



## PACIFIC CITIZEN

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## Ye Editor's Desk

## THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Much will be said in the coming weeks about the "right to vote," now that Congress has commenced hearings on President Johnson's proposed voting law. This republic has grown from its original stretch of 13 colonies along the Atlantic coast to a sum of 50 American states. During the same period the right of franchise has been extended from the "property classes" to all freemen, then to the women and finally to all citizens.

The attention being paid currently upon the demonstrations in Alabama and the hearings in Washington is a manifestation of the will of an overwhelming majority of American people and of the American Congress that all eligible citizens of the United States have the right and opportunity to vote. Specifically, attention is being paid in those areas where artificial disabilities deny some of the right to vote for racial reasons.

A section-by-section analysis of the proposed voting law by Associated Press last week reveals the drafters' desire to close every possible vote-denying loophole. Section 3 is its "heart" for it denies to those states affected (not named in the bill explicitly but fitting the description are Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Virginia) the right to impose tests of literacy, education, knowledge, intelligence or morality on any citizen who wishes to register and vote.

How does the bill involve these states without naming them?

... in any state or in any political subdivision of a state which (1) the Attorney General determines maintained on Nov. 1, 1964, any test or device as a qualification for voting (and where) (2) the Director of the Census determines that less than 50 pct. of the persons of voting age residing therein were registered on Nov. 1, 1964, or that less than 50 pct. of such persons voted in the Presidential election of November, 1964.

The same section defines "test or device" to mean any requirement that a voter "demonstrate the ability to read, write, understand, or interpret any matter, demonstrate any educational achievement or his knowledge of any particular subject, possess good moral character, or prove his qualifications by the voucher of registered voters or members of any other class."

This may mean that California's literacy test will stand since more than 50 pct. of those of voting age are registered and have voted in the last presidential election. (The 1964 census estimate shows 10.9 million of voting age; and there were 8.1 million registered for 1964, and 6.2 million voted.) The proposed voting law shouldn't raise hopes of those naturalized Issei who feel the California literacy law might be nullified.

How advocates of the new law are going to clear the constitutional provisions giving the states the right to set voter requirements for the weeks to come. While it is necessary and vital that Negroes everywhere attain their right to vote, it should be completely constitutional. Short of this, Section 2 of the 14th Amendment governing appointment of representatives in Congress looks to us as the more practical avenue—now that U.S. Supreme Court has ordered the "one man—one vote" policy.

## CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

A sequel to this "right to vote" struggle might be considered. Assemblyman Gordon H. Winton Jr. (D-Mercer) thinks that California voters have the right to know who makes financial contributions to political campaigns. The staunch Republican newspaper here, the L.A. Times, supports him editorially though the Legislature has never had. The Times thinks the votes in Sacramento on Winton's bill should make interesting reading.

Winton, well-known among Northern California JACLers, is a 8-year 1000 Club member of the Livingston-Merced chapter.

At every general session since 1959, Winton has introduced "purity of election" bills calling for public disclosure of financial backers of candidates and how much they contribute. All failed, but Winton is trying again with the support of Gov. Brown.

"There is nothing evil about making or receiving campaign contributions," the governor said. "But the source of those contributions should be an open part of the public record."

Winton's bill calls for disclosure of contributions of any donor totaling over \$200 and listing all campaign expenses when the total paid to one person exceeds \$100. Candidates for all statewide administrative offices, the legislature, the U.S. Senate and House would be covered.

The Times was significant in Gov. Brown's plea for "purity of election," laws coupled with a code of ethics for legislators for his support of higher legislative pay. The point he wanted to stress was that before higher salaries are approved, the public is entitled to far greater knowledge of campaign contributions and possible conflicts of interests.

We thought fellow-1000ers across the country would be happy to learn of what one of its distinguished members is trying to do through this piece here.

Support JACL through 1000 Club: \$25 a Year



We didn't have any trouble registering in Alabama

## Letters from Our Readers

## To Friends of Larry:

Can you thank for me, the many wonderful friends who have written and worded me their condolences upon Larry's passing? Their concern and generosity have been so moving. Neither Larry's family nor I will ever forget the kindness shown us.

Larry's facing toward the JACL and the Pacific Citizen never diminished, though his direct connection ceased so many years ago. It was his heart that kept him to work for the organization, and his welfare was of concern to him all his life.

Please thank the many JACL chapters and officers who have known their concern.

GYUO TAJIRI

7670 Grove St.  
Westminster, Colo.

## 1000 Club Life Ideas

Editor: Assuming that of the current 64,000+ Life members in the JACL 1000 Club, less than 20 have been active in the past year, I propose the Life 1000 Club membership be separated into three categories.

1-Life, Ordinary: \$250 per year, while member alive. By repaying of the original amount, we may pick up many who wish to be Life but were "priced out" at \$500.  
2-Life, Reciprocal: \$500 per year, while member alive, but any Life, Ordinary could become Reciprocal by paying another \$250 while alive. Reciprocal would be carried on special honor roll forever while alive.

## Tokyo Topics: by Tamotsu Murayama

## Nisei Newsmen Prosper in Japan

TOKYO—It may seem foolish for those who expect to go to Japan to read but it may be the way to make the people of Japan recognize the Nisei.

The employment situation in America today is not like the pre-war days when job discrimination against Nisei was common. In Japan, the position in Japan can not match the pay scale in America.

However, those Nisei newspapermen who have struggled in Japan all these years are rising in prominence. One in particular is Roy Fumio Sakai, the Hawaiian-born writer who came here before the war to join the Japan Advertiser staff. He then moved to the Tokyo Reuter's Office and finally the Tokyo Reuter's Office and finally the Tokyo Reuter's Office.

Sakai is a specialist in mastering the difficult task of writing news in Japanese.

Sakai is a specialist among the Nisei who started almost from scratch to master the technique of newspaperwriting. He covered the Olympic Games in Rome, Helsinki and Melbourne. Just before the Tokyo Olympics, he covered the basketball sports event in recognition of his ability to organize sports coverage from many angles.

Sakai should be commended for his success in writing the first Nisei to earn an editorship on Japan's biggest newspaper.

## Aashi Evening News

Just prior to Sakai's latest promotion, Editor Shobu Aashi, Hawaiian-born journalist, was elected president of the Aashi Evening News. He worked with the Chicago Tribune and the San Francisco Chronicle before coming to Japan. He was Japan Times managing editor for a number of years before starting the Tokyo Evening News (renamed the Aashi Evening News) that the Aashi dynasty.

Control over distribution and reselling will be maintained by a numbering system. Drawing of prize winners will be by number. Rules for awarding the prizes will be drafted by the Project staff. Developing the format, queries, the illustrations and the editorial will commence in the near future.

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## Dr. Clarence E. Pickett

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Though most famous as the quiet, spoken yet able and effective executive secretary of the Quaker service organization for the years from 1920 to 1930, he devoted more than 60 of 80 years to the betterment of the lot and the life of his fellow men, no matter where they might be in the world.

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# Frankly Speaking: by Carol Hasegawa

## Our Group Characteristics

Washington, D.C.

For several years, I've been trying to pin down what characteristics Japanese Americans seem to possess as a group. This was done both out of curiosity and in a search for it. We do possess common traits. An objective such as this has its deep pitfalls because common characteristics hard to delineate and harder to prove, and when attempted by a layman, the results are likely to be questionable.

In any event, these are some of the characteristics I see in myself:

- 1. Sense of responsibility:** This means responsibility as family member to care for his own, as an employee to his hard and well, and as a citizen to carry out what is expected of him by society. There is little lawlessness, unemployment, community friction and few welfare cases among the Japanese-Americans, as examples.
- 2. Sense of honor and pride:** This is manifested by things such as the need to keep your word, to do your best, to be honest, and the general desire to save face. To have others think well of us means a great deal and to disgrace family or self is unthinkable.
- 3. Industriousness:** This is demonstrated by high employment and the ability to work hard and conscientiously. Japanese Americans seem to rely on hard work as the basis for promotion and reward rather than on entrepreneurship, opportunism, crime, overt aggressiveness or initiative.
- 4. Cleanliness:** This trait seems basic to the Japanese American for it would be hard to find any who don't bathe regularly and keep themselves and their homes generally clean.
- 5. Deep belief in education:** This is a belief not in education as an intellectual endeavor, but as a means to a better life. The dearth of Japanese American scholars seems to be due to this functional appreciation of education. Our general literacy rate is extremely high as is our percentage of college-educated people.

In the near future, this matter of group characteristics undoubtedly be just an academic question. As we are assimilated more and more into the American society, our traits change, our horizons broaden, our ethnic traditions disappear and our life changes. What was once our unique Japanese American identity will have become an American identity, I guess I can't accept the idea that our progeny will know the distinction of being a representative, however slightly, of two cultures. For the most part, our group characteristics are complimentary by any society's standards. We do not lose them entirely.

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Mr. Yoshitaka, c/o Japanese JACL Office, 21 W. Elm, Chicago, Ill. 60604  
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# Alcides marches in Alabama

about 40, who told me about her repeated attempts to try to register to vote.

That morning, she said, she waited three hours to take her exam.

After she finished the clerk took her to the room where she had failed, threw her exam into the wastebasket, and advised her to come back again in three weeks on the next registration day today.

### Teary Eyes Victim

The woman on my right was elderly, stooped, and apparently uneducated.

Haltin'g, she quietly told me that she had been married for 30 years and that her husband was dead. She said the tear gas was terrible. She said she left it at that.

### Todd Endo

discrimination against which Jim Reeb had been fighting here. Finally, he told me that the fact of self-righteousness.

### Effect of Reeb's Death

At I do here now, I wonder what effect Jim's death will have on me. I am afraid that it might have little.

I am afraid that like the assassination of President Kennedy it will leave me empty for a few days but without a strongly renewed determination to continue the work which he began.

Suddenly the civil rights movement became very personal. A person I knew and had gone to Selma, had been struck on the head, lay near death, and for all I knew was dead.

The civil rights movement was now very personal. I was now a part of it. My useless, inactive concern was over.

With deep guilt I must confess that Jim Reeb's death had stirred me to action in a way that the fight for the ballot, the campaign to eradicate terrorism, and the "white only" signs, the smacks of a police baton, or even the violent death of Jimmie Lee Jackson did not.

Jim and I agreed on the justice of the civil rights movement. Yet, I had been in Alabama for 10 years while I sat in comfortable isolation in Massachusetts.

I imagine I reacted from the Book of James that home: "So with faith; if it does not lead to action, it is in itself a lifeless thing."

### On the 5:30 News

Yesterday the news spoke of the dying Reeb. Reeb and finally on the 5:30 news I heard that Jim had died. He had died.

Sorrow, a muted question, "Why?" a silence, and a rising anger. I felt that I had been lied to. But now, dying at least is this hate and righteous indignation in my heart.

But now, dying at least is this hate and righteous indignation in my heart. I feel that I have never win, much less unite. More pertinent, perhaps, hate can only blind one to the "hate" his own eyes see.

Hate casts all evil onto "them." Jim Clark or Selma or Alabama and blinds one to the evil deeds which he has committed and more importantly, blinds him to his lack of deeds in the fight to combat bigotry and discrimination.

As Dr. King said in answering his question, "What killed Reeb?" Southern hate killed him. Reeb, those of violence killed Reeb, and those who by their silence allowed violence to reign, killed Reeb.

Hate can only blind me to the evils in my city, Boston, of the tremendous housing and education.

### Linguistic expert

to address West L.A. JACL youth program

LOS ANGELES—In the first of a series of youth programs planned by West Los Angeles JACL, Dr. Mikiel Han will speak on "Perspectives of Japanese Language and American Education" tonight at 7:30 at Stoner Playground, 1811 Stoner Ave.

Program is geared for the youth but parents, general public and members of the neighborhood chapter are invited to hear Dr. Han's interesting talk.

Dr. Mikiel Shimizu Han was born in Tokyo. After graduating from the U.S. College, Tokyo, he came to the United States in 1952 on a Japan Women's Club fellowship.

His educational background includes the following: B.A. degree in English, M.A. in French from Smith College and Ph.D. in Linguistics at the Univ. of Texas. She has taught at the Univ. of Texas, UCLA and is currently Associate Professor at UCLA Studies at USC.

She serves as member of the executive committee of the Association of Teachers of Japanese. Presently, she is in charge of preparing a Japanese textbook for the U.S. Office of Education. She is the author of several scholarly books and articles in Japanese, and also a series of Japanese textbooks that are widely used in a number of American schools.

She is married to Dr. Yori Han, professor of Chemistry at Marymount College, and they have two children, a son and a daughter, Pao.

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Mar. 13 March

Quiet determination characterizes one side of the Selma Negro community. During the March 13 march to the Dallas County court-house in Selma, I walked with two Negro women from Selma.

The woman on my left was a strong-willed, outspoken mother.

chants in Selma. They had instead from the local Negro establishment, and when necessary, pool shopping lists and go to Montgomery to buy necessities.

Four stores have already gone bankrupt in Selma and all the merchants have been hit by this boycott.

### No Hate Evidence

Most striking of all, perhaps, is the fact that the Negroes in Selma are not hateful, vindictive, or fanatical in their demands.

Though they are denied the vote, they in inferior schools, live on unimproved roads, and move every day and in every way in an oppressive and crippling atmosphere, they do not hate.

They believe in and follow Martin Luther King and the non-violent philosophy.

The Selma Negro community is determined but not vengeful, courageous but not violent.

Each day the members of the community join, together and sing and pray to believe in the civil rights. "I Love Everybody in My Heart."

### Brown's Chapel

The mass meeting brought all these aspects of the Selma Negroes together and molds them into an effective force.

Whether held at Brown's Chapel under the glowing eye of a state trooper at the "Belted Wall," or on the steps of the Dallas County courthouse, the mass meeting symbolizes the spirit of this nationwide movement of the Negro for freedom.

Here the young and old of the community join with their white brethren and civil rights workers, renewing their determination to move irresistibly forward, together.

Perhaps this mood is best captured by all join hands and sing solemnly singing "We Shall Overcome."

At that moment one could sense the love, the unity, the determination which pervade the atmosphere. At that moment one can never doubt that this shall overcome soon.

### Heart of Movement

One can never doubt this because the determination of people like the Selma Negroes is overcome.

The civil rights leaders provide guidance and the outsiders draw in the forces of national public opinion, but the heart of the movement is the strength and the faith of the Negro people.

Without their wholehearted and active participation we shall never overcome.

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5. Encouraged revenue-producing industries to build plants and create jobs in Los Angeles by establishing the Economic Development Council.
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# CALIF. SANSEI DEMONSTRATING IN MONTGOMERY, ALA., CLUBBED BY POSSE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—A 21-year-old Southern California Sansei, Steven Kiyoshi Kurokawa of Montecito, was among the demonstrators in Selma, Ala., who were arrested here Mar. 16 after mounting a march to the state capitol building. Kurokawa, a member of the Japanese American Citizens League, was among the demonstrators who were arrested here Mar. 16 after mounting a march to the state capitol building. Kurokawa, a member of the Japanese American Citizens League, was among the demonstrators who were arrested here Mar. 16 after mounting a march to the state capitol building.

The police have no right to use billy clubs and hoses on non-violent demonstrators, Kurokawa says. He says he was arrested here Mar. 16 after mounting a march to the state capitol building.

After being treated for his wounds at St. Margaret Hospital, Kurokawa was released on \$5,000 bond. He is now in the hospital.

Kurokawa was an honor graduate from Montecito High in 1961. He is a member of the Student Peace Union and college NAACP chapter. He also took part in the recent anti-war demonstration.

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Calif. legislative climate confused by reapportionment

SACRAMENTO—With the passage of Prop. 13 last year, it appears more restrictive civil liberties measures have been introduced in the California state legislature than in recent years, according to Colman Bussan, ACLA legislative director.

The question of reapportionment has also unsettled the stable political climate present in the Senate and has affected the Assembly, he added.

To highlight the differences, Bussan noted that in 1960, ACLA advanced three priority measures: abolition of the death penalty, modification of the oath of public officials, and a fair housing law. Only the fair housing law was passed by Prop. 13, he followed.

This year, there are no significant civil rights measures. Bussan noted the death penalty battle is at a low ebb and there is little chance for the oath repeal to reach the floor.

The restrictive civil liberties measures include limitations on free speech, expansion of police powers and powers of local government.

JR. HIGH STUDENT WINS WASHINGTON MEDAL

SALT LAKE CITY—Raymond E. Swenson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Swenson, 4138 W. 2020 South, Kearns, was a George Washington High School student at Valley Forge, Pa., for his studies in the field of history.

Young Raymond, whose 16-year-old brother is a local JACLer, is a Jr. high student. (The PC would be happy to reprint the essay.—Ed.)

