) Shiyomura
1949-50—Toshio Ando
1951—Y. Tak Terasaki
1952—Roy H. Mayeda
1953—John T. Noguchi
1954—Sam Y. Matsumoto
1955—Harry H. Sakata.

Montana

Organized Apr. 10, 1949

1949-51—Tom Koyama
1952—George Kawamoto
1953—Yasuo Nayematsu
1954—Joe Nagashima
1955—Sam Shirasago

North Platte

Organized 1942

1942-45—George Kuroki
1946—Deactivated

Northern Wyoming

Organization Date Unknown

1941—Tom Nagashima
1942—Tom Ujifusa
1943—
1944—
1945—Yasuo Nayematsu

Reactivated Apr. 1, 1949

1949—Dr. Minol Ota
1950—Jack Ando
1951—Jack Ando
1952—Kay Nakamura
1953—Tom Ujifusa
1954—Haruki Shimogaki
1955—George Ujifusa

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Omaha

Organized June 28, 1947
1947-49—K. Patrick Okura
1950—Robert Nakadoi
1951—Cecil J. Ishii
1952-53—Jack T. Tamai
1954-55—Frank Tamai

Pueblo

Organization Date Unknown
1945—Hideo Sagara
Deactivated 1946

Rio Grande Valley

Organized Jan. 29, 1948
1948-52—Kawahata
Deactivated 1953

San Luis Valley

Organized Jan. 27, 1949

1949—Roy Y. Inouye
1950—Francis Wakasugi
1951—Roy Y. Inouye
1952—Sojiro Yoritomo
1953—Roy Y. Inouye
1954—Frank Uyemura
1955—Shirow Enomoto
Following JACL Committees were organized in 1947-48 for the purpose of assisting the JACL-Anti-Discrimination Committee. The JACL committees which were later organized as chapters are listed above.

Cheyenne Committee

1948—Frank Ikuno

Crowley Committee

1947—Kats Akagi

Gallup Committee

1948—Ann Shibata

Houston Committee

1947—Tokuye Kobayashi

1948—Warren Saibara

La Jara-Alamosa Committee

1947—Roy Inouye

Rock Ford Committee

1948—Ugi Harada, George Yo-
shimaya

Pueblo Committee

1948—Sanzo Shigeta

San Antonio Committee

1948—Goro Matsuoka

West Texas Committee

1948—George Kurita

Midwest

Ann Arbor

Organized June 9, 1946
1946—Dr. Joseph Sasaki
(Turn to Next Page)

Kay Sadanaga-Kishaba

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A Happy New Year

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and Friends
of the
Sacramento JACL

National JACL Officers

PRESIDENT

- 1928-30 — Clarence T. Arai (Seattle)*
- 1930-32 — Dr. George Y. Takeyama (Los Angeles)*
- 1932-34 — Dr. T. T. Hayashi (San Francisco)*
- 1934-36 — Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe (Fresno)
- 1936-38 — James Y. Sakamoto (Seattle)
- 1938-40 — (Lt. Col.) Walter T. Tsukamoto (Sacramento)
- 1940-42 — Saburo Kido (San Francisco)
- 1942-46 — Saburo Kido (Salt Lake City)
- 1946-48 — Hito Okada (Salt Lake City)
- 1948-50 — Hito Okada (Salt Lake City)
- 1950-52 — Dr. Randolph M. Sakada (Chicago)
- 1952-54 — George J. Inagaki (Los Angeles)
- 1954-56 — George J. Inagaki (Los Angeles)

* — As convention chairman of national JACL conventions held in their respective cities, they were honored as national president for the subsequent biennium.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

- 1934-36 — (District Council Chairmen)
- 1938-40 — Ken Matsumoto (Los Angeles)
- 1940-42 — Ken Matsumoto (Los Angeles)
- 1942-46 — Ken Matsumoto (Cincinnati)
- 1946-48 — George J. Inagaki (Los Angeles)
- 1948-50 — Henry Tani (St. Louis)
- 1950-52 — Frank F. Chuman (Los Angeles)
- 1952-54 — Tom Hayashi (New York)
- 1954-56 — Tom Yego (Placer County)

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

- 1946-48 — Masao W. Satow (Milwaukee)
- Dr. Randolph M. Sakada (Chicago)*
- 1948-50 — Frank F. Chuman (Los Angeles)
- 1950-52 — Tom Hayashi (New York)
- 1952-54 — Patrick K. Okura (Omaha)
- 1954-56 — Kenji Tashiro (Tulare County)

* — Appointed to office after Satow's resignation to accept post with National JACL Headquarters staff.

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT

- 1946-48 — William K. Yamauchi (Pocatello)
- 1948-50 — Tom Hayashi (New York)
- 1950-52 — Patrick K. Okura (Omaha)
- 1952-54 — Bob C. Takahashi (French Camp)
- 1954-56 — Yutaka Terasaki (Denver)

TREASURER

- 1932-34 — Susumu Togasaki (San Francisco)
- 1934-36 — Susumu Togasaki (San Francisco)
- 1936-38 — Susumu Togasaki (San Francisco)
- 1938-40 — Hito Okada (Portland)
- 1940-42 — Hito Okada (Portland)
- 1942-46 — Hito Okada (Salt Lake City)
- 1946-48 — Kay K. Terashima (Salt Lake City)
- 1948-50 — William Enomoto (San Mateo)
- 1950-52 — Dr. Roy K. Nishikawa (Los Angeles)
- 1952-54 — Dr. Roy K. Nishikawa (Los Angeles)
- 1954-56 — Dr. K. Nishikawa (Los Angeles)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- 1934-36 — Saburo Kido (San Francisco)
- 1936-38 — Walter T. Tsukamoto (Sacramento)
- 1938-40 — Ken Utsunomiya (Santa Maria Valley)
- 1940-42 — James Sugioka (San Benito County)

ASST. EXEC. SECRETARY

- 1934-36 — John Maeno, John Ando (Los Angeles)
- 1936-38 — Masao W. Satow (Los Angeles)

SECRETARY TO BOARD

- 1946-48 — Dr. Takashi Mayeda (Denver)
- 1948-50 — Mari Sabusawa (Chicago)
- 1950-52 — Ina Sugihara (New York)
- 1952-54 — Mrs. Alice Kasai (Salt Lake City)
- 1954-56 — William Y. Mambu (Seattle)

1000 CLUB CHAIRMAN

- 1947-50 — George J. Inagaki (Los Angeles)*
- 1950-52 — George J. Inagaki (Los Angeles)
- 1952-54 — Harold Gordon (Chicago)
- 1954-56 — Shigeo Wakamatsu (Chicago)

* — Post was not part of the National JACL Board at this time.

WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE

- 1931 — Suma Sugi
- 1933 — Tokutaro Slocum
- 1936 — Tamotsu Murayama
- 1941 — Togo Tanaka
- 1946-to date — Mike M. Masaoka

LEGAL COUNSEL

- 1946-53 — Saburo Kido
 - 1954-56 — Frank F. Chuman
- (Originally called "national secretary.")

JACL DIRECTOR

- 1941-43 — Mike M. Masaoka
- 1943-44 — Teiko Ishida (actg)
- 1944 —
- 1945 —
- 1946-47 — Mike M. Masaoka
- 1948 — Masao W. Satow

Who's Who—

(Continued from Preceding Page)

Chicago

Organized June, 1944

- 1945 — William Minami
- 1946 — Noboru Honda
- 1947 — Jack Nakagawa
- 1948 — Mari Sabusawa
- 1949-50 — Shigeo Wakamatsu
- 1951 — Ronald Shiozaki
- 1952-53 — Abe Hagiwara
- 1954-55 — Kumeo Yoshinara
- 1956 — Dr. Frank Sakamoto

Cincinnati

Organized April 5, 1946

- 1946 — Ken Matsumoto (Org.)
- 1946 — Dr. Makoto Yamaguchi
- 1947 — James Hashimoto
- 1948 — Tom Kanno
- 1949 — Kaye Watanabe
- 1950 — Fred Moricka
- 1951 — Masaji S. Toki
- 1952 — Dr. James Takao
- 1953-54 — Joe S. Sugawara
- 1955 — Kaye Watanabe

Cleveland

Organized June 10, 1946

- 1946 — Abe Hagiwara
- 1947 — Frank Shiba
- 1948 — George Chida
- 1949 — Howard Tashima
- 1950 — Alice Morihiro
- 1951 — William Sadataki
- 1952 — Henry Tanaka
- 1953 — George Ono
- 1954 — Robert E. Fujita
- 1955 — William Sadataki

Dayton

Organized March, 1949

- 1949 — Masaru Yamasaki
- 1950 — Dr. James T. Taguchi

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- 1951 — Sutei Murayama, Masaru Yamasaki
- 1952 — Dr. James T. Taguchi
- 1953 — Hideo Yoshihara
- 1954 — Yoichi Sato
- 1955 — Dr. Ruby Hirose

Detroit

Organized June 7, 1946

- 1946-148 — Peter Fujioka
- 1949 — Roy Kaneko
- 1950 — Dr. Mark M. Kondo
- 1951 — Wallace Kagawa
- 1952 — Shig Ochi
- 1953 — Minoru Togasaki
- 1954 — Kenneth Miyoshi
- 1955 — Sadao Kimoto

Milwaukee

Organized May 11, 1945

- 1945 — Henry Sakemi (org.)
- 1946 — Mac Kaneko, Lynn Wells
- 1947 — Julius Fujihira
- 1948 — Frank C. Okada
- 1949-50 — Kazumi Oura
- 1951 — Charles Matsumoto
- 1952 — Nami Shio
- 1953 — Harry Shinozaki
- 1954 — Takio Kataoka
- 1955 — Helen Inai

St. Louis

Organized Aug. 17, 1946

- 1956 — Sam M. Nakano
- 1947-48 — Henry Tani
- 1949-50 — Joseph Tanaka

- 1951 — Edward Koyama
- 1952 — Dr. Alfred Morioka
- 1953 — George K. Hasegawa
- 1954 — Harry H. Hayashi
- 1955 — Rose Ogino

Twin Cities

Organized Sept. 26, 1946

- 1946 — George Matsuyama
- 1947 — Sam Shijo
- 1948 — John Masuo
- 1948 — Tomo Kosobayashi, George Yanagita
- 1950 — Takuzo Tsuchiya
- 1951 — Yukio Okamoto
- 1952 — Mas Teramoto
- 1953-55 — Dr. Isaac Iijima

Eastern

New England

Organized Feb. 7, 1948

- 1948-49 — Harvey Aki
- 1950 — Jim Kinoshita
- 1951 — Dr. Tetsu Morita
- 1952 — (No officers)
- 1953 — Deactivated

New York

Organized June 16, 1944

- 1944 — Al Funabashi
- 1946 — Yurino Takayoshi
- 1947-48 — Tom Hayashi
- 1949-50 — Aki Hayashi
- 1951 — Frank Okazaki
- 1952-53 — Woodrow Asai
- 1954-55 — Sam Kai

(Turn to Next Page)

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GREETINGS OF THE SEASON

SANGER JACL CHAPTER

WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER:

Assurance of Future Lies In Responsible Organization

By MIKE M. MASAOKA

WASHINGTON — JACL this year celebrates its 25th anniversary as a national organization dedicated to the service of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

Reproduced elsewhere in this special holiday edition is a Tribute to JACL by Congressman Walter H. Judd, Minnesota Republican, who has long and intimately been associated with Americans of Asian antecedents. His eloquent salute, seldom equalled in the annals of the "Congressional Record", summarizes briefly and well the unprecedented achievements of our organization, achievements that represent our unique contributions to the American heritage.

We have been privileged to play a part in the epic JACL story should be proud.

Congressman Judd's tribute, however, does not begin to relate the many personal sagas of sacrifice and suffering, of time and trouble expended, of the officers and members of JACL during the past quarter century. This is the yet unwritten JACL story that should be told in conjunction with the better known organizational history, for the latter would not have been possible without the heartaches and headaches of the former.

If the past is only prologue, JACL's next quarter century looms bright and promising.

But, because of JACL's successes during the past 25 years, on the surface at least it appears that most of the problems that once challenged our organizational and individual capacities are resolved. Certainly, we cannot foresee any difficulty comparable to evacuation, or any basic legislative necessity like naturalization privileges for our parent generation.

There are, nevertheless, several specific areas of continuing discrimination that must be eliminated. None of them, though, are as dramatic, as personal, as demanding as many of those of the past two and a half decades.

There is the question of housing, the right to purchase a home anywhere that one can afford to buy.

There is the matter of interracial marriage prohibitions which, in some states, deny one the right to marry one's choice if one party is of the "colored" race while the other is not. In six of these states, even if the marriage is contracted and consummated elsewhere, mixed couples may not legally reside as man and wife.

There is the problem of being interred in selected cemeteries, for many discriminate as to race, color, creed, and national origin for burial purposes.

There is the item of employment, not only as to hiring but more as to promotion.

There is the question of complete social and economic equality, such as we have at long last gained in and under the law, that is legal equality.

Then, there is the subject of dual nationality which, by a curious twist of the laws of both Japan and the United States, could well result in the loss of both citizenships, thereby rendering as stateless those Nisei born prior to December 1, 1924 and whose names were not registered in the Japanese family record.

There is the possibility that Japan's trade policies and practices in the United States may well result in strikes, walkouts, and

other gestures denoting unpopularity and even hatred. In such periods, there may again be the tendency to confuse the Japanese in Japan and those of Japanese ancestry in this country and prejudice directed against those in the United States as somehow being responsible for what the Japanese in Japan may be doing.

There is the even grimmer eventuality that Japan may either embrace communism as an ideology or turn to the Iron and Bamboo Curtain countries for alliance.

Such a tragedy would react against the community and individual acceptance of persons of Japanese ancestry in such a manner as to influence the available social and economic opportunities and to invite the same kind of invidious persecution that marked the pre-1924 era and the early years of World War II.

There are real problems and responsibilities that come immediately to mind.

Each of them requires organizational effort of a highly sustained nature if they are to be resolved.

And, it may be that the remaining discriminations will be eliminated and the fears regarding Japan proved groundless in the immediate future.

But, there will always be a need for an organization like the JACL to keep watch and ward over persons of Japanese ancestry in this country, for as long as we are racially identifiable and as long as there is a Japanese nation, so long will it be important that international relations and tensions shall not be allowed to unduly and unfavorably react against those of Japanese origin in the United States.

This thesis, of course, discards the once expressed hope that the JACL would work itself out of existence as Americans of Japanese ancestry become assimilated, integrated members of their respective communities who are no longer subjected to racial discriminations.

The history of JACL in the past 25 years demonstrates the ever-continuing need for an organization like ours, "For Better Americans in a Greater America" and for "Security Through Unity", for our founders for example could not envisage war with Japan nor evacuation when JACL was organized as a national organization in Seattle, Washington in 1930, yet in a few years they became the paramount issues of survival.

The constantly changing times, affected as they are by the crises, and economic situations, present constantly changing problems and none can predict what tomorrow may bring.

And, the JACL will be needed with its nation-wide organization of chapters and district councils, with its national and international contacts with influential officials and individuals, with its know-how and militant concern, to preserve the gains made over the past quarter century and to enlarge upon the opportunities that may be made available to persons of Japanese ancestry.

JACL can, and must be continued.

There may be a change in the organizational framework, but there can never be a change in the organizational framework, but there can never be a change in its ideals and dedication.

When the founding fathers of JACL conceived this organization, they thought of a fraternal, benevolent association.

The war and its aftermath, requiring mass support for po-

litical and legislative objectives, changed that concept and the JACL as we know it today was developed.

Now that the more compelling problems seem to have been solved, there is a growing tendency to become apathetic and indifferent. It is becoming increasingly difficult, so the reports indicate, to solicit memberships and financial support. Local programming and local concerns have, to a large extent, replaced the national drive and sense of urgency.

The ever-present question of the so-called "free riders", the social parasites who subsist upon the works of the relatively few JACLers, is more pressing than ever before.

So, there is some thinking now that perhaps JACL should no longer continue as a "mass-base" organization, attempting to rally support from all Americans of Japanese ancestry simply on the general need for an action group like JACL. These members would recreate JACL in the image that some of its founders intended, a closely-knit fraternal organization, with membership on an invitational basis and special benefits to members only.

Knowing from experience the need for national representation and intervention, this fraternal JACL would maintain some kind of Washington office and would retain as many national contacts as possible, so that in the event of a major crisis affecting all Americans of Japanese ancestry, it would be prepared to assume the necessary leadership and to activate the general Issei-Nisei community.

Whatever its organizational structure, there should always be a JACL with the same dedicated sense of community service and devotion as there has been in the past 25 years in order that the hard-won gains will not be dissipated and lost and that the total area of opportunity for all Americans of Japanese ancestry may be enlarged.

There is no crystal ball into which we may peer and learn of the events, great and small, that will confront us as persons of Japanese ancestry and as individuals in the next quarter century. Therefore, the only assurance that we, as Americans of Japanese ancestry, have as to our future destiny in the United States is the JACL, the responsible and respected organization that has proved itself worthy of our support in the past quarter century.

Who's Who—

(Continued from Preceding Page)

Philadelphia

Organized Oct. 12, 1946
1947-49—Jack Ozawa
1950—Mariko Ishiguro
1951—Noboru Kobayashi, Naomi Nakano
1952—Gary Oye
1953—Ben Ohama
1954—Dr. Tom Tamaki
1955—William Marutani

Seabrook

Organized June 18, 1946
1947—Vernon Ichisaka
1948—Ray Bano
1949—Vernon Ichisaka
1950-51—George Sakamoto
1952—Jim Mitsui
1953—John Fuyume
1954—Harry Okamoto
1955—Henry Furushima

Washington, D.C.

Organized June 15, 1946
1946—Jack Hirose (org.)
1946—Jun Okazaki
1947—Harold Horiuchi
1948-49—Ira Shimasaki
1950—Henry Goshō
1951—Don Komai
1952—Rikio Kumagai
1953—Dr. George Furukawa
1954—John Katsu
1955—Ruth Kuroishi

Holiday Greetings

FROM THE

CLEVELAND JACL CHAPTER

SEASON'S GREETINGS and BEST WISHES MILWAUKEE JACL CHAPTER

NEW YORK JACL

Sam Kai	President
Mike Suzuki	Vice-President
Tomio Enohty	Treasurer
Tomie Mochizuki	Secretary
Marie Kurihara	Membership
Yumi Saito	Publicity

Season's Greetings

ST. LOUIS JACL CHAPTER

Best Wishes

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY JACL

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

EDEN TOWNSHIP JACL

Best Wishes Of The Holiday Season REEDLEY CHAPTER

Japanese American Citizens League

and SEASON'S GREETINGS from

MAS ABE
TORU and MICHU and FAMILY
DR. JAMES M. IKEMIYA
TORU and MICHU IKEDA and FAMILY
DR. AKIRA, NAOMI and ALLYSON TAJIRI

SEASON'S GREETINGS

PUYALLUP VALLEY JACL

GREETINGS

from the

ARKANSAS VALLEY JACL CHAPTER

Silver Jubilee 1930-1955

December 23, 1955

—Section C



FRONT ROW (left to right): Dr. Henry Takahashi (S.F.), Mrs. Fumi Kuwahara Goda (S.F.), Clarence T. Arai (Seattle), Saburo Kido (S.F.), Tamezo Takimoto (S.F.), Mrs. Miya Sannomiya Kikuchi (Stockton), Yone Kuwahara Sugahara (Los Angeles). SECOND ROW: Takeo Okamoto (S.F.), Sam Sunada (Placer) Kay Nishida (S.F.), Dr. George Hiura (Sonoma), Louis Oki (Placer), Saiki Muneno (S.F.), George Togasaki (S.F.). THIRD ROW: T. Ogawa (Placer), Hisashi Arie (Fresno), Tamotsu Murayama (S.F.), Jerry N. Isonaka (S.F.), Jhosey Aoki (S.F.), Ryoichi Okamoto (Brawley), Masaru Kuwada (Stockton). FOURTH ROW: Charles Yonezu (S.F.), Kyoichi Doi (Ogden), Tom Yego (Placer), Tak Koga (S.F.) and Lyle Kurisaki (Brawley).
—Moriyama Studio.

JACL PIONEERS OF 1929

On April 5, 1929, a conference of West Coast Nisei citizen league leaders met in San Francisco to plan the framework for a national organization. Delegates from seven chapters (San Francisco, Seattle, Stockton, Los Angeles, Placer County, Fresno and Brawley) adopted the name of Japanese American Citizens League. They decided to hold their first national convention in Seattle in 1930, when the JACL constitution was adopted. It is on this historic occasion that prompted the theme of JACL's Silver Jubilee—1930 to 1955.

Did You Know? by Elmer Smith

THE PACIFIC CITIZEN in the 1950-51 issues published the JACL Story under the title of "Did You Know?" authored by Elmer Smith, genial professor at the Univ. of Utah, who was commissioned to pour through the volumes of correspondence files and old bound copies of the Pacific Citizen to present this story. We feel that while the story tells events up to 1950-51, when JACL's legislative peak was reached in the passage of the Walter-McCarran Act in 1952, the Story of JACL as reprinted will prove fascinating and meaningful in the spirit of the 1955 Holiday Issue theme.—Editor.

Part One

The earliest record of any purely Nisei organization in the United States was composed of a small number of public spirited young men living in Fresno, California. This small group began to meet in 1918 in the homes of the members and called themselves the Fresno Loyalty League. In 1923 this group, gaining impetus from a meeting in San Francisco, developed into the American Loyalty League.

The stimulus for the growth and development of other Nisei groups can be found in a meeting held in San Francisco during the fall of 1920. This meeting was attended by 14 persons of Japanese ancestry interested in the promotion of the welfare of the Nisei in America.

This group became the embryo out of which grew the New Citizens Federation of San Francisco, as well as giving impetus to the

reorganization of the Fresno group into the American Loyalty League.

★ ★ ★
In the Seattle area a comparable group of young Nisei met on September 27, 1921 and organized a League to carry out recreational, social and educational programs within the Japanese community. This group was reorganized in January, 1928 and became the Seattle Progressive Citizens' League.

★ ★ ★
Some of the other Nisei groups organized for social, economic and educational purposes during this period were the Sacramento Loyalty League (1922), San Jose American Loyalty League (1923), Stockton (1928), Brawley (1928), and Portland (1928).

The first meeting of all the organized Nisei groups was called in 1923 and met in San Francisco; this was followed in 1924 by a second meeting attended by representatives from 16 communities

in California.

During November 28-29, 1924 another meeting was held in San Francisco with representatives from the various California communities as well as from Seattle, Washington. It was at this meeting that a decision was made to make Nisei groups stronger and more influential through a combined organization of some sort. Soon after this meeting, however, a large number of the local Nisei groups folded up, and it was not until 1928 that a revival was staged in San Francisco.

1927: West Coast, Hawaii Nisei confer

While the Nisei along the Pacific Coast were beginning to form organizations of their own, the Hawaiian Nisei became interested in their own local problems and organized the New Americans Conference in Honolulu in 1927.

The mainland Nisei and the Hawaiian group had fairly close contact with one another for a number of years, but after 1935 the Hawaiian group gradually drew away from the mainland Nisei organization and concentrated on their own particular organization.

★ ★ ★
In April, 1928, representatives from the California Citizens' League Federation and Seattle met in San Francisco, and a decision was made to meet the fol-

lowing year for the purpose of laying plans for a permanent organization.

On April 5-6, 1929, the conference of Nisei leaders met in San Francisco and decided to have a national convention in Seattle in 1930. At this meeting it was decided, after much debate, to recommend to the Seattle convention the name Japanese American Citizens League for the organization. This name was submitted by Clarence Arai of Seattle.

1930: National JACL founded in Seattle

The birth of the JACL may be said to have taken place in Seattle on August 29, 1930. It was here that the first national convention was convened for the purpose of setting up a national organization composed of Americans of Japanese descent, and to pass on a constitution that had been developed at the earlier conception in San Francisco. The convention lasted four days.

★ ★ ★
The purpose of the JACL as stated by the founders reads:

"The League seeks to inculcate in its members and other Americans a spirit of loyal Americanism by developing civic consciousness, by promoting active participation in community and national life, and by positive education toward practice of American democratic institutions. It strives

to improve the welfare of American citizens of Japanese descent through fostering racial tolerance and through closer understanding and cooperation between them and their fellow Americans of other extractions."

Three important resolutions were passed at the First National Convention:

1. To petition Congress to place women citizens of Oriental ancestry on equal basis as other women citizens of the United States;

2. To petition Congress to give Orientals who served in World War I their citizenship as promised at the time of induction into the armed forces of the U.S.;

3. The component chapters of the JACL were to report as soon as possible to the National Council the number of eligible voters within their various districts.

1931: Cable Act signed by President Hoover

The JACL concentrated its political activities on the Cable Act Amendment to allow equal treatment of Oriental women with other women citizens in the U.S. Miss Suma Sugi of Los Angeles represented the JACL in Washington on this important bill; the bill was signed by President Herbert Hoover early in March of 1931 giving any woman citizen of the United States equal rights with all others relative to marriages with aliens, and making it possible for her to retain her American

Season's Greetings from Monterey

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The second national JACL convention was held in 1932 in Los Angeles, with the Olympic Games as an attraction. The third convention was held in San Francisco in 1934 and at this meeting, the first election of the national president occurred with the selection of Dr. T. T. Yatabe. Saburo Kido was elected executive secretary.

Did You Know?

citizenship. This was the first successful national legislation sponsored by the JACL.

The JACL during 1931 became interested in the number of discriminatory bills against persons of Japanese ancestry being introduced into various state legislatures, especially in California.

Two of the bills introduced were the "poll tax" bill and the hunting and fishing bill. Under the leadership of Walter T. Tsukamoto the JACL carried on a successful educational program in Sacramento, and the bills were defeated.

The active interest shown by the JACL in political matters brought forth certain criticisms from various quarters within the Japanese communities.

The Issei voiced the opinion that the young people were manifesting so much interest in politics that they were forgetting to develop along other constructive levels.

The criticism leveled by the Caucasian communities at the political interests of the JACL revolved around the stated danger of JACL developing a "block voting" technique in order to gain their ends.

To meet the above types of criticisms, the JACL issued a statement that the organization did not encourage citizens of Japanese

ancestry to act as a group as far as voting was concerned, nor did it encourage the making of unreasonable demands.

It was pointed out that the JACL was not a political organization but rather an educational and social fraternity. The JACL, however, did have as one of its principal goals the developing of better citizens and active ones in the carrying out of the responsibilities of members of a community, state and nation.

1932: 2nd biennial confab in Los Angeles

The Second National JACL Convention was held in Los Angeles during July 27-29, 1932.

Representatives to the Second Convention came from many large and small communities along the Pacific coast and Hawaii. A number of programs were suggested and resolutions passed, but the most significant from the national point of view was the further pushing of the bill for citizenship of World War I veterans of Oriental ancestry.

Many problems had to be solved before any well developed program could be undertaken to carry the citizenship bill directly to Washington, D.C. However, during 1933-35 a national JACL program was finally developed, and the "battle" was carried to Washington and other places in the United States.

Tokutaro Slocum was sent to

represent the JACL in Washington, D.C., and after months of hard work and many disappointments the veterans citizenship bill was passed and became law on June 25, 1935 with the signing of it by President Roosevelt.

Citizenship approved for WWI Issei veterans

The passage of the veteran's citizenship bill was important because this was the second national legislative bill successfully passed which was sponsored by the JACL.

It should be remembered this was accomplished in the days when the finances of JACL were very, very slim, and when JACL had not as yet gained national recognition by either the Japanese communities or the other groups in the United States. Hawaii supported this program both morally and by financial assistance.

During this period (1932-34) another bill introduced in Congress was of extreme interest to persons of Japanese ancestry.

This bill was known as the Dickstein bill, and dealt with qualifications of citizenship. An amendment introduced by Rep. Kramer of California declared that "a child born on foreign soil of one American parent was a citizen of the United States, provided the other parent was not an alien of a race ineligible to citizenship."

Through the personal activities of Saburo Kido, with the assistance of other JACL officers and

the cooperation and understanding of Rep. Mrs. F. P. Kahn of San Francisco, the Kramer amendment was defeated.

In 1932 the JACL began its educational program to have dual citizenship eliminated. This program was to continue right up to the time of Pearl Harbor, and involved many public debates and discussions with persons of Japanese ancestry and others.

The JACL was involved in the defeat of a number of bills introduced into the California legislature during the 1932-34 period. Walter Tsukamoto was again the leader in the political program defeating discriminatory legislation on a state level.

1934: Reorganize JACL at San Francisco meet

The 1934 National JACL Convention was held in San Francisco from August 31st to September 3.

There are listed in the records of this Convention the names of 20 chapters officially represented. At this time there were 24 chapters as charter members of the National JACL, while three others were on the verge of being organized.

A number of important resolutions were passed at this meeting, but the most outstanding one from the point of view of general interest dealt with the condemning of communism and any other "ism" found to be against the basic principles of the government and way of life of the United States.

The organization of the national body was changed at this time. The changes consisted in the establishment of the National Council and the election of the National President by the Council. Up to this time the National President was considered to be the President of the local chapter sponsoring the national biennial JACL convention. The other national officers were chosen in the same manner.

Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, pioneer in the Citizens' League movement and the forceful personality behind the Fresno American Loyalty League, was elected national president for the years 1934-36. Saburo Kido became executive secretary; John Maeno, assistant executive secretary, and Susumu Togasaki, national treasurer. All of these officers served without pay of any kind for their term of office.

The basic problem facing the JACL during the 1924-36 period was the consolidating of the various groups into a stronger unified body. This was to be done by the development of a strong and basic program through the use of a "work calendar". The activities, both on a national and local level, were to be centered

in special lines of activity, namely, political, social and economic.

Development of chapters phenomenal in '30s

The development of JACL within 18 months was phenomenal. On April 1, 1935, 33 chapters were listed for the states of California, Oregon, Washington, Texas, Arizona, Idaho and Utah. Some of these chapters were not chartered members of the National, but at least the idea of organizing for practical purposes was "catching on" among the Nisei throughout the country.

The period from late 1934 thru 1935 saw the introduction of a number of problems of extreme interest to the JACL.

Persons of Japanese ancestry in the Salt River Valley of Arizona were warned to "move out or else," while other attacks on persons of Japanese ancestry came from the Committee of One Thousand in Southern California. The California State Legislature introduced a bill to absolutely prohibit Japanese from engaging in agriculture.

The local and National JACL groups led attacks against such discrimination and legislation. The California bill was defeated.

Urge elimination of dual citizenship

A movement was sponsored by the JACL to step up the elimination of dual citizenship status. At a meeting of the Northern California District Board held in Monterey in September 1934, a spokesman for the Issei urged the Nisei to pledge undying allegiance to the United States as the home of their birth and of their life. He also insisted that the Nisei should be recognized only as citizens of the United States.

Predetermination of citizenship in the United States for Nisei before they left for a visit to a foreign country was urged by the JACL. Many Nisei—by far the majority—upon returning to the U.S. found themselves unable to enter the U.S. because they had to prove their citizenship. This often took days and even weeks, and created much confusion, distrust and frustration on the part of all concerned.

The problem of predetermination was carried as a basic project by the JACL into the 1936 national convention.

1936: JACL incorporated under California laws

The Fourth Biennial National Convention of the Japanese American Citizens League held in Seattle, Washington during September 4-7, 1936, faced a number of important problems. This year was a national

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election year, and the JACL maintained the Nisei should be stimulated to show intelligent interest in politics and active participation at the polls.

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Vocational problems were becoming of increasing importance, especially since more and more Nisei were getting to the age where such problems were uppermost in their minds. The problem of where and how to place professional and vocational Nisei called for some sort of solution, or at least for serious consideration.

As the Nisei became older their interests turned to some possible system for group or fraternal insurance. A movement was set

afloat to develop some such insurance; it was to be studied and reported to the next convention.

The Nisei began to demand that some of their brothers and sisters who were born in Japan and not American citizens, should be given that right. The suggestion was made that the "Hansei" should be given the right to citizenship since they were primarily Nisei in every sense of the term except birth.

The fourth convention was the first one to have any part of its program broadcast over a radio station. Dr. T. T. Yatabe, retiring national president, delivered the keynote address and this was broadcast over station KJR, Seattle.

A number of important decisions were made at the fourth convention, among which were:

1. The JACL was to be incorporated under the California law;
2. Resolutions were passed asking for predetermination of Nisei citizenship before leaving the United States;
3. Dual citizenship was denounced;
4. Committees were to be organized in the various district councils for the purpose of increasing the work in public relations;
5. The council elected James Y. Sakamoto as national president; Walter T. Tsukamoto, executive secretary; Susumu Togasaki, treasurer; Masao Satow, assistant secretary.

The JACL continued to oppose discriminatory legislation in the various states. The Washington state JACL was primarily instrumental in bringing about the governor's veto of a vicious land law. The principal actors in this movement were James Y. Sakamoto and Thomas Masuda, an outstanding Nisei lawyer.

The Utah JACL inaugurated a movement to amend the Utah statutes on alien game and fishing laws. Utah House Bill No. 199 was introduced, and was passed favoring non-citizen Japanese. The positive bill was signed by Governor Henry H. Blood, and became law. Active in the sponsoring of the fish and game bill were Mike M. Masaoka and Henry Kasai.

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First six years of JACL recapitulated

The first six years of the JACL as a national organization came to an end with the meeting in Seattle of the Fourth National Convention September 4-7, 1936.

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These six years saw the development of the JACL from a small organized group represented by nine communities to over 40 chapters located in many communities up and down the Pacific Coast. It



The San Francisco Convention Board included: front row—Mrs. Fumi Goda, Mrs. Kimi Higaki, Kay Tsukamoto, Dr. Terry T. Hayashi, Mrs. Michi Onuma, Kimi Mukaye, Alice Iwaoka; second row—Dr. Carl Hirota, Dr. Henry Takahashi, Sim Togasaki, Kelly Yamada, Yoneo Bepp, Tsune Baba, Tamotsu Murayama; third row—Yasuo Abiko, Toshimi Ogawa, Earl Tanbara, Taki Domoto, Takeo Okamoto, Shinichi Nishimoto, Sumio Miyamoto; inserts—Saburo Kido, Akira Horikoshi.

had by September, 1936, well organized District Councils in the Northwest, Northern California and Southern California. The legislative programs had been successful on both a national and state level.

The JACL was developing experienced leadership among the Nisei and was spearheading Americanization programs among all persons of Japanese ancestry.

The problems of internal organization increased as the JACL program became more elaborate, and many petty conflicts developed within the organization calling upon the initiative and sound judgment of the leaders to keep the organization in harmonious working order.

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Anti-JACL attacks increased in number and in ferocity, based primarily upon the assumption that it was being run and controlled by a few for their own selfish benefits. Personality conflicts developed among some of the leaders, especially in Southern California, but the existence of strong personalities, both Nisei and Issei, kept dangerous disrupting factors from becoming successful in destroying the JACL.

The economic depression of the first six years of JACL's existence worked a hardship upon the members, and especially upon its leaders. These men and women were called upon to spend long hours and much of their own finances in carrying on the program of the JACL both on a local and national level.

During this period the "Pacific Citizen" was running close to the financial danger line, and it was rescued a number of times by generous donations from Nisei and Issei alike. The officers were not paid for their services, and very often it was necessary for them to pay their own way to various meetings and conventions.

The JACL, during this six year period of organization and development was dependent for its life blood upon the inspiration and idealism of its philosophy stated in its two slogans, "Strength through Unity," and "Better Americans in a Greater America."

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Job discrimination faces qualified Nisei

One of the outstanding programs instituted by the JACL during 1936-38 was a study of the vocational status of the Nisei. Surveys conducted by the various local chapters during this period tended to show that the ability of the Nisei had not been introduced to the American business man nor to the American manufacturer. The "second generation" found itself "well educated and on a par with anyone in ability, but without any outlet for either education or ability."

The JACL in various communities, especially in the larger centers of population and concentrations of persons of Japanese ancestry, spearheaded a movement to get better cooperation within the Japanese community between the older generation and the younger persons graduating from college and high school.

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A number of surveys in many communities pointed out the lines for the most efficient employment of Nisei as well as designating the areas of most severe discrimination.

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Early in 1937, under the direction of Masao Satow, the JACL's Second Generation Development program was launched. It tied in directly with the vocational program as well as with the general overall welfare program initiated by the JACL at this time.

There were three basic projects outlined by the Development program:

1. To study anti-alien legislation as it touched on the welfare of the Nisei through their parents.
2. To study the various forces

at work on children of Japanese ancestry tending to create problems of juvenile delinquency.

3. To study Nisei and other American young people in order to discover, if possible, personality adjustment differences, if any between the two groups.

The various District councils were to spearhead the study through commissions appointed from the respective chapters in each district.

Advisers to carry out the program were picked from outstanding persons in academic circles along the Pacific Coast. Dr. Emory S. Bogardus, University of Southern California, Dr. Edward T. Strong, Leland Stanford University, and Dr. Kazuo Kawai, University of California at Los Angeles, were the principal advisers during the early period of the Development program.

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JACL Endowment fund endures shaky start

The \$100,000 Endowment Fund program had bogged down during 1936-37, and a new "shot in the arm" was given to the raising of money for the Fund. Two reasons may be given for the failure of the Endowment Fund to materialize.

In only a few areas were there any concerted drives undertaken, and there were some questions and criticisms on a local level as to the manner in which the money was to be divided and used.

Some of the chapters felt they would be paying in more than they would receive, and others would be getting funds they had not contributed.

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The political scene became very complicated during the years 1936-38. The basic reasons for this were due to the strained international relations existing between Japan and the United States because of the Sino-Japanese conflict.

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The California State Legislature, as usual, introduced a number of bills aimed specifically at persons of Japanese ancestry. Two of these bills attempted to increase the severity of the already existing Alien Land Law and Anti-Alien Corporation Law. Another bill was aimed at restricting the actions of all persons of Japanese ancestry, especially as their actions were related to certain types of economic activity.

The JACL, in cooperation with groups and persons friendly to the JACL, worked against these bills. The opposition of the JACL to such bills was based upon the principle that such laws were discriminatory, "vicious and un-American," that such laws would "take away the means of a fair and honest livelihood of parents

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of native-born citizen children of Japanese ancestry."

Joint Immigration

Committee attacks Nisei

During the years 1936-38 the JACL was attacked by a number of California anti-Oriental groups as being pro-Japanese and anti-American. One of the most outspoken groups making such attacks was the California Joint Immigration Committee. The attacks were aimed at decreasing the JACL's influence in fighting the passage of alien land laws, fishing and hunting bills.

One of the results of the Sino-Japanese conflict was the position taken by many Caucasians along the Pacific Coast on the boycotting of goods made by Japanese and Japanese labor.

The JACL on a local and national scale carried out an aggressive educational program against the boycott. The program bore fruit when two important newspapers, "The San Francisco Chronicle" and "The Seattle Star," ran a series of editorials against the boycott, and pointed out the negative results and unfairness of such action to the persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

The JACL found itself in 1937 using its influence and support to gain statehood for the Territory of Hawaii. Its office was used to furnish Delegate S. H. King of Hawaii information concerning Japanese residents there.

The JACL became a fully recognized organization under law when on June 21, 1937 it was incorporated according to the laws of the State of California.

The movement gained momentum at the close of 1937 and groups of Nisei began to organize in the intermountain region with an intent of later joining the national organization. The Boise Valley area, the Pocatello region, Ogden and Salt Lake City began to hold meetings of Nisei for the purpose of developing a JACL program. There had been groups meeting in the Brighton and Denver, Colorado areas with the purpose of organizing into JACL units.

Severe criticism of JACL marks late '30s

There appeared at about this time some severe criticism of the JACL. It was held by some that "factional strife was observable in the ranks of JACL leaders and groups." There was a slackening off and refusal on the part of some leaders to participate and cooperate in League activities.

Another critical appraisal of JACL developed the thesis that the interest in the JACL was tending to supersede the interest of the general Nisei public, and it was thus becoming the playground for a handful of petty politicians.

The closing months of 1938 introduced a new theme into the press of the country challenging the Nisei and the JACL. It was reported Foreign Minister Koki Hirota stated that Japanese Americans, even though they cancelled their Japanese citizenship, were still Japanese, "and they should be educated as Japanese in order to retain Japanese virtues." He was further stated as saying the Japanese government was keeping close connections with them.

The JACL through its national headquarters and President, James Y. Sakamoto, released to all news agencies and radios a rebuttal of the stand taken by Hirota. The statement by Sakamoto concluded with the statement: "Loyalty is the higher essence of ethics. Being American citizens is not only a matter of pride with us, but a matter of loyalty to the United States."

1938: Vocation problems studied at L. A. confab

The fifth biennial national convention of the JACL was held in Los Angeles, August 28 to September 5, 1938.

Vocational problems were given serious consideration during the Fifth Convention. The fact

that the Nisei were becoming older and entering the labor market and professional fields increased the numbers of contacts where discrimination was possible. It was recognized that more and more Nisei were graduating from colleges and universities without being able to find positions to fit their training.

Plans were laid for the increasing of public relations, revising the constitution, stepping up the size and circulation of the "Pacific Citizen," and to carry on the Second Generation Development Program.

The general feeling at the Fifth Convention was that the American people were becoming more and more antagonistic to the Japanese on the international scene, and as this antagonism increased it would have direct bearing upon the treatment given to persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

The various discriminatory attacks made upon persons of Japanese ancestry by boycotts, news stories and other sources of propaganda made many Nisei realize the importance of joining forces for mutual protection and advancement within their community.

The League at this time had nearly 8000 members, covering the states west of the Rocky Mountains. There were 42 chapters as members of the national organization.

The convention held at Los Angeles made 17 resolutions. Among these were the demand for predetermination of citizenship of Nisei before leaving the U.S. for foreign travel; the status of dual citizenship should be discouraged; a committee on public relations should be formed to carry on an extensive educational program about the Nisei; opposition was stated against all foreign "isms," and cooperation was to be carried out with the American Legion and other organizations in fighting such "isms."

Issei naturalization first sought in 1938

Three resolutions dealt with the problem of immigration and naturalization of alien Japanese. The most interesting one for our purpose stated "that a movement be launched to petition Congress to modify the existing Naturalization Law to permit alien Japanese residing here prior to the enactment of the 1924 Exclusion Act to become American citizens, provided they are able to meet the qualifications as set forth under the law and rules and regulations."

The officers elected for the years 1938-40 were Walter T. Tsukamoto, president; Ken Matsumoto, vice president; Ken Ustunomiya, executive secretary; Hito Okada, treasurer.

The JACL membership drive took up much of the energy of the local chapters during the years 1939-40. The drive was under the leadership of Bill Ishida of Fresno, and resulted in an increase of over 30 per cent in national JACL membership.

Late in 1938 Teiko Ishida was appointed as the National JACL historian. During 1939 a questionnaire was sent to all the chapters for the purpose of obtaining specific information for the writing of an official JACL history. Only 24 chapters answered the questionnaire, and as a result the history was not completed. However, these twenty-four questionnaires have been of great value in the preparation of the present JACL story.

During the 1939-40 period, a number of internal problems beset most of the chapters. There was considerable criticism in some quarters that the JACL expected too much of its members. The representation at meetings was about 11 to 12 per cent of the total membership of the specific chapters.

Another form of criticism was directed at the leaders and officers of various chapters. This maintained that the local officers did not continue their interests in the league's affairs after their term had expired. It was pointed

out that some persons even refused to take office after they had been duly elected by the chapter membership.

Lack of funds suspend PC publication

The "Pacific Citizen" found itself, during 1939, in a very precarious financial condition. The "Pacific Citizen" was always being run on a "shoe string," even in its best days.

However, in the late part of 1939 conditions became so serious, because of the failure of the JACL membership to adequately support and subscribe to it, that a decision was reached by the national president, Walter Tsukamoto, to suspend publication of the paper on January 1, 1940.

After a few months of suspension the various chapters were able to raise money for its revival, and the "Pacific Citizen" has continued publication ever since with the exception of a few months immediately following the March, 1942 evacuation orders.

1939: Intermountain District established

Internal problems did not keep the JACL from continued growth as evidenced by five new chapters being added to the national organization. Also, the Intermountain district council was initiated at a meeting in Idaho Falls on Dec. 2, 1939. The Intermountain district council was officially organized in Salt Lake City on Dec. 29, 1939, and was accepted as such by the sixth National JACL convention at Portland, Ore. from Aug. 28 to Sept. 2, 1940.

The National JACL convention held in Portland in the early fall of 1940 found a growing interest in the Nisei emanating from many sources. The JACL was considered by various non-Nisei groups as the only organized spokesman for the Nisei. The leaders and delegates to the sixth convention discovered their problems and responsibilities increased in proportion to the recognition given the JACL.

Recognition of the increased responsibilities of the JACL led the officers and delegates to outline nine specific objectives for the JACL and a program to carry out these objectives. The objectives were:

1. Make the Nisei more conscious of responsibilities as citizens;
2. Make the Nisei conscious of unity;
3. Fight for all those movements which will give Japanese aliens and citizens, status;
4. Fight against all those movements which jeopardize persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States;
5. Education of the American public to the fact of Japanese American citizenship;
6. Promotion of Japanese American and public amity;
7. Community improvement;
8. Community co-operation;
9. Work to give the JACL status in the community.

These nine points became the basis for the general over-all program and discussions at the sixth national convention.

1940: Portland hosts sixth biennial confab

The sixth annual convention of the JACL held in Portland, Ore., from Aug. 28 through Sept. 2, 1940 was attended by 573 registered delegates and 58 guests. There were 43 chapters represented out of a total of 50 in the national organization.

The program of the convention emphasized the expanding demands made upon the Nisei as active participants in their communities and the nation. The Round Tables reflected this tendency to a noted degree.

The group discussion centered on agricultural problems and pointed out the fact that Nisei were becoming more active in rural affairs and they were thus called upon to take recognition of the common problems of the over-all rural community.

The Issei-Nisei meeting pointed out the problems revolving around the Issei-Nisei relationships. The social and political conflicts between the Issei and Nisei were given special consideration.

Problems of national defense and fifth column activities were reviewed by the political and legal discussion groups. The significance of dual citizenship was pointed out, and emphasis was given to the need for its elimination. The extent of discrimination in employment was given serious consideration.

tion with some recommendations for action.

The sixth national convention was very well covered for the general American public. Newspapers, the radio, and other mediums of communication were extremely interested in the "goings on" at the JACL meeting. This convention had the best news coverage of any JACL convention up to this time, and this definitely had positive results in various segments of the non-Japanese communities.

The JACL through its alert leaders and by the intelligent use of the open forum type of discussion showed themselves and their members to be conscious of the grave forces at work both on a national and international scale which were to influence the life of the Nisei in America in the period to come.

Resolutions and program formulated at the sixth national convention were made with this stated theme in mind. These are of extreme importance for the understanding of later events. During the "years of decision" following Pearl Harbor the conduct and decisions of the JACL were greatly influenced by the stated positions on various problems of the 1940 convention.

There were a number of significant resolutions passed by the sixth national convention, but only a few of these are the most important for our purpose in the present discussion.

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Allegiance to U. S. Constitution reaffirmed

A resolution upon which many of the decisions were made by the national officers in 1941 and 1942 stated specifically that the JACL reaffirm "without any reservations" allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and to American ideals and institutions. This resolution was supported by individual commitments of various members and leaders in interviews, speeches and letters.

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Another resolution which laid the foundation for JACL participation in Fair Employment Practice meetings stated absolute opposition to any type of discrimination on the basis of race, creed or color in the field of employment. Other resolutions carried this idea to include discrimination in the armed services, social activities or political organizations.

The JACL went on record as favoring the universal registration of all residents of the United States.

The internal business of the JACL centered in the raising of

money for a paid secretary on the national level, increasing the overall public relations program of the JACL on both a local and national level, the expansion of the Second Generation Development Program, and the establishing of the "Pacific Citizen" upon a sound basis both financially and editorially.

The discussion centering around the Pacific Citizen resulted in some interesting comments, including the suggestion the Pacific Citizen should change its name to the American Citizen. The motion to have this change was nearly successful. After due consideration, however, it was decided to leave the name Pacific Citizen attached to the national JACL paper.

Saburo Kido was elected as the national JACL president. Ken Matsumoto was elected vice-president with James Sugioka, executive secretary, and Hito Okada treasurer.

Kido utters prophetic words at his inaugural

The newly elected leaders recognized the importance of their office and the obligations they assumed as representatives of 50 JACL chapters and their membership.

Saburo Kido soon after taking office stated in a letter to a friend:

"The forthcoming two years may be the toughest for any JACL president, considering the prospects of Japanese-American relations. I may be the goat or I may sail through without any trouble. I am fully aware of the delicate position I hold as the leader of the organization which represents the Nisei as a whole."

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These were indeed prophetic words as we are now able to look back upon the hectic "years of decision" of JACL while Kido was president.

The JACL and the Nisei as a whole soon came in for vicious criticisms and charges as to their non-Americanism. This attack was led by Kilsoo K. Haan of the Sino-Korean Peoples Lobby. The implications of Haan's charges as voiced by Sen. Guy Gillette was that the Japanese government was "conscripting" Nisei on the west coast and Hawaii for espionage.

JACL national headquarters challenged the truthfulness of this charge in a letter to Sen. Gillette and other public officials. A partial retraction was made by Sen. Gillette. Such charges and propa-

ganda was kept up on the Pacific coast by the traditional anti-Oriental groups.

During May, 1941 the "Japanese American Creed," written by Mike Masaoka, was placed in the "Congressional Record" by Sen. Elbert D. Thomas of Utah. At the time of submitting the "Creed," Sen. Thomas said:

"This has come to be accepted as representing the true sentiments of American citizens of Japanese ancestry... I am sure Senators will agree with me that the Japanese American Creed reflects the true American Spirit and the American Way."

A few months after the meeting of the national JACL convention in Portland conditions became increasingly serious for persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States. The international situation as it dealt with the relations of Japan and the United States made it possible to increase their propaganda against the Nisei.

1941: Dark days before Pearl Harbor recalled

The JACL embarked upon one of its most realistic public relations program and appointed a national publicity director in the person of Togo Tanaka. The principal task of the publicity director was to arrange for the distribution of stories, articles, and pictures to various news services. These were to illustrate the inherent Americanism of the Japanese Americans to the American public.

One of the first national news stories to be circulated was the one carried by Life and other magazines of the first Japanese American selectee to be killed in the line of duty during maneuvers in the state of Washington.

Late in the summer of 1941 the leaders of JACL realized the need for greater coordination between the chapters and the national office. To meet this demand, President Saburo Kido called a special emergency meeting in San Francisco in August, 1941.

The principal business of the emergency meeting was to decide what the JACL should do under the existing conditions of tension and misunderstanding existing along the Pacific Coast as affecting persons of Japanese ancestry. It was suggested that a paid secretary should be appointed as full time worker to carry out a specific program of public relations, investigate national defense jobs and discrimination in employment as involving Nisei, and to work out a program to protect persons of Japanese ancestry from mass hysteria.

A national secretary and field executive was appointed and a budget of \$5000 apportioned for his expenses. The emergency meeting of the National Council appointed Mike M. Masaoka chairman of the Intermountain District Council, to the position. Masaoka officially took office on September 1, 1941.

National JACL policy told in declaration

The National Board of the JACL issued early in September, 1941, the "Declaration of Policy" of the JACL. This declaration summarized the basic stand taken and to be maintained by the JACL on issues of loyalty, anti-discrimination, citizenship, leadership, and Americanism.

The concluding paragraph of the declaration summarizes the objectives in the following words:

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Charles Akiyama
Secretary
Nob Hamada
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Harold Okimoto
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"The Japanese American Citizens League is devoted to those tasks which are calculated to win for ourselves and our posterity the status outlined by our two national slogans: 'For Better Americans in a Greater America' and 'Security Through Unity.'"

The Declaration was sent to all congressmen, the President of the United States, army and navy intelligence, and various news agencies.

Commitments of the JACL to full cooperation with the U.S. government in the fields of national defense were carried out in a number of ways. One of the first steps along this line was the assistance offered by the various local chapters in the registration of aliens. In many localities the registration for Japanese aliens was arranged within the Japanese communities themselves under the auspices of the JACL.

The National Youth Administration was contacted by the JACL in cooperation with the Japanese Students' Christian Association, and Nisei were admitted as advisors to the NYA.

Mike Masaoka presented the position of the JACL to the meeting of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices in Los Angeles in mid-October of 1941. This was the first opportunity for Japanese Americans to present their employment grievances to a government agency and to ask for equality in the matter of job-hiring by the various "defense" industries.

The outcome of this FEP meeting was close cooperation between the government and the JACL representatives in various areas of the United States. This cooperation was of extreme importance later when the relocation of residents from WRA centers to various parts of the United States took place.

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Nisei loyalty issue attracts nat'l attention

The various attacks being made upon the loyalty of Japanese Americans to the United States by various groups in California and by some congressmen from the west coast brought up the problem of dual citizenship status for action. During October, 1941, Secretary of War Stimson drafted proposed legislation to eliminate the complications of dual citizenship.

The JACL sent a letter to Secretary Stimson stating the interest of the JACL in the problem of dual citizenship. The JACL volunteered its services to the government in attempting to work out a solution to the problem.

Togo Tanaka was sent to Washington, D.C., as a JACL representative to take part in the hearings before the House Immigration and Naturalization Committee held during the last week of October. The JACL took a positive position on the bill proposed by Secretary Stimson.

In the midst of the stepped up activity of the JACL to win economic and social acceptance on a basis of equality for Japanese Americans, and with the growing interest in the JACL from all sources of the American public—Pearl Harbor came!

The coming of war found the Japanese in America in a peculiar position along the west coast of the United States. The Nisei, whose age was, on the average, 17, were still dominated by the first generation. A few of the older Nisei were beginning to win general acceptance as real community leaders, but they were the exceptions and not the rule.

Practically all the ministers and civic leaders in the Japanese community were first generation, and few of these exerted great power or influence outside the Japanese community.

Most of the more successful businesses and farms were operated by Issei. All of the major newspapers and publications, with a very few exceptions, were published by the first generation.

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Most of the financial aspects of the Japanese community and individual families were controlled by the Issei, thus giving them more power than they might otherwise have wielded.

Pre-war Issei groups discredit Nisei leaders

The JACL and a few other Nisei organizations were beginning to break into the inner circle of leadership, but the officials of the Japanese associations, chambers of commerce, Farmers' associations and other comparable Issei clubs and organizations more often than not discouraged the independent growth of Nisei groups and often tried to discredit their leadership.

The Issei tended to guard their rights and privileges in a jealous manner, and bitterly resented any intrusion on the part of what to them were still "adolescent or child-like" encroachments.

The opening of warfare between the U.S. and Japan found the leaders to whom the people at large looked for guidance and counsel in the Japanese community to be of the first generation. Thus, when federal agents swooped down upon the Japanese communities after Pearl Harbor and interned all of those whom they suspected as being dangerous to the security of the United States, there were placed in custody most of the acknowledged and experienced leadership of the various communities. This fact must not be forgotten in the analysis and understanding of events which were to follow in the next 18 months.

The disappearance of leaders from the Issei group left, in a sense, a leaderless people, facing chaos and confusion with frustration heaped upon frustration, looking for leadership.

The only organization with any type of leadership and recognition among both the first and second generations was the JACL. The JACL was forced to step into the breach—both because federal and state officials looked to the JACL for guidance and assistance and the Japanese in some localities requested it.

The JACL leaders were called upon to make momentous decisions regarding their position in the tensions mounting along the west coast both as to their relations with the persons of Japanese ancestry and Caucasians.

It is impossible in this connection to forget the words of Saburo Kido upon taking office as president of the national JACL. "The forthcoming two years may be the toughest for any JACL president, considering the prospects of Japanese-American relations. I may be the goat or I may sail through without any trouble. I am fully aware of the delicate position I hold as the leader of the organization which represents the Nisei as a whole."

The JACL leaders made decisions to do their utmost to hold the Japanese communities together and to keep them from disintegrating into helpless disorder. Whether everyone will agree with the steps taken and decisions made to carry out certain programs is not important at this point. Recognition must be given to the JACL leaders for undertaking a great task, and also a recognized thankless one!

Dec. 7, 1941: Hq. begins 24-hour service



The National JACL Board of 1941 had to meet the critical problems of the Japanese American arising from World War II and the evacuation. Members included: First row (left to right)—Dr. George Hiura, Kay Hirao (deceased), Tom Shimasaki, Mike Masaoka, Yasuo Abiko; second row—Walter Tsukamoto, James Sakamoto (deceased), Saburo Kido, Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Mrs. Teiko Kuroiwa; third row—Sim Togasaki, James Sugioka, Dr. Yoshio Nakaji, Ken Matsumoto, Togo Tanaka, Tom Iseri. Saburo Kido served as president of the National JACL during 1940-46.

Part Two

Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, found the leaders of the JACL along with other Nisei in the United States going about their regular business unmindful of the tragedy in store for them before the day was ended.

Mike Masaoka was in North Platte, Nebr., speaking to a group of Nisei gathered from various communities in western Nebraska. That evening Masaoka was picked up by the local authorities and locked in the county jail because he was a stranger of Japanese appearance in the vicinity. This was not the last time he was to be thrown in jail because of his ancestry.

Masaoka summarized his experience in North Platte in the following words: "I learned the bitter truth that I was considered just a plain 'Jap,' and together with thousands of my fellow Japanese Americans, began to wonder what the future held in store for us."

Saburo Kido, as soon as he had heard of the attack on Pearl Harbor, released a statement to the press and to the various government agencies, including the President of the United States, condemning the Japanese Imperial government for the unwarranted attack and pledging the JACL to full cooperation in the over-all war effort.

The national headquarters immediately went on a 24-hour service day. This was necessary in order to help any and all persons of Japanese ancestry under all kinds of circumstances. One of the officers working in the national office described part of the scene surrounding the activities of the JACL. He said:

"I will never forget those

awful days and nights when mothers and little children came up to our office crying because their husbands and fathers had been taken into custody for rea-

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sons which they could not understand.

In the days and weeks immediately following Pearl Harbor, many of the JACL chapters became social service agencies in every sense of that term. Food and money were given to destitute and starving families, many of the families being on the verge of eviction because they could not pay their rent. With the freezing of all Issei bank accounts by the Treasury Department many JACL leaders up and down the Pacific coast and in the Intermountain states dipped into their own pockets and savings in order that those who needed food, clothing, and shelter would not go without.

The JACL instituted a Citizens News Service. The purpose of this service was to issue bulletins quoting and explaining rules and regulations governing all persons of Japanese ancestry. Items included in this "news service" dealt with various aspects of civilian defense bank deposits, relief, air raid blackouts, rules governing meetings, use of short wave radios, and announcements of federal rules and regulations of every sort and description.

National Headquarters of the JACL realized the necessity of stating clearly and precisely the position it aimed to occupy throughout the war. A release was given to all chapters and news agencies on Dec. 15, 1941 stating the over-all program and position of the JACL. The Anti-Axis Committee of the Southern District Council was quoted in terms of its objectives as part of the JACL program. This reads as follows:

"We pledge the facilities of our entire organization and our individual services to our government in this great crisis. We pledge our unequivocal repudiation of Japan and bend our energies to the common objective of an American victory and the defeat of the Axis power."

"Objective:
"1. To cooperate with all national, state and local government agencies in their program in this emergency.

"2. To coordinate the activities of all citizens and alien residents in the successful prosecution of this war.

"3. To secure national unity

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Survey public attitude of Japanese Americans

As demands increased during 1941 upon the JACL for information about persons of Japanese ancestry as well as social service requests, the organization recognized it needed more specific information about over-all conditions in all Japanese communities.

To meet this need, a survey was launched to obtain information upon subjects such as the attitudes of the Nisei toward the political and economic conditions in the U. S., attitudes of the communities at large toward persons of Japanese ancestry; attitudes of newspapers, local officials and radio; changes caused by the war in the employment and businesses of Japanese; and the conditions relative to economic and personal needs.

JACL HISTORY—PART TWO...

Mike Masaoka, national secretary for the JACL, reported upon the basis of this survey to Navy Intelligence and other organizations and agencies interested in the conditions among persons of Japanese ancestry the following results:

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1. The attitude of the Nisei was one of bewilderment, but they were loyal to the United States.

2. The Nisei had faith in the sense of justice of the American people, and they wished to be given a fair chance to prove their loyalty.

3. No definite generalization could be made concerning the Kibei, but they seemed to be bewildered and indefinite as to the outcome of the war.

4. The great majority of Issei were loyal to the U.S. and appreciative of many privileges and opportunities offered them by this country.

5. Some communities heaped rank injustices upon the Japanese, and in some instances bodily harm was done, but in the majority of areas the people were fair in their treatment of the Japanese. (This was written in late 1941).

6. Japanese businesses and employment met with drastic setbacks, and many persons were unemployed and in dire need.

7. The various local chapters carried on many and varied programs of education and participated in many types of social service activities.

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A number of rumors about JACL and its officers began to circulate about this time. All of these can be classified into two categories: one came from the anti-Oriental and anti-Japanese groups, the other from the Japanese themselves.

Anti-Nisei rumors squelched by JACL

It was rumored—and in many instances submitted as proved—that the JACL did not cooperate with the F.B.I., Navy Intelligence, and other authorities charged with the internal safety of the U.S. The other rumor maintained that JACL and its leaders, in order to enhance their own position as the leaders in the Japanese community and to save their necks, turned in the names of all first genera-

tion leaders and asked for their internment.

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The research carried out in the last seven months makes it possible to unequivocally state that no evidence for the support of either rumor can be obtained.

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The JACL did cooperate with various government agencies and furnished information that was available when it was requested. This was considered to be the duty of every American during the period of emergency.

It should not be forgotten, however, that the JACL was not, and is not today, in a position to hire trained investigators in subversive activities; and furthermore, it was not and is not organized for such purposes. The information that was furnished to the FBI, Navy Intelligence, etc. by the JACL was not anything not generally known in the many Japanese communities. This is brought out by the summary given of the letter to Navy Intelligence given earlier in this article.

Officials from various government agencies did frequently visit JACL headquarters. The reason for this seems obvious when one recognizes that it was here that reports from the many chapters were concentrated, and that the JACL at this time, as well as later, was acting as a buffer between various agencies and the Japanese communities.

Through the constructive activities of the JACL many civic groups and local, state and national government officials went on record supporting the fair treatment of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

Numerous citizen groups called upon their fellow citizens to distinguish between the "mad militarists of Tojo" and those who had chosen America as their home.

The JACL thus became recognized by the various government agencies as well as by many of the Americans as being the constructive spokesman for persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

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Nisei lulled by early support from groups

The positive support given by many civic groups and the faith shown by them and government agencies in the JACL, demanded that the JACL place itself in a position of cooperation with these and demonstrate the faith of the Nisei in the American philosophy of fair play and of equality. It is highly possible that the JACL and other Nisei were lulled into a feeling of security by the acts of these types of groups and agencies.

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This attitude on the part of the Nisei undoubtedly made it possible for the racists along the Pacific coast to accomplish evacua-

tion more readily than otherwise might have been the case.

The period immediately following Pearl Harbor found the JACL cooperating in enlistment programs for the armed forces, selling war bonds, collecting scrap tin, and carrying out an educational program for the conservation of vital materials. The Red Cross drives were over-subscribed and USO fund campaigns found generous donors among all persons of Japanese ancestry.

National JACL called upon all persons of Japanese ancestry engaged in agriculture to participate in the "Food for Victory" program of the Department of Agriculture and their enthusiastic response is noted in federal reports on the subject.

JACL chapters participated in a "Buy a Bomber to Bomb Tokyo" campaign which received favorable notices throughout the country. Mike Masaoka observed: "In these and many other ways, the JACL and the Japanese Americans were doing everything they knew to demonstrate their fidelity and allegiance."

The registration of all "enemy aliens" and the request to have property forms filled out by persons of Japanese ancestry found the JACL ready and willing to assist in these undertakings. Japanese American translators were made available free of charge, and JACL officials spent much time explaining and helping their Japanese alien group fill out the necessary blanks.

Assistance was given by the JACL to persons of Japanese ancestry in every state in the Union in obtaining birth certificates and filing of birth certificates with various states. Letters in the files of the national JACL headquarters from governors and government agencies testify to the great services rendered by the JACL during this period.

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1942: Nisei classified as 4C—alien, undesired

The news released early in 1942 by the War Department to the fact that Nisei would no longer be inducted into the armed forces, and that many then serving would be discharged and placed on the reserve list, will not soon be forgotten.

Selective Service followed up this announcement by reclassifying all American citizens of Japanese ancestry in 4-C, a classification reserved for aliens and others not desired by the military.

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The records in JACL national headquarters show, contrary to a view held by many, that JACL immediately and in unmistakable terms protested these directives and demanded equal treatment for all Americans, regardless of race.

The correspondence between the national JACL, Selective Service, War Department, the President of the United States and others is too voluminous to be listed here, but the recorded story in the files of JACL shows that this was the beginning of the long hard "fight" waged by JACL and others interested in Japanese Americans to

gain the War Department's reconsideration of their discriminatory policy.

The idea still held by some Nisei and others that JACL did nothing about the discriminatory policy relative to the Nisei in the armed forces is not in line with the facts as recorded in the correspondence and records.

The late winter of 1942 found isolated demands for the Japanese aliens to be given special treatment by the Army.

Special emphasis was laid on moving them away from the coastal areas to the interior and place them in concentration camps. These scattered suggestions for discriminatory action grew in numbers and volume as the weeks wore on, and finally increased their scope to include the American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

The various racist groups of the west were gathering their forces for an all-out onslaught against all persons of Japanese ancestry. It is now the considered opinion of students in the field of race relations that these anti-Oriental (anti-Japanese) groups used the excuse of war and military necessity as the legitimate basis to get rid of the Japanese in California, Oregon, Washington and parts of Arizona.

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Racists play up anti-Nisei rumors

During the months of 1942, the JACL found itself more and more being called upon to combat vicious rumors about the espionage and sabotage being committed by persons of Japanese ancestry. These rumors were passed from one person and group to another by word of mouth, newspaper stories and through propaganda leaflets distributed by anti-Japanese groups throughout the Pacific coast areas.

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The few attacks committed on persons of Japanese ancestry by Filipinos in particular were played up by the racists along with the rumors to press their demands and charges for total evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry.

It was argued that such a move was necessary for the protection of the Pacific coast and for the protection of the Japanese themselves. The fact that Japan was literally "storming the gates to Alaska" as well as reports of several forest fires having been set by parachutes sent over by Japanese caught the imagination of the people.

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The rumors and stories were permitted to grow and spread without serious challenge on the part of government officials. A few voices were raised in protest, but these were drowned out by the hysteria generated by banner headlines and the rantings of the Pacific Coast racists.

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The wires and telephones to and from the JACL national headquarters were busy tracing down and denying the various rumors and stories, but they seemed to be a voice crying in the wilderness. Some of the early supporters for fair play for persons of Japanese ancestry were now on the bandwagon demanding the immediate exclusion of Issei and Nisei alike from the West Coast.

Evacuation of Nisei to interior unbelievable

When the suggestions were first made that American citizens of Japanese ancestry be evacuated along with their alien parents, the majority of Nisei and members and officers of the JACL considered such a move as fantastic and well beyond the realm of possibility.

It was believed that the alien parents might be moved out of specifically designated zones into other areas under the rule of "military necessity," but that American citizens could be evacuated, arbitrarily, and "en masse," from their homes was believed by most everyone to be too far fetched for serious consideration.

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One of the national officers of JACL stated the basic feelings

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IS NEXT JACL PRESIDENT IN THIS PHOTO?



When the 4th national convention opened its session at the Seattle Japanese Chamber of Commerce on Sept 3, 1936, little did anyone realize all seven national JACL presidents would be sitting together in one room. We spot Dr. T. T. Yatabe, the late Jimmie Sakamoto and Saburo Kido in the front row, Hito Okada and the late Dr. Randy Sakada (behind Kido) in the second row; Walt Tsukamoto five rows back, and George Inagaki six rows back by the window. Seven rows back sits Min Yasui and two rows behind him is Mas Satow, JACL staff members.

Did You Know?

of the Nisei in the following words:

"Wasn't there a Constitution and weren't we fighting a war to make the world free from prejudice, hate and bigotry? Didn't citizenship mean something? Even though the people on the Coast might lose their heads, we were confident that other Americans, away from the confused patriotism of California, would demand that American citizens be treated with the respect due them and that the United States would not follow the racist patterns of those whom we were fighting."

The considered opinion of the present writer (Elmer Smith) is that the confidence in the sanctity of citizenship caused the JACL and other Nisei as well as their friends to be unprepared for the event of evacuation and the nightmarish days and nights which followed.

Local and state restrictions were further placed upon all persons of Japanese ancestry. Travel was prohibited or severely regulated, Nisei were "released" from both civil service and other positions for the "duration of the emergency." Some cities such as Portland, Ore., refused to renew business licenses to persons of Japanese ancestry. These and many comparable incidents occurred which the JACL was called upon to meet.

The JACL, both on a national and local level, contacted various officials, filed objections to such discriminatory acts, contacted federal representatives and carried on an educational program in a variety of ways to stem the tide of negativism.

The task of the JACL was made doubly severe due to the failure of many Issei and Nisei to cooperate with the overall JACL program; these persons often worked out conflicting programs of their own.

Some Japanese communities hired expensive counsel, and when their representatives failed to present their cases vigorously and aggressively, these communities and groups called upon the JACL for assistance, but in many cases the damage had already been done.

Often the local Japanese blamed the JACL for not being able to pull their "chestnuts out of the fire." Many of these critics of the JACL carried over into later times their negativism to the JACL which was generated during this period.

The spring months of 1942 saw the pressure upon persons of Japanese ancestry increasing all along the Pacific Coast. Culbert Olson, then Governor of California, called a surprise meeting of Nisei leaders in Sacramento.

The Nisei who met with the Governor were, for the most part, inexperienced young people. This meeting has been described in the

following manner:

"Without previous notice, we met in the executive chambers and were told—not asked—that we had to demonstrate our loyalty to the United States and the way to demonstrate that loyalty was to place ourselves in the 'protective custody' of the state; that we should permit ourselves to be placed in state 'farm camps' under armed guard; that we should go out and work our own farms and lands from these 'farm camps' under guard. Unless we complied with this request, the federal government might be called in."

This type of pressure from both state and federal officials led many of the Nisei, and especially the leaders of the JACL, to believe in the inevitability of total evacuation.

This belief was born out as more and more areas along the coast were listed as restricted and evacuation regions.

With this in mind, the JACL leaders and others requested hearings to be held at strategic points for the purpose of getting the truth of various rumors concerning persons of Japanese ancestry. Thus the Tolan Committee's hearings came into being. The first hearings were held in San Francisco on Feb. 21-23, 1942.

The JACL representatives stated their position, but the hearings were technically public forums for race-baiters and anti-Japanese American forces. Mike Masaoka submitted the JACL statement to the Tolan Committee, and his con-

cluding paragraph summarized the principal points of the JACL's position. This paragraph follows:

"In this emergency as in the past, we are not asking for special privileges or concessions. We ask only for the opportunity and the right of sharing the common lot of all Americans, whether it be in peace or in war. This is the American way for which our boys are fighting."

One of the basic criticisms leveled against the JACL by Issei and Nisei alike during this period and later was that the JACL leaders agreed to evacuation of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the coastal areas, and thus "sold the persons of Japanese ancestry down the river."

The important thing to remember in this respect is that government policy had already established precedent for evacuation of given areas before the JACL was ever asked its position on such a matter. It should also be remembered that the JACL's commitments from the 1940 national convention was to support in any and all ways possible the government in its conduct of defensive measures.

The position of the JACL, under pressure of public opinion and circumstances, concerning evacuation is officially stated in the prepared statement of Mike Masaoka submitted to the Tolan Committee. This statement follows:

"If, in the judgment of the military and Federal authorities, evac-

uation of Japanese residents from the West Coast is a primary step toward assuring the safety of this Nation, we will have no hesitation in complying with the necessities implicit in that judgment. But, if, on the other hand, such evacuation is primarily a measure whose surface urgency cloaks the desires of political or other pressure groups who want us to leave merely from motives of self-interest, we feel that we have every right to protest and to demand equitable judgment on our merits as American citizens."

The JACL did not "make the evacuation policy" by their statements; as a matter of fact the evacuation decision was reached even before the Tolan Committee submitted their report to the proper authorities.

The JACL leaders recognized perhaps better than any others the necessity for Nisei to prove their loyalty by submitting to army orders. After all, one should not forget that the loyalty of the Nisei was being called into question every hour of every day.

As to whether a mistake was made in making the decision to co-operate with the Federal government to evacuate is not for this writer to decide.

However, one can not resist the observation that the record of the JACL and other Nisei in performing their duty to the United States in various and sundry ways has been and is being recognized by

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the rank and file of the American public.

Upon this basis it appears as if the proper decisions were made at the time and under the circumstances. This is not, however, to maintain that evacuation was legal nor necessary from the overall point of view; that is something that can probably never be settled to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The JACL was not the only Nisei organization along the coast to offer cooperation in the evacu-

ation. The Nisei Democratic Club of Oakland went on record as willing to offer such cooperation.

One of the most violent critics of the JACL, James Omura, was willing to evacuate areas deemed necessary for national defense. He maintained that Japanese Americans, who were loyal Americans, could be expected to do nothing else, and they would be willing to count it as part of their sacrifice in the interest of national security.

The handwriting appeared on the wall late in February of 1942; it pointed to mass evacuation as a certainty. The seriousness of

events made it necessary for the JACL to call a special emergency meeting of the National Board and the National Council. This meeting was held in San Francisco during the week of March 8, 1942.

Sixty-four of the 66 chapters answered the first roll call. These represented nearly 20,000 Nisei, for with the increase of tension and crisis, many Nisei flocked to the JACL for assistance and protection which they believed such membership could give them.

The emergency meeting of the JACL in San Francisco on March 8, 1942, was attended by persons conscious of the responsibility

resting upon their shoulders. A member of the national board, looking back upon this occasion, voiced the general feeling of all the representatives when he said:

"That was not a gay social gathering or farewell party. It was a grim and serious session. Every delegate knew that a momentous decision had to be made, a decision which would vitally affect his own future as well as that of his posterity, a decision, too, which might affect the successful prosecution of the war itself."

The meeting was opened by President Saburo Kido. The short address given by Kido at this time is one of the most outstanding ever given in the history of the JACL, or for that matter, one of the most outstanding speeches given in the history of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

The opening and closing paragraphs of this address are worth recording at this time. These two paragraphs are:

"This most likely may be the last national council meeting we shall be able to hold for a long time to come. In a sense, this is a farewell gathering for most of us since we shall not know where we will be scattered, nor for how long. It is with a heavy heart that I say these words..."

"When we leave our homes, let us leave with a smiling face and courageous mind. Let us look upon ourselves as the pioneers of a new era looking forward to the greatest adventure of our times. Let us conquer whatever frontiers may await us with the same fortitude and patience as did our fathers and mothers who contributed more to the development of the west than most of us realize. Let us serve our country in the hardest way possible for us to serve, keeping in mind that we have the same objective in mind as a hundred and thirty million other Americans, the ultimate and complete victory of democracy's forces."

The meetings were attended by representatives of various federal and state agencies as well as the army and navy. These persons were asked questions concerning policy and also plans for care, distribution, and control of persons of Japanese ancestry.

A close study of the reports tend to give the impression that on questions considered vital to the JACL and its program, the representatives had no specific answers, and very often the questions were answered by, "that has not as yet been worked out," or "I don't know, that will have to be taken up with another division."

The JACL outlined to the government representatives during the March, 1942, meeting exactly what full-scale evacuation would mean to persons of Japanese ancestry.

The JACL maintained that regardless of the technique used, such a wholesale evacuation would entail loss of homes, property, all that the Nisei and their parents had built up in their life time, that hopes would be crushed, and even their self-respect would possibly be destroyed.

The emergency council after fully discussing with government representatives the stand the government had decided to take on evacuation was presented with three alternatives.

1. One was out-and-out opposition in every way possible to the government's evacuation program.

2. Another was to seek some compromise, using the threat of opposition as a bargaining weapon.

3. The third alternative was "constructive cooperation" with the government not because Japanese Americans conceded the constitutionality of this unprecedented action or the validity of the arguments for such a recourse but because it was the only reasonable and realistic course under the national pressure and circumstances of the time.

The number one alternative was ruled out after considerable discussion. As individuals some might oppose evacuation, but, as an organization, mass resistance might

result in greater evils than even mass evacuation.

Number two was rejected as impractical. The government was neither in a mood nor a position to compromise. The Army held the trump cards as well as the aces and the JACL leaders were told as much in their discussions with army representatives. Seeking a compromise, haggling as it might be called, might irritate the powers that were in the saddle into overt action which could be more disastrous than cooperative evacuation.

As a matter of fact it was given to be understood by the Army that if and when evacuation orders were issued, the persons of Japanese ancestry either would go through full cooperation or they would be forcefully moved at the point of a gun, if necessary.

The only avenue left open was the third alternative: Cooperation.

The hour for decision was upon the national council. A number of considerations, to be outlined later, prompted the unanimous decision to "constructively cooperate" with the government.

The various problems involved in evacuation were recognized by the JACL and many serious discussions were carried on during the emergency meeting revolving around these problems. A number of possible positions for the JACL to take were considered; these positions and their considerations are outlined in the following discussion.

Because of the importance of these to the final JACL decision to give constructive cooperation to evacuation, the considerations will be given in fairly full detail. The decisions based upon these considerations laid the blueprint for the position of the JACL on a number of problems which later developed. The "considerations" follow:

1. As Americans, the Nisei could do no less than cooperate in the war effort, and since evacuation was classed as a vital part of this effort, there were no alternatives.

In wartime the military is supreme. They are charged with the responsibility of safe-guarding the United States from invasion. At the time that the evacuation was being considered, the Pacific Coast was open to an attack by Japan. It was possible that those in command of defense and who ordered evacuation of the west coast had vital information not available to the public.

"If," said Mike Masaoka, "in the considered judgment of the military commander 'military necessity' dictated the evacuation of all persons of Japanese ancestry, we as patriotic citizens and reasonable people should not be disposed to question that judgment. If a military commander had to justify his every action in court or consider every conceivable viewpoint before effecting any action, he would be hamstrung and the enemy would overcome him while he was in the midst of litigation."

(It is of extreme interest to note that almost 18 months later this was the basic reasoning given by the U.S. Supreme Court in upholding General DeWitt's curfew and travel restrictions upon American citizens of Japanese ancestry).

The JACL at no time before, during, or after this National Council meeting waived its right to question the constitutionality of the evacuation and exclusion orders.

What JACL did was to agree to "constructively cooperate under protest," maintaining that evacuation was not only a grave violation of the Constitution but also of human decency.

This was the position maintained by the JACL throughout the war as well as at the present time.

2). "At that time" (March 1942), says one of the national JACL officers, "Japan's legions were on the offensive. America was just beginning to organize for the great task confronting her. To many, a Japanese invasion in force of the Pacific coast was imminent."

"If we Japanese Americans had refused to cooperate with the government and the Army was forced

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This was the Main Street of a small town (Byron, Calif.) in the farming district on the morning of evacuation in May, 1942. Six bus loads of residents of Japanese ancestry were checked in and taken to the assembly center at the Turlock Fairgrounds 65 miles away. —WRA Photo.

Did You Know?

to divert large numbers of its troops from preparing defenses to forcibly eject us from what were named as prohibited zones, the American people would never have forgiven us for such action. In America's darkest hours, we could not force her to weaken her defenses and invite invasion. And if Japan had launched a landing, timed with the army's pre-occupation with the Japanese American resistance to evacuation, the future would not be worth considering for Japanese Americans in the United States."

3.) Another consideration seriously discussed by the JACL was the possibility that if resistance proved to be stubborn or forceful, troops might have been called to resort to bayonet and rifle fire.

If this would have been the case, the blood of all Japanese Americans killed, as well as federal soldiers, would have been laid at the door of the JACL.

4.) If resistance had become widespread, the very groups and interests which provoked the "military necessity" and were behind the mass evacuation might have introduced a "reign of terror" to drive out the Japanese Americans. Some of the older delegates, remembering the race riots and the night riders of another day in California when powerful interests desired to force passage of the Japanese Exclusion Law, advised against any move which might incite such groups into action again.

5.) It was possible that Japanese American opposition to evacuation, because of the race issue, might have gained the attention and active sympathy of other "racial minorities" or California-dispersed minorities. These other groups and even civil war on a small scale might have been the result.

6.) Active opposition to evacu-

ation by the Japanese Americans might have created violence. It was realized that such violence, in any form, would have given the propagandists in Japan and elsewhere a field day exploiting the doctrine of "race war" as against that of ideas and ideals.

As it was, the Japanese did introduce arguments to that effect in their propaganda aimed at the peoples of Asia and the Southwest Pacific. The propaganda would have been even more vicious if any real opposition and race riots had resulted from mass opposition to evacuation.

7.) "The experience of Terminal Island," said Mike Masaoka, "was a shocking reminder of what may happen if resistance or threat of opposition brought about another 24 hour evacuation order."

"The people suffered tremendously because there wasn't an organized, supervised removal. All the fathers had been interned by the FBI for investigation, leaving only worried mothers and children. Furniture and other articles sold for only a few cents on the dollar. No packing cases, for example, were available and so fish boxes found around wharves and fruit and vegetable crates rushed by truck from Los Angeles by the JACL had to be used. And when they moved out, they had no place to go. Many slept out in the open. And women and children sleeping under blanket tents and crowded into church chapels were not uncommon sights in Los Angeles after the tragic event."

It was believed that cooperation with the Army would ameliorate such conditions.

8.) The large amount of property owned by persons of Japanese ancestry in the prohibited zones required that cooperation was essential if the necessary safeguards were to be provided by the government.

9.) The position of the Issei made it imperative that the Nisei should make every sacrifice possi-

ble to assist their aging parents. As stated by Masaoka: "The alien Japanese would have to go as a matter of course. They did not even have the cloak of citizenship with which they might question the evacuation orders. Most of them were and are the parents of Japanese Americans. They were and are very old as a group, averaging close to 60 years. They were heartsick over the loss of their lifetime achievements, for evacuation signalled their failure to be Americans and to have their children recognized as such. Many would die in the process. They were too deep-rooted to be able to pioneer again in some new clime.

The least their children, the Japanese Americans, could do was to volunteer to go along with them and to help them as best they could as one way of trying to repay their parents for all the sacrifices which they had made for them. The Japanese Americans were duty bound to share the adversity and hardships of a cruel adventure with their parents in the twilight of their lives."

10.) It was believed that cooperation with the government would be one of the contributions to the war effort and proof of the Americanism of the Japanese Americans.

In the words of Edward J. Ennis, then Director of the Alien Enemy Central Unit of the Department of Justice: "No other group of people in the history of the United States have ever been called upon to make greater sacrifice for their country and none have responded more nobly."

11.) It was maintained that in the long run cooperation would make it easier for the friends of the Japanese Americans to work in their behalf and benefit. They could point to the fact that the Nisei had permitted themselves to be uprooted from their homes, their businesses, their associations, everything they knew and held dear, in order to cooperate with the government when national unity and sacrifice were the vital issues of the day.

It was assumed that this fact of cooperation could become the most potent weapon Japanese Americans could ever have to win the goodwill and respect of all Americans all over the United States.

It was further pointed out that the position of the pro-Japanese Americans would have a difficult role as it was, but it would be even harder if critics could point to active defiance of the military by those whom they were trying to aid as an indication of their

disloyalty and interference with the war effort.

Cooperation was held to be the only way to pave the road for public relations both from the viewpoint of the Nisei as well as the fair-minded Americans who desired justice for the Japanese Americans.

12.) "Finally," says Masaoka, "since the government was determined to evacuate us whether we liked it or not, common sense dictated that we try to make the most of a very difficult situation, that cooperation was the best way to secure humane treatment and consideration. Cooperation on our part would impose a moral obligation, at least, upon the government to reciprocate that cooperation by working with us in the matter of planning and administration. Arousing the antagonism and hatred of high government officials would not be conducive to kindly, personal interest in our welfare, understanding administration as opposed to an arbitrary, 'prisoner of war' type of supervision."

The final meeting was called to order and a motion was made that the "JACL go on record as willing to 'constructively cooperate' with the government and urged all Japanese Americans to do likewise."

After the motion was properly seconded, an amendment was offered and accepted to the effect that this cooperation was not to be considered as a waiver of the rights of the JACL or Nisei to question or inquire into the constitutionality of the procedure or as an admission of the guilt of the charges preferred against the Japanese Americans by irresponsible parties.

The vote on the motion was called for in the midst of tomb-like silence. The roll was called in alphabetical order, beginning with the Alameda chapter and ending with Yellowstone. The decision was unanimous, "demonstrating the unity of thought and purpose of all JACL chapters from Seattle in the north to Calexico on the Mexican border, from San Francisco on the Pacific to North Platte in the midwest." The momentous decision had been made.

A number of important problems remained to be solved by the emergency council meeting even after it was decided to constructively cooperate with the government if and when evacuation on a mass basis took place.

National headquarters was to be moved to Salt Lake City along with the Pacific Citizen.

Money left over after the expenses of each chapter was met should, along with District Council funds, be sent to National Headquarters for special emergency use. These moneys were to be turned over to the "National" at the time of evacuation.

It was also decided that the JACL officers, both on a local and national scale, should continue to work within the group during and after evacuation, except where it was absolutely necessary for the officers to be elsewhere for the carrying out of their regular and special duties as JACL officers.

At the close of the emergency meeting, the officers and delegates returned to their communities with specific jobs to perform.

Among these were the organizing of an educational program relative to evacuation, the development of public relations committees to work in cooperation with various Caucasian groups within the communities to assist in orderly evacuation, and the setting up of advisory groups within the JACL to func-

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Did You Know?

tion in relation to various aspects of evacuation and for the care of property, etc. of all persons of Japanese ancestry.

At no time did the JACL designate that only JACL members should receive assistance; at all times the total population of Japanese ancestry was considered and given services where and when possible.

The national officers, upon the recommendation of the emergency meeting in San Francisco, submitted a number of requests to the federal government for consideration.

On April 6, 1942, a letter was sent to the director of the War Relocation Authority outlining the background of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States, presenting the picture of their economic, social, religious and community life, and giving some specific recommendations.

Recommendations submitted to WRA

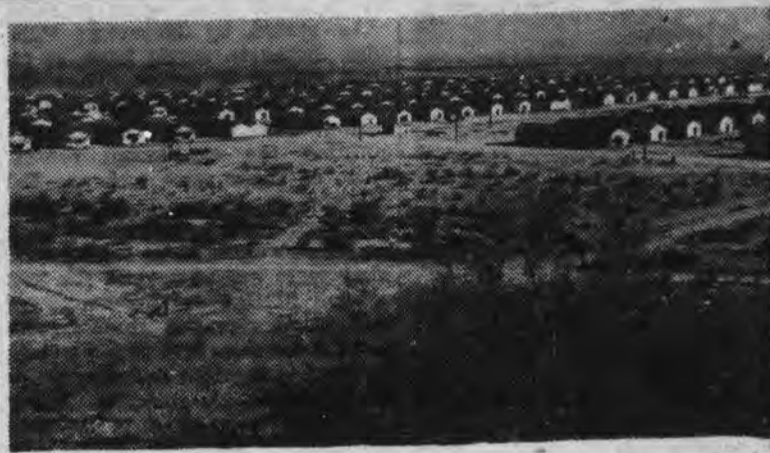
These recommendations are too long to be given in full, but they pointed out the necessity of guar-

anteeing certain democratic rights and procedures in the care of the evacuees: the demand for equal treatment in and out of the armed services; a recommendation for the carrying out of a very comprehensive educational and public relations program among the American public was outlined; proper and adequate educational facilities for the young and old alike in relocation centers were presented along with a request for sport and recreational facilities.

Freedom for religious worship was requested and a program outlined to guarantee this freedom. These and many other important requests and recommendations were made, and in a large number of instances these recommendations had considerable influence in decreasing the severity of an already severe program.

Contrary to some opinions voiced by anti-JACLers, at no time did the JACL request or recommend special consideration for JACL officers or members.

National headquarters and local CL offices were swamped by all sorts of requests after the general orders were released by the army for evacuation. Letters from all sorts of people, both anti-Japanese



A panorama of the northwest section of Camp No. 2, Gilá River Relocation Center, Ariz. This camp (known as Butte) was the locale of the only JACL chapter organized in a WRA center.

and pro-Nisei, were received. The office staffs were worked overtime, and with the small budget available for the hiring of assistance—even though the majority of the workers donated their time—they were unable to answer all of the appeals and statements made to them.

It is the considered judgment of the writer that the job accomplished by the JACL during this period of crisis is unprecedented in the annals of any group at any time who have been forced to make radical and momentous decisions and exodus from their homes.

Heartwarming and hateful letters received

The many letters and requests received by the national JACL office in San Francisco in the first wartime spring of 1942 were more often than not heartwarming ones, and there were some written in a humorous manner, even though sincere, while others represented the venom and hatred of the anti-Nisei groups along the Pacific coast.

The following two letters are examples of these types of letters, and they speak for themselves. Neither letter has been changed in any form whatever; the punctuation and grammar are as presented in the original.

"March 6, 1942

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In this mornings paper, I read of your organization and as a center, this seems an opportune place to send my appeal.

I have always heard that the Japanese are kind to animals specially cats. In our present unfortunate situations, the animal world suffers. So cruelly I need not tell you how dull every day could be if there were no lovely Birds to Sing and chirp.

No faithful or friendly dog to look trustingly at us. And no individual interesting cats and kittens.

I appeal to you all, please, please, do not abandon any cats in Basements or Buildings. Contact the Humane Society, 2500 16th Street. Homes can be found for many, or they will be put to sleep.

Promise to do this kind and easy deed and all of you Japanese people, oh, won't you be faithful to this country.

When you contrast this way with the Hardships and lack of comforts and freedom across the water.

Don't you like this way best. Please think it over. Show us by your actions and deeds that we can depend on you. Oh Please.

No Wars are ever really won.

You have souls. just as we have. War is evil, man made Evil never, never can really conquer.

I am just a citizen that believes Nature and God are Supreme and that a nation so full of the Beautiful colorful arts as you are can not truly believe in your War Leader.

Thank you.

SIGNED

"Saburo Kido
1623 Webster Street
San Francisco, California

Esq. Kido;

We understand that you are the President of 65 or more chapters of the Japanese American Citizens League in every section of the country. However, if this is true or not true. You as a Jap Lawyer have more or less knowledge of the treacherous spy activity of your rotten race, with all due respect to you personally—98 per cent of the louzy Japs in this country are traitors and spys, you may be sincere and you may not, we will find that out soon.

The following information comes from the Guerilla Band and Vigilant Committee of the Pacific Coast. We are well organized from Alaska to Los Angeles, and while this is no threat, but a stern warning, that you notify all Japs on this Coast and also the big KOO KOOS in Tokyo Japan, that if there is any SUBMARINE damage to this coast or any BOMBS dropped that hurt any Americans or damage property—Every Louzy Jap. man, woman or child will get the ROPE, and no exceptions.

Some of us have Sons in Pearl Harbor. and with MacArthur, and we will strike swiftly and sure. We know our business, and passed 'Neck-tie-parties' will be play things, WARNING THE ROPE.

We expect you will be a coward, for that reason we say if you wish you can show this to the FBI the Army-Navy, Chief of Police, Mayor and the Sreet-sweeper—but don't forget our WARNING the ROPE.

yours for action,

The Guerilla Band and Vigilant Committee of the Pacific Coast.

Some of the other appeals and letters were for assistance in financing many families broken up by the internment of the father and appeals for information as to the rules and regulations governing the movement of persons of Japanese ancestry, the storage of property when evacuation began, and the care of the sick, the aged, and the orphans.

These and many other requests from the persons of Japanese ancestry as well as from various government agencies demanded the attention and the establishing of a constructive program on the part of the national JACL.

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JACL CHAPTER

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Part Three

The story of evacuation has been written by a number of competent observers, and we will not repeat the many examples of heart-aches, disillusionment, family disruptions and racist's actions and statements associated with the moving of all persons of Japanese ancestry first to assembly centers and later to the ten relocation centers located in eastern California, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona and Arkansas.

The place the JACL and its members played in this movement,

however, has never been completely related. The time is now ripe for an analysis of the position JACL found itself in during the mass movements of its members and others to the various parts of the United States under the supervision of the Army and later under the War Relocation Authority.

Many arguments have been won and lost in relation to the merits of the actions and position maintained by the JACL during this period of evacuation and relocation of persons of Japanese ancestry. The record alone can speak the final word upon this controversial matter.

The middle of June, 1942, found over 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry in "assembly centers" awaiting the movement to relocation centers." The evacuation had been completed without any loss of life and with a comparatively There was, however, a small number of aggressive Nisei arrested and placed in jail and awaited hearings. At least three of these cases became of interest to the JACL primarily because of the criticism leveled at the stand taken by them on these cases.

The cooperation and leadership

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shown by the JACL during the period of active evacuation made it possible for the leaders of JACL to be placed in positions of trust and as advisors during the assembly center period. This created some considerable criticism upon the part of many non-JACL members.

The situation became critical in some instances since it was rumored among the resident evacuees that special privileges were given to JACL leaders and their friends.

These rumors were further complicated by stories that JACL leaders had turned in many persons of Japanese ancestry to the FBI and Army Intelligence at the time of Pearl Harbor and during evacuation.

The record shows that some few JACL leaders did seem to take a more or less dictatorial position over other Nisei in the administration and in the advising of assembly center activities.

As a matter of fact, the actions of these few JACLers laid the foundation for the development of anti-JACL, and in some instances, anti-American attitudes which developed in the Relocation Centers.

This type of attitude even carried over into post-relocation center times.

While this type of attitude was developing within the assembly centers and relocation centers, a split developed within the JACL ranks, stimulated to some degree by some of the Nisei "test cases" progressing in the courts along the Pacific Coast.

The various factors involved in the development of anti-JACL attitudes among the evacuees may be listed as follows:

1. The need on the part of many persons to find a scapegoat to vent their feelings of frustration at being placed behind barbed wire and treated as non-citizens and enemies.
2. The failure of the JACL, in the minds of many, to protect them from mass evacuation.
3. The increased feelings of insecurity on the part of the evacuees because of no well developed and stated plan for their future status as wards of the government.
4. The actions on the part of some JACL leaders — especially on the chapter level — of seeming to assume a superior attitude and position over the other evacuees, and the fact that some of the local and district JACL leaders left the centers before many others after more or less promising to remain and take "their medicine" with the rest.
5. The refusal of JACL to take a positive position in support of some Nisei who were acting as "test cases" for the curfew and evacuation orders.

The anti-Nisei attacks from groups on the Coast and the internal criticism of the JACL did not deter the leaders from following through with their broad and specific programs for the benefit of all persons of Japanese ancestry.

The work of the JACL during this period of crisis was not always known by the persons within the various Relocation Centers. As a matter of fact the general opinion in the Centers was: "What is the JACL doing for us?" This

question was not always answered.

Why JACL's work was 'confidential'

A considerable amount of the work of the JACL was "confidential." This was necessary because if much of what the JACL did during this period had been "newsed" around and become common knowledge a storm of protest would have been created and anti-Japanese American forces along the Pacific Coast and elsewhere would have played up the idea that "WRA and the evacuation policies were being run by Japs."

As it was, considerable opposition was voiced to the positive program being developed by the WRA during the years of 1943-45.

Many suggestions were presented by the JACL to the WRA for the development of positive programs for persons of Japanese ancestry both within and outside of the Relocation Centers. These suggestions and recommendations were carefully considered by the respective government agency or agencies, as the case might be, and many of them were incorporated in whole or in part by these agencies.

The work program evolved by the WRA and other government agencies as it dealt with persons of Japanese ancestry was strongly influenced by JACL recommendations.

The public relations program evolved by the WRA and other agencies as it dealt with persons of Japanese ancestry owed much to the suggestions and cooperation of the JACL.

The resettlement program based upon the "family plan" was partly the result of JACL recommendations, as was the student relocation plan, center improvements along the lines of "self-government," recreation, education, and more adequate and more properly balanced food rations.

Selective Service for Nisei constant problem

One of the most persistent problems the JACL had to face was the restriction of Nisei in relation to the armed services. A request to the Army General Staff that Japanese Americans should be classified and inducted on the same basis as all other Americans was repeatedly made.

It was also requested that the Nisei should be eligible for all branches of service, including combat duty. The request added that Nisei should be eligible for promotions on the same basis as others, and that they should be eligible for officers' training schools. This type of request was made time and time again.

JACL besides working with government agencies for improvement of conditions relating to persons of Japanese ancestry was working with other agencies. The National Conference of Social Work was addressed by Mike Masaoka on May 12, 1942, at New Orleans where he told the meeting of the problems faced by Nisei and Issei in the United States. He concluded his address with these words:

"Your treatment of the Japanese Americans has more than convinced us that America is the only country in which to live and the principles for which America is fighting are worth fighting for."

The various civic and state

agencies contacted by the JACL demanded much travel and hardship by the JACL officers. An example of this was the experience of George Inagaki and Mike Masaoka in a small community outside of New Orleans. They were stopped by a local sheriff, and taken into custody. They spent six hours in the local jail in cells used for "solitary confinement" of prisoners. Many times JACL representatives were refused service and overnight accommodations in various cities because of their Japanese ancestry.

A list of agencies and organizations visited by JACL representatives and who gave assistance is too numerous to mention at this point, but some of the more outstanding were the Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, the Post-War Council of New York, Russell Sage Foundation, American Friends Service Committee, Rockefeller Institute, International Student Service, Home Missions Council, National Institute for Immigrant Welfare, and the American Civil Liberties Union. The Committee on American Principles and Fair Play with headquarters in Berkeley, California was always willing and able to contribute much to the welfare of persons of Japanese ancestry.

The JACL in 1942 was in constant contact with the War Relocation Authority in Washington, D.C., as well as with its various local and regional offices. The JACL was called to act in an advisory capacity to assist the WRA in many ways.

The National Secretary of the JACL was doing a very important job in public relations, going from group to group and community to community acquainting the people with the problems of the Nisei. Through this type of work much support and understanding was developed for the Japanese Americans and their parents.

Problem of JACL finances pressing

Activity on other fronts was shouldered by the JACL. The problem of raising funds for the carrying on the work of the organization during war time was one of the most important and pressing problems.

The finances at the time of the emergency meeting in San Francisco in March, 1942, showed the national treasury to be some \$400 "in the red." Later this was made up through the turning over of some of the moneys from district councils and from local chapters.

This made it possible to continue a modest program.

The larger problems associated with the evacuation and the extra work required of the JACL made it imperative that more financial assistance should be forthcoming.

The basic source of the new finances seemed to be located in the Intermountain District Council area, and the responsibilities of the local chapters for raising these extra funds were immediately shouldered by the members.

The various states wherein evacuees were to be sent held a variety of attitudes toward persons of Japanese ancestry. Idaho, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming and Utah were in the early days of evacuation against the permitting of Japanese to come into their states without the full and direct supervision of the Army.

Colorado was not committed to necessarily accept or reject the evacuees; theirs was more or less of a "let us see what happens" attitude. However, as the months wore on into 1942, and fall rolled around, demands from Idaho and Utah for labor made it impossible for a better understanding to be reached between the respective states and the evacuees.

The JACL was in the forefront in making contacts for the evacuee laborers in various communities, as well as carrying on a constructive educational and public relations program within the communities and with various state and local officials.

Public relations work in communities helps

Surveys were made by the JACL in various communities both among persons of Japanese ancestry and others already in the areas as to economic, social, and educational possibilities. As a matter of fact, during the fall of 1942 rumors came from various areas in Idaho, Wyoming and Utah as to the negative treatment some of the evacuees were receiving.

A team of JACL officers visited the various areas, investigated living conditions, wages and the general treatment of laborers. This report was submitted to the national JACL headquarters in Salt Lake City and recommendations were made directly to the WRA for alleviating many of the negative conditions found by the survey.

The JACL was also interested in the negative factors at work in the various WRA centers creating possible conflict situations between the evacuees and the administrative staff as well as between various groups of evacuees.

The reports from "on the spot observers" covered such things as crowding, food, education and recreation, medical service and health as well as the more subtle psychological factors. Upon the basis of such reports the JACL made recommendations and outlined programs to the WRA.

The JACL and its members, especially those within the centers, were much concerned with the type of "self-government" to be allowed in the center. One of the principal concerns in every camp was the question as to whether American citizens or Japanese nationals were to be the guiding hands in the organization and functioning of the self-government council of the residents.

The JACL members within the centers took the position, in most instances at least, that the governing body should be wholly, or at least by majority, in the hands of the Nisei.

This position created some very tense feelings within the communities as to the methods of nomination, elections, and party groupings. This type of alignment later led to direct attacks upon the persons of some of the JACL leaders, and in most every instance tended to step up the negative criticisms of many JACL leaders within the relocation centers.

Self-government in WRA camps led by Nisei

The position of the JACL leaders seemed to be that since citizens of the United States were interned behind barbed wire, the least that could be given them was the right to function as citizens in the development of their self governing units. The Issei were non-citizens, and therefore should occupy very much the same position as in any regular governing group with the exception that the Issei would act as advisers to the regular governing body within each relocation center.

The Nisei and the Issei aligned against the JACL members and others on this self-governing issue were using the argument that the JACL could not be trusted to act as a guide since they "loused up" the evacuation program, and "turned in some of the Japanese to the FBI." The regular and expected feelings of frustration and scapegoating techniques were used as release through attacks on the JACL and others on the self-governing plan.

Aug. 1942: Salt Lake conference called

The JACL's problems increased with each passing month of 1942. The decisions its officers were called upon to make in relation to policy, program and future plans made it necessary for a special conference to be held for the purpose of planning for future activities and the establishing of policies. This conference was called for Aug. 17-27, 1942 to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Many significant decisions were made during the ten-day meeting; the most important seem to be:

1. Recommendations were made to the WRA that no discrimination on the basis of race, creed, or color should be made in hiring personnel for the relocation centers.
2. The JACL should make available associate membership

(Continued on Page 16)

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Season's Greetings

Idaho Falls
JACL Chapter

Best Wishes for a
Happy Holiday Season

Pocatello
JACL Chapter

Brief Message To The Point

By SHIG WAKAMATSU
National 1000 Club Chairman

The members of the National 1000 Club salute the Japanese American Citizens League on its 25th Silver Anniversary. We also extend the season's best wishes to fellow JACLers everywhere. May we grow together in strength and fraternal friendship!

If we are pressed for an additional thought on this occasion, then ours must be this:

To those who haven't joined, what could be a better "Silver" anniversary present to JACL than your check for \$25 and become a 1000 Club member!

Eastern District

Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter
2	Endo, Sim	Phila.	1	Murata, Mrs. Elizabeth	D. C.
2	Enochty, Mrs. Masa	N. Y.	2	Nakamura, Kiyomi	Seabrk.
2	Enochty, Tatsukichi	N. Y.	2	Nakano, Mrs. Teru	Phila.
2	Enochty, Tomio	N. Y.	2	Nakano, Yosuke	Phila.
4	Furukawa, Mrs. Sally	D. C.	2	Nakao, Ben	D. C.
6	Hayashi, Thomas T.	N. Y.	1	Nakayama, Dr. Leo	D. C.
2	Hirata, Dr. Mitsuo	Phila.	5	Nitta, S. John	Phila.
3	Horiuchi, Harold	D. C.	5	Nitta, Mrs. T. Ann	Phila.
2	Ichino, Miss Mary	D. C.	1	Notomi, Rodney S.	D. C.
3	Iseri, Miss Kathleen	D. C.	2	Obata, George I.	D. C.
2	Ishida, William	Phila.	1	Ohama, Ben	Phila.
4	Ishikawa, Sam	N. Y.	5	Ozawa, Jack K.	Phila.
5	Iwasaki, Tetsuo	Phila.	2	Sakata, Miss Hisako	D. C.
1	Iwata, Miss Irene	D. C.	3	Sasagawa, Wm. K.	Phila.
1	Katsu, John	D. C.	7	Shimasaki, Ira	D. C.
2	Kobayashi, Nobu	Phila.	1	Sugahara, Mrs. Viola	N.Y.
3	Kosobayashi, Miss Miyeko	D. C.	3	Sugihara, Miss Ina	N.Y.
1	Kurihara, Miss Marie	N.Y.	1	Suzuki, Mike	N.Y. (LA)
1	Kuroishi, Miss Ruth	D. C.	1	Takeshita, Mrs. Katsuyo	D. C.
4	Marutani, Wm. M.	Phila.	4	Tamaki, Dr. H. Tom	Phila.
5	Masaoka, Mrs. Etsu	D. C.	1	Tamaki, Mrs. Marion	Phila.
7	Masaoka, Mike M.	D. C.	2	Thurn, Mrs. Fuku	Phila.
2	Masaoka, Tad T.	D. C.	3	Togasaki, Miss Yaye	N.Y.
1	Minami, Mrs. Claire	D. C.	1	Tsuda, Miss Carol	D. C.
3	Moriuchi, Takashi	Phila.	3	Uyehara, Hiroshi	Phila.

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3	Fujimoto, Masayuki	Gr.-Tr.	2	Noji, Mitsugi	Seattle
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3	Fukuyama, John	Seattle	3	Okada, Geo. T.	Seattle
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2	Hirota, Joe S.	Seattle	3	Ouchida, Jack T.	Gr.-Tr.
LIFE	Hori, Takashi	Seattle	2	Sakahara, Ted A.	Seattle
3	Kadoya, Harry	Spokane	4	Sakahara, Toru	Seattle
2	Kashino, Paul	Seattle	1	Sakura, H. B.	Seattle
2	Kashiwagi, J. M.	Seattle	1	Sakura, Ted	Seattle
6	Kato, Mrs. Chiyo	Gr.-Tr.	2	Sato, Ray	Mid-C'bia.
3	Kato, Hawley	Gr.-Tr.	2	Shigaya, Dr. Paul	Seattle
6	Kato, Henry	Gr.-Tr.	2	Shiomi, Dr. Robt.	Portland
2	Kawachi, Geo. Y.	Seattle	2	Sunamoto, Kats	Gr.-Tr.
2	Kibe, Masaomi	Portland	3	Takahashi, C. T.	Seattle
2	Kida, James	Portland	5	Takagi, Fred T.	Seattle
2	Kihara, Ray I.	Seattle	3	Takashima, Newton	Gr.-Tr.
LIFE	Kinomoto, Frank	Seattle	2	Takasumi, Mits	Mid-C'bia.
2	Kinoshita, Jas.	Puyallup	1	Urakawa Tom Y.	Seattle
3	Kinoshita, Kazuo	Gr.-Tr.	3	Uyetake, Shio	Gr.-Tr.
3	Kondo, Dr. Mark	Spokane	5	Yamada, Mrs. Hana	Portl'd
LIFE	Kubota, Henry T.	Seattle	3	Yamada, Dr. K.K.	Seattle
2	Kuge, Dr. Toshiaki	Portland	2	Yamada, Tamaichi	Portland
2	Maeda, Milton	Portland	4	Yamaguchi, Kay	Seattle
6	Masto, Harry	Col. Basin	2	Yamaguchi, Minoru	Seattle
2	Masuoka, Dr. Matt.	Portl'n	2	Yamaguchi, Tad	Seattle
3	Matsuoka, Jas. M.	Seattle	3	Yamamoto, Ed. Cbia.	Basin
4	Mimbu, William	Seattle	1	Yanagimachi, G.	Seattle
5	Minamoto, Miss Mary	Portland (Japan)	LIFE	Yasui, Ray T.	Mid-C'bia.
2	Motoda, Mrs. Kiyu	Seattle	2	Yokoyama, Miss K.	Seattle
2	Nakamura, Dr. T.T.	Seattle	2	Yoshioka, Juro	Seattle
			2	Yoshioka, Dalichi	Puy.

Central California District

3	Abe, George	Selma	2	Migaki, Richard Y.	Parlier
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2	Azuma, Sam	Delano	1	Miyakawa, Norman N.	Parlier
2	Doi, Noboru Jerry	Parlier	2	Miyakawa, Tomio	Parlier
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3	Ikeda, Mrs. Michi	Reedley	8	Mochizuki, George	Fresno
5	Ikeda, Toru	Reedley	3	Morishima, Masato	Selma
3	Inada, Dr. Fusaji	Fresno	1	Nagamatsu, Tom	Sanger
1	Iseki, Harry H.	Parlier	2	Nagatani, Dr. J. K.	Delano
2	Ishikawa, Jin	Fresno	6	Nakamura, Tom	Sanger
2	Iwatsubo, Mike	Fresno	1	Nishimura, Geo.	Sanger
5	Kanagawa, Robt. K.	Sanger	3	Ogata, Gerald M.	Parlier
1	Katano, Joe	Delano	2	Okamura, Robert I.	Parlier
2	Katsura, Ted	Parlier	2	Osumi, Kengo	Parlier
1	Kawasaki, Paul	Delano	2	Ota, Ronald K.	Parlier
1	Kawasaki, Tom	Delano	1	Saito, Minoru	Fresno
1	Kawate, Kaz	Parlier	4	Shimasaki, Tom	Tulare Co.
2	Kazato, Dr. Henry H.	Fresno	1	Shimizu, John	Sanger
6	Kebo, Johnson	Sanger	4	Suda, Dr. George	Fresno
2	Kimoto, Ralph	Parlier	1	Sunamoto, Kay	Parlier
1	Koga, Ben	Parlier	2	Taira, Dr. Kikuo H.	Fresno
2	Komoto, Kaz	Parlier	1	Tange, Kiichi	Sanger
3	Kozuki, James N.	Parlier	5	Tashiro, Kenji	Tulare Co.
1	Kubo, Harry T.	Parlier	1	Tsuboi, Sho	Parlier
2	Kumataka, Byrd H.	Parlier	2	Tsuji, Bill	Parlier
1	Matunaga, Ben	Sanger	1	Yonaki, Sadawo	Delano
1	Mayeda, Hiroshi	Tulare			

Sign 962 in 1955 '10

Pacific Southwest District

Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter
2	Abe, Danar Don	Hollywood	1	Kikuchi, Mrs. Miya	DTLA	6	Ota, Fred	SWLA
2	Adachi, Benjamin	DTLA	1	Kikuchi, Dr Yoriyuki	DTLA	6	Owashi, Joseph	San Diego
3	Aiso, Judge John F.	H'wood	2	Kishi, Takashi	Pasadena	2	Owashi, Leo	San Diego
1	Ajima, Pomeroy	SWLA	2	Kitagawa, Yeji	Coachella	1	Ozawa, Harris H.	Pasa.
2	Akahoshi, Ted	DTLA	1	Kito, Roy Y.	DTLA	1	Pugh, Dick	DTLA
1	Akita, Annabell	DTLA	1	Koba, Masanori	San Diego	2	Rissman, Robert	DTLA
8	Aratani, George	East LA	LIFE	Kobata, George	Gardena	1	Ross, Marshall	DTLA
1	Asakawa, Hachisaku	S.D.	7	Kobata, Joe H.	Gardena	2	Saimoto, Kataro	DTLA
1	Asakawa, Moto	San Diego	7	Kobata, Yoshio	Gardena	7	Saito, John Ty	DTLA
2	Asawa, Charles	East LA	1	Kobayashi, James K.	O.C.	2	Saito, Mack H.	DTLA
2	Asawa, Mrs. Michi	SWLA	2	Kobayashi, Roy S.	Or. Co.	4	Sakaguchi, Dr. C. T.	San Fernando
LIFE	Baba, Dr. George	DTLA	1	Kobayashi, S.	Orange Co.	2	Sakai, Mrs. Alice	Coachella
2	Baba, Mrs. Take	DTLA	2	Kodama, Geo. Y.	San Diego	6	Sakai, Tom	Coachella
1	Chogyoji, Kazuma	DTLA	3	Komae, Ryo	Gardena	2	Sakamoto, Ben	Coachella
7	Chuman, Frank F.	DTLA	2	Kondo, Choyei	DTLA	2	Sakata, Johnson	Arizona
3	Cox, Simpson Z.	Arizona	1	Koyama, Dr. J. Y.	SWLA	1	Sasaki, Masami	DTLA
5	Deguchi, Yoneo	Pasadena	1	Kuida, Kameichi	Gardena	1	Sato, Ken	Hollywood
7	Dyo, Ken	Pasadena	2	Kunimoto, Mrs. Toki	DTLA	1	Sato, Meijiro	DTLA
1	Edmiston, James	DTLA	5	Kushida, Tats	DTLA	1	Sato, Dr. William	DTLA
	(Palo Alto)		1	Kushihashi, Albt. S.	DTLA	7	Satow, Hideo	Gardena
1	Eejima, Richard	San Diego	6	Kuwahara, Frank	S. Fern.	1	Sayano, George K.	DTLA
1	Esaki, Einosuke	San Diego	1	Lee, Harold	Santa Bar.	2	Segal, Marvin	DTLA
4	Eto, Masaji	San Luis Obis.	1	Maehara, Tsutomu	DTLA	1	Sekiyama, Dr. Isamu	DTLA
2	Eto, Tameji	San Luis Obis.	1	Makita, Dr. Victor	SWLA	1	Seno, Glen	DTLA
2	Fujimoto, Ed H.	DTLA	2	Manes, Hugh R.	DTLA	2	Seto, Masao	Coachella
2	Fujioka, Anson	East LA	3	Masaoka, A. Ike	Ven.-Cul.	3	Shibata, G. K.	Coachella
3	Fujita, Harry M.	DTLA	1	Masaoka, Hank	SWLA	1	Shiga, Yoshisada	DTLA
2	Fukui, Hitoshi	DTLA	1	Masuoka, Dr. Shig J.	SWLA	1	Shigematsu, Kenichi	DTLA
2	Fukui, Soichi	DTLA	3	Matsuishi, Robt.	Coachella	7	Shimizu, H. Y.	Santa Mar.
1	Fukutaki, Miss Kimiko	Pasadena	5	Matsukane, Harry H.	O.C.	1	Shimizu, Mitsuhiro	DTLA
7	Funakoshi, Willie	DTLA	1	Matsukane, Mrs. Kiku	Orange Co.	1	Shinoda, Dr. Megumi	DTLA
5	Furuta, Geo. E.	DTLA	3	Matsumoto, Fred	DTLA	6	Shinoda, Paul	Gardena
4	Goya, Paul	Pasadena	1	Matsumoto, Kazuma	DTLA	1	Shirakawa Mrs. Saku	DTLA
1	Hamaguchi, K.	DTLA	2	McKibbin, David	DTLA	1	Shishima, Katsusuke	DTLA
5	Hamaguchi, Mack Y.	SWLA	7	Mikawa, Geo. S.	Ven.-Cul.	1	Solomon, Don	Orange Cnty.
1	Hashimoto, Henry I.	DTLA	4	Mikuriya, Miss Mary	Pas.	LIFE	Sonoda, Dr. Kiyoshi	WLA
2	Hara, Dr. H. Jas.	DTLA	6	Minami, Kazuo	Gardena	2	Sonoda, Mrs. Mitsu	WLA
1	Hashimoto, Mrs. H.	DTLA	1	Minami, Yoshimatsu	S.M.	2	Suda, Jack	Arizona
2	Hashimoto, Koroku	DTLA	1	Mitsumori, Nisuke	DTLA	1	Sugimachi, Yaemitsu	DTLA
1	Hatano Katsuemon	Gardena	3	Mittwer, Mrs. Mary	ELA	2	Sugimoto, Toshio	Coachella
2	Hayashida, Henry	DTLA	1	Miura, Koshiro	San Diego	1	Sugino, Dr. Arthur	DTLA
2	Higa, Chosin	DTLA	1	Miyashiro, Sam S.	SWLA	2	Sumi, Toraichi	DTLA
1	Higashi, Hideo	San Diego	4	Miyuchi, Mrs. Hatsuye	Arizona	1	Sumi, Yoshiharu	DTLA
7	Hirashima, Tom	San Bar.	3	Mizusawa, Frank	O.C.	2	Suzukida, Frank M.	DTLA
2	Hirohata, Frank H.	DTLA	1	Mizusawa, Fred	Orange Co.	1	Tada, Fred M.	DTLA
3	Honda, Harry K.	DTLA	1	Momii, Kiyoshi	Gardena	1	Tadokoro, John M.	Or. Co.
1	Honda, Robt. T.	DTLA	1	Momita, Tak.	(Calipatria)	1	Taira, Tom T.	DTLA
1	Hoshi, Paul	San Diego	2	Moriguchi, Fred M.	Verl.-Cul.	1	Tajima, Masami	DTLA
1	Hoshizaki, Roy T.	DTLA	1	Mukai, Tom	San Diego	1	Takahashi, Hideo	SWLA
1	Ichiyasu, Ben M.	DTLA	1	Munekata, Dr. Ryo	SWLA	1	Takahashi, Howard	San D.
1	Igasaki, Masao	DTLA	1	Muraoka, Saburo	S Dgo.	4	Takata, Al S.	Pasadena
1	Igaue, Su	DTLA	4	Murayama, Henry	DTLA	1	Takata, Giichi	DTLA
2	Iguchi, Fred	San Diego	1	Murayama, H. S.	DTLA	5	Takata, Kiyomi	DTLA
6	Iino, Sho	DTLA	1	Murayama, Herb. T.	SWLA	2	Takeda, Roy J.	DTLA
1	Ikeda, Victor	DTLA	3	Muto, George S.	San Diego	4	Takeda, Shigeji	DTLA
5	Ikemura, Tsutomi	SD.	1	Muto, Kodo	Gardena	1	Takehara, Miss Roxanna	San Diego
7	Inadomi, Yosh	East LA	1	Nagahiro, Mrs. Michiko	DTLA	2	Takiguchi, Minoru	Arizona
LIFE	Inagaki, Geo.	Ven.-Cul.	1	Nagamatsu, Frank	O.C.	7	Taku, Karl	SLO
LIFE	Inagaki, Yukie	Ven.-Cul.	1	Nagamatsu, Paul	O.C.	1	Tamaki, Carl	SWLA
3	Inoshita, Masaji	Arizona	3	Nagamatsu, Dr. G. Y.	DTLA	1	Tamura, Mrs. H.	SWLA
1	Inouye, Hajime J.	SWLA	1	Nagamoto, Dr. K.	SWLA	2	Tamura, Katsumi	SWLA
2	Inouye, Kaz	DTLA	1	Nagata, Minoru	DTLA	1	Tamura, S. K.	Orange Co.
1	Ishida, Frank J.	Gardena	5	Nakaji, Mrs. Lillian S.	Bar.	6	Tanabe, Eiiji	DTLA
3	Ishida, Henry J.	Gardena	6	Nakaji, Dr. Yoshio	S. Bar.	1	Tanaka, Kakuo	DTLA
1	Ishida, Dr. Hiraku	SWLA	1	Nakajima, Ichiro	DTLA	1	Tanaka, Toshi	Orange Co.
4	Ishii, Charles	Orange Co.	1	Nakajima, Toshio	DTLA	4	Tanaka, Yasuo C.	DTLA
4	Ishii, Joe	Orange Co.	2	Nakamura, Geo. L'ng Beach	DTLA	7	Tanaka, Shigeru	Arizona
2	Ishii, Kyutaro	Orange Co.	1	Nakamura, Hiomi	San D.	4	Tanoue, Al	SWLA
1	Ishii, Robt. T.	DTLA	3	Nakano, Shigeno	SWLA	7	Tarumoto, Dr. Geo.	SWLA
1	Ishikawa, Geo. Y.	DTLA	1	Nakaoka, Kiyoto K.	DTLA	LIFE	Tayama, Fred M.	SWLA
3	Ishitani, Noboru	Holly'w'd	2	Nakashima, Tokijiro	DTLA	1	Torimaru, Mrs. S.	San D.
2	Itagaki, Jas. M.	DTLA	1	Nakasugi, Ralph	DTLA	1	Tsuchiya, Ben	DTLA
7	Ito, Arthur T.	Hollywood	1	Nakatan, Noriyuki	DTLA	3	Tsuchiya, Frank	SWLA
6	Ito, Frank K.	Santa Maria	3	Nakatsuka, Geo.	DTLA	1	Tsurudome, Shigenori	S.D.
2	Ito, James I.	DTLA	4	Narita, Masao	Long Beach	1	Tsurutani, Henry J.	DTLA
7	Ito, James O.	Hollywood	4	Narita, Mrs. Nobu	LB	2	Uchima, Kei	DTLA
2	Ito, Martin L.	San Diego	1	Naruse, Matsushi	SWLA	1	Umekubo, Dr. Peter	San D.
2	Ito, Mrs. Mary K.	Pasa.	1	Nii, Robert Isao	DTLA	3	Utsuki, Miss Fumi	Ven.-Cul.
2	Ito, Dr. Paul K.	DTLA	3	Ninokawa, Frank	DTLA	8	Utsunomiya, Ken	East LA
LIFE	Ito, Tom T.	Pasadena	7	Nishikawa, Dr. Roy	SWLA	1	Uwate, Matao	DTLA
1	Iura, Dr. Toru	SWLA	2	Nishimoto, Asajiro	DTLA	1	Uyeda, S. K.	DTLA
2	Iwasaki, Ernest	DTLA	1	Nishimoto, Hideo	C.V.	5	Uyesaki, Caesar	Orange Co.
2	Izu, Jack	Coachella Valley	2	Nishimoto, Tek	Coachella	3	Uyesugi, Ken	Orange Co.
3	Kado, Louis Y.	Ven.-Cul.	1	Nishimura, John Y.	SWLA	2	Wada, Dr. George	DTLA
1	Kai, Kura	DTLA	3	Nitta, Hitoshi	Orange Co.	1	Wada, Jack M.	SWLA
4	Kajikawa, Bill	Arizona	1	Nitta, Larry T.	DTLA	3	Wakamatsu, Miss Mary	Venice-Culver
5	Kakimoto, Ikey	Santa B.	1	Nitta, Minoru	Orange Co.	LIFE	Watamura, Masaru J.	DTLA
2	Kamayatsu, Chas. K.	Hwd.	1	Nitta, Mitsuo	Orange Co.	6	Watanabe, Dr. Tom	SWLA
2	Kamiya, Ichiro	West LA	1	Nobe, Seichi	DTLA	2	Watanabe, Dr. M.	DTLA
1	Kamiya, Kael K.	DTLA	1	Nozawa, Kenjiro	DTLA	2	Yamaguchi, Dr. M.	DTLA
1	Kanegae, Asajiro	O.C.	2	Obi, Dr. Robt. T.	East LA	2	Yamamoto, Elmer	DTLA
5	Kanegae, Henry M.	O.C.	1	Ochiai, Dr. Tad	Orange Co.	1	Yamamoto, Henry	SWLA
1	Kanno, George	Orange Co.	1	Ogata, George	Orange Co.	1	Yamamoto, Mutt	Arizona
1	Kataoka, Mas	SWLA	2	Ogata, Seiji	DTLA	3	Yamamoto, Wm. K.	DTLA
1	Katayama, Chester I.	DTLA	2	Oguchi, Seichi	DTLA	1	Yamato, Jas. M.	San Diego
1	Katayama, Ken K.	DTLA	1	Ohara, Shozo	DTLA	2	Yamato, Ed K.	DTLA
1	Kato, Mitsuo	DTLA	2	O'Hira, Dr. Wm.	DTLA	2	Yanamoto, Miss Miwako	Hollywood
2	Kato, Noboru	Ven.-Cul.	1	Okada, Bill	Orange Co.	1	Yasukochi, Taisuke	San D.
2	Kato, Robert K.	Hollywood	2	Okumoto, Ted	DTLA	1	Yano, Yatsuka	Gardena
2	Kato, Dr. Shokichi	DTLA	7	Ono, George	SWLA	3	Yata, Tut	SWLA
4	Katow, Ben	East LA	5	Osaka, Ken	Gardena	5	Yokoe, Mrs. Merijane	DTLA
3	Kawa, Taro	DTLA	2	Oshiki, Mas	Coachella	6	Yokomizo, Sus	S Fern
1	Kawabe, Dr. Kiyoto	SWLA	3	Osumi, George	Orange Co.	3	Yokozeki, David	DTLA
1	Kawaguchi, Sam	SWLA				1	Yonemura, F. M.	Gardena
1	Kawakami, Miss Ritsuko	East LA				1	Yoshida, Yoshitaka	DTLA
2	Kawamura, Arthur	DTLA				2	Yoshimura, Hayao	Ven.-Cul.
2	Kawasaki, Yasujiro	DTLA				1	Yoshimura, Dr. Y.	DTLA
2	Kaya, Larry Y.	DTLA				2	Yoshitomi, Junichi	DTLA
5	Kida, Tom	San Diego						
LIFE	Kido, Saburo	DTLA						

1000 Club' Honor Roll

No. Cal. - West. Nev. District

Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter
6	Abe, James Y.	Salinas	2	Murakami, Katsuro	Sacra.	1	Shoji, Frank	Livingston
2	Adachi, Miss Lucy	S.F.	1	Muramoto, Dr. J.	Sacram'to	2	Sugawara, Akimi	San F.
1	Adachi, Hideyo Rich.	El Cerr	2	Nabeta, Tosh	Richmond	1	Sugaya, Koutei	San F.
2	Adachi, Tosh.	Rich-El Cerr	2	Nakamura, F. F.	Marysville	1	Sugihara, George J.	Rich.
1	Agari, Yoichi	Stockton	2	Nakano, Miss Viola	S. F.	2	Sugiura, Mrs. Chiyeiko	
2	Aizawa, Hatsuro	S.F.	1	Nakashima, Tom	Livingston			
2	Akahoshi, Arata	Oakland	2	Ninomiya, Tamaki	Richm'd			
1	Andow, Eric	Liv.-Mer.	5	Nishi, Dick	Florin	1	Sugiyama, Dr. H.	Sacra.
4	Aoyama, Fred	Reno	2	Nishihara, Joe A.	Cortez	2	Sumida, Marshall M.	S.F.
1	Baba, Geo. K.	Stockton	1	Nishijima, Kanji	Sacto	5	Suzuki, Frank	Livingston
1	Dobana, Fred K.	Stockton	2	Nishimoto, Richard T.		1	Tabuchi, Mrs. Masuye	
2	Enomoto, Jerry	S.F.			San Benito Co.			
3	Enomoto, John	Sequoia	1	Nishita, Dan	Marysville	1	Takahashi, Dr. Geo.	Sacra.
8	Enomoto, Wm. H.	Sequoia	2	Noda, Jack	Cortez	4	Taketa, Henry	Sacra.
6	Fugita, Miss June	S.F.	4	Nomura, Fred S.	Oakland	1	Tambara, George	Sacra.
2	Fujii, Jiro	Richmond	2	Nomura, Paul T.	Oakland	4	Tanda, Henry	Salinas
2	Fujii, Katsumi	Oakland	2	Nonaka, Frank M.	San F.	2	Tani, Hisashi	San F.
3	Fujii, Koji	Eden Twp.	1	Obata, Joe M.	Gilroy	2	Tao, Tom	Watsonville
5	Fujii, Masuji	Berkeley	1	Oda, Frank K.	Sonoma Co.	5	Tatsuno, Dave	San Jose
3	Fujii, Oscar	Reno	1	Ohki, Robert	Livingston	7	Togasaki, Dr. Kazue	S.F.
2	Fujii, Toko	Sacramento	1	Oishi, Joe	Richmond	7	Togasaki, Sim	Alameda
2	Fujimoto, Dr. C.	Wat'vl.	1	Oji, Arthur	Marysville	7	Togasaki, Dr. Yoshiye	
2	Fukushima, Taro	Richmond	1	Oji, Henry	Marysville			Richmond
1	Hamaguchi, Gene A.	Lvstn.	7	Oji, Mas	Marysville	2	Tsugawa, Dubby	Sac'to.
1	Hamamoto, Miss Mary	S.F.	1	Okahara, Roy	Livingston	5	Tsuiji, Bill Z.	Marysville
2	Handa, Yutaka	Salam C.	2	Okamoto, G. Y.	Marysville	1	Tsukushi, Geo.	Sequoia
2	Hatakeda, S. T.	Eden Twp.	1	Okamoto, Tom T.	Stockton	1	Tsunekawa, Lou S.	Stktn.
1	Hatanaka, Geo.	Fr. Camp	1	Okamura, K.	Sequoia	3	Uchida, Mosse M.	Marysv.
1	Hayashi, Akio	Sacramento	1	Omachi, Joseph	Stockton	1	Ueda, Kazuo	Stockton
1	Hayashino, Harry S.	Stkn.	1	Ono, Kanemi	Sonoma Co.	1	Uratsu, Marvin	Richmond
5	Head, Dr. Tokuji	S.F.	1	Oshima, Coffee H.	Sac'to.	1	Ushijima, Geo.	Alameda
1	Hideshima, Noboru	S.F.	2	Oshima, Heizo	Richmond	2	Utsumi, Kinji	Oakland
2	Hideshima, Shichisaburo	SF	2	Oshima, Yuhei	Richmond	2	Uyeda, Miss Daisy	San F.
1	Higashi, Henry	Stockton	1	Osuga, Peter	Sacramento	2	Uyeda, John	S.F.
2	Hironaka, David T.	S.F.	2	Reyes, Mrs. Katherine	S.F.	2	Uyeda, Miss Kaye	San F.
2	Hirose, Jack	S.F.	3	Sakaguchi, Yeichi	Cortez	3	Uyeda, Minoru	San F.
4	Hirota, Dr. Carl	San F.	2	Sakai, Roy	Richmond			(Monterey)
4	Hirota, Tad	Berkeley	2	Sakai, Sam	Richmond	1	Yagi, George	Livingston
1	Hitomi, Eddie	Richmond	2	Sakai, Tetsuma	Eden Twp.	1	Yamaguchi, J. K.	Stockton
2	Honda, Jun	Richmond	1	Sakuma, Mamoru	Sacra.	2	Yamamoto, Eiichi Roy	
2	Honnami, Miss Sumi	S.F.	1	Sasaki, John K.	Marysv.			Sonoma Co.
2	Hori, Kei	San F.	1	Sato, Dr. Alwin	Sacra.	1	Yamamoto, Kiyoshi	Cortez
5	Horio, Dr. Shigeru		1	Sato, Kenneth H.	Monterey	1	Yamamoto Peter K.	San F.
		S. F. (Honolulu)	6	Satow, Mrs. Chiz	San F.	1	Yamane, Shig	Gilroy
2	Hoshiyama, Fred	S.F.	8	Satow, Masao W.	San F.	8	Yamashita, Miss Yuriko	
3	Hoshiyama, Wm.	S.F.	2	Shigezumi, Miss Alice				Berkeley
1	Hunt, Miss Dixie	S.F.			San Francisco	4	Yego, Thos. M.	Placer Co.
2	Ikeda, Kihei	Sacramento	3	Shikano, Kazuo	S. Alameda	3	Yoshida, Ernest	Cortez
1	Imura, Haruo	Alameda	1	Shimizu, Dr. Keichi	Eden T.	1	Yoshida, Lester Koe	Liv.
1	Ino, Kunisaku	S.F.	2	Shimonishi, Thomas		7	Yoshida, Roy T.	Placer Co.
1	Inouye, Geo. H.	Marysville			San Benito	7	Yoshimura, Akiji	Marysv.
7	Inouye, Hirotsuke	Sequoia	1	Shingai, Joe	San Benito	7	Yoshioka, Giichi	Eden Twp.
4	Ishikawa, Dr. T.	San Jose	4	Shinoda, Minoru	Eden Twp.	2	Yoshioka, Tadaichi	Eden T.
4	Ishimaru, Haruo	S.F.	2	Shimoda, Mosaburo	Eden T.	3	Yuge, George	Cortez
1	Ishimaru, Shokichi	Stktn.	1	Shinoda, Miss Yukie	Stktn.			
1	Ishizaki, Ken	S.F.	1	Shirai, Noboru	Sacra.			
4	Ishizu, Dr. C. M.	Oakland						
1	Itaya, Sam M.	Stockton						
1	Ito, Yasushi	Sacramento						
1	Iwata, Buddy	Livingston						
2	Kagehiro, Mitsuo	Fr. Camp						
3	Kajioaka, Nobuhiro	Cortez						
1	Kajiwaru, Buichi	Livingstn.						
2	Kako, Tokuya	Berkeley						
3	Kamimoto, Kay	S. Ben. C.						
1	Kamiya, Mark	Cortez						
2	Kariya, Hiroji	Sequoia						
2	Kasai, Kenji	S.F.						
2	Kato, Kiyoshi	S. Alam. C.						
1	Kato, Wesley	Sacto.						
2	Kato, Yasuto	So. Alameda						
1	Kawai, Miss Dorothy	Rich.						
1	Kimoto, James	Richmond						
2	Kimura, Wm. T.	S.F.						
1	Kirihara, James	Livingstn.						
1	Kishi, Norman	Livingston						
7	Kita, Dr. Harry Y.	Salinas						
2	Kitasoe, Richard	Sequoia						
2	Koda, Keisaburo	S.F.						
1	Komure, Ray	Stockton						
3	Konno, Toyoji	Livingston						
3	Korematsu, Harry	S.F.						
2	Kosakura, A. S.	Berkeley						
1	Kubo, Dr. Jas. J.	Sacramto.						
3	Kumamoto, Yukio	S.F.						
1	Kunimori, Kumakichi							
		Stockton						
1	Kuniyoshi, Yo.	Livingston						
5	Kuroiwa, Mrs. Teiko	S.F.						
1	Kusama, Henry T.	Stockton						
6	Kusano, Tak	S.F.						
3	Kuwahara, Sam	Cortez						
2	Lincoln, Abraham	S.F.						
1	Maeda, Samuel Y.	Lvgstn.						
1	Maida, Miss Meriko	Rich.						
5	Makabe, Wilson	Placer Co.						
6	Masaoka, Joe G.	San Fr.						
1	Masuda, Kazuo	Livingston						
2	Matsumoto, Bill	Sacram'to						
2	Matsumoto, Jack	Stockton						
6	Matsunami, Joe	Sacram'to						
2	Matsuoka, Geo.	Fr. Camp						
2	Mayeda, M. F.	Richmond						
1	Mayeda, Shozo	Sequoia						
1	Minabe, Kenji	Livingston						
1	Miura, Tullie	Salinas						
1	Miyamoto, Hoshita							
	Oyster	Monterey						
2	Miyamoto, Ken	Cortez						
3	Miyayama, Tom	Salinas						
2	Miyano, Jas. T.	Sonoma Co.						
3	Mizutani, Ginji	Sacram'to						
1	Morimoto, Tets	Livingston						

Mountain Plains District

LIFE Fujisaki, Dr. Chas.	Denver	7 Nakadoi, Robert	Omaha
1 Fukuzawa, Jack	Alb.	4 Nakadoi, Mrs. Masako	
1 Glynn, John C.	Alb.		Omaha
4 Hayashida, Charles		6 Ohashi, George	Denver
	San Luis Valley	4 Okura, Mrs. Lily	Omaha
5 Imatani, James	Denver	6 Okura, Patrick	Omaha
6 Inouye, Roy	San Luis Val.	1 Saeda, Miss Helene	Alb.
2 Iwasaki, Carl	Denver	1 Sakato, James H.	Alb.
2 Kagiya, Tom T.	Denver	1 Shibata, Walter	Alb.
2 Kawano, Dr. Tomio	Denver	LIFE Shiyomura, Mrs. Bessie	
1 Kimura, Tom	Alb.		Denver
5 Kobayashi, Dr. T. K.	Denver	2 Sumida, Harry	San Luis V.
1 Leonard, James	Alb.	1 Takahashi, Frank M.	Alb.
1 Matsubara, Charles S.	Alb.	3 Tamai, Frank F.	Omaha
1 Matsumoto, Miss Setsuko		1 Tamura, Hiroshi H.	Alb.
	Albuquerque	1 Togami, Mrs. Evelyn	Alb.
1 Miyamura, Hiroshi	Alb.	1 Yonemoto, Mike	Alb.
2 Mizokami, Mike		6 Yoritomo, Sojiro	San Luis V.
	San Luis Valley	3 Yoshida, Clarence	S. Luis V.



Hi-jinks were high at the 1955 joint Eastern-Midwest district council convention 1000 club whing-ding. George Inagaki is getting a shampoo from Bill Sasagawa, Eastern District Council chairman, of Philadelphia. Of the 1000 Club photos received this past year, this rates as the picture of the year.

Midwest District

Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter
1	Abe, Miss Frances	Chicago	2	Nakaya, Miss Ruth	Chicago
2	Akimoto, Dr. Minoru	Chi.	1	Nakayama, Harry	Chicago
2	Asato, Mrs. Nobuko	Chi.	2	Nakayama, Joe M.	Chicago
1	Chida, George	Chicago	3	Nishida, Dr. Geo.	Twin Cit.
2	Chikaraishi, Dr. Ben	Chi.	2	Nishijima, Satoshi	Chi.
4	Chino, Franklin	Chicago	4	Nishimura, James T.	Chi.
2	Eto, Dr. Jackson	St. Louis	1	Noji, Oliver K.	Chicago
2	Fujii, William	Chicago	2	Oda, Miss Ariye	Chicago
7	Fujioka, Peter	Detroit	2	Ohashi, Jack	Chicago
1	Fujita, Robert E.	Clevid.	1	Ohmura, Paul K.	Cleveland
LIFE	Gordon, Harold	Chicago	3	Ohno, Fred Y.	Twin Cities
3	Hagiwara, Abe	Chicago	1	Okabe, Thos. S.	Chicago
2	Hagiwara, M. Y.	Chicago	1	Okimoto, Saburo	Detroit
2	Hasegawa, Geo.	St. Louis	2	Okita, George T.	Chicago
2	Hasegawa, Dr. Susumu	Chi.	3	Okuno, Kats	Chicago
1	Hatanaka, Howard	Chicago	2	Omachi, Henry	Twin Cit.
2	Hayashi, Harry	St. Louis	1	Omori, Dr. Harry	Chicago
1	Hayashi, Shigezumi	Det.	2	Omori, Mrs. Sue	Chicago
1	Hayashi, Thomas	Chicago	2	Ono, Geo. Y.	Cleveland
2	Himoto, Samuel T.	Chicago	2	Ota, Jack K.	Chicago
1	Hirose, Dr. Ruby	Dayton	2	Sadataki, Wm.	Cleveland
8	Hiura, Dr. George	Chicago	4	Sakada, Frank Y.	Dayton
		(Palo Alto)	4	Sakamoto, Dr. Frank	Chi.
1	Hiura, Masuo C.	Chicago	6	Sakurada, Hirao	Chicago
5	Hiura, Dr. Wm. T.	Chicago	1	Sasaki, Mrs. Asako	Chi.
6	Honda, Noboru	Chicago	5	Sasaki, Dr. Joseph	Detroit
1	Hori, Earle	Chicago	2	Sato, Miss Riyo	Chicago
1	Hori, Mrs. Helen	Chicago	2	Seto, Paul	Chicago
2	Ichiyasu, Harry T.	Chicago	1	Shibayama, Yuzo	Chicago
1	Ikeda, Roy	Detroit	2	Shimidzu, Lincoln	Chi.
1	Ikegami, George	Chicago	2	Shimizu, Miss Michie	Chi.
1	Inai, Miss Helen	Milwaukee	2	Shimizu, Miss Sumi	Chi.
1	Inouye, Isamu	Chicago	1	Shimoura, Jas. T.	Detroit
2	Ishida, Calvin	Chicago	2	Shimomoto, Tom	Chicago
3	Ishida, William		4	Shiozaki, Ronald	Chicago
		(Columbus, O.)	1	Sugawara, Hisashi	Cin.
1	Ishii, Miss Sachi	Milwaukee	1	Sugawara, Joe S.	Cin.
2	Ito, Kiyoshi	Chicago	1	Sunahara, Kay	Chicago
2	Iwata, Roy	Chicago	1	Sunamoto, Isao	Detroit
2	Izui, Dr. Victor S.	Chicago	1	Suzuki, Geo.	Cleveland
1	Jolchi, Max S.	Chicago	2	Suzuki, Harry J.	Chicago
2	Kaneko, Hiroshi	Chicago	1	Tagami, James W.	Detroit
2	Kaneko, Roy T.	Detroit	5	Taguchi, Dr. Jas. T.	Dayton
2	Kasai, Kiyoshi	Chicago	5	Takagi, Harry I.	Twin Cities
8	Kataoka, Fred	Chicago	2	Takano, Bunji	Chicago
2	Kato, Dr. Barrie M.	Chicago	2	Takao, Dr. James	Cin.
2	Katsura, Lester G.	Chicago	2	Tamura, Masato	Chicago
1	Kawabata, Jas.	Chicago	2	Tanaka, George	Chicago
2	Kawaguchi, Denzo	Chicago	1	Tani, Richard A.	Chicago
1	Kawaguchi, Yoshikazu	Chi.	5	Tatsuda, Chas.	Twin Cities
5	Kawakami, Jack N.	Chicago	2	Teraoka, Geo. R.	Chicago
1	Kawano, Minoru	Chicago	2	Teraji, Tom	Chicago
1	Kawasaki, Corky T.	Chi.	3	Teramoto, Mas	Twin Cities
2	Kittaka, Dr. Geo. J.	Chi.	2	Terao, Sam	Chicago
1	Kittaka, George K.	Chi.	1	Terumoto, Aki T.	Chicago
1	Kobayashi, Miss Sumi	Chi.	3	Togasaki, Minoru	Detroit
2	Koga, Albert M.	Chicago	4	Toki, Masaji	Cincinnati
2	Konagamitsu, Kiko	Chicago	2	Tsunebara, Harold	Chicago
5	Kosobayashi, Tomo T.		1	Uba, Mrs. Florence	
		Twin Cities			Chicago (L. A.)
2	Kudo, Mike M.	Chicago	1	Uba, Dr. Katsumi	
1	Kuramoto, Dr. Sam I.				Chicago (L.A.)
		Twin Cities	1	Ukita, Charles	Chicago
2	Kushino, Dr. Kenji	Chi.	1	Uyeda, Mitsuyoshi	Detroit
6	Masuda, Thomas T.	Chi.	7	Wakamatsu, Shig	Chicago
1	Masuoka, Dr. Aurelius M.		1	Watanabe, Geo. T.	Chicago
		Chicago	5	Wesley, Dr. Newton	Chi.
5	Matsumoto, Ken	Cincin.	2	Yamada, Richard H.	Chi.
1	Matsunaga, Tahel	Chicago	1	Yamada, Shig	Chicago
1	Matsura, Jas. S.	Detroit	1	Yamaguchi, Jiro	Chicago
5	Michener, Mrs. Mari	Chi.	2	Yamakoshi, Noby	Chicago
5	Mizuno, Harry	Chicago	2	Yamamoto, Mrs. Manet E.	
3	Morimitsu, Arthur T.	Chi.			St. Louis
2	Morioka, Dr. Alfred A.		2	Yamamoto, Yukinobu	St. L.

Wartime JACL policies mapped at '42 SLC convention

(Continued from Page 13)
for Nisei both in and out of the centers.

3. Requests should be restated for acceptance of Nisei into the armed forces of the U.S. upon the same basis as all other Americans.

4. The Pacific Citizen should act as a source of information on the life and happenings of Nisei, and it should also be a forceful public relations organ in educating other persons of the place of the Nisei in the total American scene.

5. Requests should be made to Caucasians for some financial aid to carry on the necessary work of the JACL.

6. A regular public relations committee should be organized for the purpose of developing better relations for persons of Japanese ancestry in various parts of the United States.

7. The JACL groups within the relocation centers should "watch over the welfare of all Japanese within the relocation center, but they should not interfere with internal affairs and politics."

8. Tentative plans for a meeting of all JACL leaders from the different relocation centers were made, this to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah.

These basic decisions tended to guide the JACL in its activities for the following year, but there was one problem which faced the JACL to which much more controversy was to be attached. This had to deal with the so-called "test cases" mentioned earlier.

The JACL attempted to state their position on "test cases" as early as April 7, 1942. The JACL continued to be nagged for a more specific and positive policy concerning the Nisei who were imprisoned for refusing to obey the

curfew and evacuation laws. Large numbers of Nisei and Issei maintained that JACL should be willing to support any case testing the constitutionality of such rules.

It was assumed by many that if the JACL did not support such test cases, it was supporting such rules and control of citizens of the United States.

On April 7, 1942, as mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the JACL issued Bulletin No. 142 stating the policy toward "test cases." The principal points made at this time were:

1. The primary consideration of "good Americans" is the total war effort; individuals and groups are not important when the life of the nation is at stake.

2. As a national organization and as individuals the JACL pledged its whole-hearted cooperation to the President, without qualifications or reservations, in the winning of the war. To become involved in "test cases" at that time would be to violate this pledge.

3. Continued cooperation with the Federal government on all regulations and orders was done in the hope that such cooperation would inspire a reciprocal cooperation on their part. These hopes were justified, and such a cooperative policy was to be continued.

4. Cooperation with the Federal government on all regulations and orders was the special contribution of all persons of Japanese ancestry to the war effort.

5. Public opinion was opposed to any measure which seemed to be directed against the Army and its authority. A challenge of their right to enforce curfew and evacuation orders would be used by the American people against persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

6. The time was not ripe to test

the constitutionality of evacuation orders since both official and public emotions were still tense over the total war situation.

The controversy concerning the position the JACL occupied in relation to test cases continued to be a lively topic for discussion throughout the summer of 1942.

However, happenings in California gave the JACL an opportunity to take a stand on certain court issues. In June of 1942 the Native Sons of the Golden West filed a suit in the courts of California to have Nisei refused the basic rights of citizenship. The movement was stated to be the beginning of a much larger one to disfranchise all Nisei of their U.S. citizenship. The case of the Native Sons was thrown out of Federal Court in San Francisco on July 2, 1942. The "Regan Case," as it came to be called, was slated to be carried to the Supreme Court of the United States by U. S. Webb, attorney for Regan.

Early in December, 1942, the JACL made the announcement in its organ the Pacific Citizen, that it would enter the Supreme Court case on Nisei citizenship rights. The JACL maintained that by entering the court in this case it was not reversing its former policy.

The "Regan Case" involved the citizenship of all Nisei and not that of a specific individual. This case became, in a sense, the rallying point around which the Nisei and the JACL could fight for the further protection of Nisei as citizens of the United States.

The U.S. government was not being opposed in this instance, but instead it was being used as a further protective device for all Nisei. The JACL won this case in the U.S. Supreme Court.

The course of events during the summer of 1942 gained in force

and in complexity, bringing about new problems and policies for the JACL. The up-shot of the thinking of the JACL officers and the complexity of the problems facing the JACL and all persons of Japanese ancestry was the calling of a national council meeting for Salt Lake City from Nov. 17-24, 1942. This meeting was listed as the Seventh National JACL Convention.

A few paragraphs from the letter written by Mike Masaoka calling the conference together seems pertinent at this point. These paragraphs follow:

"The time has now come when we must meet again and evaluate our experiences. Without in any way detracting from the worth of our labors, we must frankly admit that we—all of us, as individuals and as an organization—made many mistakes. In all probability, we will make many more. The sin, it seems to me, is not in making honest mistakes which we thought were for the public good, but in doing nothing to avoid making mistakes. We must learn by our mistakes—and not repeat those errors. The time is here then to examine and to analyze our mistakes as well as the situation as it challenges us today, and, in the light of our knowledge, reorganize our forces and rededicate ourselves to the task ahead."

"... This is the time for planning and for working out our own salvation in the American way—by determining the facts, by discussing the consequences, by deciding on a course of action, all done by representatives serving the public welfare."

"We have work to do. Let's go at it, keeping in mind our threefold obligations: first, to our country and the war effort; second, to the Japanese Americans and nationals residing here in the United States; and third, to our organization, which is the only hope for leadership in these difficult times."

"May we do our work well that even our critics will applaud—and future historians write our names with those of other Americans who helped chart the democratic way for others to follow in their pursuit of life, liberty and happiness."

The agenda of the Seventh National JACL Conference covers all phases of the problems faced by persons of Japanese ancestry both in and out of the WRA centers. The entire field of relocation was covered, and many constructive criticisms of the War Relocation Authority policies and programs were made. These reports and criticisms were filed with the proper divisions of the WRA offices for review and action.

The general problems concerning persons of Japanese ancestry were discussed and analyzed.

These dealt with such things as civil rights and liberties, selective service status, repatriation and expatriation, dual citizenship, anti-Japanese laws and activities, employment discrimination, housing and ration board discrimination, the development of favorable public opinion and relations on local

and national levels, cooperation with local and national organizations interested in the welfare of the Japanese Americans, and preparations for postwar adjustments and rehabilitation.

The basic conclusions of the JACL growing out of the Salt Lake conference in 1942 centered in the development of a resettlement program in cooperation with the WRA and the many civic groups in various parts of the United States. This entailed a program involving services in the field of employment, housing, public relations and an over-all educational program for the Japanese Americans and the general public.

State and national legislative matters kept the JACL on its toes for the years 1942-43. It was necessary for the officials of the JACL to continuously be "on their guard" against discriminatory legislation, and to be always aware of the various forces at work in such legislation.

For example: There were three bills introduced into the California legislature aimed at the blocking of the return of any persons of Japanese ancestry to California.

The first bill memorialized the U.S. Congress to intern all Japanese whether they were in the WRA centers or not, and after the war to deport all of them to Japan.

The second bill was aimed at tying up all avenues of making a living for any person of Japanese ancestry, thus making it difficult for any person of Japanese background to live in the state at any time.

The third bill was aimed at taking away citizenship of all Nisei, making them aliens, and thus open to any type of control the government saw fit to impose on enemy aliens.

The JACL approached certain national and state organizations interested in civil rights and presented their views and the views of other loyal Japanese Americans on such basic issues as represented in the various proposed laws. Many of these organizations began a concerted fight to have such obnoxious bills either killed or postponed.

The national JACL wired Gen. John L. DeWitt requesting the right to return to the California capital and represent the viewpoint of the Nisei.

The war and the evacuation of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast gave the anti-Japanese American groups a chance to really "get going" and rally more support to their discriminatory programs. In the U.S. Congress there existed a block of west coast representatives always ready to introduce any sort of bill to restrict or more rigidly control the Nisei or to vote for the organization and financing of a special committee to investigate the "Japanese."

Growing out of the hysteria of the times, there developed three constitutional amendments proposed by the U.S. Congress and leveled specifically at the Nisei.

The Anderson bill called for immediate withdrawal of citizenship rights from Japanese Americans.

The Holman bill introduced by the Senator from Oregon stated that all persons born in the United States, if claimed by another nation, cannot be a citizen of the United States.

The Stewart bill would have made it possible for a military commander to have the right to

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Did You Know?

intern persons of Japanese ancestry for the duration of the war and as long afterward as seemed necessary and proper.

The JACL through its representative in Washington, D.C., kept in touch with various friends of the Nisei relative to the progress of the bills, and it was found necessary to use various national groups, such as the American Civil Liberties Union and others to fight the passage of such bills in the U.S. Congress. The War Relocation Authority was also very instrumental in getting the true facts about the Japanese Americans before the Congress. As a result of this type of activity these bills were not passed.

The JACL chapters outside the evacuated areas were kept busy in a variety of ways during 1942 and early 1943. These local chapters were raising money, carrying out public relations programs in cooperation with the national program, assisting in relocation by finding jobs, houses, etc., for persons leaving the relocation centers, and participating in the war effort through Red Cross work, war metal drives, selling war bonds and many other activities. Most of this work fell upon the shoulders of the Intermountain District chapters; the Intermountain District Council pledged \$10,000 for the assistance and financing of the national JACL office during this period.

While the JACL was working in the various fields of discrimination and segregation to clarify many issues and to lay the foundation for the acceptance of persons of Japanese ancestry in various parts of the United States, the leaders of the JACL in the relocation centers were generally speaking, having a "rugged time."

JACL leaders in WRA camps threatened

Dr. T. T. Yatabe and Saburo Kido along with Lyle Kurisaki and others were attacked and beaten by anti-JACL groups within their respective centers.

Threats were made to other active members of the JACL and life was made miserable for them by various methods of discrimination and boycott.

In some instances the antagonisms were based upon personal matters but on the whole they seemed to be outgrowths from the general anti-JACL feelings discussed previously.

The JACL in the relocation centers was held in low esteem by large segments of the population. The reasons for this have been discussed before and we need not review them here. However, the influence of the JACL was not entirely nil within the confines of the barbed-wire centers.

During the period of life in the assembly centers, there were a number of JACL leaders active in the resident administration units. Three such leaders were James Y. Sakamoto, Dr. T. T. Yatabe, and Walter T. Tsukamoto.

The relocation centers found many JACLers active in various capacities. The following partial list of persons active in the JACL movement will suggest the part played by such leaders over a period of time.

In Manzanar Joe Grant Masakawa, Togo Tanaka, Roy Takeno and Fred Tayama were active participants in the affairs of the evacuee community; Saburo Kido occupied the position of legal adviser to the Poston Community Council and was a member of the Community Enterprises Committee as well as being general director of the Poston County Fair held during the early part of September, 1942. Kido also assisted in drafting the machinery for the permanent Community Council in November, 1942.

Another active JACLer in Poston was John Maeno. Masao Satow was president of the Granada Community Council at Amache, Colo., WRA center until his departure for outside employment.

A partial sampling of the WRA Center evacuee newspapers do not give as much weight to the JACL activities unless the news tended to touch the majority of the members of a specified camp.

There were, however, some exceptions to this rule, and we find the same news story about JACL being carried in all the papers. For example, all the papers gave space to the JACL Christmas gift drive for the benefit of center inhabitants; the statement made by Kido of the importance and meaning of citizenship to the Nisei; the news of the JACL meeting in Salt Lake City; the establishment of the JACL credit union; the JACL and the Dies investigation; and the advice given by the JACL to evacuees on personal problems before returning to the coast.

There were attempts made in some of the WRA centers to establish local JACL chapters.

Topaz had a meeting of interested Nisei, led by John Yoshino, late in January, 1943, to discuss the problem of forming a JACL chapter. After a brief time this group was disbanded, or at least it ceased to function.

Under the leadership of Walter T. Tsukamoto and John Tanikawa a JACL chapter was started at Tule Lake. As a matter of fact, during February, 1943, the Planning Board of Tule Lake held a hearing in regard to the stand taken by the local JACL group on Army induction of Nisei volunteers. The Planning Board undertook the investigation to "clarify a lot of aspersions being cast on the JACL by some members of the Colony." The "hearings" filled more than 300 pages of minutes, and at the conclusion of the study the basic points were published on February 15, 1943 in the "Daily Tulean Dispatch."

Early in December, 1942 a group led by James Y. Sakamoto and Milton Maeda called a meeting of JACL members in the Minidoka

relocation center. This group was abandoned during the week of April 24, 1943.

The Gila River WRA center had perhaps the most active local JACL chapter for some time. There were approximately 300 JACL members at a meeting held on Dec. 8, 1942 to hear a report on the Salt Lake City conference and to pass on a number of plans for the development of the local Butte chapter.

Relocation policies worked out by JACL

The work of the JACL during the period of relocation of "evacuees" from the centers was directed at laying the groundwork for positive acceptance of persons of Japanese ancestry into the various regions throughout the U. S. where relocation was taking place.

This involved a number of types of activities, including the development of a larger public relations program, an educational program for both state and national legislative programs for possible discriminatory measures, as well as the development of a financial assistance program to persons leaving the WRA centers with little or no credit ratings in their new home communities.

Such a program, from necessity, called for more finances than were available at that time in the National JACL treasury.

It was decided by the National Board to appeal to all interested persons for assistance in raising money to carry out the program outlined above. Letters were sent to many persons in various parts of the United States under the names of outstanding and public spirited persons in various walks of life, including Clarence Pickett of the Friends Service Society. The responses were many and varied, but on the whole the responses were fairly satisfactory. From the financial angle the gross total raised at the end of 1944 amounted to \$4,247.56.

The individuals contacted in this financial drive were not always picked upon the basis of their known attitudes toward persons of Japanese ancestry. As a result some interesting comments were received voicing both cooperation and hostility. A few sample quotations will give some idea of the nature of these comments.

"It is not only a pleasure but my responsibility as a citizen to be active in support of civil liberties and alert to defeat the forces which would dishonor citizenship and deny the privileges of its protection upon the untenable basis of race, creed or color."

"The enclosed check in no way indicates my interest in your work. I am whole-heartedly in favor of any citizen of whatever ancestry."

"I see no difference in the problems of the Japanese American and the Afro American."

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There is an association of the Advancement of Colored People whose aim is, I believe, to attempt the solution of such problems. Why not let the Japanese American join such an organization . . ."

"You can save your postage for I wouldn't contribute a dime to such or any other hyphenated American society. There is no such thing as JAP American. I have seen them watch a flag go by without a sign of salute. They are Japs and nothing else."

The need for some sort of financial assistance to resettlers from relocation centers to get them set up in business or to carry them over until a permanent residence could be obtained was recognized by the JACL.

It was also considered desirable that some sort of organization should be established to encourage the saving of money made while working outside the centers and elsewhere. The JACL under the driving force of Hito Okada developed the JACL Credit Union.

Money could be borrowed on a small interest rate, thus making

it possible for resettlers to obtain financial assistance without undue burdens being shouldered relative to rates of interest and repayment of loans. Some of the Nisei outside the centers had money available to start such a union, and these Nisei were desirous of investing their savings for the assistance of other persons of Japanese ancestry.

The JACL Credit Union was incorporated under the laws of the State of Utah on Sept. 28, 1943. The objects and purpose of the Credit Union as stated in its Articles of Incorporation follows:

"Section 1. The objects and purposes of this corporation shall be the promoting of thrift among its members by affording means for saving and investing money, by procuring deposits or loans of funds upon the associated liability for productive, provident and remedial purposes, by promoting in a cooperative spirit the ideals of help for self help, and by transacting a general banking business in the interest of its members . . ."

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Did You Know?

credit unions have been organized in other areas of the United States where JACL chapters are located. The development of the Credit Union as fathered by the National JACL has grown over the years until today it numbers over 91,000 shares, and has made over 90,000 loans.

Local chapters and the National JACL offices in Salt Lake City and Washington, D. C., became overrun with many types of requests and jobs as the relocation centers increased and added numbers of Issei and Nisei found new homes. It became necessary to open offices in key cities, such as Denver, Chicago, New York and later St. Louis, Philadelphia and Cleveland.

JACL representatives in these areas found themselves being more and more called upon to act as advisers to the WRA and various civic and welfare groups during 1944-45.

The JACL was looked to as the logical source for information concerning all persons of Japanese ancestry; their problems and their character were considered to be the field in which the JACL was "the last word."

Representatives from JACL were called upon to sit on boards

of social welfare agencies, employment committees, to give information to persons of Japanese ancestry as to where they could go for legal advice, financial assistance, housing, employment and medical care as well as furnishing information as to where various persons lived in the areas of relocation.

JACL sponsored meetings which acted as a social and fraternal gathering place for persons of Japanese ancestry who found themselves in a strange community. The JACL also initiated activities of a recreational nature for the younger generation in strange communities.

In short, during the months of relocation the JACL became an over-all service organization not only for persons of Japanese ancestry, but to all groups and organizations interested in the resettlement and rehabilitation of the evacuees.

1944: Return of Nisei to West Coast starts

The JACL national officers became aware of the need for a co-operative evaluation of their program in the light of the rapid turn of events in the late fall of 1944.

The movement to have persons of Japanese ancestry return to the Pacific Coast had gained considerable speed during 1944, and it

was realized by the JACL that such an event would call for new plans and programs. The War Relocation Authority had promised that all centers would be closed at some time in the near future, and the opening of the Pacific Coast would speed up this program.

A general meeting was called of the JACL for Dec. 1-3, 1944, to be held in Salt Lake City.

JACL membership, program expanded

The theme of the eighth national JACL convention in Salt Lake City was "Your Place in America Tomorrow Will Be What You Make It Today." The general speeches made at the convention by JACL officers and guest speakers followed this theme, and the business transacted was primarily for the purpose of so laying a foundation during 1945 that success would be assured for the Nisei in the years to come.

One of the most significant statements made at the convention was sent by James G. Patton, national president of the Farmers Union. After discussing the importance of "peace of mind" for the establishing of peace throughout the world, Patton recognized the undemocratic aspects of racism. He called for full acceptance of the Nisei into the total community of American life, and recommended the abolition of the poll tax, the establishment of a Fair Employment Practice Law, and the recognition that America would uphold the realization of the "four freedoms" at home and abroad.

The program worked out by the convention laid stress on expanding JACL chapters to carry into the mid-west and eastern states. These new chapters would be able to more adequately carry on the necessary educational, public relations, and political programs needed for the reestablishment of Nisei and their parents within the various new communities.

Increased interest of persons of non-Japanese ancestry in the work of the JACL brought about the amending of the constitution to allow any American citizen to become a member of the organization.

This amendment made it possible for the first time in JACL history for any American citizen of whatever ethnic affinity to be an active member of the JACL. This became one of the important steps marking a new approach to the over-all function and programing of the JACL.

The new membership amendment laid the foundation for an expanded interest of the JACL to problems other than those centering upon persons of Japanese ancestry alone. It also made it possible for closer contacts with non-Japanese groups by overtly showing a non-discriminatory policy in JACL membership. This policy was to pay off in the near future when the JACL was to be forced to take stands upon certain issues involving discriminatory practices

in employment, sports, housing and other aspects of civil rights problems.

1945: Exclusion from coast lifted

One month after the eighth national convention met in Salt Lake City, the government publicly announced the lifting of the ban on persons of Japanese ancestry from returning and living along the Pacific coast.

This announcement, made on Jan. 1, 1945, brought many new problems to the JACL, but thanks to the foresight of its officers during the eighth convention, some of the machinery was ready to function.

It was realized by the JACL and the War Relocation Authority that an educational program needed to be launched on the Pacific coast, thus paving the way for the return of the evacuees to their former homes. This called for cooperative effort on the part of the JACL and their representatives with special local groups along the Pacific coast as well as with the various agencies of the U. S. Government.

The educational and public relations program was not to be leveled at the Caucasian groups alone along the Pacific coastal regions, but also to other ethnic groups, especially the Negro, Mexican and Filipino elements.

During the war and soon after the exodus of the Nisei and their parents from the coast, large numbers of Negroes—some statistics give as high as 100,000—moved into the area formerly occupied by persons of Japanese ancestry. This was particularly true of the cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Even though the Negroes did move into these "Little Tokyos," housing for Negroes was very poor and inadequate. Mexican laborers and Filipinos also took over some of the areas formerly occupied by the "Japanese." Here then was a serious problem—where would the evacuee go if and when they returned, and what would be the type of opinion and attitude they would meet from these other minority groups?

It was also recognized that certain racist groups along the Pacific coast were attempting to develop an anti-Nisei attitude among these groups. The JACL indeed had a big public relations job cut out for itself!

Bronzeville tensions with returnees feared

The possibility of race tension and conflict growing out of the return of the evacuees to their former homes prompted the JACL in cooperation with the War Relocation Authority and local civil rights groups to begin an elaborate public relations program in Los Angeles, San Francisco and other possible tension areas in 1945.

Los Angeles seemed to be the area where race tensions were most serious. The JACL sent rep-

resentatives to work with the Negro, Mexican and Filipino populations of this metropolis. The first step was to gain the confidence of the leaders, and this was started by the work of Saburo Kido at the inter-racial conference held in San Francisco early in January of 1945. Later meetings were held with Negro and Mexican leaders in Los Angeles.

The problem of evacuation was presented to them, a program was worked out for the acceptance of the evacuees on their return to their homes in the new "Negro area" of Los Angeles. This program was presented to various meetings of the interested groups and explained to them.

The upshot of the careful work carried out by the JACL representatives under the leadership of Scotty Tsuchiya was successful beyond expectation. As a matter of fact, this incidence of inter-group cooperation stands as a classic example of what can be done when the proper public relations program is instituted and carried through to its completion.

The opening of the Pacific Coast to the return of the evacuees found the JACL ready to assume its role as an educational agency as well as a service organization.

West Coast regional offices start operation

Regional offices were located in specific areas along the Pacific coast. The functions of these offices were outlined by the JACL national staff and released in March of 1945. These functions were (1) interpretation and counseling, (2) education, (3) special services and news releases, (4) emergency assistance, (5) direct services of a miscellaneous nature such as employment and housing, and (7) reactivation of JACL chapters on an interracial basis.

Many Nisei had been and were desirous of being members of the U. S. Navy. A ban existed on Nisei as members of the Navy. The JACL through its national headquarters sent a letter to the Navy Department arguing for the lifting of the ban on Nisei.

After refuting each point raised by the Navy supporting its policy of Nisei discrimination, the concluding paragraph stated the following basic JACL thesis:

"The concepts of democracy require that there be a continuing persuasion of equality of opportunity. We have the faith that the leaders of our country who have been entrusted with the responsibility for statesman-like decisions will not long delay the participation of those who desire to serve in our armed forces, on land and on the sea, without discrimination as to race, creed or national origin."

The appeal of the JACL to the Navy Department bore fruit on Nov. 14, 1945. On this date the ban was lifted on Nisei in the Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Navy.

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Delegates to the 8th national biennial convention in Dec. 1-3, 1944 at Salt Lake City came from WRA relocation centers as well as chapters in the Intermountain District and Denver. In the center is Pfc. Thomas Higa, wounded 100th Infantry veteran, who toured the camps and Japanese communities telling persons of Japanese ancestry the wonderful treatment the U. S. Army gave its soldiers.

Did You Know?

Public relations activities of the JACL were carried out through the use of meetings and the distribution of educational material such as the "They Work For Victory" and "The Case For the Nisei" publications of the national JACL. The latter of these publications was the JACL brief submitted to the Korematsu case as reviewed by the Supreme Court of the United States.

The amicus curiae brief ("The Case for the Nisei") in the Korematsu case testing the legality of evacuation was said by one high government official to "represent some kind of landmark in legal pleading. The absence of legal citation is refreshing and the forthright statement of points and evidence, free of strained reasoning or conclusions, makes it both readable and convincing."

As soon as it was evident that persons of Japanese ancestry would be returning to the Pacific Coast States, the various anti-Nisei groups along the Coast, especially in California, began to enforce the alien land laws. There were over sixty (60) escheat cases in the courts along the Pacific Coast by the beginning of 1946.

The JACL recognized something had to be done to protect the returning Nisei and ex-servicemen from loss of property and livelihood. Late in September of 1945 the JACL decided to appear in the Oyama alien land law test case before the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Oyama case was decided on January 19, 1948, and it was held that a Nisei could not be barred from ownership of land in California purchased for him or her by an alien father. Four of the nine justices were for invalidating the alien land laws as unconstitutional.

Hostels in various parts of the United States were either directly or indirectly sponsored by the JACL to house evacuees returning to the Pacific Coast or to new areas. As mentioned previously, housing was a serious problem for the evacuees upon leaving the relocation centers. These hostels were for the purpose of housing the evacuees until permanent homes could be found.

JACL public relations tour of East successful

A highlight in the public relations work of the JACL was the sponsoring of a lecture and concert tour late in 1944 of Dr. T. T. Yatabe and Miss Ruby Yoshino.

The tour included the area of the Atlantic seaboard where Yatabe and Yoshino appeared before 11,000 persons. Dr. Yatabe was sponsored in another lecture tour of the middle west during the spring of 1945. The finances for both tours were made possible by a grant from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace to the JACL.

The general objectives of both tours were to present a Nisei before the general American public and have him relate just what his problems were in relation to the general well-being of the country. It sought to develop understanding and to enlist support for the Nisei in his re-acceptance back into American life. It sought to contact as large a number of people as possible through public meetings, school and college programs, civic groups and inter-cultural conferences.

In general, it carried out the educational and public relations phase of the JACL program.

The beginning of the year 1946 found the JACL involved in the possibility of a number of court test cases implicating not only persons of Japanese ancestry, but in some instances members of other non-white groups as well.

The constitutionality of the alien land laws was being tested and or planned to be tested in a number of states and upon a national level.

The question of a "claims bill" for evacuees was in the offering. Legality of restrictive housing

covenants in a number of cities, including San Francisco, Oakland, and Los Angeles were being instituted by various groups, including the JACL.

The constitutionality of the fishing license laws as well as some damage suits against persons and groups for discriminatory practices against persons of Japanese ancestry were being considered.

These cases and problems as well as those involving war-brides from Japan of Nisei and other American soldiers entering the United States called for some action on the part of the JACL.

Not only these but the possibility of the U. S. confiscating Japanese alien property in the U. S. as well as the carrying out of a program for the obtaining of citizenship for the parents of Nisei faced the JACL.

Mar. 1946: Ninth JACL biennial set for Denver

The JACL called for a national convention to be held in Denver, Colorado, from March 27 to April 4, 1946, to consider these problems.

The ninth biennial convention of the JACL thus found itself faced by a number of problems involving not only the relations of the membership with other groups in the fight for personal and civil rights, but problems of internal organization beset the delegates.

The chapters had dropped to 23 from 60 at the time of the evacuation, and some program for expansion had to be worked out for the regaining of lost membership if the general JACL program was to be carried to a successful conclusion.

It must be remembered that the 1946 JACL was greatly changed in terms of membership from what it had been at the time of the evacuation. It had changed from a strictly Nisei group to an interracial one. Also, the membership had grown older and more experienced in the "ways of the world."

However, it was recognized that new and young blood was needed to keep up the growth of the organization.

The JACL had become of age! It was now being called upon to shoulder the grave responsibilities of solving the problems dogging the footsteps of the Nisei and their parents.

One of the most important problems centered around the redelegation of power to regional and local groups. A central-

ized form of power had developed during the war years resulting in the national JACL officers assuming administrative and legislative privileges. For a more democratic functioning of the organization this type of centralization of power had to be redistributed.

All of the problems, either of an internal or external nature, were directly associated with the future program of the JACL.

Its wartime program had been specific—the defense of the rights of the Japanese Americans in a time of war hysteria and crisis.

The peacetime problems would still be the defense of the rights of the Nisei, but new aspects of the problem would need to be recognized—reassimilation and integration into the over-all American community life not only in the western part of the United States, but in every "nook and corner" of every state.

This was the price the JACL was to pay for being recognized as an adult organization with a background of trust and integrity built up over a period that literally tried men's souls.

Part Four

The ninth biennial convention of the JACL held in Denver in 1946 had 120 registered delegates from 19 chapters. This convention was, technically, the first over-all and general convention held since the Portland meeting in 1940. However, as we have seen, two others were held in Salt Lake City on an emergency basis and they were without the convention spirit usually associated with such national affairs. The Denver meeting was much different with elaborate programs, socials, athletic events as well as serious meetings making up the agenda.

A number of important programs were instituted at this meeting. The convention voted to carry on a program to win naturalization and citizenship rights for all persons of demonstrated loyalty to the United States, "without regard to national origin, race or creed." National Secretary Mike Masaoka declared:

"We believe that the enactment of the foregoing legislation would strike at the heart of most discriminatory acts and thinking against persons of Japanese descent, for these are based upon the fact that, by law, Japanese nationals are 'inadmissible to citizenship'."



Highlight of JACL public relations work was the lecture-concert tour in late 1944 when Dr. T. T. Yatabe (left) and Miss Ruby Yoshino (right) toured the Atlantic seaboard and the midwest in 1945 to enlist public support for the Nisei who were being relocated out of camps with the American public at large. In the center is Pfc. Thomas Higa, who toured WRA camps telling residents how well the Nisei were being treated in service. —New York Daily News.

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1946: Denver hosts ninth JACL biennial

It was further stressed at the convention that the JACL was concerned with the status of resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who had made an outstanding war record but who were denied the privilege of naturalization.

The delegates to the convention unanimously supported a resolution to Congress urging the enactment of legislation for the creation of a claims commission in order to compensate legitimate claimants for losses sustained as a result of discriminatory treatment during World War II.

The convention further asked for federal affirmation of responsibility for the relocation and rehabilitation of West Coast evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

One of the most forward looking programs supported by the JACL as far as the over-all field of intercultural and interracial relations were concerned called for organizational action in support of equal rights and opportunities for all in employment and in housing as well as in the business and professional fields. It was announced that JACL would oppose all forms of "discrimination based upon arbitrary distinctions in any field of human relationships."

Racial discrimination firmly opposed

This position was stated in a statement of reaffirmation of previous action of the JACL by the convention in the following words:

"We believe in equal rights, equal opportunities and equal pay in employment. We condemn all restrictive practices which tend to keep certain racial groups in lower wage and employment levels and brackets, or which grant lower wage scales for the same work to certain groups as compared to

others."

Opposition on the part of the JACL to segregation of soldiers in military units was stated by the convention and a call was made for the elimination of discrimination from municipal, state and federal civil service.

Supporting the right of Americans to live in homes and districts of their own choosing, the convention declared its opposition to racial restrictive covenants.

The JACL delegates went on record as backing the test cases to determine the legality of anti-alien property legislation and urged judicial reconsideration of legal issues raised by the evacuation.

A resolution was passed to the effect that the Immigration and Naturalization Service suspend all deportation proceedings pending Congressional action upon HR 5429, which would grant a 10-year statute of limitations in deportation matters.

One aspect of the JACL's program marked back to many previous years. This involved the problem of "dual citizenship status."

The convention passed a resolution asking President Truman to bar dual citizenship status. The convention noted that the dual citizenship issue had been used to impugn the loyalty of American citizens, particularly those of Japanese ancestry, by racist forces and asked for an official stand by the government for non-recognition of any dual status.

A national conference of all American minority groups to consider measures for promoting intercultural and interfaith harmony was suggested in a resolution approved by the delegates to the convention. The delegates indicated that such a national conference would have as its objective



FIRST POSTWAR NATIONAL OFFICERS ELECTED AT DENVER

Most ambitious program of JACL was sketched at the 1946 National Biennial Convention at Denver. Elected to implement the mandates of the Council were the members of the 1946-48 cabinet: (left to right) William Yamauchi (Pocatello), 3rd v.p.; Dr. Takashi Mayeda (Denver), secy.; Hito Okada (Salt Lake City), pres.; Kay Terashima (Salt Lake City), treas.; Masao W. Satow (Milwaukee), 2nd v.p., and George J. Inagaki (Venice), 1st v.p.

a campaign to obtain the establishment of a post in the President's cabinet on human relations and minority problems.

The delegates declared that the establishment of such a governmental department would aid in alleviating present tensions because of race and would help meet urgent needs of reconversion and rehabilitation which require utmost unity among America's diverse population.

The election of national JACL officers for 1946-48 placed Hito Okada, past national treasurer of the JACL as unanimous choice for the national presidency. Others elected were Kay Terashima, national treasurer; George Inagaki, Masao Satow and William Yamauchi were chosen as vice-presidents, and Dr. Takashi Mayeda, national secretary.

JACL comes of age at Denver convention

The program initiated at the Denver convention of the JACL was a turning point in the history of the organization.

The JACL at this convention definitely "came of age" as a

forceful minority group on the American social and political scene.

The program of action was definitely committed to full participation in the social and political affairs of the total American community. It placed the JACL on a basis of active work in the overall fields of interracial and intercultural relations. The expanded budget and financial backing forthcoming to the JACL made it possible for it to function on a more stable basis.

The delegates in making their decisions probably did not realize the implications of their acts at that time, but the four years to follow definitely showed the great scope of their commitments.

The program and support growing out of the Ninth Convention would have been impossible except for the position taken and maintained by the JACL leaders during the war years. The record so far summarized will give the reader the necessary background to realize the importance of the JACL's position during the crucial "years of decision" in working for the preservation of the rights of Nisei in America.

The JACL's work carried out in cooperation with the Army, Navy, and WRA during the war proved to the American people the undivided loyalty of persons of Japanese ancestry and of the JACL to the American way of life.

The high esteem by which the American people held the leaders of the JACL was demonstrated by the fact that Saburo Kido was given special recognition by the U.S. Selective Service when Colonel H. A. Rich awarded Kido the Selective Service Medal and Cer-

tificate of Merit in behalf of President Truman and General Lewis B. Hershey. The award was made on January 1, 1947.

Colonel Rich emphasized that in honoring Kido "the government was honoring all Nisei who served so gallantly in the armed forces."

PC editor Tajiri given wide recognition

Larry Tajiri, editor of the Pacific Citizen, came in for his share of the honors bestowed upon the various officers of the JACL by the U.S. government and civic agencies. The Salt Lake Junior Chamber of Commerce presented the 1945 award for outstanding contributions to the welfare of persons of Japanese descent. This honor was in recognition of the function performed by the Pacific Citizen in the field of public relations.

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States awarded the Pacific Citizen a citation in recognition of the outstanding editing done by Tajiri. The citation read:

"In recognition of the sincere appreciation for the consistent, wholehearted efforts through which this newspaper has increased public interest in war veterans and community welfare."

The Selective Service of the U.S. gave Tajiri a certificate of merit for his support and cooperation during the war years. This was awarded a few weeks after the one presented to Kido.

The Pacific Citizen during the war established itself as a very important newspaper as well as a public relations publication. It attained very high ranking among the publishing people of the nation. Richard L. Walsh, editor of Asia and America, said:

"I admire it for its Americanism, its clear loyalty to our country. I admire it for the wisdom and good temper with which it has dealt with the treatment given to our Japanese American citizens. It would have been natural if notes of bitterness had crept in, but they do not; instead the paper constantly shows sympathetic understanding of the racial prejudice which unfortunately

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ADC inaugurates four-year program to fight bias

exists in so many otherwise decent Americans."

William C. Carr, Friends of the American Way of Pasadena, stated concerning the Pacific Citizen:

"To us who are away from the personal shocks which the Japanese Americans have experienced, it is a marvel in its lack of bigotry, its lack of malice and its balance in reporting well."

ADC incorporated in 1946 by Utah laws

The enlarged scope of the general JACL peace-time program as outlined at the national JACL convention in 1946 increased the problems to be handled on a national basis. This was especially true in relation to the court cases to be carried out in testing the constitutionality of the alien land laws as well as the legislative program to be instituted on a national scale in the U.S. Congress.

In order to step up the efficiency of the JACL legislative program, the Anti-Discrimination Committee was organized and incorporated under the laws of Utah on July 10, 1946.

The ADC was organized as a "direct action committee" which would not be limited by the "educational and fraternal" restrictions of the JACL proper. It was created to combat discriminatory measures against persons of Japanese ancestry and to lobby actively for the passage of such congressional bills of interest to persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

The articles of incorporation of the ADC listed Hito Okada, National JACL president, as chairman; Shigeki Ushio, chairman of the Intermountain district council, vice-chairman; Kay Terashima, National JACL treasurer, as treasurer; Mike Masaoka, National JACL secretary was listed as the ADC executive secretary with Mrs. Alice Kasai, president of the Salt Lake JACL chapter, as the board secretary.

Article V of the incorporation papers of the ADC stated the "objectives and purposes" for which said corporation was organized in the following words:

- "1. To advocate the enactment of legislation favorable to the interests of all Americans in general and of persons of Japanese ancestry in particular on national, state and municipal levels;
- "2. To encourage the repeal of national, state and municipal legislation which is of a discriminatory nature, particularly insofar as they concern persons of Japanese ancestry;
- "3. To educate and inform the public at large as to the discriminatory policies and practices, and as to the problems and aspirations of persons of Japanese ancestry;
- "4. To participate in litigation involving the rights, privileges and immunities of persons of Japanese ancestry;
- "5. To strive for the elimination of discriminatory practices and policies based upon race

and national origin wherever found;

"6. To solicit and administer funds to these ends;

"7. And in general to exercise the powers and authorities granted under the laws of the State of Utah to non-profit corporations."

ADC objectives kept separate from JACL's

The JACL-ADC program became fairly well separated in the four years to follow, with the JACL concentrating more on social, recreational and educational programs and the ADC specializing in the fields of active legislation and programming for specific types of reforms on both local and national levels. For example, in 1946 there were introduced into the U.S. Congress a naturalization bill, an evacuation claims bill, and in the U.S. Supreme Court, the Oyama alien land bill was tested.

Other events of importance to the over-all JACL-ADC program were the decisions of the organization to participate as amicus curiae in the Mexican school children segregation case in California, the reactivation of the three Pacific Coast district councils, and the repeal of the Utah alien land law. Another event of importance to the JACL-ADC was the defeat of Proposition 15 by the California voters. The ADC took a very active part in bringing about the defeat of this measure.

Various other bills both private and general in nature were introduced in the 79th Congress to equalize the deportation codes pertaining to Japanese with those applying to other nationals or to prevent the deportation of individual Japanese.

In all these instances, the JACL-ADC was either directly or indirectly involved. Space will not permit an elaboration of all of the instances in which the JACL-ADC was involved in legislative actions, but a few examples to follow will give the principal accomplishments and problems of the over-all program.

Evacuation claims bill introduced

The opening gun in the JACL-ADC legislative program was fired on April 29, 1946 with the introduction in the U.S. Senate of a bill to settle evacuation losses of persons of Japanese ancestry.

A comparable bill was introduced in the House of Representatives on June 13. The bill appeared doomed to die in committee, but by insistence on the part of the ADC and the backers of the bill, it was taken out of committee in the last two weeks of the 79th Congress. It was presented to the Senate and passed with the addition of two minor amendments.

However, the refusal of a few West Coast Congressmen, Clair Engle of Red Bluff and John Phillips of Banning, both of California, to grant "unanimous consent" prevented its enactment into law.

This measure would have created an evacuation claims commission empowered to adjudicate and compensate for some of the losses suffered in the military eviction of 1942.

Delegate Joseph R. Farrington of Hawaii introduced on July 24, 1946 a bill into the congressional to remove the "national origin" discriminatory feature of the immigration and naturalization laws. This was the first formal action which set the wheels rolling for the modification of our naturalization laws relating to persons of Japanese ancestry. The 80th and 81st Congress were to have this type of bill introduced in the following years.

The JACL-ADC became increasingly active in the promoting of such a bill during 1947-50, especially after the "civil rights" program of the Truman administration became of increased importance. The ADC was instrumental in having the original bill presented by Delegate Farrington in 1946.

Calif. Proposition 15 defeated at polls

One of the most bitter battles waged by the JACL-ADC in its history of opposing discriminatory legislation in California centered around "Proposition 15." This issue revolved around the attempt to put stronger teeth in the alien land laws of California.

The strict interpretation of Proposition 15 would have made the living of an Issei parent on the land of his or her American citizen children a violation of law.

It would have made it illegal for a Nisei to support his alien dependent with income earned from a farm.

Proposition 15 was to be voted on by the citizens of California in the November, 1946, elections. The JACL through its ADC under the leadership of Joe Grant Masaoka, and the assistance of Eiji Tanabe and Scotty Tsuchiya, carried the

attack against this proposition to the people of the state of California. The JACL-ADC mailed out to voters over 200,000 pamphlets, and distributed 1,000 posters as well as giving speeches before many civic, veteran and political groups against this proposed law.

The aggressive program against Proposition 15 resulted in its defeat by more than a 4 to 3 margin. This was the greatest victory won by the JACL in all of its history in opposing such legislation in California.

The interest in the over-all problems of other minorities by the JACL was demonstrated by a number of activities during 1946 and early 1947. The JACL participated as a friend of the court in a restrictive housing covenant case in New York City.

Representatives from JACL assisted in drafting bills introduced into the Colorado and Utah state legislatures outlawing certain types of discriminatory practices.

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Author of the JACL History, Elmer Smith, among his books at the university.

Did You Know?

JACL chapters and leaders were also involved in other types of civil rights legislation and anti-discrimination movements in other parts of the U.S. during 1946 and 1947.

National President Hito Okada explained the reason for the active participation of JACL in assisting other minorities in the following words:

"We in JACL have become increasingly aware of the problems of other minorities and their implications to our problems as Japanese Americans. In view of their splendid support and cooperation during the war years when American minorities went out of their

way to give us every aid, we cannot with conscience hold ourselves aloof now that most of our troubles are resolved. For we cannot expect others to cooperate with us if we are unwilling to cooperate with them in the resolving of their problems.

"As Japanese Americans, too, we must recognize that the problems of other minorities are also our problems. For our interests as Japanese Americans are threatened whenever discrimination or persecution or humiliation is inflicted upon any human being because of his race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry."

★ ★ ★
Resettlement to West Coast spurred
The year 1946 saw the return

JACL fights race covenants

of many Nisei to their former homes stretching along the Pacific Coast from the Canadian border to Mexico.

The JACL played a continuous part in their return from the time the first idea was cautiously presented to the WRA that resettlement should be the goal of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the relocation centers to the announcement of the opening of the coastal area for the return of the evacuees.

★ ★ ★
The hectic period of emptying the WRA centers and establishing families, businesses, homes and security in the Pacific Coast communities found the JACL still there "pitching" for the rights of Nisei and their parents to gain an equal and respected position in American society.

JACL's program for 1947 was a continuation of the projects set up at the ninth national convention in Denver, Colo., in 1946.

The Anti-Discrimination Committee, under the direction of Mike Masaoka, became geared to the task of campaigning and gaining congressional approval of such bills as those which would grant naturalization and immigration rights to Japanese nationals as well as bills creating an effective and liberal evacuation claims commission. Other measures on the ADC agenda would eliminate legal discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States.

★ ★ ★
As a defense against discrimination and escheat cases leveled at persons of Japanese ancestry the JACL organized in California the Legal Defense Fund. This fund was to be used to remove or challenge through court action discriminatory and unfair practices against persons of Japanese ancestry in particular and against all other minorities in general.

★ ★ ★
The interest in the status position of other minorities in the United States was again shown by the JACL in the function of the Legal Defense Fund as well as by the following statement by President Okada. This statement

was made in the JACL Reporter and was aimed primarily at JACL members. Okada said:

"In 1947, we are going to participate to a greater degree than ever before in the problems and troubles of other minorities. We have not only become increasingly aware of their plight but we have also become more concerned with cooperating with them in trying to solve their many difficulties. For the discriminations and prejudices, the persecutions and humiliations suffered by one group, unless checked and destroyed, may ultimately engulf all minorities, including our own."

Masaoka's statement to Truman Committee

This position of the JACL was underscored by the 18-page statement made by Mike Masaoka to the President's Civil Rights Committee in May, 1947.

Masaoka urged the committee to protect and further civil and property rights of persons of Japanese ancestry and those of other minorities in the U.S. He further urged the presidential committee to strengthen and implement the federal civil rights statutes and to make them applicable to individual as well as official action, and to recommend the enactment by Congress of the evacuation claims commission and naturalization on a non-racial basis.

The Masaoka statement also recommended that the Civil Rights committee request the President to direct Attorney General Tom Clark to appear in the Oyama alien land law case before the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of the JACL viewpoint.

The concluding paragraphs of the Masaoka report on behalf of the JACL-ADC noted that persons of Japanese ancestry, citizens and aliens alike, have many problems in common with other minority and racial groups. He further declared:

"We know that whenever a person anywhere in the world, and especially here in the United States, is subjected to humiliation, persecution, or restriction because of his physical characteristics, his religion or his ancestry, we as individuals and as a group are vitally concerned. From that discrimination may begin a chain of reactions that may, in time, engulf not only ourselves, but every other person or group . . ."

To implement the verbal stand of the JACL relative to cooperation with other groups in a fight for civil liberties, the JACL filed on Dec. 1, 1947, an Amicus Curiae brief in the restrictive covenant case of Hurd vs. Hodge before the U.S. Supreme Court. The brief was 12 pages in length and because of its significance to the general stand of the JACL on broader issues, the following paragraphs will be devoted to a more complete presentation of the arguments submitted.

★ ★ ★

Hurd vs. Hodge aims at racial covenants

The Amicus Curiae brief of the JACL in the Hurd vs. Hodge case before the U.S. Supreme Court pointed out to the tribunal that JACL was "primarily concerned with assisting persons of Japanese ancestry — whose problems because of the evacuation program are necessarily varied and different from other racial groups—but it sees only too well that discrimination or unfair treatment against any minority rebounds to the detriment of all minorities and therefore to the nation as a whole."

★ ★ ★

The brief further emphasized that the public policy of the United States is clearly against racial discrimination, but numerous examples were cited extending throughout the country where persons of Japanese ancestry have been deprived of the right to live in the homes of their choice because of the existence of race covenants.

It was pointed out that the public policy of the United States against racial discrimination had been violated by the courts of the land in enforcing the covenants.

The brief also brought out that the forced segregation of the Japanese created racial ghettos, and that such segregation had been used against them at the time of evacuation from the West Coast.

Restricted covenants, the JACL maintained, were again forcing the returning evacuees to "Little Tokyos" and thus the persons of Japanese ancestry were again being placed in a position for criticism as being "clannish" and "unassimilable."

★ ★ ★

The following significant statement concluded the brief:

"We have laws condemning racial discrimination; we have signed treaties to the same effect; this court has struck down laws which accomplished such discrimination; this court should now, in the same view, prevent the courts of our land from violating that policy."

★ ★ ★

1947: JACL chapters get Headquarter service

The internal organization and activities were to be given special consideration during 1947 in an attempt to increase the value and importance of JACL to its individual members. In order to carry out this program Masao Satow was appointed as acting national secretary to fill the balance of Mike Masaoka's unexpired term.

Satow stepped up the services the national headquarters could give to the various local chapters, set a series of personal meetings with officers and members at the local chapter levels, and developed a "secretary's note book" which included suggestions for meetings, programs, and discussed various national, state and local JACL problems. These "note books" were sent to all chapter offices.

President Hito Okada appeared before the House Judiciary Committee and explained the interest of the JACL in a national evacuations claims bill. Okada stated to the committee that the JACL was directly interested in the bill because of the stand maintained by the JACL during evacuation.

★ ★ ★

"Because the Japanese community as such holds us to be primarily responsible for the policy of complete cooperation, this shall not be completed until the last remaining problems arising out of that wartime movement are equitably and completely resolved. Its enactment will not only further demonstrate that unquestioned loyalty and allegiance to our government is always the only policy but that our trust in our government was justified."

★ ★ ★

Oct. '47: Oyama case before Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of the United States heard on October 22,

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Did You Know?

1947 a challenge to the constitutionality of the California Alien Land Law. The Oyama case before the court was sponsored jointly by the JACL Legal Defense Fund of Southern California and the Civil Rights Defense Union of Northern California.

In a 6-3 decision the U.S. Supreme Court on Jan. 19, 1948 upheld Nisei rights and ruled that the provisions of the California Alien Land Law had been applied unconstitutionally against Fred Oyama.

The high court, however, refused to invalidate the whole statute despite the insistence on the part of four of the concurring justices that such be done. This decision left much to be desired from the point of view of the JACL, and laid the basis for another alien land case in the near future.

Organization grows as 57 chapters active

The internal organizations of the JACL grew in strength and membership during 1947. It will be recalled that 64 chapters comprised the National organization on the eve of evacuation.

With evacuation came the dissolution of chapters along the west coast, and as an organization it was reduced to a few comparatively young Intermountain chapters. At the close of 1947 the national JACL had 54 chapters functioning actively and five others in the process of becoming recognized.

As Nisei put down roots in the Midwest and east via the resettlement program, and later as some of them returned to their west coast homes, Nisei groups were formed and expanded. The JACL's program of community and group advancement was recognized as of importance for the benefit of these communities, and JACL chapters were organized or, in the case of the west coast, reactivated.

The Midwest and Eastern District Councils were organized during 1947 and the Pacific Northwest District Council was reactivated. These three District Councils joined with the Intermountain, Northern California, and the Pacific Northwest District Council was reactivated.

These three District Councils joined with the Intermountain, Northern California, and the Pacific Southwest Districts to make six District Councils in operation at the close of 1947.

This expansion of the organizational set-up of JACL made the JACL emerge in 1947 as a more truly national organization geographically as well as in its program, influence and scope of operations.

A review of the activities of the various chapters from the date available in the files of the national JACL indicates that during 1947 the chapters were positive factors in encouraging the development of Nisei. The chapter activities tended to broaden the Nisei's perspective, expanded their interest, and served as the channel through which a greater participation in the life of the total community was being directed.

Membership interests expanded by CL program

A paragraph from the report of the National Secretary's yearly report will summarize the myriad of activities in which JACLers participated in 1947.

"1947 saw our Idaho Falls Chapter raise \$2500 toward the local

community hospital; Eastbay civic, religious and service organizations; Mt. Olympus chapter obtained the advantages of Blue Cross for its membership;

San Benito County with only 19 families solicited \$688 from their non-Japanese friends to support JACL's legislative program; Ogden Chapter acted as a unifying factor in bringing together various Nisei organizations together for cooperative ventures; and Chicago maintained a high standard of well attended general meetings with a variety of top notch speakers."

Workshop training for leaders started by MDC

The Midwest District Council in a pioneering venture sponsored the Midwest Workshop for the training of leaders in the fields of inter-group and interracial relations. The Eastern District followed with a comparable workshop, and plans were made by the Pacific Northwest District to do likewise.

JACL accomplishments on the local level in 1947 pointed out the fact that the chapters needed to give more attention to the problems and organization of younger Nisei and to cooperate with other organizations and agencies in the community.

Many of the local chapters recognized that the encouragement of youth groups must extend to JACL members assuming the active advisorship of them. This program was realized in part by the Salinas Chapter organizing a Junior JACL. The Snake River Chapter sent a representative to the "Boys State" of Oregon, and the Salt Lake City Chapter and Intermountain District Council combined to make possible the attendance of one of their members at the National Encampment for Citizenship.

Basic programs of '47 carried over to 1948

The basic programs established in 1947 were carried over into 1948 for either elaboration or completion.

For example, the legislative program on the national level was about in the same position as at the close of the 1947 Congressional session. Both an evacuees claims bill and a naturalization bill was being discussed in both the Senate and House of Representatives. This meant that the JACL-ADC had its work cut out for it on a national level for 1948.

Besides the legislation then before Congress, the JACL-ADC participated in a number of important conferences and committees during 1948. The National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice committee demonstrated growing interest of the Japanese American Citizens League in the fight for the minority groups to secure through legislation an end to discrimination in employment practices.

The National Council launched early in 1948 a nationwide campaign to secure early congressional enactment of an FEPC law. Mike Masaoka was appointed to the council's "strategy" committee.

The ADC director, Mike Masaoka, appeared early in February, 1948, before a Congressional committee on the anti-lynching legislation.

The Nisei spokesman told the committee that had there been a federal statute specifically condemning these lynchings and other acts of violence, much of the terrorism that greeted the return of evacuees to the west coast in 1945-Chapter was cited for its work in the local Red Cross campaign;

2 JACL-ADC objective in 1948

Santa Clara County members walked off with more than their share of honors at their County Fair; San Mateo gave leadership to the local Council For Civic Unity; Pocatello made available copies of the Story of the 442nd to the local libraries; Salt Lake City joined with other minority groups in a weekly radio program; Orange County's float won a prize in the Fourth of July parade; Denver joined in a campaign to push for a state FEPC; Twin Cities' Research and Education Committee won recognition from the Governor's Interracial Commission;

Mid-Columbia used up their entire treasury to enable the Burgoynes to make a trip to New York to accept their Council Against Intolerance Award; Seabrook helped the Issei to obtain first papers for naturalization; Detroit sent out speakers to vacillate would not have happened.

The more than 100 incidents of violence against persons of Japanese ancestry in California alone have revealed that while the Negro is the principal victim of lynching, other minorities too have a stake in this all important issue.

Masaoka concluded that "since it is quite apparent that the several states have failed this great responsibility of protecting equally the lives and properties of their residents, Congress should step in and enact legislation to extend to all the people everywhere the full and equal protection of the laws."

1948: Takahashi fishing case decision favorable

California was denying the right of Japanese and other aliens ineligible for citizenship to receive commercial fishing licenses. The JACL-ADC decided to bring this issue to the forefront of discriminatory acts, and the Takahashi case was sponsored by the JACL-ADC and brought to the U. S. Supreme Court. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the CIO joined the JACL-ADC in this case. On June 7, 1948, the U. S. Supreme Court ruled in a 7 to 2 decision that the California Fish and Game

Code, Section 990, enacted in 1945, violated the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution which provided that all persons, whether citizens or aliens, shall enjoy the equal protection of the laws of the state in which they abide.

The legislative program at the Washington, D.C., level kept the JACL-ADC office very busy laying the groundwork for the passage of various bills relating to persons of Japanese ancestry.

Stay of deportation bill OK'd by Truman

The first major victory for the JACL program came with the passage and signing by Pres. Truman on July 1, 1948, of the alien deportation suspension bill, HR 3366. This bill made possible the extension of time for aliens of Japanese ancestry facing deportation to remain in the U. S. with their citizen children and wives.

One of the most important features of this law was the provision enabling Japanese aliens for the first time to enjoy privileges heretofore granted only to Europeans and classes who were eligible for citizenship.

JACL-ADC fought for the enactment of this type of law ever since its attention was called to a number of outstanding cases of Japanese aliens, who, after having contributed generously to the U. S. war effort, were facing deportation because of technical provisions of the immigration laws.

One day after HR3366 became law, the President signed HR3999 establishing the evacuation claims committee.

Under the provision of this bill, the Attorney General was empowered to pay claims not exceeding \$2,500 for damages or loss of property resulting from evacuation orders of Feb. 19, 1942, and Oct. 18, 1944. Any awards above \$2,500 were to be subject to Congressional approval.

The signing of the evacuation claims bill, along with the alien deportation bill, completed two-thirds of the JACL-ADC national legislative program at that time.

The only remaining program of major importance was the naturalization bill.

Evacuation claims law signed by President

The signing of the evacuation claims bill by Pres. Truman making it into law did not decrease the amount of work, worry and responsibility of the JACL.

As a matter of fact, new pressures and problems were thrown upon both the Washington, D.C., office and others. At this writing in 1951 the problems and pressures are still on the JACL-ADC to assist in carrying the provisions of the bill to a successful conclusion.

One of the first problems to be faced was the working out of procedures in handling the many and varied cases to be presented for evacuation claims settlement. In this activity the JACL-ADC immediately began conferences with representative government agencies. Mike Masaoka, National ADC director, was looked to for assistance and recommendations relative to the type and extent of machinery needed for the adjudication of claims and the filing of the claims.

The exact degree of JACL's participation in the evacuation claims program was deferred until the meeting of the Tenth National JACL Convention held in Salt Lake City during the first week of September, 1948.

The evacuation claims bill became one of the most frustrating and serious problems the JACL encountered for months and even years to follow.

The principal problems revolved around the efficient administration of the program by the federal government, the filling out of adequate and consistent forms, and the interpretation of rules by the government in the issuing of compensation.

One of the consistent problems which faced the JACL-ADC in its district and national meetings revolved around the stepping up of

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Bill unfair to Issei defeated

the evacuation claims bill's purpose of compensating adequately and efficiently for losses during evacuation.

Judd bill for Issei naturalization written

A bill for naturalization of persons of Japanese ancestry legally residing in the U. S. was not forthcoming immediately in the 1948 legislative program. Early in June, however, the "Judd bill" was introduced into the House of Representatives as HR 6809. Public hearings were held on this bill and the Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the House Judiciary Committee reported it out favorably. No action was taken by the Judiciary Committee.

The JACL-ADC refused to accept this as a defeat, and plans were immediately made to enlarge the educational program among Congressmen for another naturalization bill.

Another bill introduced in Congress under HR 4044 was of extreme importance to persons of

Japanese ancestry. This bill received very little publicity, but it was designed to embarrass many persons of Japanese extraction.

This bill, if it had been passed, would have permitted the liquidation of vested Japanese and German assets in the U. S. The proceeds would have been used to pay claims of civilian war victims who suffered at the hands of the enemy. No compensation would have been returned to the original owners of impounded property held by the Office of Alien Property.

HR 4044 unfair to Issei defeated by CL

The JACL-ADC recognized the unfairness of this bill to Issei in the United States, and subsequently filed objections to HR 4044 in the House Judiciary Subcommittee on claims legislation. The JACL-ADC's objections rested on the fact that the Japanese alien, through no fault of his own, was arbitrarily classed as an "enemy alien" since he technically owed allegiance to Japan because he could not become a naturalized

citizen of the United States.

The JACL-ADC objection pointed out that "many a Japanese alien has demonstrated his innate Americanism by contributing a son or daughter to the U.S. armed forces in the war against his native land or by volunteering his services to the military agencies of this government."

The timely objection and educational program among the Congressmen of the JACL-ADC to this bill played a very important part in defeating this proposal.

This is one of the many examples where it was paramount that the persons of Japanese ancestry have a representative close to the national legislative scene for their welfare.

Chapters developed to assist own communities

The activities of JACL during the latter part of 1947 to September, 1948, were, precluding the legislative programs on a national scale, centered in the development of local chapters to the point where they could carry on fraternal and social service activities within their respective communities. Much of the activity focused on the setting up of new chapters and the reactivating of older ones suspended during the war period.

The membership drives during 1947-48 brought the total of JACL members to 6,608 in 63 chapters. These chapters were located from coast to coast, with the majority being located west of the Rocky Mountains.

National headquarters of JACL played an important role in the membership drive. It sent out over 10,000 membership leaflets in 1947 and over 16,000 in 1948. These leaflets were sent to local JACL chapters for distribution and also to persons unaffiliated with the organization.

The local JACL chapters in co-operation with the various district councils carried on public relations and educational programs in the various local communities in relation to other racial groups.

The principal function, however, of the various chapters in the many fields of possible activities seemed, according to a survey made by the National Committee on Program and Activities, to resolve primarily around the sponsoring and directing of bowling, basketball and baseball leagues and the holding of dances.

Both the local and national JACL faced its largest problem with determination during this period. This problem was the raising of funds to carry out the gen-

eral and specific JACL program. The fund raising program was successful, but even then it failed to be adequate for many of the incidental jobs demanded of JACL during the period under discussion.

During the latter part of 1947 a group was organized in Japan known as the JACL Committee for Japan. The committee was organized at the suggestion of Roger Baldwin of the American Civil Liberties Union, and it was to function as a service organization for Nisei and Issei stranded in Japan.

Membership was limited to civilian workers and Army personnel who had gone to Japan after the war for occupational duties.

By September, 1948, the national headquarters of JACL did not recognize this committee as representing them in Japan. The committee had evidently failed to function properly due to the rapid turnover of personnel in the various agencies located in Japan.

Sept. '48: Salt Lake hosts 10th biennial

The tenth national JACL biennial convention was called to order in Salt Lake City, Utah, on Sept. 4, 1948, by Pres. Hito Okada at the Junior Ballroom in Hotel Utah.

The registration committee announced that 450 persons attended the meeting during the five-day convention, and all but a very few of the local chapters were represented.

Pres. Okada, after summarizing the accomplishments of the JACL over the two-year period since the Denver convention, stated the basic theme of the convention in the following words:

"I believe that the present time is for the JACL to become a service organization. If such is the case, then I believe that our chapters should seriously consider the maintenance of chapter offices and the availability of an executive secretary. If service to the community is our responsibility, then let us give adequate service. The answer may be the maintenance of an office by several chapters in an area, the answer may be the maintenance of the regional offices by the district councils with an increase in staff members to cover the district adequately.

"The answer should come out of this National Council meeting.

"Let us implement our unfinished job, so that we can celebrate a victory convention in 1950. Let us chart a sound basic program for the next biennium."

The problem of the future of the JACL was one of the principal topics for discussion at the tenth biennial convention. The basic question for one of the panels held on contemporary problems was: Can we justify the continued existence of the JACL when the problems of the Japanese Americans have been all but solved?

During the discussion by the panel members, it was suggested that the future course of the JACL would have to be centered around the following points:

1. The JACL should function within the total community and not a restricted community of Nisei, Issei, Kibei and Sansei.
2. The JACL should develop and follow a specific program to protect persons of all minority groups from discrimination and undemocratic action.
3. The JACL should push an education program within its membership and thus lay the foundation for full support of its programs in the future.
4. It should work with other groups and organizations to fight the growing menace to civil rights.
5. The JACL should expand its recreation, welfare and community services to persons of Japanese ancestry, and to others where the need demands.

Further discussions on the part of the panel on the future of JACL brought up the problem of what should be done in terms of discrimination practiced by Nisei against other groups within the American community.

The consensus was that the JACL should take a positive stand on civil rights and liberties, but before a definite program would be initiated more insight and study of techniques to fight discrimination should be worked out.

"Nisei," said one speaker, "are often guilty of discrimination particularly where economic factors are concerned. Where these economic factors play a part, we are often reluctant to take a stand against discrimination. The democracy that gave us equality deserves our support in fighting discrimination."

A delegate from the floor, in speaking on the policy for the future of JACL, stated "its policy should be suicide." He went on to say: "The policy of having segregated groups is not a healthy thing. We should work for the time when the JACL is no longer needed."

The majority of the panel agreed that the need for a JACL would not cease with the completion of the legislative program outlined by previous JACL programs.

Wider horizon of JACL policy urged by Chuman

Frank Chuman of Los Angeles summed up the problem when he said:

"The JACL has been through an evolutionary process. The nature of the problems facing us during the war period forced us to become an educational group . . . Now we are taking over many of the community problems, like Issei needs and welfare . . . The JACL is now entering its evangelical stage. We must get together on a common program for a broad civil rights program with other groups."

Three important decisions were made by the Tenth Convention governing the program of the JACL and ADC for the coming two years.

One of these was the pledge to continue work for the naturalization of aliens of Japanese ancestry who were residents in the United States. This aspect of the JACL-ADC program was to take precedence over all other business.

The second part of the program centered in the assistance JACL should give to the implementation of evacuation claims legislation. It was unanimously agreed that JACL, as a matter of principle, should "(1) render service as possible and proper in the filing and processing of evacuation claims, (2) charge no fee for whatever services it may render or offer as a part of its over-all services to all persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States."

The third aspect of the JACL program on a national and local level of general interest dealt with the problem of racial discrimination.

Equal opportunities for all minorities sought

In a resolution passed by the Tenth Convention of the JACL, racial discrimination in all of its forms was condemned. The resolution follows:

"Be it resolved that the National Council in full session at Salt Lake City commit itself to the following:

- "1. As a matter of principle, the JACL stand firm on the policy of non-discrimination and equal access and opportunities to members of all minority groups.
- "2. By a process of education, the JACL discourage discriminatory practices committed by members of the Japanese communities.
- "3. To remove a negative aspect in American life, the JACL seek the cooperation of the American press toward the elimination of the careless use of the term 'Jap' in its news articles and heads."

For the first time in the history of the JACL, a coast-to-coast broadcast was made by the national JACL president. National JACL President Hito Okada on Wednesday evening, Sept 8, over the Mutual network gave the following message to the radio public:

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Congressman Walter Addresses JACLers

Did You Know?

HR 199, a bill to give Issei citizenship rights, was presented early in 1949, but due to the objections of Senator McCarran of Nevada this bill was dropped. On May 9, 1949, Congressman Walter introduced House Joint Resolution 238 as a substitute for HR 199. This Resolution (HJR 238) provided that the right of naturalization should not be denied or abridged because of race. HJR 238 passed the House of Representatives and was immediately sent to the Senate.

There it was "passed over" at the request of Senator Russell of Georgia. At the second session of the 81st Congress this Resolution was again "defeated" by the action of Senator Russell.

The action of Senator Russell threw the whole question of naturalization back to the House of Representatives for review.

A conference was called on HJR 238 and the Walter Resolution was again accepted, but at the request of Senator McCarran certain so-called "security" provisions were added to the measure.

On August 28, 1950, after HJR 238 had been passed by both legislative branches of the federal government, it was sent to the White House for President Truman's signature.

The President vetoed the measure because of certain "security" provisions. The House of Representatives passed HJR 238 over the President's veto, but due to some fast maneuvering on the part of Senator McCarran, the bill was never brought before the U. S. Senate.

Thus, at the time of the Eleventh National JACL Convention held in Chicago during September 27 through October 2, 1950, the naturalization of Issei was still a problem to be worked out.

1950: Naturalization miss blamed on pair

The failure of a naturalization bill to become law can rest on the shoulders of only two persons. Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada was not then in sympathy with the general principle of equality in naturalization, thus he blocked the passage of such a bill at every opportunity.

Senator Richard B. Russell of

Georgia evidently carried the standard "color prejudices" of his southern culture into his objections to the naturalization bill even though he had other excuses to offer to some of the American public.

It is of interest that two senators who represented but a very, very small minority of the people in the United States could by certain acts within the democratic process thus block the actions of the very great majority.

(The Issei gained naturalization privileges in June, 1952, when the Walter-McCarran Immigration and Nationality Act was passed over President Truman's veto.—Editor)

The JACL-ADC through its educational program was successful in gaining the support of the majority of Congressmen for its naturalization program. It cannot be said that the JACL-ADC program was a failure from this point of view.

Other JACL-ADC accomplishments on a national level which

'Buck-a-Month' Club assisted JACL finances

SALT LAKE CITY.—When a majority of the Nisei were either in service or in relocation centers between 1943 and 1945, a woman student in Missouri suggested a "Buck-a-Month" Club to assist National JACL finance its program.

While this young lady started the ball rolling, by late 1945 it had attracted as many as 110 members who contributed a dollar a month. Albert D. Bonus of Seattle, it might be said, was first person to respond to the idea. He has been supporting JACL and the Pacific Citizen consistently.

Anti-Japanese boycott nipped in San Diego

SAN DIEGO.—One of the feathers in the hat worn by San Diego JACL before the war concerned their efforts in 1937.

A fearless appeal led by George Ohashi, beautician now in Denver but then chapter president here, before the public nipped an anti-Japanese boycott on silk. The chapter had logically argued that trade promoted business while a boycott would be harmful to the community.

American Bowl drops color bar

dealt with legislation may be overlooked because of the defeat of the naturalization program.

It should not be forgotten that during the years 1949-50 the "stay of deportation" amendment to the Immigration Act of 1927 was enacted; an amendment to the original Soldier Brides Act was made into law, liberalizing the original act. This amendment authorized the admission of the racially ineligible alien spouses of American veterans and service men to enter the U. S. for permanent residence without regard to quotas if the marriage took place within thirty days after the enactment of the law (August 22, 1947).

The contraband articles claims act supplemented the evacuation claims law, and an act was also passed by Congress, with the backing of the JACL-ADC, which amended the Trading With the Enemy Act and allowed the Attorney General and his Office of Alien Property to return the vested property of American citizens with dual nationalities who were residing in enemy countries during the war. This overruled the administrative decision against such return of government seized property.

Other important legislation supported by JACL-ADC was passed by the 80th and 81st Congress influencing the well being of persons of Japanese ancestry, but the above specific examples will suffice to show that the general program of JACL was functioning in a number of situations often overlooked by the busy man-in-the-street.

Push public service for filing of claims

Services outside that of legislation and litigation were carried on by the JACL in various ways and in all the local chapters. One of the most significant services was that of assisting, without fee, the filing of evacuation claims. The local JACL chapters were active in giving secretarial service, acting as interpreters for the Issei, and suggesting other aids in the filing of the claims.

Local chapters participated in the over-all community activities by cooperating with other civic organizations in such activities as

Red Cross drives, community chest activities, interracial and intercultural meetings of various kinds, and the building of "peace gardens," or other types of community affairs.

The JACL became the clearing house for a number of scholarships, the two most important ones being the National Ethical Society scholarship and the Pvt. Ben Frank Masaoka Memorial scholarship.

During 1949 and 1950 six Nisei attended the National Ethical Society Encampment for Citizenship on scholarship awards, and one Nisei for 1949 and one for 1950 were given college scholarships from the Masaoka Memorial fund.

In 1940 a representative of the JACL visited Hawaii, as was done in 1948, for the purpose of reporting on the activities of the JACL and the ADC of interest to persons of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii.

The cooperation given by the inhabitants of Hawaii to the JACL since 1947 is of significance when it is recalled that in the early days of JACL an attempt to bring about such support and cooperation was not successful. The forces set loose during World War II and the position taken by the JACL in combating these forces tended to weld the Nisei together in a common cause that was not forthcoming before.

This is a specific instance where group morale was tightened in times of stress and strain and closed cooperation brought results.

The JACL, both on a local and national basis, was interested in the conducting and sponsoring of a national JACL bowling tournament. Such tournaments had been conducted in previous years, and held in Salt Lake City, but in 1950 the tournament was moved to San Francisco. The 1951 tournament was to be held in Los Angeles. The primary reason for the national JACL bowling tournament was to give the Nisei in the var-

ious locally sponsored Nisei leagues a chance for wider competition. The American Bowling Congress refused membership to non-whites, and thus the Nisei leagues were the outgrowth of this discrimination.

The JACL in 1950 took the position that the discrimination against non-whites in bowling by the American Bowling Congress was unfair democratic practice and should be eliminated.

National JACL was one of the charter members of the National Committee for Fair Play in Bowling, and National President Hito Okada was a member of the National Steering Committee of this group.

During the San Francisco Bowling Tournament in March of 1950 a National JACL Advisory Committee on Bowling was established with funds to carry on the fight for "fair play in bowling" as well as to counsel JACL's annual bowling tournament.

The American Bowling Congress rescinded its "whites only" clause in the early fall of 1950. Immediately in various cities Nisei were accepted as regular members of teams in other leagues, and the local Nisei leagues and members were eligible for membership in the ABC. The Nisei National Bowling Tournament of 1951 was sanctioned by the American Bowling Congress.

State alien land laws ruled unconstitutional

Alien land laws held the interest of at least two states and their JACL groups during 1949 and 1950. California had both the Fujii and Masaoka cases to worry about.

Both of these cases were heard during this period, and one of the decisions made by the District Court of Appeals rendered the California Alien Land Law invalid, "since it was counter to the United Nations Charter and

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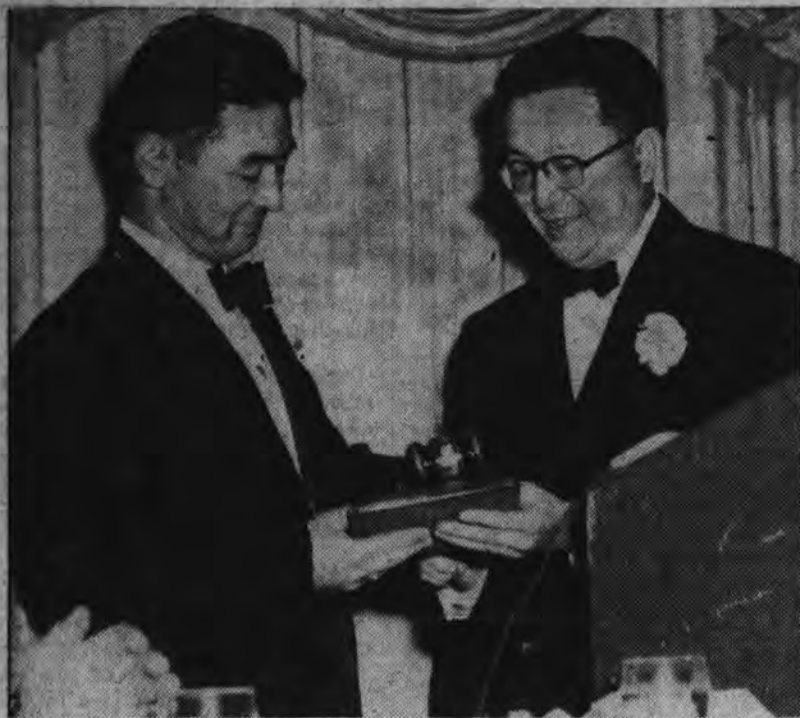
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The late Dr. Randy Sakada (left) of Chicago accepts the symbols of office—the National JACL presidency—at the 11th biennial convention (Chicago - 1950) from Hito Okada of Salt Lake City.

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This was a precedent shattering decision, and was felt throughout the United States. The State of California immediately filed a motion for a rehearing, and the JACL along with other organizations immediately filed an amicus curiae brief in opposition to the state's motion.

Idaho's alien land law, along with restrictions placed on alien Japanese fishermen, held the interest of the Idaho chapters, and groundwork was begun to have these laws eliminated at the next meeting of the Idaho state legislature.

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Administration of claims processing hits snag

One of the most serious and important programs that faced the JACL-ADC during 1949-50 was the development of machinery for the processing of evacuation claims through the Justice Department.

As already pointed out, the various local chapters assisted persons in filing their claims. The next problem was to get the claims acknowledged by the Justice Department and processed to the end that adjustments would be made. This last was the "bottleneck" in the program.

Over 24,000 claims from almost all of the states of the Union as well as from Alaska, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Formosa and Japan have been filed under the act. At the close of 1950 under one per cent of the claims were processed, less adjudicated and fewer paid. Of the few claims adjudicated, the average amounts paid or recommended for payment ran to approximately 50 per cent of the amounts claimed.

The basic problem faced by the JACL-ADC as representative of the persons of Japanese ancestry was one of using its influence through various avenues to have evacuation claims speeded up in order to save the losses suffered in evacuation from becoming serious in the establishment of Issei and Nisei businesses as well as saving the U. S. taxpayer money in long drawn out processing of the claims.

★ ★ ★

Sept. '50: Chicago hosts 11th biennial

The 11th Biennial JACL Convention met in Chicago in the Stevens Hotel during Sept. 27-Oct. 2, 1950. The JACL as a national organization listed 80 chapters chartered in 23 states and the District of Columbia.

They were scattered from coast to coast and boundary to boundary. California had the largest number of chapters with 42, while Colorado, Idaho and Oregon had four each. Washington, Utah and Idaho were represented by three chapters, while single chapters are found in Montana, Nevada, Arizona, Wyoming, New Mexico, Texas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia.

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The JACL's paid-up membership was listed at more than 10,000 at the time of the 1950 convention; the Chicago chapter had the most with more than 1,000.

★ ★ ★

The 80 JACL chapters were organized into eight regional district councils — Northern California and Western Nevada, Pacific Southwest, Central California, Pacific Northwest, Intermountain, Plains, Midwest and Eastern.

The development of the JACL in ten years—that is, from the last prewar national biennial at Portland in 1940 — showed definite growth, even though during the

years of World War II chapter organization and membership dropped off to only 20 chapters by 1946.

The expansion program carried it to almost every area where there are any appreciable number of American citizens of Japanese ancestry. One of the main problems faced by the JACL was to extend its membership among these areas for the benefit of the Nisei.

The primary problems faced by the 11th national convention revolved around the pushing of the bill for naturalization of the Issei parents of the Nisei; the speeding up of the evacuation claims bill relative to processing, adjudicating and paying of the claims; the working out of a program for adequately financing the work of the JACL-ADC; and the supporting of civil rights legislation both on a national and state level.

★ ★ ★

Speed-up of claims program studied

The Evacuation Claims Committee of the JACL summarized their findings as follows:

1. The attitude of the Department of Justice recently changed from that of being a friend of the claimant and expediting the processing of the claims to that of adversary and engaging in strict litigation proceedings against the claimant.

2. The Attorney General's office, notwithstanding repeated requests by the JACL and attorneys, has failed to provide rules and regulations as guides in the processing of the Evacuation Claims Act.

3. The Department of Justice has interpreted the law strictly against the claimant and with minute technical distinctions.

4. The Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., as well as the various field offices has been afflicted with inaction, indecision and lack of knowledge and appreciation of the true circumstances of the evacuation.

5. Congress has appropriated

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Significance of JACL reviewed

inadequate funds to administer and pay the claims.

Amendment to original claims law suggested

Upon the basis of these findings the JACL-ADC recommended that amendments be made to the Evacuation Claims Act to speed up and implement its activities to a successful conclusion.

Four proposed amendments were listed as follows:

1. Change of words wherever necessary to have the Claims Act conform to the concept of a determination rather than an adjudication.

2. To broaden the scope of coverage in the law to specify persons such as those of Terminal Island to embrace those persons who were evacuated by any governmental agency or officer and not those persons who were evacuated under Executive Order No. 9066 and No. 9489.

3. To suggest standards, or requirements for the Attorney General's office to follow in considering and processing claims by means of rules and regulations.

4. To make it possible to have two methods of payment:

a). An indemnity payment to all claimants regardless of the amount they have heretofore filed;

b). An advance payment to all claimants who have heretofore filed for losses up to the amount of 25 per cent of their claim or \$2,500, whichever amount is the lesser.

JACL supports statehood for Hawaiian Islands

A resolution to support FEPC was adopted as was one to support statehood for Hawaii. Another resolution asked that the legislative director in Washington, D.C., explore the possibility of more adequate federal aid for aging Issei, since the average age of the Issei is beyond the statutory minimum age of senior citizens which would legally qualify them for old age pensions if citizens.

The convention went on record as supporting the passage of an alien naturalization bill, and it further maintained that such a bill would be one of the principal programs for the coming year.

Financial problems held the spotlight for a number of discussions. The principal focal point seemed to be whether the JACL should continue to be a service organization for all persons of Japanese ancestry or whether it would be for members only.

This problem raised the question as to how financial assistance could be obtained from non-members to carry on the necessary work if the JACL

remained an over-all service group.

The financial problem was not completely solved by the convention, but it was voted, upon the basis of the resolution passed, to remain a service organization for all persons of Japanese ancestry. It was maintained that one way to gain some of the needed finances was to increase the JACL dues, raise the price of the Pacific Citizen, and increase the "Thousand Club" membership as well as increase JACL membership.

The National JACL officers for 1950-52 were elected by membership ballot before the eleventh convention convened in October, 1950. The officers as introduced to the convention by JACL National Director Masao W. Satow were: National President Dr. Randolph M. Sakada, 1st Vice-President Frank Chuman, 2nd Vice-President Tom Hayashi, 3rd Vice-President Patrick Okura, National Treasurer William Enomoto, and Secretary to the National Board, Ina Sugihara.

Significance of JACL program reviewed

The conclusion of the Eleventh JACL Biennial Convention held at Chicago held a number of significant meanings in terms of the historical background of the JACL as traced in the present story.

A few of these significant happenings are worthy of a brief review before we close the story of the JACL for the present time.

Problems of general interest to all persons of Japanese ancestry have always been of special interest to the JACL even from the time of its inception in Seattle in 1930.

These general problems have been foremost while specific problems of an organizational nature have taken a secondary position in the affairs of the JACL, often to the detriment of the JACL itself. This has been especially true upon the national level. This trend seems to still be the basic program of the JACL as evidenced by the important place given to the continued promotion of the naturalization bill, the interest shown in the Evacuation Claims Act, the stressing of the continued Washington, D.C., representation of the JACL-ADC revolving around the welfare of all persons of Japanese ancestry, a program for the more efficient elimination of segregation in public housing and the support of an FEP law and anti-lynching and anti-poll tax laws.

These are definitely the type of conformity to a general welfare program inherent in the early philosophy of the JACL, and given new and vigorous rebirth at the

close of World War II at the Denver Convention in 1946.

National JACL election methods goes traditional

A few changes at the Chicago convention were made tending to revert to a more traditional pre-war pattern or to new patterns of policy.

One of these was the change in the election of national officers. The abandoning of the system of elections by popular membership vote and referring this to the National Council delegates is a step backward to the old pre-war days. It will be recalled that in pre-war days a large amount of negative criticism was leveled at this type of election.

The principal criticism was that cliques were organized within the National Council which made for favoritism and dictatorship. Whether the "coming of age" of JACL will make this type of criticism unnecessary, only time will tell.

The problem of financing the JACL program has always been a serious one, and as we have shown, the issue was a serious one in the 1950 Convention. If the JACL is to be a service organization, and evidently it will be under the proposed program for 1951-52, there needs to be a fully organized and cooperative financial program worked out among all groups composed of persons of Japanese ancestry whether they belong to the JACL or not.

It is no more than fair that persons who receive the benefits from a program should assist in financing such a program.

The type of service furnished by the JACL and the ADC centers the realm of "big business," and it can no longer be considered as "part-time activity operating on simple individual donations."

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To think of JACL activities in the service field as comparable to pre-World War II is to think in terms of the days of "horse-and-buggy" business and services.

Financial aspect of JACL is 'big business'

This, I believe, the JACL story has been able to point out in no uncertain terms! Until some such cooperative over-all group or groups will finance the services rendered by JACL is established, the problem of financing the service programs as outlined by the Chicago Convention will be a serious problem.

There were a number of statements made by the delegates to the Eleventh JACL Convention referring to the lack of active participation and support of Nisei in local JACL affairs.

This phenomenon, as the JACL story has repeatedly pointed out, is nothing new. Every JACL convention has heard much the same thing from its delegates. As a matter of fact, it will be recalled, during some periods in the JACL's past the conditions were so serious that special appeals were made to respective chapter members by the JACL national president for more active support.

A study of local JACL participation can be found to be correlated with a number of factors. These factors are listed as follows, but not necessarily in order of their importance:

1). Local officer personnel: Cer-

tain persons when in office seem able to get more support than others for the carrying out of programs. The implication in this fact seems to be that more care should be exercised in the election and appointment of local officers and assistants.

2). Seasonal forces influence participation. In dominantly rural areas, the participation is lowest at the height of the farming activities, and steps up later. In urban communities the seasonal influences step up participation during the winter.

3). Programming of activities definitely show a great influence on participation and attendance at local JACL meetings. The greater the diversity of interest of the members the harder it is to work out a program of interest for all concerned.

This calls for astute generalship on the part of the program chairman, and demands that more than "passing interest" be given to the program of each meeting.

Here constructive leadership is badly needed if local chapters are to be successful in their individual meetings.

A careful study of past programs in terms of their success and failure might be useful in developing other programs.

4). Age range in the local chapter is of great significance. The greater the age range the greater the difficulties of arranging activities to hold the membership in attendance at meetings and to ob-

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The trio attired in business suit (left to right), Lincoln Shimizu, Mike Hagiwara and Abe Hagiwara, are undoubtedly serenading Chicagoans with parodies as only Harold "Tokuzo" Gordon (in front of microphone) could pen.

Did You Know?

tain their participation.

This problem has now reached its peak, and requires careful handling to keep a progressive spirit alive in many of the local JACL chapters.

5). The degree to which negative social forces are felt by persons of Japanese ancestry within a given community is of importance to the positive group morale of the local JACL.

If things are going smoothly for the Nisei in a given community, group interest tends to decrease and participation in group activities becomes less important.

It becomes a test of leadership to stimulate group interest along positive lines under such conditions. A broader educational program might be called for under such conditions to bring a realization to Nisei that cooperative endeavor along with other groups within the community can more adequately take place under these conditions, and that such an advantage should not be passed by. This would call for a broader group outlook than would normally be the case.

National JACL Director Masao Satow in his report to the Eleventh National JACL Convention probably had this in mind when he said:

"The classic illustration of one of JACL's important roles is that it has been likened to a fire department which is maintained to extinguish fires.

"Just because there have been no recent fires is no reason to junk the fire department. We might also point out that one of the primary functions of a fire department is also to conduct campaigns of education so that fires can be prevented, and also to put out small fires before they develop into major conflagrations."

The story of the JACL has shown us how a minority organization was conceived in difficult times.

Its trials, frustrations, and some of its failures as well as successes have been outlined for the study and direction of future students and others interested in the rise and development of a specific organization representing a minority group under the democratic process.

Some of the forces making for group identification, group action, ethnic dissention and cooperation have been outlined in this, "The JACL Story."

(END)

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