













# Director's Report

By Masao Satow, National JACL Director

## Chuman's Department before Rules Committee Lauded

SAN FRANCISCO — JACLers can be proud of their National President for the firm and dignified manner in which Frank Chuman testified before the California Assembly Rules Committee against the Lechner resolution and elicited favorable comment.

Assemblyman Francis of San Mateo slipped up by admitting he knew nothing of Lechner's activities prior to 1945 on introducing Lechner. And it seemed a bit odd that Lechner should find it necessary to plead for 40 minutes in behalf of a resolution commending himself. After going to considerable length to establish his bona fides, Assemblyman Walde asked him if the Los Angeles Metropolitan University which conferred this degree was a "correspondence type of school." Lechner admitted that it was.

Quite damaging to his cause was a telegram sent to Assemblyman Walde from a Bakersfield TV station, claiming to have a tape recording of Lechner's address before the Free Enterprise Association of Kern County the Saturday prior (Feb. 11) in which Lechner is supposed to have accused everyone who opposed his resolution as a communist. This linked even Assemblyman Conrad who was doing his best to support Lechner. We also have a report on this Bakersfield meeting that Lechner tried to imply that JACL and President Frank Chuman were under communist influence. Yet Lechner denied knowing any of the JACL officers or ever having accused JACL of such influence in response to questioning by Walde.

Lechner dismissed his censure and repudiation by the California Department of the American Legion in 1944 as simply "internal politics." He indicated that his activities were entirely self-financed by reading his income tax report for the past ten years, several years of which he reported no income whatsoever.

Assemblyman Walde referred to a number of articles in the Los Angeles Times and Examiner during the war quoting Lechner that Japanese Americans were engaged in espionage, and that they should be repatriated to Japan; also referred to a Time Magazine piece in which Lechner inferred that the return of Japanese Americans to their west coast homes would be for purposes of cooperating with an invasion by the Japanese Imperial Navy. Lechner hedged on these and insisted he was referring only to "disloyal" Japanese.

Frank Chuman took 20 minutes to present the case for JACL in opposition to Lechner. He stated we go along with Lechner's stand against communism and quoted our JACL policy statement. However, we did reject Lechner's broad sweeping generalizations and accusations during the war based solely on our racial background. Frank asked why Lechner found it necessary to go into Utah and Colorado to bound Japanese Americans.

Assemblyman Conrad took up the racial matter and inquired why the War Department found it necessary to activate a segregated unit of Japanese Americans in the Army. "We asked for it," replied Frank, "as a symbol of

the loyalty of Japanese Americans to the United States." In his final rebuttal, Assemblyman Francis opined that the opposition to the Lechner resolution was instigated by the American Civil Liberties Union. Obviously Francis needs to be educated about the Japanese American Citizens League.

## SAN FRANCISCO INAUGURAL

SAN FRANCISCO had a fine turnout for a preview of the Japanese Cultural Center from S.F. Redevelopment Agency Director Justus Herman. From National HQ, we will have a front-row seat as the new three blocks where this will take shape the latter part of this year. Dr. Himeo Tamura proved to be a very capable toastmaster. We have confidence that President John Yasumoto will do an even better job than this past year even though his leadership brought the NC-WNCC Chapter of the Year award to San Francisco. The S.F. Women's Auxiliary promises to be just as active under the gavel of charming Sumi Fujita, former active Portland JACLer.

## INTERMOUNTAIN

A hurry-up call from George Sugai to install Snake River Valley President Yosh Sakahara cousin of Toru Sakahara, national legislative-legal committee chairman and his direct flight to Boise for the IDC meeting via Salt Lake City in order to make the installation in time. For Joe Salto, the newly appointed chairman of Oregon State Board of Agriculture who is never at a loss for words, emerging comes naturally. The post-banquet informal period stretched into hours as is par for the course. As they say, if you have never been in the Eastside Lounge, you haven't seen Ontario.

Fifty JACLers attended the IDC meeting under the chairmanship of Joe Nishio in Caldwell. A like number of Junior JACLers met across the street at the new Boise Valley JACL Bldg., under auspices of the Boise Valley chapter mothers and heard Mt. Olympus President Bob Mukai talk about JACL. The IDC chapters adopted their individual quotas which includes 1000 Club memberships.

National 2nd Vice President George Sugai reported that the JACL-instigated bill to erase voting prohibition against naturalized Orientals has unanimously passed both Houses in Idaho's legislature. Henry Suehiro reported that the Idaho civil right bill had passed the House, and Henry Kasai reported on the Utah civil rights bill. Ronnie Yokota told of plans for the 20th anniversary convention of the Intermountain District Council this year, the dates of which are pegged for Aug. 25-26.

## JACL TENPIN TOURNAMENT

The couple of hours layover in Salt Lake gave us a chance to lunch with National JACL Advisory Board on Bowling member Choppo Umemoto and 1000er Setko Kasai at the 42-lane El Rancho Bowl, site of our 1962 National JACL Bowling Tournament. We also conferred with Ray Ohms, house manager, and Fred Tedesco, public relations director. Bowlers will welcome the two large motels across the street.

Preparations are about completed for our San Jose National championships. Chapter membership chairmen are advised to turn in bowler's memberships. A membership check will be made to insure that any non-JACL members do not participate thereby jeopardizing their own status with the national bowling bodies or that of members of the San Jose Tournament Committee.

A special all-events trophy will be initiated by action of the Advisory Board for veteran National JACL tournament participants—those who have participated in at least 10 Tournaments and who are 40 years of age. We have not yet decided whether this will include the women. We do not want to be accused of discrimination, but have you tried to get a woman to reveal her age?

## LONG BEACH PUSHING FOR 600 MEMBERS

LONG BEACH — With the membership of goal at 600, the Long Beach-Harbor District JACL this past week revealed the 30 per cent mark has been reached with 216 members, 17 being 1000 Clubbers.

The campaign committeemen reported the reception of new and renewing memberships has been very favorable and encouraging.

## Sequoia JACL calls youth for baseball team tryout

PAOLO ALTO — Tryouts for Sequoia JACL's two teams entered in the San Francisco Optimist League have been called by Kaz Mayeda, in charge of the youth baseball program, for Feb. 26 and Mar. 3 at Betchet Field in Redwood City.

Interested youth between the ages of 7 and 14 are to report by 1:30 p.m.

## Montebello-Ashiya tie-up

ASHIYA, Japan. — Plans to join Ashiya in Fukuoka prefecture and Montebello in Los Angeles County as "sister cities" were announced here last week.

## 10-member St. Louis JACL board elects Geo. Hasegawa as 1961 chapter president

ST. LOUIS — With St. Louis JACL operating under a new board of director system this year, the 10 member board elected George K. Hasegawa as president.

Other board officers are Richard Heon, v.p.; Frank Okamoto, sec.; Mrs. Mary Dally, sec.; Rose Ogino, hist.; Mrs. Jean Eto, memb.; and Joe Tanaka, pub. rel.; Lee Durham, Tom Johnson, Harry Hayashi, bd.

Five are former chapter presidents and the other five have never held chapter offices. The former presidents are Tanaka (1949-50), Hasegawa (1953), Hayashi (1954), Miss Ogino (1955) and Heon (1956).

Committee appointments include Hayashi, 1000 Club; Dr. Alfred Morio, del. and budget; Dan Sakahara, p.a.; Paul Maruyama, Issai Story; Henmi, program; Durham, anti-miscegenation; Johnson, wives from Japan; and Miss Ogino, newsletters.

The chapter membership campaign is scheduled to close by Mar. 15, according to Mrs. Eto.

As a result of the near \$500 profit from the Full Moon Festival staged last year, the chapter made \$50 contributions to Grace Methodist Church where the festival was held and to International Institute.

"These contributions, small as they may be, mark a milestone in the history of St. Louis JACL," noted Hasegawa. "The chapter has always been busy in raising money for the support of National JACL, and for the benefit of its members now for the first time has made contributions for use other than that which directly concerns the Japanese Americans."

'Roundup Time' theme of St. Louis membership social

ST. LOUIS — With hopes of making this the biggest membership roundup in local JACL history, the St. Louis chapter will have a Roundup social Mar. 4 at the Webster Groves YMCA.

There will be no charge for admission or refreshments and the evening offers movies for the youngsters, games for the teenagers and adults and dancing. Teraki and barazushi will be served "chuck wagon style" by Manet Yamamoto.

National Headquarters acknowledged 68 new and renewal memberships in the 1000 Club for the first half of February as follows:

THIRTEENTH YEAR: Salt Lake City—Mrs. Rae S. Fujimoto.

ELVENTH YEAR: San Diego—Toshiko H. Ikemura.

TENTH YEAR: Idaho Falls—William K. Hosokawa.

Philadelphia—Dr. H. Tom Tamaki.

NINTH YEAR: Pocatello—William Yamuchi.

Cortes—Sam Kuwahara, Nozuko Kajikawa.

EIGHTH YEAR: Fort Lupton—Lee Murata.

Cortes—Ken C. Miyamoto.

Portland—Dr. Matthew M. Masuoka.

Philadelphia—Shirley Endo.

San Francisco—Jack Hirose, Kenji Kasai.

SEVENTH YEAR: Long Beach—George Mio.

Fort Lupton—Floyd Koshio, Jack Tsunara.

New York—Miss Marion Glaeser.

San Francisco—Lucy Adachi.

Seattle—H. S. Kawabe.

Monterey—Hideo Miyamoto.

Livingston-Merced—Sam Maeda.

San Diego—Himeo Nakamura.

Cortes—Mark Kojima.

SIXTH YEAR: Idaho Falls—Albert Brownell.

San Benito—Frank Nishida.

Fort Lupton—Hideo Miyamoto.

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HOLLYWOOD CHAPTER ELECTS FRED TAOMAE AS BOARD CHAIRMAN

L.A. Tokyo newspaper editor Fred Taomae was elected president of the Hollywood JACL for 1961 this week at a meeting of the 24-member board.

Taomae is the English section editor of the New Japanese American News published by wartime JACL president Saburo Kido and replaced Mike Suzuki, who served for two terms.

Other officers elected were Geo. Saito, v.p.; Fusae Yamada, sec.; Miwa Yamamoto, treas.; Ken Sato, 1000 Club. On the board are Danar Abe, George Aratani, Arthur Endo, John Endo, Miki Fukushima, Noboru Ishitani, Art Ito, Fumi Iwasaki, Hide Izumo, Paul Kawakami, Mildred Miyahara, Hiroshi Urisaki, Kay Watanabe, Amy Nichii, Rev. George Aki, James Kondo, Lawrence Nishihara, and Frank Kumamoto. Mike Suzuki is ex-officio board member.

Installation Date

The new board will be installed on Saturday, Mar. 4, at 6:30 p.m. dinner at Michael's Los Feliz restaurant. National JACL President Frank Chuman will be installing officer.

Other guests will include Kay Nakagiri, PSWC chairman, and George Fujita, L.A. Coordinating Council chairman.

Miss Yamamoto is in charge of the dinner-social affair. Reservations for the \$5 fillet mignon dinner may be made by calling Miwa at NO 2-0316, Suzuki at MA 6-3794, or Taomae at NO 1-0204.

The chapter plans a full slate of activities including square dances, beach parties, Nisei Week participation and other community activities.

## ISSEI ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE ORGANIZED

MONTEREY — As a special service of the Monterey Peninsula JACL to assist Issei members of the community in various matters where a language difficulty may exist, six JACLers were named this past week to the chapter's Issei Assistance Committee.

They are Mickey Ichii, Pacific Grove; Henry Nishi, New Monterey; Yo Tabata, John Hamamura, Monterey; Al Ito and Royal Manaka, Seaside.

## Monterey Auxiliary '61 calendar sel

MONTEREY — The Monterey Peninsula JACL Women's Auxiliary, co-chaired by Takako Enokida and Alice Kamoku, has planned its schedule of activities for the year.

The calendar was planned last month at a joint meeting of old and new cabinet officers at the home of the Clifford Nakajimas. Edna Ishikawa chaired the Red Cross drive during February. Upcoming events are: March—cooking demonstration, Nancy Nakajima, chmn.; April—potluck dinner, Mrs. Shin Shintani, chmn.; May—mother-daughter luncheon, Ruby Tabata, Anita Higashi, co-chmn.; June—community picnic, Ma e b Yokota, Junko Watanabe, co-chmn.

July—house tour, Joanne Nishi Fumi Menda, co-chmn.; August—barbecue at Big Sur Park, Emma Sato, Betty Uchida, co-chmn.; September—cooking demonstration, Mitsue Hashimoto, chmn.; October—open; November—potluck dinner, Mamie Honda, chmn.; December—Christmas luncheon, Fumi Kodani, Cedar Tabata, co-chmn.; cascarones, Yoshiko Miyamoto, Melko Yoshida; New Year's Eve dance, Grace Yokogawa, Mabel Sugimoto.

The Hyway Men of Idaho Falls High School will play.

Other committeemen include Ronnie Harada, Ronnie Morishita, co-chmn.; Dennis Ochi, ref.; Rick Tokita, Kay Kobayashi, ref.; Ken Watanabe, Jane Mayeda, hall; Peggy Haga, decor.; Ronnie Morishita, tickets.

Idaho Falls JAYs invite neighboring CLs to dance

IDAHO FALLS — Invitations have been extended to Rexburg and Pocatello JACL chapters and youth groups to a dance being sponsored by the Idaho Falls JAYs tomorrow.

The event, "Cherry Blossom Lane," was announced by Kathy Iwata, chairman.

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JACL'S BIGGEST CHAPTER IN THE NATION—SAN FRANCISCO—INSTALLS 1961 OFFICERS

San Francisco JACL is governed by a 24-member board of governors. Last month, the chapter swore in its board members together with officers of the chapter Auxiliary and Jr. JACL. The chapter board members (from left) are Sat Iwamasa, Michi Fukuda, Betty Sasaki, rec. sec.; Akira Watanabe; Chibi Yamamoto, 1st v.p.; Koji Ozawa, treas.; Marie Kurihara; Steve Dol, del.; John Yasu-