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**LOOK WHO'S TWISTING . . .**  
We dare not mention names here but many our Thousands and the Sacramento will recognize the gentleman twisting at the Seattle Convention mixer. Dancer was among the entertainers of the evening dedicated to Tashiban splendors.  
—Elmer Ogawa Photo

## CHUMAN KEYNOTES OPENING CEREMONIES; FINDS "BRIDGE" STILL UNCOMPLETED

SEATTLE—At the opening ceremonies of the 17th Biennial National Convention of the Japanese American Citizens League, national president Frank F. Chuman of Los Angeles declared that the convention here in Seattle is a sentimental journey for many of the delegates because many of them were here 22 years ago for the first national convention.

Chuman noted that the foundation and ideals of the JACL were first formulated here in Seattle, that again the National JACL is meeting under historic circumstances "to bridge and to build."

He paid special tribute to the early founders of the national organization. He mentioned names such as Clarence T. Arai, Jimmie Sakamoto, Yukutaro Nishimura and others who, he said, assembled in 1939 to build a "strong foundation which has stood the stresses of the times."

"In order to build a worthy bridge, it is necessary to have a platform of sturdy pillars that would stand up under the heat of oppression," he cautioned. He stated that "our parents were denied citizenship and even the right of ownership of land. We, the Nisei, were accepted and accepted as second class citizens."

Chuman, however, went on to express admiration and appreciation to the level, and the early JACL leaders in their unshakable faith in the ideals and principles of American democracy, never doubting that America would reward each man as an equal, regardless of his race or background.

"Americans of Japanese ancestry," Chuman said, "had a deep and lasting love for these United States of America—and this love is manifested in the heroism of the men who gave their lives for America during World War II."

Kept Chuman went on to note that Nisei Americans have not yet completed the bridge which was so nobly conceived and thus he steadily built even though they no longer are isolated into racial ghettos.

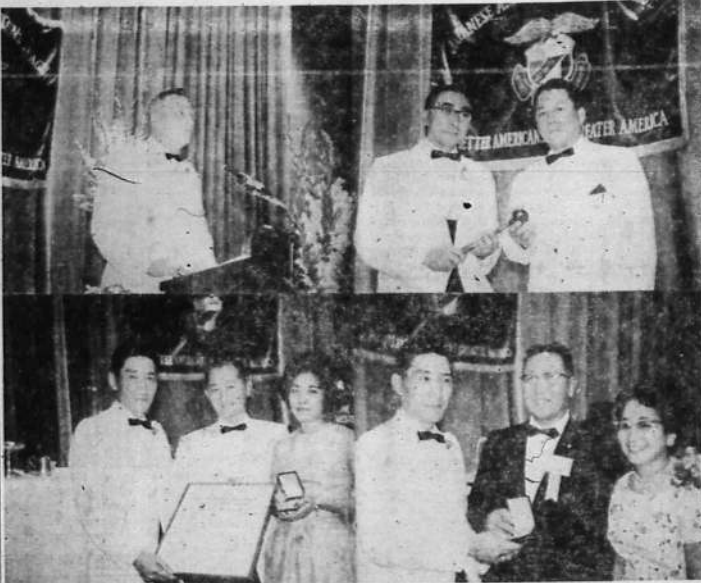
"As we are trying to span the gap between our ancestry, our background, our heritage to the mainstream of American life, we must always remember our fundamental responsibility that all people in America must attain that same equality," he said. "We must be concerned with the welfare of all Americans."

"We must take our place as Americans," Chuman said. Let us first always be conscious of our sacred citizenship and consider ourselves in such a way so we can be proud of our organization and be proud of our ancestry. Let us strive in order that we all might become "Better Americans in a Greater America."

The opening ceremonies, emceed by James M. Matsumoto, convention chairman, began with the

**Calendar**

Aug. 5 (Sunday)  
Mid-Nite Community Party, Berkeley Park.  
Aug. 7 (Tuesday)  
Oakland-Kentwood Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 8 (Wednesday)  
Press-Bridge meeting.  
Los Angeles-Chicago Convention, Ball, Beverly Hills, Sunset, 8 p.m.  
Aug. 9 (Thursday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 10 (Friday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 11 (Saturday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 12 (Sunday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 13 (Monday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 14 (Tuesday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 15 (Wednesday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 16 (Thursday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 17 (Friday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 18 (Saturday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 19 (Sunday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 20 (Monday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 21 (Tuesday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 22 (Wednesday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 23 (Thursday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 24 (Friday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 25 (Saturday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 26 (Sunday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 27 (Monday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 28 (Tuesday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 29 (Wednesday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.  
Aug. 30 (Thursday)  
Pleasanton Area Party, etc.



(Upper left) Undersecretary of State U. Alexis Johnson, main speaker at the convention banquet at the Olympic Hotel.

(Lower left) Minoru Yamasaki, chosen the Nisei of the Biennial, receives the scroll and the Gold Medal from past president Shig Wakamatsu. Daughter Carol Yamasaki basks in the limelight with her famous father.



(Upper right) The gavel is passed to newly elected National JACL President Patrick Okura by outgoing President Frank Chuman.  
(Lower right) The Silver Medal winner of Nisei of the Biennial was John Yoshino of Washington, D.C. He is presented the medal by past president Shig Wakamatsu. Mrs. Yoshino was present to congratulate him.

at Los Angeles.

**Leave Brothers**  
That Leave Brothers Company, a large enterprise of such scale and interest that it is the pride of the group to promote "Better Americans in a Greater America" reflects most favorably on its outstanding management and its enlightened policy toward the community, the nation and the free world. National President Frank Chuman said, in presenting the award.

The JACL expressed its deep gratitude to the internationally known manufacturer for granting special consideration to one of its valued employees, Shig Wakamatsu, enabling him to give maximum leadership to the organization as national president during 1960-61 and currently as national chairman of a project to write the history of the Japanese.

Three pre-war leaders of the organization gave special recognition were Clarence T. Arai, of Seattle; Suma Sugi Yokokata, of Los Angeles; and Yukutaro Nishimura, of Fresno.

**Clarence Arai**  
Arai was among those who organized a single national organization of Japanese Americans in the late 1920s and was among the leaders when the JACL was formed in 1939 in Seattle. Arai was recognized for his efforts to build a strong national organization which has become the lives of all persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States during these intervening years and has contributed to the strength of this democracy.

George Ishihara, now of Davis, Calif., JACL, who traveled with Arai on his lecture tour, said:

**THE SUMITOMO BANK OF CALIFORNIA**



**Los Angeles JACL Coordinating Council**  
Saturday, Aug. 11 - Beverly Hilton Hotel

**Nisei Upholstering**

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By Bill Hosokawa

## From the Frying Pan

Seattle, Wash.

**IMPRESSIONS FROM THE NATIONAL CONVENTION**

A sense of history hung over the convention here last week, not just JACL history, but the history of the Japanese in America—and even the most callow Saneis couldn't help but be moved by it.

The Issai Pioneer Testimonial Banquet, honoring a handful of Seattle area Issei for more than a half a century of public service, was a stirring event. One by one, as their names were called, the Issei stepped forward to receive scrolls of appreciation. Some, in their infirmity, tottered. Some needed to be helped across the platform.

By their attitude, by their deep bows of thanks, the Issei revealed the honor they felt in being thus recognized. But it was the Nisei who were being honored by the presence of these men and women who had suffered and sacrificed much so that their offspring would have a better life in America.

Next day, the delegates saw another picture—Some speakers from eight sections of the United States competing in the oratorical contest. Each was extremely able. All were a credit to their families and localities. The three winners, Todd Endo of Kennington, Md.; Carol Suzuki of Sacramento, Calif.; and Dee Ikeda of Chicago—were superb. Much will be heard from them in coming years. And conventioners kept proper etiquette to the speakers by packing the hall and listening intently to the orators.

If the Issei are proud of the Nisei, now reaching the bloom of maturity, the Nisei have much reason to be proud of the Issei.

**SERVICE AWARDS**—Conferring of scrolls for service to an organization can become a mile mauling, but the award was hardly misplaced. The growth of the movement from faltering beginnings to its present stature was dramatic in the presentations to such personalities as Suma Sugi Yokokata, Tokio Slocum, Clarence Arai and George Ishihara.

The roles played by the first three are part of JACL legend. Ishihara, on the other hand, is the nearly forgotten man of the movement, the untiring yomani, and recognition for him was a heartwarming gesture.

**BIENNIAL AWARDS**—I hope you'll have a chance to see the citations honoring Minoru Yamasaki, Nisei of the Biennial, and the winners of the four Silver Medallions—Thoma Kitayama, mayor of Union City, Calif.; Kiyo Tomiyasu of Schenectady, N.Y.; John Yoshino of Washington, D.C.; and Caesar Dyesaki of Santa Barbara, Calif. Each, in addition to distinguished professional achievement, has made lasting contributions to the betterment of his fellow man, and that is the essence of service. The accomplishments of these five should be inspiring to all Nisei.

Larry Tajiri has an anecdote that makes an interesting footnote to the success of Minoru Yamasaki who has risen to pre-eminence in the field of architecture.

The last time he saw Yamasaki, Tajiri recalls, was in New York City the night after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. It seemed the world had collapsed around them, and Yamasaki was especially dour. My career is shattered, he said. Buried, everything I've been working for is destroyed.

The outlook was equally bleak for thousands of Nisei that long-remembered day. But Yamasaki made his way back, and so did the Nisei as a group, thanks in very great part to those of our number who felt in battle while trying the loyalty of us all.

**TRANSFORMATION**—Last week in the status of Nisei was vividly demonstrated last week in the way they were able to take over the Olympic Hotel, Seattle's leading hotel, during one of the summer's busiest periods. In previous years, about the only time Nisei entered the Olympic Hotel when they went to work there as busboys.

(Next Week: More impressions from Seattle)

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