

PACIFIC CITIZEN



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EDITORIALS:

NC-WNDC aids flood victims

Last Sunday, Dec. 25, was a day of traditional rejoicing for most of us—it being Christmas Day. But the headlines of the day spelled disaster in Northern and Central California, where torrential rains had melted the snowpack in the high Sierras and the continuous downpour of the past week had swelled rivers to disastrous heights.

One Nisei couple was feared dead because of the flood. Whole communities were evacuated, and farms of many Japanese American ranchers were inundated. Homes of some Nisei were damaged by turbid waters.

As communication lines began to be restored early this week, the extent of damage was soon realized. The federal government did not hesitate in naming these regions as "disaster areas". And the Northern Calif. - Western Nevada JACL District Council advanced \$500 to Marysville JACL to aid Japanese American victims. An emergency district executive board meeting was also summoned for Wednesday night to further discuss what steps might be taken to alleviate personal suffering in other flooded areas where JACL chapters exist.

It has been said that the measure of a community, like the measure of a man, is often the quality of its response to an emergency. The NC-WNDC did itself proud. During the height of the storm when Marysville citizens were all evacuated across the swollen Feather River, Yas Abiko, district chairman, made several telephonic attempts to call Marysville, finally connecting with Frank Okimoto to ascertain the extent of disaster.

It certainly wasn't a normal Christmas weekend. Yet, in view of the response of fellow-citizens shown to the needs of others, wasn't it perhaps one of the most Christian Christmases of all?

CONVENTION THEME FOR '56 BIENNIAL ON PERSPECTIVES

SAN FRANCISCO—"Changing Perspectives" will be the 1956 National JACL Convention theme, it was decided recently by the San Francisco National Convention Board meeting.

In order to give real meaning to the theme in JACL's program for the next biennium, the convention board recommended that the JACL National Planning Committee meeting at the convention be enlarged to a public forum or panel discussion with members of the National Board participating.

Convention Chairman Jerry Enomoto released the names of chairmen for convention committees in addition to those previously announced: Registration—Sumi Honnami, Hospitality—Sumi Utsumi, and Golf Tournament—Yone Satoda.

Sectional committee heads who made progress reports on meetings held with their sub-committee chairmen were Kaz Sakai, Official Events (opening ceremony, convention luncheon, convention banquet); Kei Hori, Social Events, (mixer, outing, 1000 Club, Sayonara Ball), and Taxy Hironaka, Special Events (fashion show, teen-age, queen contest, golf tournament, bridge tournament, fishing derby, and Issei participation).

NC-WNDC appeals for flood relief, Marysville hard hit

SAN FRANCISCO—Yasuo Abiko, chairman of the No. Calif.-Western Nevada Japanese American Citizens League District Council, announced the start of a fund drive to help flood victims.

Already \$500 has been advanced to the Marysville JACL from the regional office for immediate relief work. Three persons there have been appointed by Abiko to supervise relief.

They are Dan Nishita of Yuba City, president of Marysville JACL; Frank Nakamura, former Marysville JACL president; and Akiji Yoshimura, Colusa member of the NCWN district council board.

Other chapters whose members suffered losses include Stockton, Southern Alameda County, Watsonville, Sonoma County and several relocations in Stanislaus County.

Contributions are being accepted at the National JACL headquarters, 1759 Sutter St., San Francisco 15, Calif., reported Abiko.

They should be addressed in care of JACL No. Calif. Flood Relief Fund.

The Buddhist Churches of America headquarters in San Francisco issued an appeal to the residents of Southern California for flood victim aid this week.

In a telephone call to local Buddhist ministers, Bishop Shigefuji solicited relief for some 150 Japanese who were evacuated from their homes in one of the worst flood disasters in modern California history.

He said that 150 Japanese Americans were forced to leave their homes and possessions as flood waters inundated the Marysville and Stockton areas where a large number of Japanese are in residence.

Relief goods and monetary donations are being accepted by the local Buddhist churches.

Nat'l JACL recognitions committee starts search for 1956 'Nisei of Biennium'

DENVER—Dr. T. T. Yatabe, appointed to fill the unexpired term of the late Randolph Sakada, announced that the National Recognition Committee is commencing its search for the outstanding Nisei of the Biennium.

JACLers and Nisei who wish to submit names and achievements of outstanding Nisei in their area were requested to get in touch with Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Suite 400, 39 W. Adams St., Chicago 3.

The selection of the "Nisei of the Biennium" will be made at the San Francisco National JACL Convention during Labor Day week-end in 1956.

It was pointed out that during the past four years at the national conventions in San Francisco and Los Angeles, of the ten national awards, five have come to the Mountain-Plains JACL District area, including the two top national awards. In

1952, Bill Hosokawa of the Denver Post, and K. Patrick Okura of Omaha, were honored, and in 1954, Hiroshi Miyamura of Gallup, N. M., won the "Nisei of the Biennium" award, and Dr. Minol Ota, of Lovell, Wyo., won a silver medalian award.

The first Nisei of the Biennium award was won by Mike M. Masaka in Chicago in 1950. The second award in 1952 went to Min Yasui of Denver, and the third "Nisei of the Biennium" went to Miyamura.

The Mountain Plains JACL District has less than 7 per cent of the top Japanese population and 50 per cent of the awards have gone to people in this area.

Names and addresses of candidates of the 1956 award, together with complete biographical material should be submitted to Dr. T. T. Yatabe or to the Mountain-Plains Regional Office, 1225 — 20th St., Denver.

REGISTRATION OF ALIENS DURING MONTH OF JANUARY, 1956, MANDATORY

WASHINGTON—Registration of all alien Issei is required and must be done during the month of January, the Washington Office of the Japanese American Citizens League reported.

Since many Issei are naturalized, the number of aliens among them is lessening; however for those who have not yet become naturalized citizens, they must register by filling out the form provided through their local post offices or Immigration and Naturalization Service.

If an Issei's naturalization is pending, if he has not yet been actually sworn in as a citizen, he must still register.

If an Issei changes his address after the January registration, he must report the change within ten days.

Aliens who are absent from the United States during the month of

January must register within ten days of their return to this country. Also, aliens who are visiting here temporarily must register.

In filling out the registration form, the 1940 alien registration card is necessary. Other information needed are the person's alien registration number, date and place of birth, date and place of entry into the United States.

If the Issei has lost his alien registration card, a duplicate may be obtained through the Immigration and Naturalization Service office.

Issei must fill out the card in person except those physically unable to do so.

Aliens who are not required to file a registration card include only diplomatic personnel and personnel accredited to the United Nations Organization.

Failure to register imposes a stiff penalty, including the possibility of deportation, the Washington JACL office stated.

Holiday Issue Captions

A reader in Washington, D.C., this week identified one of the unnamed persons in the American Loyalty League picture taken in 1923, which was published last week on the green front page of Sec. B in the Holiday Issue, as Shigeto Onoye, formerly of Salinas now living in Sun Valley, Calif. He stands third from the left on the top row.

Further identifications shall be appreciated.—Editor.

The name of Kay Tsukamoto of San Francisco was omitted inadvertently under the half-page picture caption on Section C (yellow page) of the Pacific Citizen 84-page Holiday Issue last week. He stands between Tom Yego and Tak Koga in the back row.—Editor.

Volunteer fireman

HOOD RIVER—Sho Endow, Jr., one of three Nisei serving on the 37-man volunteer fire department for the Odell Fire Protection District was named Dec. 5 to a five-year term on its board of directors.

He succeeds Ray Yasui, who served three of his four years as board president. Porky Omori also served as vice-president and secretary.

PRELIMINARY I&N STATISTICS FOR 1955 BARED

WASHINGTON—The total number of immigrants admitted from Japan to the United States in 1955 was 3,984, according to preliminary statistics from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Washington Office of the Japanese American Citizens League reported. Of these, 200 were quota immigrants.

The breakdown on nonquota immigrants of Japanese descent shows that 2,843 entered as wives of United States citizens; 125 entered as husbands of United States citizens; 29 were children of United States citizens; 7 came in as spouses, children of natives of the Western Hemisphere; 1 person who had been a United States citizen; 53 who entered as ministers, including their spouses and children; 413 who entered as refugees under the Refugee Relief Act of 1952.

Prior to the passage of the Immigration and Nationality (Walter-McCarran) Act in 1952 immigration of Japanese to the United States had been prohibited since 1924. December 24 marks the three years the Act has been in operation which enabled the Japanese immigrants to take advantage of its provisions.

The total number of immigrants to the United States increased in 1955 over the previous year. The admission of nonquota immigrants under the Refugee Relief Act accounted for 29,002 persons of whom almost 80 per cent were natives of Italy and Greece who arrived under the so-called "relative" provisions of the Act.

More than half of the 95,113 non-quota immigrants from the Western Hemisphere countries who entered the United States in 1955 were natives of Mexico.

Mile-Hi president Sakata dies of cancer, was 34

DENVER—Harry Sakata, 34, died of cancer Dec. 20 at St. Anthony's hospital here. Funeral services were held last Friday at the First Presbyterian Church, Brighton.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, two sisters and brother Robert. The Sakata brothers had farmed extensively in Brighton and Harry had taken his family for a vacation trip in Japan earlier this year. Upon return, it was found he was suffering from cancer and despite repeated operations, he passed away in Denver.

Sakata was 1955 president of the Mile-Hi JACL and recently named as honorary chairman of the Mountain-Plains District Council in recognition of his support and efforts.

Mas Satow to address San Luis Valley dinner

BLANCA, Colo.—Mas Satow, national JACL director, will be the main speaker at the San Luis Valley JACL installation banquet Jan. 15 at Mt. Blanca Supper Club at Ft. Garland. The event will be among the highlights of the chapter for the coming year.

Elections were recently held at the La Jara Buddhist Church with George Hishinuma named as president. The Home Arts club served noodles before the business meeting.

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E. 1st St., Los Angeles 12,
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FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa



The year's 52nd week

Denver

● Perhaps when automation comes we mortals will be able to take off at least a full week at year's end to (1) recuperate from Christmas and (2) prepare for New Year's. The year's last week isn't an easy one and they seem to become more trying as time goes on.

This last Christmas Day was about the longest one we've ever spent. It started shortly before 4 a.m. when No. 2 boy (Pete the 7-year-old), moved by excitement and seasonal avarice, awakened. His own good fortune in shaking off sleep so early on Christmas morning was too good to keep. He had to share it with everyone else.

In our house there is a standing rule that all hands must be dressed before taking on the task of tearing the wrappings of Christmas presents. By 4:05 a.m., Pete, who usually dawdles lengthily over his dressing chores, was completely respectable in blue jeans and T-shirt. And although it was pitch dark outside, he was ready for the day's most important activity.

That's when he woke me up. And everyone else in the house, too. Well, by the time the kids got a few presents opened up and admired, and we got them quieted down, it was 5 a.m. Somehow I chased them off to bed again for a little more shut-eye (laughter), and we made a second attack on the tree at a more presentable hour.

SENSIBLE TRADITION

At this time of year I like to stop and remember how fortunate we've been. We've had good health, a lot of fun, interesting experiences. We have good friends. We've been spared the tragedies to which all flesh is heir. We've been free from want even though we haven't lived as high on the hog as some folks we know. The kids are growing and developing normally. We've been fortunate indeed.

Our hearts go out to those among our friends and acquaintances who've experienced death in their families, who've suffered illnesses and economic reverses, those for whom the weeks have been tough. Compassion, I think, is one of the deepest essences of the holiday season.

And twin to compassion is gratitude that our troubles have been relatively few. I'm grateful for the friends I hear from each year at this time. Many are friends of long ago, persons with whom we were close at one time but who drifted away through the exigencies of time and circumstances. To receive messages from them, to remember and be remembered, is a rewarding sensation. It's just too bad that we have to wait until Christmas to enjoy the great human pleasure of recollection.

Aside from the religious aspects of the holiday season (don't forget that religion is the real reason for Christmas), seems the Japanese have a delightful, human and satisfying philosophy about their celebration. New Year's to them is a time for inventory—taking care of the unfinished business of the dying year and preparing for the new and exciting business of the coming twelve-month.

New Year's by Japanese custom is a time for cleaning house, paying both material and moral debts, for expressing appreciation for favors, for casting off unpleasant memories, for feasting in anticipation of the pleasures and successes ahead. A sensible tradition, indeed.

RESOLUTION FOR 1956

Since resolutions are customary, let this column make one this time.

Resolved: That in 1956 Frying Pan will continue to try to see the lighter side of the Nisei scene. Let others ponder, fuss and editorialize on our problems; we'll strive for a little and a chuckle. May your New Year be a happy one, and may happy returns of the day.

Full, complete return of wartime vested property or compensation urged in JACL statement to Senate group

(Washington) Testimony of the Japanese American Citizens League, urging Congress to enact legislation directing and authorizing the Attorney General to make full and complete return of all wartime vested property, or to compensate in full where return is impossible or impractical, was submitted for the record of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Trading With the Enemy Act by Mike M. Masaoka, Washington JACL representative.

Because of lack of time to hear all the witnesses during the Nov. 29-30 hearings, JACL testimony was submitted to the Subcommittee. Masaoka hopes to testify when the Subcommittee reconvenes sometime in late January or early February.

Pending before the Subcommittee under the chairmanship of Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D., S.C.) were Senate bills S. 854, S. 995, S. 1405, and S. 2227.

JACL as an organization does not have a claim to present, nor is it a representative of any individual claimant who seeks return or compensation for seized property. It submitted testimony, however, on the pending bills since some of the members and their parents have claims against the Office of Alien Property; and since it believes "return of this vested property to other groups of claimants in Japan would not only be in our national self-interest but would also have a most salutary effect on the international relations between the United States and Japan, as well as Germany."

TYPES OF CLAIMS

Claims involving persons of Japanese ancestry against the Office of Alien Property apparently fall under five categories:

- (1) Beneficiaries of insurance policies, bequests, trusts, etc., made by United States (including Hawaii) citizens or resident aliens in this country to their kin residing in Japan.
- (2) American citizens, both native-born and naturalized, whose properties were vested on the grounds that they were "cloaking" for the "real" owners of the properties in Japan.
- (3) Vested properties of U.S. citizens who were stranded in Japan during the war and who are still there.
- (4) Alien permanent residents of the United States who were stranded in Japan during the war and other former U.S. residents who returned to Japan prior to the war, whose properties were vested on the basis that they were "enemy nationals" residing in former "enemy" nation.
- (5) Properties of Japanese nationals and businesses, including corporations and other juridical entities.

In addition to title claims, there are various types of debt claims for prewar deposits made with these various Japanese branch banks in this country.

STATUS OF VESTED PROPERTY

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1954, the Office of Alien Property annual report showed that a total of 175 Japanese enterprises in the United States had been vested with total assets, as of the dates of vesting, of \$100,715,000.

There were 57 enterprises with assets of \$37,445,000. These figures relate only to business enterprises.

The bulk of vested Japanese property falls under this category.

PURPOSE OF BILLS

Sen. William Langer (R., N.D.) introduced S. 854, which proposes the return of sequestrated "property which an alien acquired by gift, devise, bequest, or inheritance, from an American citizen," to such citizens or nationals of Germany or Austria.

Although JACL noted that his proposal is meritorious, it does not provide for full return, and more important, it discriminates against the Japanese.

Proponents of the bill amended the recommendation deleting "Austria" from the bill inasmuch as Austria was never involved as an enemy country and said claimants were eligible to recover their property under existing law and substituted therefor "Japan."

Illustrative of an applicable case under the Langer bill would be if a Nisei soldier, killed in the service of his country in World War Two or in Korea, held a life insurance policy with a private company, naming a relative in Japan as beneficiary, such proceeds were vested.

Masaoka pointed out in his testimony that the Office of Alien Property does not vest the insurance if it is GI insurance and the beneficiary is living in Japan. Thus, the OAP draws a fine line of distinction between insurance policies of the Government and private business. He stated that there is no provision in the Trading With the

Enemy Act which authorizes this discrepancy in policy.

Sens. Harley M. Kilgore (D., W. Va.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Everett M. Dirksen (R., Ill.), chairman of the same subcommittee in the 83rd Congress, sponsored S. 995, the bill which was favored by the JACL.

This bill, comparable to the Dirksen bill of the 83rd Congress when it was favorably reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary but failed to receive action because of the lateness of the session, provides for the full return of all wartime vested property.

The reservations which JACL had regarding this bill dealt with the various formulas devised for the return of certain properties. It believed that full and complete return should be made on the same basis for all sequestrated property. If 100 per cent return were not possible, then full and complete payment in lieu thereof should be made.

Sen. Earle C. Clements (D., Ky.) introduced S. 1405, which authorizes the sale of any property claimed by a noncitizen upon a determination by the President that such sale is in the national interest or welfare during a period of war or national emergency.

Since an estimated 95 per cent or more of the vested property of Japanese owners has been liquidated, the Clements bill was not considered of immediate interest to JACL.

The administration - sponsored bill, S. 2227, introduced by Sen. Kilgore, permits the return of up to \$10,000 and to natural persons only.

The JACL criticized this bill since a limitation of \$10,000 can hardly be defended on traditional and historical grounds, and it omits the authorization to make return to corporations and other legal personages.

Masaoka pointed out two obvious discriminations: "One between natural and juridical persons, a con-

Continued on Page 5

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TOKYO TOPICS: by Tamotsu Murayama



Tribute to Jimmie

Tokyo

What a shock! Our dear Jimmie Sakamoto is gone—gone forever. I cannot believe it, but his picture of his last moments on earth is here—right in front of my eyes.

Jimmie was an inspiration of the Nisei movement for many decades. How sad it was to lose him in such a manner—at the hand of a driver who was looking the other way.

When I landed at the Seattle airdrome in 1954, on the first leg of my return visit of America, Jimmie was there to receive me warmly. The warmth of his hand is still very close to my heart. He insisted on my stopping in Seattle (where I was born) on my return trip to Japan—so I did. He kept me up till 2 or 3 a.m. and we recalled the early days of JACL.

His father and mine were very close friends, too, more than a half century ago.

When I met with an accident near Santa Maria in 1931 and was lingering between life and death, Jimmie sent me many an encouraging wire, but now I can't send him any.

He was truly a great guy. Many leaders and fellow newspapermen in America must be writing and speaking of him, praising his great accomplishments as a Nisei leader, courageous and brave in spite of his blindness.

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

As the national JACL president, he commissioned me to Canada with Clarence Arai to help organize the Canadian Nisei so they could send a deputation committee to Ottawa and fight for voting privileges. Jimmie also sent me all over the Pacific Northwest to help organize JACL chapters. He also sacrificed much for the JACL movement. He was dearly beloved by all.

He was a proud man. He refused to accept a seeing-eye dog and stuck to his white-painted cane. Maybe he should have had a guide dog. But it's too late to recall anything but his outstanding service and leadership. No matter how much is written about Jimmie, we cannot do justice to what he contributed for the Nisei movement.

REP. JUDD STUNNED BY NEWS

Congressman Walter H. Judd had arrived here from Korea on Dec. 9. He was shocked to hear of Jimmie's sudden death. Judd praised Jimmie highly as the man lived a full life for the cause of humanity and for Japanese-American relations. The congressman couldn't believe my word.

Meanwhile, Welly Shibata was asked to arrange for memorial services. Welly, now with the English Mainichi, worked with Sakamoto on the Japanese American Courier. Mary Minamoto of the American Red Cross went ahead to reserve the Tokyo Chapel Center, where services were held Dec. 17.

While still publishing the all-English Nisei weekly before the war, he was invited by the New York Times, by the Japan Advertiser as an editorial writer, but Seattle kept him as a symbol of the Nisei.

Memorial services of Dec. 17 for Sakamoto were opened by George Togasaki, followed by eulogies from Tom Takagi, Mary Minamoto (for national JACL), Welly Shibata, Charles Yoshii and Yuki Sato (former Japanese consul in Seattle). John Fujii gave the closing prayer. Tamotsu Murayama was chairman. Hymns were sung by a choir directed by Dr. Ugo Nakada.—Editor.

Nisei osteopath and family learn to call Michigan town their home after hesitancy dissipates—reason: 442nd

(Webberville, Mich.) People who wanted a doctor for this country town on the main line between Detroit and Lansing gave a lesson in Americanism in getting one.

They worried for years because there was no one near to serve their 600 men, women and children in times of illness.

It was a case of bundling up the sick and traveling US Hwy. 16 to office, clinic or hospital in some nearby town, or waiting nervously until a doctor could find time to cover the miles for a house call.

Opportunity finally knocked, in the person of Dr. Ted Y. Karikoma, a 33-year-old osteopathic physician.

But this conservative village, which takes patriotic holidays in stride with flag waving and school exercises, hesitated when it learned that the applicant was of Japanese descent. Distrustful of strangers, it was even more hesitant in trusting its future health to different eyes.

Then came word of Dr. Karikoma's war record, with Japanese-American volunteers. Then came Dr. Ted himself, his pretty wife and their son—to talk, and see, and be seen.

Whether it was a matter of "selling" or "buying" no one knows, but the community quickly found health protection, and Dr. Ted and his family won respect and a busy practice.

The Webberville Lions Club had decided that the long lack of a resident doctor simply must be brought to an end after an experience last winter.

Mrs. Kenneth Young, wife of a grocery store manager who belongs to the club, and her four children all came down with virus pneumonia. For two days they were unable to get a doctor from a neighboring town.

"That was a lesson," Mrs. Young said. "With so many children in town, we all worried about what might happen if a doctor couldn't

come at all."

Lions club leaders began looking for a young doctor in search of a practice and Dr. Ted, then an intern at Detroit Osteopathic Hospital, heard of the search.

Finally there was a dinner here, a sort of get-together. "No charity," said Dr. Ted, emphatically.

But the young osteopath had little cash.

Webberville leaders chipped in to buy a two-story frame house. There a doctor could live and have an office. He could repay the loan as his practice permitted.

Dr. Ted accepted the offer, and Webberville accepted him.

It was as simple as that? Not exactly. Once a Webberville woman was ill, but hesitated to call Dr. Ted because of his Japanese ancestry.

When she did, she received quick attention, recovered and became one of Dr. Ted's boosters.

World War II veterans here tell you Dr. Ted served two and a half years in the valiant 442nd Combat Infantry, the regiment of Japanese-American volunteers who made military history in Italy and Southern France.

Mrs. Yuri Karikoma, the doctor's wife, and four-year-old Kevin, their son, have become community ties. Women welcomed Mrs. Karikoma to their social affairs and their children liked Kevin.

"Not a bit of prejudice," says Dr. Ted quietly. "Before the war, on the West Coast, yes. In Webberville, no. We love this place."

Dr. Ted has Japanese blood, but has never seen Japan. He is one of the "Nisei" second generation Japanese born in America, educated in America, and a part of America. He was born in Seattle, Wash., where he went to school. When army volunteers of Japanese descent were accepted in 1943, he was one of the first to enlist. He was graduated from Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery in Missouri in 1954.

Edward T. Myers, Lions Club

president says "Dr. Ted picked Webberville as much as the village picked him."

"He is swamped with business. The older people are his most ardent admirers, but everybody is behind him 100 per cent."

"He's very conscientious and the children all love him," Mrs. Young says. "We need him. That's the whole story." —By Carl Rudow Detroit News

\$80,000 damage suit against landlord filed

STOCKTON—A local couple who operate a restaurant at 723½ E. Main St. have filed an \$80,000 damage suit in a local superior court against their landlord, accusing him of forcing them to close their business by turning off their utilities.

Ed Nishimoto and his wife, Ora, operators of Ed and Ora's, charge in their complaint that although they had complied with all terms of their sub-lease with Howard E. Harrison, he "deliberately and maliciously" turned off their electricity Monday and their gas on water Tuesday.

The couple stated that since obtaining the sub-lease in August they have worked 14 hours a day in "building up the business from nothing."

They claim they had a net profit of more than \$7000 in November.

In addition to \$20,000 general damages, the Nishimotos ask \$60,000 punitive damages, plus an unspecified amount to cover the cost of food spoiled due to the lack of utilities.

The couple's attorney, Herbert Coblenz, said Thursday Harrison turned off the utilities following an argument with the Nishimotos over the terms of their lease.



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VERY TRULY YOURS: by Harry K. Honda



Holiday Issue post-mortem

One solid night of nine-hour sleep, a day or two with my stamp collection, some last-minute Christmas shopping and a trip to Painted Canyon east of Indio were all I needed to recuperate from the hectic week hustling off the 84-page Holiday Issue . . . I'm sorry we didn't get the story of Dr. T. T. Hayashi in time. As 1934 convention chairman, he was also

among the JACL presidents of the pre-constitutional era. I'm sorry we had to crowd the stories and that we couldn't use all the chapter reports and old pictures . . . But in this past week's mail has come a few bouquets for our efforts to tell the JACL story of the past 25 years. Financially speaking, it may not be the money-maker previous editions have been, but this was JACL's silver jubilee and we felt the story had to be told between one cover . . . Professor Elmer Smith has also prepared a "wrap-up" of the past five years, as a sequel to the wonderful story first published in the PC four years ago. This will appear beginning next week.

About Painted Canyon: darkness prevented us from going into the country further, but with each turn of the road (actually the river-bottom), the colors became more fascinating . . . I'm going back just to see how far the road goes. It's lonely and desolate in there, but we needed something like that after toiling with all the editing, proof-reading and layout work that make up a special Holiday edition.

DATLINE NORTHWEST: by Budd & Arlene Fukei



Salute to Dr. Ruby

Seattle

A salute to Dr. Ruby Inouye, probably the most successful young Nisei in the medical field here. Petite and personable, Dr. Inouye has not only Nisei but Issei patients and also is rated highly in non-Nisei circles. A native Seattleite, she is affectionately called "Ruby" by a goodly number of her patients.

Dr. Inouye was graduated by the University of Texas and the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, and interned at St. Francis Hospital in Pittsburgh.

In spite of her busy schedule of ministering efficiently to the aches and pains of her patients, Dr. Inouye still has time for her own family. In private life, she is the wife of Dr. Evan Shu, and mother of two: Evan Jr., 2½, and Geraldine, 1.

SPEAKING FOR PHYSICIANS

And speaking of physicians, frequent "gripes" reach our ears that show that many persons lack a clear conception of a doctor's work. One patient protested recently that the doctor spent hardly more than five minutes with her on his daily visits at the hospital yet charged \$5 for each call.

Actually, a great deal of time is involved in a hospital visit.

There is the trip to the hospital, usually through heavy morning traffic, often through snow or rain. (Even electricians, plumbers, and sewing machine repairmen, to name a few, charge from \$2 and up for a service call, plus the labor charge.) Upon arrival at the hospital, the doctor reviews the patient's progress chart and any new laboratory reports. After seeing the patient, he makes reports and writes orders for the patient's care, every phase of which is under his direction.

In addition, he will probably spend time in study and research and in consultation with other doctors. A considerable amount of time is usually spent in answering inquiries of anxious relatives. Sometimes a doctor will answer several calls day concerning one patient. Later, there may be insurance forms and reports to assist the patient in collecting insurance. Even a hospital visit involves secretarial and bookkeeping expenses and other items of office overhead.

Lastly, the doctor may have to wait six months or longer for his first payment because payments on the TV set, automobile, and other items always have priority. Payments are often small and erratic. (How many of us would be willing to wait for six months to receive our salary?)

Another frequent gripe of these non-understanding patients is Doctor's office hours. Because a doctor doesn't arrive at his office until 11:30 or 2 doesn't mean that he has been idle. By 11:30 or 2, the doctor may have performed more than one case of surgery and made half a dozen hospital visits and several home calls.

Even if your doctor is not a surgeon, he is probably present when one of his patients undergoes surgery. If surgery is scheduled for 8 a.m., the doctor must be at the hospital, scrubbed and ready at the appointed hour.

Perhaps your doctor may have a high income. We think he earns it. He is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Sure, he may take Thursday afternoons off from minor aches and pains, but he is available in case of an emergency. We haven't mentioned the time and money required for a doctor to complete his training as we are sure that you are aware of that.)

If you were in the doctor's place what would you expect return for a 10 to 12 hour day, plus being on call Saturdays, Sundays and nights? Your doctor doesn't have it as easy as some of you might think.

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Midwest District Council shares in success of JACL program

By Miyo O'Neill

CHICAGO—On a sunny May afternoon in one of the Midwest cities, a distinguished U.S. judge was a guest at a dinner sponsored by JACL in honor of the local Issei who had recently acquired U.S. citizenship.

During the dinner the judge, the Honorable Arthur F. Lederle, leafed through the souvenir program which he found beside his plate. In this program was a short story of the Issei people, written by Wallace Kagawa of Detroit. One short paragraph of this story made a great impression on the judge.

Later in the day when he was called upon to speak, he read to the audience the paragraph which had so impressed him.

"It was with a feeling of uncertainty and apprehension that the Japanese arrived in Detroit during 1943 and 1944. Much to their relief they found tolerance and fair play. Amidst the hustle and bustle of the 'Arsenal of Democracy,' the Issei and Nisei rediscovered America."

"This," said Judge Lederle, is the greatest compliment our city has ever received."

This anecdote may illustrate the place the Japanese Americans have made for themselves in the Midwest.

MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE OPENS IN '43

The story of the Japanese Americans in the Midwest perhaps began when the JACL established a Regional Office in Chicago in 1943.

Although the office was established to work toward resolving problems connected with resettlement of West Coast evacuees into Midwestern states, the underlying purpose of the JACL office was to establish acceptance for the evacuees through vigorous public relations program.

Spurred and encouraged by the Regional office, Chicago became the first to organize a local chapter in 1944 and soon seven other chapters were established, namely, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton, Detroit, Milwaukee, St. Louis and the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

When it became apparent that the wholehearted support of all Japanese Americans became necessary to tackle the great national problems of evacuation claims, stay of deportation and the equality in naturalization, the Midwest chapters realized the importance of contributing to the solution of these problems.

Thus in 1947 the eight chapters came together in Chicago to organize the Midwest District Council. Mrs. Maru Sabusawa Michener became its first chairman. The total JACL membership at this time was 900 and it was growing steadily.

The guidance of such National Board members as Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, Hito Okada, the late Dr. Randolph Sakada, and Henry Tani; and of such national staff members as Mike Masaoka, Washington Representative; Mas Satow, National Director, and Tats Kushida, Regional Director, was instrumental in the initial success of the JACL movement in the Midwest.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER HOSTS FIRST BIENNIAL

The spirit in which the Midwest District Council was organized is illustrated by the slogan chosen for the First Biennial Convention held in Cleveland in 1949—"Blueprint for Tomorrow." It was the hope of the 200 delegates who attended this convention that exchange of ideas and experiences would build a stronger union of the chapters and make a greater JACL. The hopes raised by this convention have largely been realized.

The Midwest District Council did its best to assist National JACL in fighting for its legislative programs. In spite of its small membership, over \$30,000 was raised under the direction of Regional Representatives Mas Satow, Tats Kushida and Richard Akagi.

Every effort was made to win the support of public opinion. The role played by the Midwest chapters during these crucial years can never be minimized or forgotten. The chapters did not devote all

their efforts to serious business, however. All of the chapters from time to time supported such activities as sukiyaki dinners, carnivals, bazaars, community picnics, fishing derbys, golf tournaments, potluck suppers, Ikebana classes, Japanese cooking classes, card parties and dances.

Progress in Midwest District Council has been slow but steady. Able leadership has been given by the chairmen who have guided the organization thus far:

Mari Sabusawa Michener (1947-48), Noboru Honda (1948-51), Shig Wakamatsu (1951-53), Harry Takagi (1953-55), and Abe Hagiwara (1955-57).

Biennial conventions at Detroit and the Twin Cities have continued the spirit of the first convention in Cleveland. Membership is

now approaching 2,000.

Perhaps the most inspiring convention of all was that held last spring in Washington, D.C., at the invitation of the Eastern District Council. Honored guests at this convention were newly naturalized Issei from all over the United States.

Their presence in Washington, seeing the sights of their national capital and observing the workings of their government personified the victories which JACL has won.

Judge Lederle might have been even more impressed had he realized how quickly the Midwest and the people of Japanese ancestry were rediscovering America together. This perhaps is the most solid achievement of JACL in the American Midwest.

PAST DECADE WITNESSES GROWTH OF CHICAGO AMONG TOP JACL CHAPTERS

BY KUMEO YOSHINARI

CHICAGO—Chicago JACL chapter has made one of the greatest strides of any chapter in the country in the past decade.

From a small group of less than 100 members in 1945, this Midwest chapter has grown to be recognized as the largest chapter in the nation. More than once its membership has surpassed 1,000.

Back in 1943 Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, affectionately known as the "Grand-daddy of JACL," came to Chicago to open the Midwest Regional Office since so many evacuee citizens were settling down in Chicago and vicinity.

His work at that onset was mostly public relations, acquainting the different firms with citizens of Japanese ancestry and paving the way for many of them to give Japanese Americans a try as employees.

Many concerns were hostile at first; however, when they did try a few, they began to clamor for more of these conscientious workers.

As a result, more and more citizens left the relocation centers for a try in the midwest where it was rumored that the pay was good. They came out by the hundreds.

Cooperating with the WRA, the Midwest JACL office helped newcomers with housing and employment problems. Few of them truly appreciated the work done by JACL.

At its peak the Japanese American population in Chicagoland was estimated at 25,000. Of this number less than half still remain in Chicago.

Some have returned to the west coast permanently; others have remained here, and still others went back to the west coast only to return to settle down in the midwest again.

With new residents becoming better established in Chicago, some of the former JACL leaders of the west coast got together and decided that a JACL chapter should be organized in Chicago as the Japanese Americans could accomplish more as part of a national

group. Bill Minami, who was active in the JACL in the Salinas area, was elected as the first president of this new chapter in 1945.

Since that time the Chicago chapter has accomplished many things.

One was the election of the first woman president of a JACL chapter in the Midwest District Council. She was Mari Sabusawa, recently married to James A. Michener, and who guided the chapter through a successful year in 1948.

Another accomplishment was the sponsorship of a National JACL Convention in 1950, the first to be held east of the Rockies. It turned out to be one of the greatest conventions ever sponsored by the JACL.

Two years ago the Chicago chapter sponsored a National JACL bowling tournament, the first of its kind to be held in the midwest.

Both of these activities were successes from the standpoint of finances as well as participation. Being centrally located, delegates came from both the east and west coasts.

The Midwest, and especially Chicago, has been looked upon as one of the strongest fields for public relations. Since the leaders of both the Senate and House of Representatives come from the midwest, the Chicago chapter along with other midwest chapters have been called upon to do public relations work, especially in the contacting of the congressional leaders. As a result the midwest has a good liaison with senators and congressmen.

Seattle elects Matsuoka 1956 chapter president

SEATTLE—James Matsuoka was elected 1956 president of the Seattle JACL at the Dec. 13 meeting at 1414 Weller St. He and his new cabinet officers are to be installed at a dinner, tentatively scheduled for Jan. 20. Howard Sakura is the retiring president.

Kay Yamaguchi and Ray Echigoshima were appointed co-chairman of the installation fete.

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Fowler chapter culminates another successful season

FOWLER—Culminating the 1955 passing parade of events of Fowler JACL chapter were the following activities led by Kamikawa as president; Frank Sakohira, first vice-president; Shig. Uchiyama, second vice-president; Bernice Kanena, recording secretary; Mrs. Yoshiye Miyake, corresponding secretary; Tom Nakamura, treasurer; Jim Hashimoto, assistant secretary; Joe Yoshimura, athletic chairman; Mas. . . official delegate; Joe Yokomi, alternate delegate.

January—Tom Nakamura was elected membership drive chairman . . . Stan Hansen, claims supervisor for the Social Security Administration in Fresno, was guest speaker at the Buddhist Church. He explained social security to farmers who were new to the law for the first time.

February—Lester Thompson, chief at U.S. Horticultural Station in Fresno, was guest speaker . . . Nisei Sports School, sponsored by the Fowler JACL, was started with teenagers featuring sportsmanship and leadership . . . Fowler JACL donated to the Fowler Free Library minutes of the 11th, 12th and 13th biennial National JACL convention, pamphlets and brochures. It was the first library in Fresno to request material on the Japanese American Citizens League and Nisei.

March—An informal dinner was held for persons who had on 1954 Fresno District Fair booth for the community . . . Guests were Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Simonian, president of Fowler Chamber of Commerce; Mr. and Mrs. William . . . publisher of Fowler Ensign; Mr. and Mrs. Barry Hill . . . and Mrs. Stanton; Mr. and Mrs. Viggo Madsen . . . were 17 Issei naturalized citizens signing as members of the local chapter, bringing the total to over 116 . . . Fowler bowling team to the National JACL bowling tournament at Long Beach.

April—Tom Shirakawa was named as general chairman of the 1955 Fresno District Fair booth for community of Fowler . . . Assisting were Kay Hiyama, booth design; Frank Sakohira, fruit collection; Setsu Kikuta, entry chairman; and members were asked to help with the decoration and fruit collection . . . Fowler JACL decided to donate flowers for all Japanese funerals . . . Vincent Petrucci, Fresno State College culture professor, was guest speaker and spoke on vine-

May—Dr. Reuben Swartz, psychology professor at Fresno College, was guest speaker . . . It was decided that Fowler JACL Scholarship be open to all, regardless of race, color . . . Fowler JACL donated flowers congratulating the Grange for their newly constructed building. It was ten years ago that the Fowler Grange opposed the return of Japanese Americans. However, not all Grange members opposed as the Loyhead Harding family was one of the neighbors.

June—Floyd Hida wins two scholarships, one sponsored by Fowler JACL for \$50, another from the Fowler Lions Club for \$50.

July—General meetings were halted during the summer months, but Tom Shirakawa called meetings of the Fair committee.

August—Construction of the Fair booth was started during the month with several groups alternating.

September—Frank Sakohira, collection chairman, made request for more varieties of fruits and grapes to display. During the latter part of September members worked on the booth every night since Fair time neared . . . On Sept. 30, Fresno District Fair opened with a tremendous crowd seeing the agricultural display. The community of Fowler displayed many fine compliments from thousands of people who saw the most beautiful and neatest booth. Corn, azuki beans (these beans) and rice symbolized world peace. Yellow regular Thompson raisins depicted the atomic age, with clouds for the clouds. This is the first time in Fair history most of the decorations used were farm products and very crepe paper used. Approximately 70 members helped with the project. Fowler placed second in the feature division, but in the L.A. Crow perpetual trophy for the most original booth for agricultural displays for the second consecutive year.

October—Fowler JACL is in charge of general arrangements for the coming Central California District Council convention on Dec. 4 at Hacienda Motel. Fowler will assist with publicity, too . . . For Nisei Memorial Day, members were asked to attend their respective churches.

November—Fowler JACL's dinner for those who worked on the 1955 Fresno District Fair booth from this community will be in the planning stage.

December—The newly-elected officers were installed at CDC JACL mass installation and banquet on Dec. 4 . . . Fourth annual Christmas party for the children closes activities for the year.

Vested property —

Continued from Page 2

cept unique, to say the least, in our law. The other is in limiting payment only to \$10,000. This means that those with vested property in amounts up to \$10,000 will receive full return while those with vested property over that limit will be given only a partial return."

REASONS FOR JACL SUPPORT

There are three basic reasons why JACL vigorously advocates the full return or compensation in lieu thereof for the vested property. The first concerns the immediate necessity of demonstrating to Germany and Japan their importance to the United States as valuable allies. Depended upon to help defend the free world, it is to national self-interest to affirm this policy.

"Both Germany and Japan are the great industrial workshops of their respective areas; both are the well-established prizes which Communism seeks. If Communism wins either or both, it will surely gain control over the rest of Europe and Asia. Both have the trained manpower, too, that Communism covets; both proved their fighting ability in the last world war, a military potential that Communism fears. Both have what the Kremlin needs most to complete their dream of world subjugation," Masaoka stated.

Secondly, by returning their vested property, it aids in their economic rehabilitation. The return of the vested amounts, though relatively small particularly in the case of Japan, would enable Japanese investors to secure dollar funds which could well ignite the spark of reconstruction, and help dispel Communism which breeds in discontent and economic unrest," he said.

"The return of these properties, to those who knew America best and who opposed the war as much as individuals and businesses could in the pre-World War Two days, would be a closer bond with these same who still hold America in high regard and personal affinity. "The third reason rests upon the moral emphasis, which the United States has historically insisted upon—the principle of the integrity of private property, especially as it concerns American private investments abroad, and the principle that private citizens should not be punished for the crimes of nations or governments.

FULL RETURN FAVORED

During the hearings all the witnesses testifying in favor of full return believed that it was legitimate and proper for the Government to vest the property during the war in order to prevent enemy countries from deriving benefits from investments here. However, since the war was over, such sequestered properties should be returned.

It was pointed out that the August issue of the Dept. of Commerce Bulletin indicated that U.S. investments in foreign lands totaled \$26.6 billions, and the U.S. would be setting a bad precedent if it were to sequester property vested during the war and not return it to their rightful owners.

The feeling that the U.S. would invite expropriation and not have any basis for defense was repeatedly forewarned by witnesses favoring full return.

Sen. Homer Capehart (R., Ind.), ranking member of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, who had just returned from a trip to Europe, was assertive in his testimony.

Former Sen. Tom Connally from Texas, former Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman and currently practicing law here, was equally vehement in his conviction. It was during Senator Connally's tenure of office that the vested private property of Italian nationals was returned.

DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT

Testimony by Masaoka revealed that insofar as a comparison with the Japanese, German, and Italian peace treaties on the problem of vested property was concerned, the Japanese were unduly discriminated.

The Treaty of Peace with Italy provided that the Italian government would undertake to compen-

sate Italian nationals for property taken under Article 79 and not returned to them. Furthermore, it specifically provided for the full and complete return of wartime vested property to both natural and corporate Italian persons, provided that the Italian government paid a sum of \$5,000,000 to pay American war claims against Italy.

The Bonn Conventions of May 26, 1952, stipulated that the German Federal Republic would ensure that former owners of property seized under terms of Articles 2 and 3 under the section on reparations shall be compensated.

In the Treaty of Peace with Japan no mention is made of compensation for wartime vested property by the Japanese government. Thus the Japanese nationals are in a worse position than Italian and German nationals.

Japan has further declared that she cannot compensate her nationals for property confiscated by the United States for she cannot also compensate those who suffered losses in such overseas possessions as Manchuria, Korea, Formosa, etc.

TREATY OF RECONCILIATION

Since it was obvious to the Allied Powers, and particularly the United States government as the chief negotiator, that Japan would not have a viable economy, the burdening reparations under Article 14(a) were waived but the services of the Japanese people, which was available in abundance, would be negotiated instead with the Allied Powers "whose present territories were occupied by the Japanese forces" for repairing the damage done.

Article 16 also provided that Japan, recognizing the undue hardship suffered by Japanese prisoners of war, would indemnify them with her assets in neutral countries and countries at war with the Allied Powers, or the equivalent of such assets, which would be transferred to the International Committee of the Red Cross for liquidation.

Thus under Article 14(a), Japan has concluded such a program with Burma and is negotiating with other Asian countries.

Possible relief might be afforded the United States for "reparation" via services under this provision.

The payment by the Japanese government under Article 16 totaled about 4.5 million pounds and was completed in May, 1955.

Although the United States was originally a signatory to this indemnification, joining 12 nations, it afterwards renounced these rights. Instead, under the War Claims Act of 1948, U.S. took the liquidated proceeds of the vested Japanese and German property and paid the American prisoners of war, thus using funds from seized private property to pay a debt of the Japanese government of national obligation.

"Thus, although reparations were waived by the U.S. government, it virtually demanded that reparations be made from the confiscated assets of Japanese private property."

"If the Treaty of Peace with Japan were to be considered a 'treaty of reconciliation', the sincerity of that principle is dubious and questioned by the people of Japan when the sequestered private property of a few, in lieu of reparations, is used to pay for the responsibility of the Japanese government," Masaoka said.

MATTER OF GRACE

Government spokesmen during the Subcommittee hearings offered two conflicting points of view as to whether the partial return of the vested property, as advocated in the administration-proposed bill, S. 2227, was a matter of grace or reparations.

Deputy Attorney General Dallas Townsend, Jr., director of the Office of Alien Property, stated that the issue was not confiscation, but of reparations.

Deputy Under-Secretary of State Robert Murphy called it a matter of grace.

Said Masaoka: "If the principle of the sanctity and inviolability of private property is accepted, then only full and complete return is justified, for partial return only compromises the principle and makes a mockery of our protestations."

"If the return is a matter of

grace, then the magnanimity of our gesture should not be limited by the dollar sign; for whatever beneficial effects limited return may have on the recipients, it may reap the whirlwind of ill will from those discriminated against and present to those enemies of America an easy and gratuitous weapon to be used against us."

Seven nations have adopted a policy of returning Japanese property seized during World War I and have either completed the return or payment for such property or are in the process of doing so. These countries include Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Ceylon, India, and Pakistan.

Masaoka noted that although Japan is obligated under Chapter V, Article 15 of the Treaty to pay claims against U.S. property in Japan which were vested, damaged, or lost during the war; such a program is now under way. Up to the end of January, 1955, \$8,951,520 had been paid out of a claim of \$51,038,000 filed by 593 Americans.

"If Japan is so doing, even though under treaty obligations, it does not seem proper that the U.S. should refuse to follow the same procedure and either return or provide payment for Japanese property vested and held in this country," he said.

RELIEF SOUGHT

Although the Treaty of Peace with Japan under the section on "Claims and Properties," specifically authorizes the Allied Powers "to seize, retain, liquidate or otherwise dispose of all property, rights and interests" of certain Japanese and Japanese entities, the Japanese owners of the vested property in the United States say they were never consulted and therefore their government had no right to "give away" their property. They look to Article 14(a) 2, of the same section for relief.

This sub-paragraph (IV) provides that "the right to seize, retain, liquidate or otherwise dispose of property as provided in sub-paragraph (I) above shall be exercised in accordance with the laws of the Allied Powers concerned, and the owner shall have only such rights as may be given him by those laws."

DISPROPORTIONATE BURDEN

"It is the belief of the Japanese people that the U.S. government will return their property or their money equivalent," stated Masaoka, in confirmation of his conversations with them in Japan in 1952 and during December, 1954, and January, 1955.

"First, they allege that the principle of payment in kind after the end of hostilities was an established principle of international law, to which the U.S. certainly adhered.

"Moreover, they cited leading American authorities to prove that the principle of return of wartime sequestered properties was an established doctrine of U.S. law."

It was pointed out to him, he said, that "if the Japanese government had been required to pay reparations, then these private properties would, in all probability, have been returned. And, to meet the reparation payments, the Japanese government would have taxed all of the people of Japan. But, as the matter stands at present, a comparatively few are, without consultation on their part, forced to bear the whole burden for the entire nation's 'war guilt.'"

NEED FOR APPROPRIATIONS

The problem which confronts the Administration in its attempts to balance the budget is if the vested property is returned, what to use for funds.

However, Masaoka quoted the Senate Judiciary Committee in its summer 1954 report on the predecessor full-return bill, which said: "For those who are agreed that a policy of confiscation of private property is inimical to historic policy, public interest, and sound judgment, there is no question of appropriation to reimburse individuals whose property has been seized."

It was therefore the conclusion of the Committee Report that since the money to pay for War Crimes should have come from the Treas-

Continued on Page 6

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Nacirema

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● A Nisei motion picture producer! Unheard of a decade ago, now we have one. Dig this.

David Yokozeki, '54-'55 prexy of the Downtown L.A. chapter, is president of Nacirema (American spelled backwards) Productions, engaged in the producing of low-budget second bill feature movies for national distribution.

Dave became interested in this field when he, along with other Nisei, invested in a horror-type film earlier this year called "The Phantom from 10,000 Leagues", now doing exceptionally well at the box office packaged with a science-fiction thriller, "A World Is Born."

An attorney with the firm Chuman, McKibbin and Y., Dave is also chairman of the JACL Pacific Southwest District Council. Associated with Dave in Nacirema is another attorney, Marvin Segal, who is with the high-powered Beverly Hills law firm of Blau, Shaw and Miller, and who is also a 1000 Clubber with the DTLA chapter.

The B-S-M firm has prominent Hollywood clientele such as Donald O'Connor, Mitsi Gaynor, Arlene Dahl, Fernando Lamas, Vic Damone, Pierre Angeli, Rochester, Richard Widmark and a slough of directors and producers.

Nacirema will produce at least three low-budget films in early 1956 and already, the first production, a western called "Count the Dead" is receiving the backing of a good many local Nisei businessmen who have been offered an opportunity to invest on an attractive agreement guaranteeing their principal investment.

The cast for "Count the Dead" includes such seasoned stars as Howard Duff, Barton MacClane, John Hoyt, Dick Foran and Ed Kemmer. Lee Sholom ("Case Against Joe", "Emergency Hospital", Tarzan films, etc.) will direct while cameraman will be Sam Leavitt ("A Star Is Born", "Man with the Golden Arm", etc.).

Shooting is scheduled to begin on January 9. The film will be distributed by American Releasing Corporation.

We wish Dave and his associates much success on this new enterprise. If the "phantom" picture is any indication, he and his Nisei investors will prosper well in '56.

HOME AGAIN AS MOVIE SCRIPT

● Michael Blankfort, who is doing the screenplay of James Edmiston's novel, "Home Again", has just sent us hot-off-the-press script of the story which we read with uninterrupted interest over the weekend.

And it's terrific! The drama woven into the story in Blankfort style, while retaining the authenticity of dates and places (names of persons are of course fictitious) should make this film an outstanding one from every angle. Whoever gets the part of Midori, the heroine, should boost that gal to overnight stardom. Other major roles for Nisei calls for two young fellows and another girl. There are three top roles for Issei characterization and many minor roles, including mass scenes calling for hundreds of Issei-Nisei in evacuation and Heart Mountain camp sequences.

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

● We were glad yet sad to hear from an old friend in Saint Looney, Sam Nakano. Sam was the first president of the St. Louis chapter when it was organized back in 1946. Formerly of Central Cal, Sam's stuck it out in the Midwest and has been a great booster of the JACL. We got to know him when we were assigned to Chicago as Midwest regional representative, 1947-50, and we'd visit his chapter for installations, etc., and he'd provide the hospitality.

Sam now tells us his wife, Mary, has been hospitalized since November 20 from a virus in the spine paralyzing her from the neck down. It'll be a tough recovery for the game kid but you can make things easier if you're a friend and want to drop her a note of cheer, in which event send it c/o St. Anthony Hospital, 3520 Chippewa Ave., St. Louis, Missouri.

DEC. 23 ISSUE

● If you liked the PC Holiday Issue, you can thank editor Honda for overcoming near-insurmountable last-minute problems, and our sec, Blanche, who from this year's experience could probably bat out a shinnengo on her own. Even the bizmgr was pressed into service on proofing and makeup, not to mention a seven-hour deadline for a biosketch on Sab Kido that didn't carry our byline.

Your getting the HI before Xmas is because nearly forty volunteers came out on the 16th to wrap and mail your copy. Father Hugh Lavery's generous permission for use of Maryknoll auditorium facilities was of immense help.

Here's the PC's purple liver brigade of vols: Henry Fujita, George Fujita, Miki Hamada, Linda Ito, Toru Iura, June Iwasaki, Hiro Kawabata and friend, Hiroko Kawanami, Margaret Kikuchi, Joe Kim, Nancy Kuwata, Terry Kuwata, Hatsumi Matoba, Laurel Murata, Dr. John Okada, Dr. Tak Shishino, Roy Sugimoto, Chris Sumi, Aki Taira, Nancy Takamatsu, Pete Takeuchi, Haru and Yori Toguchi, Richard Toyama, Mas Uye-no, Aiko Wakamiya, George Watanabe, Mas Yamada, Roy Yamadera, Kazuko Yamaga, Jim Yamaguchi, Joan Yamakami and Miwa Yanamoto. And the PC staffers: omnipresent Blanche, Bessie Yanamoto, Ken Kizu, ed Honda and the Sou'wester.

If you've noticed, that issue turned out to be not a 72-pager but an 84-page tremender. Several pix and a couple chapter reports were crowded out in last-minute space-juggling but they're being run today.

Thanks, chapter, for coming through for this Silver Jubilee edition.

AKETE OMEDETO

● So's auld acquaintance be remembered, here's wishing you "Akete Omedeto", which on the Ginza strip is equivalent to "Happy New Year", and for which we give the usual choice of two derivations, to wit: (1) ake (expiration), fe (hand), ome (big eye), de (with) and to (door), all adding up to 1955 expiring out the door and eyes focussed on the coming year. Somehow, we can't fit the hand into this one. And (2) a (exclamation), kete (there's that hand again except this time it's a hairy one), o (tail), me (female), de (go out) and to (head, as in cattle), which component parts give us the logical deduction and caution "don't go out with female simians in 1956."

ENTRY BLANKS FOR 10TH ANNUAL NATIONAL JACL BOWLING TOURNAMENT MAILED TO NISEI LEAGUES; JAN. 29 DEADLINE

SALT LAKE CITY—The cream of Nisei kegdom once again looks forward to its annual tournament scheduled for March 1-4. Salt Lake City is busily preparing to roll out the welcome mat to host their fourth tournament, with Choppy Umemoto taking over the reigns

of chairmanship once again. Aply assisting him is Hito Okada, as executive secretary with his office at Beason Bldg. Co-sponsoring this tournament are Salt Lake JACL, Mt. Olympus JACL, Salt Lake Nisei Women's League, and the Salt Lake Nisei Bowling Association.

The men's events will be held at the Pal-D-Mar, with the women's events scheduled for the Ritz Bowling Alley.

The growth of the Ten Pin addicts stems back to 1947 when the First Tournament was headed by Maki Kaizumi. The entries started with 22 men's teams competing. The tournament chairmaned by Bill Honda attracted 32 men's and 10 women's teams. By 1949 when Choppy took over the third tournament, entries came from even Hawaii for the first time. It would be difficult indeed to top last year's events at Long Beach as 83 men's and 21 women's teams gathered to vie for the laurels, but the 1956 tournament is expecting to see about the same number.

Salinas recalls NC quarterly as best

SALINAS—The hosting of the third quarterly Northern California - Western District Council meeting, Aug. 7, was the highlight of the Salinas Valley Chapter JACL doings for 1955.

Under the able chairmanship of Lefty Miyana and various committee chairmen: Harry Shirachi, James Abe, golf tournament; Roberta Urabe, Icky Miyana, registration; James Tanda, refreshments; Kiyo Hirano, dance; the day was a big success.

The theme of the affair being "Beat the Heat", the program for the day began very appropriately early in the morning with the 2nd annual NCWNDC golf tournament; and trophies were awarded at the banquet that evening.

The business meeting was held at the Cominos Hotel from 1:30 to 5:15 p.m. and followed by the banquet attended by over 200 delegates, boosters and guests. Among distinguished guests were State Assemblyman S. Masterson, Senator F. Farr and keynote speaker for the evening, National JACL president George Inagaki. Special honor was given Haruo Ishimaru who was resigning from his position as NC-WN regional director.

A dance held at the Knights of Pythias Hall climaxed the one day affair. All the local chapter members worked very hard to make this event a pleasant and memorable one for all who attended.

Mid-Columbia auxiliary hosts 150 at Yule party

HOOD RIVER—Well over 150 children and young people attended the Mid-Columbia JACL Auxiliary Christmas potluck dinner party Dec. 16.

The party, under the able chairmanship of Michi Kiyokawa, vice-president, was acclaimed as the social event of the year. Assisting here were:

Marie Asai, Bessie Asai, food; Charlotte Hirata, Kimi Akiyama, Mary Hamada, dec.; Aya Noji, Chiz Tamura, Kimi Tamura, prog.; Lillian Nishimoto, Hisako Tamura, treats.

Helping coordinate all phases of the evening was Grace Yamaki, president. Santa Claus, played by "1000er" Ray Yasui, treated all the youngsters to bags of Christmas goodies.

Matsunami president

OMAHA—Manuel Matsunami, 1st vice-president this past year, was elected 1956 president of the Omaha JACL at their Dec. 17 meeting. He succeeds Frank Tamai, who served for two terms.

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Entry blanks have now been mailed to all areas and one month remains for registration. The deadline has been set for January 29. A charge of \$5.00 for the Dinner Dance must be paid at the same time as the entry filings.

To foster the spirit of the occasion, a pre-tournament mixer being planned free of charge for the bowlers and their friends at the beautiful Ollie's Terrace Feb. 29, so be sure to come day early. The climaxing event will also be at the same place Sunday, March 4, with a drawing under way for an all-out celebration to top all previous events.

Christmas Cheer aids 280 Japanese in So. California

The eighth annual Christmas Cheer campaign concluded Christmas Eve with packages and monetary gifts distributed to 280 sons of Japanese ancestry in Southern California.

Cheer officials said \$2,487.70 was donated this year. Some \$2,470 was distributed. The Christmas Cheer program was instituted by the Calif. JACL regional office. minute donors were:

\$25—O.C. Jays, Gardena Valley JACL, Church Women's Circle, L.A. Mutual Supply Co.
\$10—Xanthous club of Orange

\$5—Shuyo Tamamoto, Frank Sataro Suto, Blue Velvets, J. Kasai.
\$3—Y. Taniguchi.

Canned Goods—Nisei Veterans' Auxiliary (25), O.C. (25); Candy—Mr. and Mrs. Joe (23); Toys—Dardanelles (25).

Dec. 13 Report

\$220—Southwest L.A. JACL.
\$25—West Los Angeles JACL.
\$20—Japanese SDA Church.
\$15—Nishi Hongwanji Jr. Ma.
\$14—Pandoras.
\$10—Dominguez Hills Buddhist day School, Okinawa Club, St. Joe Kai of Maryknoll.
\$5—Magic Radio, Shaynes, S. Ono, Mrs. T. Meguro, Mrs. Hiyaoka, R. Harada.

Canned Goods—Union Church Los Angeles YBA (\$75), San Francisco Holiness Church (\$50), Centinella Women's Club (\$25), Long Beach Buddhist Sunday School (\$25), enals (\$10), Philos (\$8).
Candy—Mrs. Josephine Kato (\$8).
Toys—Rhodanles (\$5).

Dec. 14-15 Report

\$100—Hollywood JACL.
\$25—Union Church.
\$15—Cards.
\$10—Matsumoto-sushi, M. Ito, Sons, Jades.
\$7.20—Issei Fujinkai of Hollywood Independent Church.
\$5—Linda K. Ito, Miwako Yano, Shufflers.
\$3—Mr. and Mrs. T. Hatano, Anonymous.
\$2—Anonymous.
\$1—Mr. Takahashi.
Canned Goods—Centenary Methodist Church (\$75), Hollywood Independent Church (\$25), West Christian Church (\$25), Funster, Taggs (\$7), Charmaines (\$5), Market (\$5), Maurey Carlton.
Toys—Centenary Methodist Church (\$17), Hollywood Independent Church (\$5), Matsumoto-sushi (\$5).
Books—Mrs. Yanai (\$5), Centenary Methodist Church (\$5).
Miscellaneous—Centenary Methodist Church (\$15), Hollywood Independent Church (\$5).

1955 CHEER SUMMARY	
Dec. 16-22 Total
Previously Reported
Total Donations
1954 Balance
1955 Grand Total
Distribution Made 1955
Special Purchases
Expenses to Date
1955 Cheer Balance

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LOS ANGELES NEWSLETTER: by Henry Mori

Maloney bill

Los Angeles

The combined testimony of northern and southern California gardeners against the proposed state bill to license all landscape workers was heard late last week at the Los Angeles State Bldg. by the Assembly sub-committee on governmental efficiency and economy. While the more academic minds continued to press

the measure on grounds that eventually all tradesmen will be licensed in the state—and gardeners will be no exception—there were more outward protests at this session than before. The well-organized opposition noted that if the men were licensed, the price on gardening work would automatically go up to meet the fee. They pointed to the inability of older workers (the Issei) who may not be able to pass tests written in English. Oral examinations would also stump most

of the leading proponents of the measure, Ken Dyo of Pasadena, told the sub-committee headed by James Holmes and Barbara that Maloney bill would "bring dignity to the profession and weed out the amateurs from the ranks."

There was a certain amount of sympathetic sentiments expressed by the committee at this time, while during the San Francisco's one-day hearing held two months ago the atmosphere was tense against those who were against the legis-

lation. With Dyo on the affirmative side were Henry Hayashi, of Pasadena; and Mas Narita of Long Beach. Local opposition was headed by Sueji Nishimura, an Issei from Pasadena, whose testimony was ably interpreted by Eiji Tanabe. The committee's findings will be brought before the budget committee of the Assembly next March. It will have no bearing on the outcome of the Maloney proposal which cannot be reached until March of 1957. Even then, there is rough road ahead.

LONG BEACH-HARBOR DISTRICT TIDE-INGS

20-page offset publication is the great undertaking by Long Beach-Harbor District JACL in promoting their activity. The new year's number, pegged for Jan. 10, is being edited by Sue Takimoto Joe and Tets Takeuchi. The front cover is being prepared by artist Marlene Hada, one of the most attractive gals who was in 1954 Nisei Week Festival contest. Her well-meaning supporters rallied too late to get her into the final five that year.

Managing the ads for the issue are Easy Fujimoto and Joe. Typists are Eiko Kusaba, Shizuko Masuda and Dol. Bob Komai is handling the Japanese section. Chesterama of Toyo Printing Co. in Los Angeles was contracted to finish the product. Articles will include the activities of Long Beach credit union, the gardeners, the kendo team, the review of the JACL achievements and the Nikkei-

SOME NOTES FROM OUR 'BLACK BOOK'

Shiohara, So. Calif. regional secretary:—She'll have a busy month, registering the Issei who will have to fill out Report Form I-53 for the Office of Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Mike Sakamoto of West Los Angeles:—He passes away at age of 85. From Fukushima, the naturalized pioneer leaves widow Fusa, three sons Oriye, George and Hiromichi. He was one of the ardent supporters of the League. Despite his age, he canvassed faithfully for the League.

Jack Hamaguchi of Southwest L.A. JACL:—He opens his real estate office at 3025 W. Jefferson Blvd., after working for other agents for several years.

Ellie Funakoshi of Funakoshi Insurance Agency:—His work as program chairman of the Japanese American Club of Los Angeles gains him the title of "Optimist of the Year." The choice was kept a secret until the Wednesday regular meeting. The members may "draft" him to succeed Inadomi.

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CONSTRUCTION OF MIDDLE-INCOME HOUSING AKIN TO PRESENT FEDERAL PROGRAM FOR LOW-INCOMERS URGED

(Chicago) The Chicago JACL described the plight of minority groups in the middle-income bracket, especially Japanese Americans, who find difficulty buying or renting decent housing in a prepared statement presented Nov. 23 before the House Subcommittee on Banking and Currency, chaired by Rep. Albert Rains (D., Ala.).

Testimony was presented by Abe Hagiwara, JACL Midwest District chairman; Mike Hagiwara, Chicago JACL housing committee chairman; and Harold Gordon, national JACL legislative and legal committee chairman.

Text of the statement follows: The Japanese American Citizens League is an organization composed of American citizens of Japanese ancestry. There are approximately 10,000 Japanese Americans in the city. Most of them are in the middle income bracket, therefore, are not eligible for public housing, but many of the Japanese Americans are living in marginal, transitional areas, because of the barrier that exists for equal housing opportunities. Urban renewal plans preserve and improve the physical resources of the city, but we believe that it is fundamental that these redevelopment plans provide the various kinds of housing to meet the needs of all economic levels within the residential neighborhoods of Chicago.

We, therefore, believe that in the general field of urban renewal sufficient consideration has not been given to racial minorities. These marginal areas are condemned for redevelopment to benefit those of higher income groups; and in the field of private housing, equal opportunities to federally insured and guaranteed funds have not been available to Japanese Americans on the same terms as they have to other American citizens.

DISCRIMINATION CITED

The following are a few typical incidents of discrimination which have been encountered by Japanese Americans in the Chicago area.

Mr. A. attempted to buy a home on the South Shore district and was unable to find any real estate company which would consider him as a prospective home purchaser, despite the fact that he had sufficient funds and was otherwise qualified as a home purchaser.

Mr. B. placed a down payment on a home in the area of 75th and Halsted St. on the southwest side of Chicago and then found that because of "pressures" exerted on the real estate broker because he was introducing a minority family into the community, Mr. B. was unable to consummate the deal and his down payment was refunded.

Mr. C. placed a down payment on a house in Homewood, a suburb located south and west of Chicago and because of similar pressures was compelled to withdraw from the deal when the safety of his family was threatened.

Mr. & Mrs. D. made inquiries to a real estate firm on the south side regarding the purchase of a six flat building in Hyde Park east of the Illinois Central tracks. They were told that if they intended to live on the premises, they would not be able to purchase the property, but that if they wished to purchase that property for investment purposes and allow the real estate firm to manage same, they would be able to purchase that particular property.

APARTMENT RENTALS

There have been many instances of Japanese Americans being refused as prospective tenants when they answered advertisements containing apartments for rent in various areas of the city.

There are countless cases involving Japanese Americans of good income position or profession, fully qualified in every respect, who have been refused the opportunity of renting suitable apartments because of their ancestry.

Moreover, it is practically impossible for a Japanese American to obtain rental housing in a building which is managed by

large management firms.

Because of this difficulty in obtaining rental housing those Japanese Americans who cannot afford it have attempted to buy small apartment buildings. They have found that they are excluded from those neighborhoods which are looked upon by lending agencies as favorable loan areas. They are therefore forced to seek out properties in areas which are considered sub-standard by the same lending agencies.

FORCED TO MIGRATE

It would be safe to say that upwards from four to five thousand Japanese Americans have been forced to leave the city of Chicago and migrate to the Pacific coast areas simply because they could not obtain suitable housing for their families either by rental or by purchase. Those who have chosen to remain in the Chicago area, despite these difficulties, are beginning to find more suitable housing at this late date on the strength of their own power to purchase properties in which they could live. This, however, has not been without many difficulties.

There are many areas in the city of Chicago today in which there are suitable buildings for purchase, and we speak of areas which are not considered slum or marginal areas, but areas in which properties have begun to show their age.

Japanese Americans have not been refused access for purchases of properties there; however, because of the existence of a few families of the minority group in these areas most of the mortgage houses or lending institutions have considered these areas as "unstable" and ineligible for either FHA, G.I., or conventional loans.

LOAN DIFFICULTY

This arbitrary and wholly unwarranted classification by the lending agencies of large areas of the city which were hitherto considered to be good neighborhoods as "unstable" merely on the basis of the moving in of one or two members of a minority group is the first step for these areas on the road to degenerating into slum areas.

For, if the ordinary man in the middle income bracket seeking a home or a small apartment building as an investment is unable to procure a loan, he cannot purchase in these areas. The sellers, therefore, must seek out and sell to the speculators whose only interest after purchasing the property is to fill it up with multiple families and milk it.

Rehabilitation of slum areas is a difficult and expensive process. It would be much more sensible and much less expensive if legislation were devised so that this process can be arrested at its inception.

The dilemma of a good number of Japanese Americans in the field of housing is this: Those who have sufficient cash — which means enough cash to cover up to one-half or more of the purchase price in cases of small buildings (of 10,000 to 15,000) can purchase properties in most areas despite prejudice, discrimination and mortgage problems, and get a place to live which is half way acceptable.

But there are those who do not have enough cash, cannot buy a home; even though they may have upwards of \$6,000 to \$8,000 cash. Many of these people cannot even rent a decent apartment, and are living in rooming houses, or furnished apartments in marginal and sub-standard neighborhoods.

Many hundreds of Japanese

American families in Chicago today are living in pitifully sub-standard accommodations despite the fact that they could afford better apartments or buy a decent home, but cannot because of their ancestry.

JACL PROPOSAL

Our organization would like to go on record to ask Congress to enact legislation that would enable people, regardless of race or national origin to buy or rent decent housing accommodation, commensurate with their economic levels, and to be able to exercise the privilege of borrowing under FHA, G.I. or other federally insured programs.

We respectfully suggest, therefore, that this committee consider legislation in the following general areas:

A. Legislation designed to facilitate loans by lending agencies in the so-called rehabilitation areas by a guarantee of secondary financing for loans made in these areas, and providing such loans to all applicants, regardless of race, color, creed or national origin.

B. Another method would be to re-vitalize an agency like the Federal National Mortgage Association which could set up loan committees in the larger cities. A purchaser who has been refused a loan in a well kept neighborhood merely on the basis of arbitrary classification we have discussed previously, should then be in a position to go to this committee, which after investigation might approve his loan for guaranteed secondary financing so that the various lending agencies would then have no hesitancy in making the loan. If they did not want to keep it in their portfolio, they could turn it over for secondary financing.

C. The construction of middle income housing by a legislative program akin to, though not necessarily identical with the present housing program for the lower income group to enable all persons so qualified to rent decent apartments regardless of race or national origin.

Cleveland Jr. Matrons party attended by over 150

CLEVELAND—Over 150 youngsters and their parents attended the Cleveland Jr. Matrons Christmas party recently at the First Methodist Church with cooperation from other groups including the JACL chapter.

Midge Fujimoto was chairman. Henry Tanaka was master of ceremonies. Tak Yamagata was in Santa Claus togs, distributing gifts which were wrapped by the Matrons. Contributions of funds and services were acknowledged from:

Femway Golf Club, Tennis Club, Fairway Golf Club, Shinwakai, Toghuchi Grocery, Fujinkai, Nisei Bowling League, Shig Yamagata, JACL, and Fellowship.

Births

LOS ANGELES

KAMADA, James K. Tsuzumi Yoshihara—girl Erin J., Oct. 2.
KASHIWAGI, Masaji (Ruby Urushibata)—girl Joyce N., Sept. 26.
KOHAMA, Masao (June S. Ouchi)—boy Michael P., Oct. 10.
YOSHIDA, Kay (Chiyo Furumura)—girl Kazumi L., Oct. 1.
YOSHIDA, Clarence T. Sylvia I. Iwanaka)—boy Robert C., Oct. 11.

STOCKTON

YOSHIKAWA, E.—boy Keith K., Nov. 13.

Deaths

SAKATA, Harry, 34; Denver, Dec. 20, survived by wife Mary, sons Howard, Stanley; brother Robert; sisters Mmes. Mitsuko Nishikawa, Sally F. Sato.



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VAGARIES: by Larry S. Tajiri



Alien land law

Denver

The "No Japs Wanted" signs long since have disappeared from the shops and roadsides of California. The Yellow Peril, that demon evoked by the febrile imaginings of racists, is only a ghost, haunting the sorrowful chapters of a history of hate.

In California, the battleground of four decades of prejudice, Americans of Japanese ancestry have achieved a high degree of integration within the citizen community. Their immigrant parents have won the right to naturalization, and the laws once passed to construct their economic activities are invalid.

The prejudiced have lost the battle of California, and the bugles of bigotry blow no more. The infantry of intolerance has melted away, and their leaders have fled from the field of conflict. In departing, they have left behind a memento of battle, a piece of legislation which mocks the meaning of democracy. This is California's Alien Land Law, a vicious statute directed against immigrants of Japanese ancestry and prohibiting their ownership or occupancy of real property. This law, now invalid by edict of the State Supreme Court, was adopted originally by the legislature in 1913. It was later amended in 1920 by initiative action. It can be removed only by a vote of the people, not by simple legislative action.

Assemblyman Edward E. Elliott, a Democrat who long has fought for fair play for the Nisei, has given his fellow Californians an opportunity to exorcise the Yellow Peril demon. Elliott sponsored the bill which the legislature adopted and which will erase the Alien Land Law from the state statutes. The measure will be on the California ballot in the November, 1956 elections.

FIRST ATTEMPT MADE IN 1909

The Alien Land Law was concocted out of the ingredients of racial hate, political opportunism and fear of economic competition from the immigrant Japanese in California.

Leaders of the anti-Japanese movement in California first attempted to pass an anti-alien land ownership law, directed against the Japanese, in the 1909 legislative session. The measure was defeated when, at President Roosevelt's suggestion, it was broadened to bar all aliens from owning or occupying land. At that time British and Dutch aliens held an extensive amount of California agriculture.

Most of the early Japanese immigrants originally had come to California to work as field laborers. When they turned to other work, they evoked opposition from organized labor in the cities, and small farmers in the rural areas.

The problem which faced the anti-Japanese movement was to agree on a piece of legislation which would bar the Japanese from the land—and maintain them in the status of migratory workers for the benefit of the large farmers. U.S. Webb, a lifetime leader in the anti-Japanese ranks and later attorney general of California, found what appeared to be a solution when he drew up a bill which applied only to "aliens ineligible to citizenship", thus excluding European aliens from its restrictions. It was passed by overwhelming majorities in both houses of the California legislature. Their names are forgotten now, but there were only five men out of a total of 107 who voted against this travesty on democracy.

The 1913 Alien Land Act was loosely-drawn and proved ineffective. Anti-Japanese leaders immediately started working on amendments to make the restrictions foolproof. For the next seven years agitation against the Japanese were centered around two objectives—to bar further immigration by the passage of an exclusion act, and to pass more stringent restrictions against those Japanese already in California.

RACISM RIDES HIGH IN THE '20s

As the 1920 election neared, all the agencies of public information were flooded with the high tide of anti-Japanese propaganda. Books, movies and articles appeared about the "Japanese problem". Politicians took the stump and made it a major issue of the state election campaign. The Joint Immigration Committee, then the powerhouse of the anti-Japanese movement, marshalled its member agencies, the American Legion, the Grange, the Native Sons and the AFL State Federation of Labor, into the fight to pass stringent amendments to tighten the 1913 anti-alien land law. Governor Stephens was called on to declare a special session to consider such amendments. When he refused, in a show of political courage, the anti-Japanese interests flexed their muscles and were able to put the proposed restrictions on the ballot as an initiative measure.

In the 1920 election the Alien Land initiative was passed by a vote of 668,438 to 22,086, a margin of some 30 to 1. It was the high water mark of racism in California. Many other Western states passed duplicates of the California law.

The anti-Japanese groups continued their agitation until, four years later, the exclusion act was passed by Congress in 1924.

The 1920 law may have restricted Japanese farming in California, but did not destroy it. Legal loopholes, and the coming of age of citizen children of these immigrants, blunted the edge of this racist weapon.

30-1 REPEAL VOTE SOUGHT

In 1948, the Nisei themselves mounted opposition to this law. The U.S. Supreme Court decision in the JACL-sponsored Oyama case rendered it unenforceable, and a later State Supreme Court verdict invalidated it. In 1952 the McCarran-Walter immigration act removed racial bars to United States citizenship and eradicated the category of "aliens ineligible to citizenship."

But the California Land Law remains. Passed as an initiative by a vote of the people, it can be erased only through similar action. Californians will have such an opportunity this coming November, and it is part of the continuing work of the JACL to alert the state's voters as to the significance of repeal measure. It was passed by a 30 to 1 vote. Californians can turn their collective backs on a shameful history of racism by repealing it by as conclusive a margin.

WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER: by MIKE MASAOKA

Forthcoming session on Congress promises real battles and fireworks as congressmen eye November general election pay

Washington
On Tuesday, Jan. 3rd, the Second Session of this 84th Congress convenes.

The First Session was just a skirmish to what the Second will be; the real battles both seen and unseen will be fought in this new term.

At stake is control of the White House and of the Congress, for 1956 is a presidential as well as congressional election quadrennium.

Unfortunately, political expediency—whether a particular vote will gain more favor than antagonism—can be expected to be the decisive factor in every major decision made by Congress in the next seven months.

Though the above truism is hardly the most efficient and effective way to operate a government, it is, nevertheless, a political fact of life that cannot be ignored in a representative democracy.

In any national election year, there are always at least two divisive influences at work.

One is by the political leaders of the national committees, whose principal concern is control of the White House, that is the executive branch.

The other is by the individual members of the Congress who must stand for election and whose primary objective is to be reelected.

Important, though incidental, is majority control of both the House and the Senate.

At times like these, when one party controls the presidency while the other controls the Congress, there can be conflict between the so-called professionals and the practicing politicians, that is between those who formulate policies while not themselves running for offices in the legislative branch who are personally involved as candidates for public offices.

Thus, it seems quite clear that the Republicans in the forthcoming session will concentrate on the necessity for implementing Administration policy, while the Democrats will attempt to use the legislative processes to point up differences in the philosophies of those in executive power and themselves.

This does not preclude individual differences of opinion, especially among the congressmen, for under our two party system both embrace all shades of governmental philosophy and are not restricted to the advocacy of a limited theory.

Indeed, there are some who believe that because of the seniority practice which gives to southerners powerful prerogatives regardless of which party is in control of either or both the White House or Congress, there are Democrats in the legislative branch who would prefer a conservative or middle of the road Republican as the executive to a liberal or left of center Democrat, even though such a return might well result in GOP dominance over the legislative branch as well.

All of these interests will help shape the course of the forthcoming Second Session.

And, adding to the confusion of the moment, is the question of the President's intentions in the next campaign.

Prior to the President's untimely heart attack last September, though the Democrats would not admit it publicly, the White House for the next four years was more or less conceded to the incumbent.

The Democrats, therefore, were preparing to center their program on the retention of control over the Congress, even though the presidency might be voted to the Republicans, by stressing the legislative record and suggesting that they and not members of the President's own party, would be better supporters of the basic principles involved.

The Republicans, on the other hand, aware of the tremendous personal popularity of the president, were hoping to be able to "ride in" on his coat-tails, keeping

in mind the historical precedent that usually the party that elects the president also wins the Congress.



Now that there is some question that the President's health may not permit him to make himself available to succeed himself, the Democrats are beginning to revise their strategy to also include the White House.

In the meantime too, both among the Democrats and the Republicans, prospective presidential candidates are bestirring themselves.

And if these candidates also happen to be members of the Congress, as some of them are, they will attempt to influence legislation in such a manner as to enhance their own political ambitions or to outline their political philosophies.

Over-all, however, the individual member of the Congress will be guided by what he himself considers best for his own reelection, regardless of whether his particular party advocates that course or not.

Thus, some of the explosive issues that must be voted on in the forthcoming session will trouble many a member, especially the 32 senators and the 435 representatives who must stand for election this November, for the judgment required to determine which course will best represent the interests of a voting constituency are most difficult.

Consider some of the major problems that this session must consider: farm program, taxes, foreign policy and aid, military conscription and spending, highway construction, aid to education, immigration, Social Security coverage, health insurance and medical research, natural gas regulations, organized labor demands, statehood for Hawaii and Alaska, anti-trust laws revisions, housing, and electoral college procedural changes.

Every issue is political dynamite and no congressman knows in advance which item his constituents will consider to be most important, and the one on which he will determine his ballot preference.

And, Democratic chairmanned congressional committees will dig into as many investigations as possible to embarrass and expose the Eisenhower Administration.

The forthcoming session of Congress promises real battles and fireworks, with victory in November as the payoff on whether one guessed rightly or wrongly in evaluating the political effects of a vote.

FLOODS INUNDATE NO. CALIFORNIA

Over the Christmas weekend, while most Americans were enjoying the traditional blessings of the Yuletide season, devastating floods inundated northern California and Southern Oregon, bringing misery and suffering to thousands of Americans in the greatest natural calamity on the west coast since the San Francisco earthquake almost fifty years ago.

In addition to the general concern we feel for those who have been affected by the floods, we have a special concern for those of Japanese ancestry who may have suffered because of the flood waters.

We have no information at this time as to whether any Issei or Nisei may have been killed by the storms and their aftermath, but we do know that many must have been evacuated from the stricken area because many Americans of Japanese ancestry reside in that region.

To them, and to all their neighbors, our encouragement.

Coupled with the hurricanes and the floods that have wrecked the

east coast the past several years, these natural catastrophes may awaken the Congress and Federal Government to the imperative need for some type disaster insurance to help rehabilitate those who may become victims of these natural calamities, as well as to take the necessary protective measures to guard against these recurring devastations insofar as is humanly possible.

This problem should be among the first to be considered by new Congress.

IN MEMORY OF HARRY SAKATA

Harry Sakata, president of Mile-Hi (Denver, Colorado) JACL chapter, passed away on Dec.

Though not as well known nationally as several other JACL stalwarts who also passed away this year, Harry would not have taken a back seat to any of them in his devotion and dedication to the JACL.

He personified the JACLer by his participation on the chapter level makes possible the national movement, for the chapters the strength and the sinews of the JACL.

Typical of his attitude was leaving of his death bed in that he, as president of the Mile-Hi chapter, might pay his respects to the newly naturalized Issei citizens in his territory a special recognition banquet in their honor last fall.

And, when the biennial Mountain Plains Districts Council Convention was jointly hosted by the Mile-Hi and Fort Lupton JACL chapters over the Thanksgiving weekend, he tried mightily to influence the deliberations because he knew that only through such organizations as the JACL could the future welfare of his family and children be forever secured.

In an unprecedented gesture of fellowship, the delegates to the Convention elected him honorary chairman of the Mountain Plains District Council, even though he knew he would be unable to attend.

Theirs was a real tribute, which all of us join, to a great JACLer whom we shall miss, but whose inspiration will ever live with us in our work.

CALENDAR

Dec. 31 (Saturday)

San Mateo—New Year's Eve dance, Buddhist hall, 9 p.m.
Santa Barbara—New Year's Eve dance.

Mile Hi—Inaugural dinner-dance, Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Jan. 1 (Sunday)

San Diego—New Year's Eve dance, Terrace Room, Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Blvd., 9 p.m.
Monterey Peninsula—New Year's Eve dance, Hotel San Carlos, 9 p.m. (Semi-formal)

Jan. 7 (Saturday)

Sonoma County—Installation Banquet, quiet, Memorial Hall, Sebastopol, 6 p.m.

Jan. 15 (Sunday)

Alameda—Installation Banquet.
San Luis Valley—Installation Banquet, Mt. Blanca Supper Club, Mas Satow, speaker.

Jan. 17 (Tuesday)

Parlier—Auxiliary Meeting.

Jan. 20 (Friday)

San Francisco—Chapter, Auxiliary Installation Banquet, William Marty's Restaurant, 2328 Clay St., (Tentative)
Seattle—Installation Dinner (Tentative)

Jan. 28 (Saturday)

Los Angeles—JACL Coordinating Council Installation dance, tribute of Aeronautical Science, 7660 Beverly Blvd.

Jan. 29 (Sunday)

Nat'l JACL Bowling Entry line: Hito Okada, tournament exec. sec., 205 Beason Bldg, Lake City, Utah.