

Washington Newsletter

Mike Masaoka

Reply to an 'Open Letter'

On April 6, as JACL's Washington Representative, I sent a typed memorandum to Mas Satow, National JACL Director. Copies of that memorandum, which was an internal matter within JACL, was sent to the National JACL President, the National JACL President-Elect, the Governor of the Northern California-Western Nevada District Council, and to two others who had expressed some criticism that the JACL was not as sensitive and sympathetic to the thoughts, activities, and objectives of the young, the activists, and the militants as it should be.

The memorandum was intended to secure information that would enable as representative a group as possible to develop plans for the organization, staffing, and programs of a Cabinet-Level Committee on Oriental Americans, which would be comparable to the Cabinet Committee on Spanish-Speaking Americans and which the JACL is proposing. This was announced in the Pacific Citizen for April 2.

Accordingly, the memorandum asked for a "listing of the names of all so-called Asian American groups, together with the approximate membership and objectives of each group." More specifically, "The names, addresses, and officers of so-called Asian American or Oriental American organizations or coalitions, together with an estimate of their respective memberships and a summary of their objectives and possible orientation," was requested. The group identified were Japanese Americans, Chinese Americans, Korean Americans, Filipino Americans, so-called Polynesian Americans, and "including the leftist and radical ones."

This latter reference to "leftist and radical ones" was to deliberately assure that the young, the activists, the militants, and even the "radicals," among Asian Americans could be represented in the development of the Cabinet Committee.

Identical typed memoranda were sent to JACL staff and leaders in Los Angeles, Seattle, Chicago, and New York, with the view of getting the widest possible representation of all the elements within the Oriental American population of the nation.

Perhaps I should have been more explicit and explained in detail the reasons for my request, which was made on behalf of an ad hoc Nisei committee here in Washington, but because I felt that my typed internal memorandum would be understood, I failed to do so. This could have caused confusion. Also, certain words and phrases may have been open to different interpretations. For these, I offer my apologies.

Because this April 6 memorandum was addressed to the National Director, it would be assumed by most members of any organization that questions that might be asked by any who received carbon copies of the same memorandum would be directed to the National Director, or to the National President, or to the Washington Office.

In any event, on April 14, eight individuals presumably signed without further identification what they described as "An Open Letter to Mike Masaoka, JACL's Washington Representative," in which some serious charges were made.

The word "presumably" is used in connection with the eight names, for the "letter" that was received by the Washington JACL Office was not the original but a copy and all of the apparent signatures above the typed names appeared to have been written by one or two persons, particularly since indistinguishable initials accompanied most of them.

No group address, or individual addresses, were provided. Neither was it recorded as to how six of the eight came upon that intraorganizational communication, nor whether they were JACL members and were writing as members. No disclosure was made as to those to whom the "Open Letter" was sent, and whether the distribution was restricted to newspapers and publications only and not to individuals.

In any event, one would think that Mas Satow would be contacted. I understand that one of the eight signatories did. One would also think that I would be contacted and provided the opportunity to explain. One of the eight did write the Washington Office a letter dated April 11. That same evening, another telephoned my home. Although I was not home, my secretary apparently provided him with a satisfactory explanation.

Then, since it became evident that the April 6 memorandum was causing some confusion and even suspicion, on April 12 the Washington JACL Office sent a mimeographed memorandum explaining the reasons for the earlier request to all those who had been sent the original typed memoranda and carbon copies thereof, including two of the eight "signing" the "letter".

In spite of these contacts, the "Open Letter" was written for reasons which remains unknown to me even now.

Our organization cannot long survive if the sanctity of internal communications cannot be preserved and protected. While this particular memorandum was neither confidential nor secret, improper disclosures may cause serious consequences in certain situations.

In this particular instance, the irresponsible and abusive language of the "Open Letter" referring to internal correspondence, as well as its malicious implications, may well cause this particular objective of a Cabinet Committee for Asian Americans, which could mean so much to all Oriental Americans in so many areas of human endeavor and activities, to be either frustrated completely or set up in such a manner that the much needed input of the young, the activists, the leftists, and even those of radical persuasion, may be substantially reduced or overlooked.

Moreover, if certain of the opposition become aware of this "Open Letter," because it casts suspicion on the integrity and validity of the JACL as an organization and on its Washington Representatives as an individual, even the campaign to repeal Title II of the Internal Security Act of 1950 may be in jeopardy.

Finally, the charge that JACL and its Washington Representative might use, or are planning to use, the requested information for so-called "informant" purposes is not only resented but absurd on its face. If the purpose was as alleged, the memorandum certainly would not have been given the rather wide distribution that it was and certainly not to at least the two who received carbon copies and apparently made a rather public document of an internal intraorganizational memorandum.

NEWS CAPSULES

Elections

Harry A. Hirakawa, Fowler peach grower, was re-elected to the State Center Jr. College district board of trustees in the Apr. 22 election, amassing 39,272 votes for the Area 3 seat, over his challenger Harry Rutherford who polled 22,272. The district serves Fresno City College and Reedley College with total enrollment of 12,000 students. A 16-year member of the Fowler Union School district board, he was appointed to the JC board in 1966 and elected without opposition to a full four-year term the following year.

Richard Yoshikawa, Stockton photographer, drew 13,741 votes in the Delta College board of trustees election Apr. 20 to retain his Area 1 seat. His only opponent, John Mandujano, had 3,619 votes. Active in JACL and the Optimists, Yoshikawa was first appointed to the Delta College board in 1963 and won a full four-year term in 1967.

Among the successful candidates in the recent school board elections in Santa Clara County were Mrs. Toshiye Hatanaka, Santa Clara Unified, who polled 3,159 votes for the short-term; Edward E. Sakay, who regained the trusteeship he lost in the last election for Area No. 2 seat on the same board; incumbent Tom M. Matsumoto, William H. Fujino, Evergreen Elementary; and Richard K. Tanaka, Eastside Union High. Unsuccessful candidates were Masumi Onishi, fifth in the six-man field for two seats on the Fremont High board, and

Sansei coeds in Japan ousted for campus activism

TOKYO — Three American coeds in Japan, who had taken part in a campus dispute and anti-war activities in 1969, left for Guam Apr. 27 on a deportation order issued by the Japanese justice ministry.

The three — Kathy Horikoshi, a social science student from UC Berkeley; Phyllis Ogata, a psychology major from UC Irvine; and Sandra Sher, a biology major from UC Davis — have been fighting a justice ministry deportation order since last fall.

The three UC students were enrolled at International Christian University (ICU). They were among 27 students sent by the American university to Japan on an overseas educational training project in 1969.

Campus Turmoil

When they arrived in August, however, the ICU was in turmoil as its students were demanding university reforms, including a demand for disclosure of the minutes of meetings by the university's teaching staff.

Originally six American students joined in the campus protest movement, but the other three had reportedly returned to the U.S.

The ICU authorities expelled them from the university on the grounds they were not registered for class attendance. The students filed a suit with the Tokyo district court, claiming that their scheduled course of study was yet to be completed.

JACL photographed at American Immigration and Citizenship confab

(Special to The Pacific Citizen) NEW YORK — On April 23 Mike Masaoka and David Ushio of the Washington Office of the Japanese American Citizens League attended the American Immigration and Citizenship Conference held here at the Hotel Plaza.

The conference focused on the vital issues of immigration facing the United States today. Relevant issues discussed included "Immigration and Population Growth" reviewed by Dr. Conrad Taeuber, Associate Director, U.S. Bureau of the Census; "The Present Trends in Immigration" discussed by Barbara M. Watson, Administrator, Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

Featured speakers at the conference concluding luncheon were Rep. Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (D-N.J.) Chairman, Subcommittee on Immigration

Toshimi Kumagai, Moreland School.

Kengo Osumi of Parlier, Ed Nagata of Kings River and Harry Nagata of McKinley-Roosevelt, Fresno, were also elected to their respective district school boards in Fresno County.

Oakland city councilman Dr. Raymond Eng, running for a second term April 20, polled 46,412 votes to defeat his Coalition opponent, Paul Cobb who had 35,991 for the District 3 seat.

Mrs. Betty Ann Bruno, a professional Hawaiian dancer and a woman of Hawaiian ancestry, was one of five minority-group candidates on a slate which failed to win control of the Oakland, Calif., city council in voting April 20. Had she been elected, she would have been the first woman to serve on the Oakland council in 20 years.

Medicine

Rep. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) is co-sponsor of a bill now before the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce that would authorize the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare to pay in full the principal and interest of any educational loan incurred by a physician, dentist or optometrist during his professional-level training if he agrees to practice for at least three years in an area in which there is a shortage of medical personnel, such as the inner city and rural areas. Trend has been for medical personnel to establish in suburban areas.

Churches

Ministers serving Japanese Protestant churches in Seattle have formed the Nikkei in Christian Community with lay representatives. The ministers are:

The Rev. Timothy Nakayama, St. Peter's Episcopal; Rev. E. Nishiooka, Presbyterian; Rev. Yugo Suzuki, Blaine Memorial United Methodist; Shiro K. Kono, Tacoma Methodist; Rev. Yun Shin Gen, Evangelical; Rev. Emery E. Andrews, Rev. Paul M. Nagano, Baptist; Rev. Jubei C. Kono, Ki-yoshi Joki, Iwahori Hori, Kyoka Domei.

Redevelopment

Little Tokyo Towers, Inc., non-profit corporation which will develop and manage the proposed senior citizen housing project, is expected to appoint its architectural consultant soon, according to Mae Sasaki, board president. A 12-story, \$5 million structure has been planned. Three senior citizen housing projects are to be inspected by board members to get a firsthand look at how they are designed and managed, Sasaki added. Two Cal Poly students in landscape architecture, Marvin Taniguchi and Hiroshi Kuwabata, have made design presentation to the board.

Alfred Hatake, vice president of Merit Savings & Loan, is the 1971 chairman of the Little Tokyo Community Development Advisory Committee, succeeding two-term chairman Akira Kawasaki. The committee serves as the citizens advisory group to the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project. He is also v.p. on the non-profit Japanese American Cultural and Community Center board, National JACL Assuror, and will be assisted by:

Tad Ikemoto, v.c.; Ebel Kohashi, cor. sec.; Hiroshi Saitoh, rec. sec.; Hayahiko Takase, treas.; Akira Kawasaki, Spencer Auditor, memba.-at-lg.

Deaths

Mrs. Tsune Kodawaki, 91, of Santa Ana and pioneer resident of Orange County passed away Apr. 23 from a heart condition. She is survived by three sons Frank, Peter, Joe (Cleveland); five daughters, Reiko So, Helen Matsuko (Watsonville), Lillian Matsumoto, Martha Okamoto (Kanas), Ruth Furuyama, 27 gc and 28 ggc.

Local Scene

Los Angeles

Although the weather was

Awards

Harry Selchik Nako, 83, of Montebello and Mrs. Saku Shirakawa, 75, of Los Angeles were decorated with the Order of the Sacred Treasure, 9th Class, on the occasion of the 70th birthday of the Emperor of Japan, the Japanese Consulate General at Los Angeles announced. Nako founded the Koyasan Boy Scout Troop 379, holds the Silver Beaver award and continued his interests in scouting at Heart Mountain WRA Center. Mrs. Shirakawa, an active Downtown L.A. JACLer, headed the Japanese Women's Society in the 1950s and active in various cultural, civic and church groups.

The Rev. Roy Sasaki of the Visalia Methodist Church was honored by the Visalia PTA Council with the Honorary Service Award for his work counseling high school students and young ladies attending the YMCA classes for pregnant minors each week. Previously with the San Jose Wesley Methodist Church and Reedley Methodist Fellowship before being appointed pastor in 1967 at Visalia, the Hawaii-born Tulare County JACLer was lauded as "a vibrant, enthusiastic, deeply concerned optimist—a great, uninhibited individual who truly loves people" by Newell Herum, last year's recipient and asst. superintendent of the Visalia Unified School District.

The Seattle-King County Municipal League bestowed its Outstanding Civic Organization of 1971 award Apr. 22 to the International District Improvement Assn., a 21-year-old civic action group that has developed a number of programs to encourage physical and social development of Seattle's International District. Tomio Moriguchi, group president, accepted the award.

ASIAN ETHNIC STUDIES:

No. Calif. Asian Education Council formed to served as clearinghouse

PALO ALTO—Formal organization of a No. Calif. Asian Education Council was established at the second session of representatives attending the Mar. 28 meeting here hosted by Sequoia JACL.

The council met to discuss direction, goals, objectives, limitations. Most felt that it should act as a central clearinghouse, to act as a vehicle to spread the "word" out to Northern California as to what was happening in Asian ethnic studies as well as disseminate as much information as possible.

The council is also expected to serve as an agent to gather and discover what types of materials and curriculum offerings were being made as well as compiling an Asian school personnel listing.

Thought of self-education programs for the Asian communities was expressed and many felt there are many who could gain from refresher courses.

Initial phases for the council would be to determine what is available and what is

'King and I'

Continued from Front Page

the school.

"All this revealed to me that this negative view of the play had very few supporters," Gauntlett added. "Almost universally, parents of our students either didn't have an opinion or felt it was a fine play."

There were several Asian American students cast in the production. The musical is based on Margaret Landon's book, "Anna and the King of Siam," which opened on Broadway in 1951 and later produced as a motion picture.

Not Despotie

Cheng said King Mongkut, one of the main characters, in real life was not despotie and as arbitrary as he is portrayed in the musical. In fact, he was one of the most enlightened rulers in Thailand's history," he added.

Another point Cheng raised was the prominence of Anna Leon Owens, an English teacher brought to Siam by the king to teach the children of his court. Cheng contended she is mentioned only once in the king's diary and played a very insignificant part in the Court of Siam.

The pickets included members from the San Diego JACL, San Diego Buddhist Church, Ocean View United Church of Christ, the United Asian American Community and the Catholic Social Action Committee of San Diego.

less than ideal, nearly 700 Issei and members of five different Pioneer Projects participated in the annual Hanami trip Apr. 17 in Antelope Valley. A 19-bus caravan rendezvoused at Vasquez Rocks County Park for the picnic. Rain, hail and snow was encountered during the trip.

Sponsors expressed gratitude to the Junior YBA, the West Los Angeles JACL Women's Auxiliary, Westside Optimists, San Fernando Valley JACL and Bay City Gardeners' Association for donations which financed the bus-ess for the trip.

The intersection of Crenshaw Blvd. and W. Jefferson was rated the corner with the most traffic accidents this past year by the City Traffic Dept. with a total of 37. A number of Japanese American business firms are situated in the area, including that Nisei-owned Atlantic-Richfield service station recently honored for its community awareness.

Peace march—

Continued from Front Page

so large that it tries to speak and plan for all of its constituent parts.

Being Used Politically

He said Third World people felt they had been "used" by the white organizers of NPAC and had decided late in the game to boycott the march.

"NPAC had 18 area captains for the march — none of them Third World," said Mehler.

"All of the walkie talkies were controlled by white people."

Mehler also complained that NPAC was top-heavy with members of the Young Socialist Alliance.

"They injected politics into it and a lot of the brothers just didn't buy it. I wish it was simply a peaceful march to end the war."

There were groups of young Asian American students on various campuses, however, that had wanted to put a political spin on their participation.

NPAC had originally handed Portsmouth Square in Chinatown to the Asians as an assembly point.

The student activists took a look at this and decided to merge with the Third World contingent which assembled at Hamilton playground. The walking distance was shorter, solidarity with other minorities would be demonstrated, and further, some of the Asian activists agreed with the "anti-imperialist" political tone of the Third World contingent.

Their force was felt, and Portsmouth Square was dumped as an assembly point. Milton Chee, a 31-year old Muni bus driver who helped organize the Asian contingent for NPAC said he had hoped the Chinatown assembly point would attract people from the community to join the march.

Notes Basic Difference

The Asians who marched did appear to be in accord on one point.

All of them interviewed said they felt their view of the war in Vietnam differs basically from that of their non-Asian colleagues. "Look, it's Asians that they dropped the Bomb on in World War II," said one woman. "It's Asians who are being killed in Vietnam. If this were a war against Germans, I probably wouldn't be out here."

Mrs. Nori Lafferty, an Oakland housewife and Nisei with two sons phoned friends the night before to remind them to march. She said:

"It's the whole concept that their version of 'Growing Up Asians are a lesser people. In America.'"

The Asians are being killed in Vietnam, even Japanese Americans soldiers who are called gooks over there."

Chee said, "It's a war that produces manifestations like Lt. Calley and My Lai, the type of psychological attitude the racist attitude of Lt. Calley, who said that in the context of the war all of us are subhumans, gooks or Charlie."

Ray Okamura, chairman of the Bay Area Community JACL chapter, fears that soldiers will bring this war-in-stilled attitude home with them.

"Two foreign students from Japan were traveling through Georgia, and were set upon and beaten up by some white people. The people beat them up on the basis of 'Look, there's those gooks again.' Apocryphal or true, the story is real to Okamura."

Like All Middle-Class

The young radical Japanese Americans who marched yesterday were not joined in significant numbers by their parents.

Like middle-class citizens of many ethnic groups, including whites, they have pursued a policy of quiet assimilation into society.

They may follow the activist students with their hearts and disagree with the noisy tactics, but all of them are wary of white prejudice.

They recall being lumped with the enemy 30 years ago and hustled off to spend two years in a wartime relocation camp.

For some of them, it was their version of "Growing Up Asians are a lesser people. In America."

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Bill Hosokawa

From the Frying Pan

Denver, Colo.

THE LAST TIME I SAW SHANGHAI—If you are of French ethnic origins, or a Francophile, you sing "The Last Time I Saw Paris" with the proper sad catch in your voice. And if you are an Asian-American, the news dispatches of U.S. correspondents revisiting China for the first time since 1949 stir memories of the last time I saw Shanghai.

That was a mild October night in 1941. History reveals that the die had been cast for a Pacific war, but that night was soft and peaceful. The S.S. Cleveland was tied up in the middle of the Whangpoo River, a quarter mile up the channel from the Japanese cruiser Izumo, which was a constant reminder of the Japanese presence. The Bund, that storied street along the riverfront, bustled as usual with the flow of trucks and cabs and private cars, busses and rickshaws, the cry of the noodle man and the rhythmic chanting of coolies toiling late under incredibly large loads.

A small ferry was poised to take the Cleveland's passengers from the jetty to the brilliantly lighted ship looming above the dark river waters like a valiant bit of America in darkening Orient. We shook hands in farewell to a handful of friends who had come to say bon voyage, not knowing when we'd meet again, if ever, and boarded the ferry.

Presently the Cleveland hauled in her hawsers and set off down the Whangpoo. The neon glow of the International Settlement soon faded, and the riverbanks of the Japanese-occupied Hongkew sector were only darkened warehouses, factories and tenements. The moon that night was huge and brilliant, for it was the time of year the Chinese set aside for their moon-viewing festival. As the Cleveland turned from the Whangpoo into the broad Yangtze itself, the filthy, silt-laden waters shimmered like gold in the moonlight.

Next morning we made the acquaintance of our cabin mates, three Issei who had the presence of mind to book passage home to America out of Shanghai when ship service between Japan and the U.S. was suspended. The cabin had only two bunks, so two of us slept on cots. Even so we were delighted to be aboard. Hundreds of Americans in Japan and China were fighting to go home, fearful of the darkening war clouds gathering over the Pacific, and unable to find passage.

Among the passengers were missionary families driven out of inland posts by Japanese armies; a half hundred lean, tightly wound Chinese youths bound for the U.S. to be trained as military pilots; American servicemen in uniform who had completed tours of duty one knew not where, and now were homeward bound; a couple of Hawaiian Nisei and several mainland Nisei.

The Issei were most pathetically grateful to be aboard the ship. At breakfast the first morning they couldn't get over the luxury of coffee—as many cups as they wanted—and toast with real butter. They had known what life was like in Japan. Most of those on board had been in Shanghai but briefly, waiting for the Cleveland to sail. I had been there for 14 months, watching in distress the rising tide of Japanese military arrogance, the deterioration of civilian government of a puppet regime propped up on Japanese bayonets to govern the Chinese part of Shanghai, the hunger and disease and destruction of morale on the streets as the Japanese Imperial Army prepared for an eventual takeover.

The British continued to drink their scotch at the gleaming bar of the Shanghai Club, reputed to be the world's longest, and ate their roast beef and Yorkshire pudding in the adjoining dining room. The Americans, mostly a youngish lot, went to Jimmie's Kitchen for hamburger steak and chicken noodle soup served in heavy crockery on oaken tables scrubbed spotless with strong soap. The Japanese favored the Astor House, the Broadway Mansions and the little tea houses on the Hongkew side.

We all realized we were sitting on a powderkeg, but none of us knew what to do about it, or how to defuse the explosive. So I decided to go home before the blast. I just made it and that was the last time I saw Shanghai.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

CALIFORNIA LAW UPHELD ALLOWING LOCAL VETO OF LOW-COST HOUSING

(Special to The Pacific Citizen) WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on April 26 ruled that States may give voters in the community the authority to veto the construction of low cost housing for the poor.

Voting 5 to 3 the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of a 1950 California law which requires a majority of the voters in any community to approve a federally financed low-rent housing project before construction can begin.

The case grew out of a suit by 41 welfare families in San Jose, Calif., who challenged the law after San Jose residents rejected a city council plan in 1968 for 1,000 units of low cost housing to be constructed.

Last year a three-judge Federal District Court declared the law unconstitutional on the grounds that it violated

the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment by discriminating against the poor.

Majority Opinion

However, in reversing the case, Justice Hugo L. Black, who wrote the majority opinion, said that there is nothing to indicate the referendum was designed to allow the people to discriminate against the poor people or minorities.

Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Justice John M. Harlan, Potter Stewart and Byron R. White joined Justice Black in the majority view.

Justice Thurgood Marshall dissented in an opinion supported by Justices Harry K. Blackmun and William J. Brennan.

The minority opinion by Justice Marshall charged that the statute "explicitly singles out low-income persons" for unequal treatment. It is far too late in the day," Justice Marshall stated, "to contend that the 14th Amendment prohibits only racial discrimination and to me, singling out the poor to bear a burden not placed on any other class of citizens tramples the values that the 14th Amendment was designed to protect."

Asian American—

Continued from Front Page

After a widespread campaign to obtain nominations, 27 commissioners were elected from a ballot of 42 nominations. Commissioners elected represent the Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Hawaiian, Korean, and Samoan communities.

Interim officers and members of the Commission, in addition to Rev. Shinto, are: Kenyon Chan, P. Intramural (Internal Relations); Remy Lani Altar, secy., Extramural (Community Relations); Rev. John Alalima, Morgan Chu, Bill Chun-Hoon, Susie Dobashi, Sue Embrey, Betty Gabonin, Kazuo Higa, David Hyun, Harry H. L. Kiano, Irving Lai, Herbert P. Leong, Bill Leon, George Matsuda, Mitchell Matsuda, Alfred Mendoza Jr., Alan Morales, Haruko Morita, Mick Nakagiri, Helen Nishimura, Alan Nishin, Kallian Toy, Midori K. Watanabe, James B. Wong, Richard Wong.

The Asian American Education Commission announced it was going to hold its next public meeting on Thursday, May 6, 7:30 p.m., at Robert Hill Lane School, 5240 Brooklyn Ave., East Los Angeles. The commission is expected to operate on a budget of about \$50,000, with a full-time secretary yet to be named.

Although three board members voiced reservations about the commission concept, the vote was 6 to 0, with Dr. Donald D. Newman absent. J. C. Chambers and Richard E. Ferraro were board members voicing objections to "a lack of operational guidelines" for such commissions.

First Priorities

Dr. Shinto said one of the first priorities on the commission's list is counting noses. Nobody knows how many children of Filipino, Samoan or Hawaiian extraction there are in Los Angeles, he pointed out.

An ethnic survey made annually in Los Angeles schools categorizes all Asian American children—Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Hawaiian or Samoan—as "Oriental."

The Rev. Shinto, who teaches Asian studies at Cal State Long Beach, cited rising rates of drug abuse and school dropouts "among our hitherto achieving students." He said Asian American children are having an "extremely bad" time growing up.

"The roots of the problem are in the loss of cultural identity," he said, adding that "inter-ethnic tensions" are severe among Asian communities long established or taking root here.

Two alternatives remain, says Mayor-elect Mineta

SAN JOSE—Mayor-elect Norman Y. Mineta last week said the city has only two alternatives now that the Supreme Court has left standing a 1968 referendum vote against city-owned public housing.

Mineta said the city will either have to rely on a Federally-financed leased-housing program or hold another election to build low-cost units with Federally-subsidized bonds to be repaid through rental income.

He said Federal money has already run out for the leased housing program in which the Municipal Housing Authority leases property and sub-lets it to the poor.

KAMABOKO WITH HIGH MERCURY CHANGED

HONOLULU — The State Dept. of Health admitted this past week kamaboko manufactured here had potentially dangerous amounts of mercury—40 parts per million or eighty times more than Federal safety standards and one firm said it has changed the type of fish in making the fishcakes.

The Federal Drug Administration said it had no authority in having them removed since interstate commerce was not involved.

Gyrocopter builder killed in test flight

TRACY — Witnesses said Takehiko Yanagi, of 1169 Camino del Valle, Alameda, experimenting with a home-made gyrocopter, nosedived from an altitude of 100 ft. and crashed to his death in a gravel pit.

The gyrocopter had only a single lifting tube and was of tubular construction. It was believed to be Yanagi's first test flight. The machine was aloft for about five minutes before the accident.



Hirabayashi pleased at Nisel move to dedicate Manzanar as tragic symbol

LOS ANGELES — An overflow crowd sat quietly listening to four speakers at the first Camp Teach-In held at the Senshin Buddhist Church on Sunday, April 18, sponsored by the Manzanar Pilgrimage Committee.

Speakers were Mrs. Sue Embrey, one time editor of the Manzanar Free Press; Dr. Roger Daniels, author of "Politics of Prejudice" and professor of History at the Univ. of Wyoming; Dr. Gordon Hirabayashi, who challenged the curfew and evacuation order and presently professor of sociology at the Univ. of Alberta; and Mrs. Mary Kochiyama, coordinator for Asian Americans for Action of New York. All four touched on the various aspects of the Evacuation period which took place almost 30 years ago.

Top Level Decisions

Dr. Daniels, speaking in general terms about the entire period, revealed that official documents regarding top-level decisions on the Evacuation were classified under the U.S. government "25-year rule" and were not available until two or three years ago.

The reason for this, he stated, was because the documents would have revealed that George C. Marshall, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, recommended that no mass evacuation take place and that he was overruled by the political heads, such as Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and Asst. Secretary of War, John J. McCloy.

Daniels also placed responsibility on a man "who is almost ignored in history," Allen W. Gullion, a Major General in the office of the Provost Marshal.

Climate Was Different

Dr. Hirabayashi, plaintiff in the case of "Hirabayashi v. U.S.," stated, "There are many ways to look at things and interpret them differently. If you look at the era of that time, not only all this syndrome of the Japanese American — the character of the Japanese being quiet — 'enryo' and that sort of thing, it's not only that but the whole climate was different and in that climate you had to pick your strategy. What are some of the effective strategies that could be picked out in terms of the things with which you could cope and which would have some possibility of acceptance — some inroads . . .

"For the people who went to Manzanar, for example, and my parents who went to Pine-dale and then to Tule Lake,

they really had no option and I've always felt a deep sense of appreciation for the kind of suffering they confronted with the kind of dignity with which they did this," Hirabayashi continued.

Sitting in Jail

With humility, the speaker added that he felt that sitting in jail, he had opted out of all the hardships and in many ways felt that he had shirked

PACIFIC CITIZEN—3
Friday, May 7, 1971

his duty as a member of the Japanese population. Hirabayashi concluded that Manzanar "represents a symbol, along with the other camps, of a kind of quiet courage with which the general population confronted the hardships and came out intact — relatively intact in terms of personality and social structure. And this is a tremendous achievement."

"It is not only an achievement as we look at it in terms of the American society as a whole."

Continued on Next Page

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SACRAMENTO JACL: Frank Iwama

Influence Friends Through Politics

Sacramento With the recent overwhelming victory of active JACLer Norman Mineta as Mayor of the City of San Jose (the fourth largest city in the state and one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the nation), attention is focused on the involvement of Asians, and particularly those of Japanese descent, in the area of politics.

I am of the opinion that we must face the cold, hard fact

CHIAROSCURO

of life that political involvement presents the most effective means of effectuating meaningful social change. However, until recent times, Asians have not actively pursued political offices in this country outside of Hawaii.

Now, there are two Asians in the State Legislature—Assemblyman March Fong and Senator Alfred Song. Yet there is a conspicuous absence of a state legislator of Japanese descent. This situation is

bound to change in the very near future. I feel that the present time affords an excellent opportunity for Japanese Americans to gain elected public offices, especially at the local level. I urge qualified and interested persons to seriously begin to think about this golden opportunity to serve our people. We have been under-represented and sometimes not represented at all for too long.

Although the National JACL Constitution precludes our organization from officially endorsing candidates for public office, we, as individuals, should become involved in the process of electing our representatives.

Perhaps the National JACL Constitution needs to be amended to reflect the change in times? I personally think that we cannot continue to ignore the importance of politics in our future destiny. Contrary to the old cliché, "Politics is not all dirty, it only becomes that way when we permit it to occur—mainly through our indifference attitude." —Sacramento JACL Newsletter

TRI-DISTRICT JR. JACL FOCUS:

Bannockburn conference center set as site of Aug. 26-29 youth meeting

By PEGGY SONODA

Los Angeles In the last few weeks, progress has continued on planning for the Tri-District Conference, which will be held Aug. 26-29 at Bannockburn, Riverside, Calif.

The conference, which draws together members from all three California district youth councils, NC-WN, CC and PSWDYC, will involve the breaking down of the obstacles that prevent people from communicating and relating and eventually working together.

That means overcoming the ignorance many of us have in regards to people from places different from our homes and lives different than our own.

In addition to the already outlined socio-psychic drama type activities, a committee is now set up to work on seminars and workshops, and discussion leaders who will be willing to undergo some training are being sought. This all works within the theme for the conference, "Sharing of the Weirds . . . Blowing of the Minds."

In case any of you wondered why this has any importance to the Junior JACL, basically, in brief, the Junior JACL is a very curious organization. It seems to be many young people in an organization for various reasons most of which are unknown by the individuals, which very often shows in the actions of the group. Primarily, the organization needs some sort of self-awareness, from there other things will happen.

The conference site, Bannockburn, provides a retreat from many of the normal city pressures, yet is a rather luxurious conference center. No dirt or water problems here.

Registration material will be sent to chapters soon, and pre-registration will be due July 31, with a \$5 fee. Help is still being sought from Districts and Chapters.

We would like to thank San

CALENDAR

May 7 (Friday)
Downtown Los Angeles—Mother's Day, 6:30 p.m.
Dnr. Los Angeles—Earth Sci Mtg., 7:30 p.m.
May 9 (Sunday)
Cincinnati—Tango-no-Sekku program.
May 11 (Tuesday)
Prog. Westside—Bd Mtg. 5:00 p.m.
Sequoia—Bd Mtg. 8:00 p.m.
May 12 (Wednesday)
Orange County—Gen Mtg. Bank of Tokyo, Santa Ana, 8 p.m.
May 14 (Friday)
Florin—Movie benefit, Buddhist Church, 7:30 p.m.
May 15 (Saturday)
Seattle—Comm Queen Judging, 1 p.m.
Sacramento—Portuguese Dnr. Japanese United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m.
Belmont—Family Bowling Night, La Habra "300"
May 16 (Sunday)
Twin Cities—Jr. JACL Issei luncheon, Good Samaritan Church.
Reno—Sukiyaki Dnr. Libby Booth School, 3:30 p.m.
May 17 (Monday)
Prog. Westside—Gen Mtg. Senahin Church, 8 p.m.; "Your Environment"
May 18 (Tuesday)
Prog. Westside—Bd Mtg.
May 21 (Friday)
PSWDYC—May Halfy, Santa Maria Jrs host.
Seattle—Comm Queen coronation, Norway Center.
May 22 (Saturday)
Gardena Valley—Nisei Week queen candidate coronation ball, VFW Hall, Western & 162nd St., Bob Bergara's band.
Eas. Los Angeles—Emerald Ball, Montebello Country Club, 7 p.m. dance, 9 p.m.
May 23 (Sunday)
Sacramento—Social Service Information Day, County Health Dept., 2221 Stockton Blvd., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
PSWDYC—San Diego JACL hosts: 30 City Session, Nisei VFW Post, National City, 9:30 a.m.
May 24 (Monday)
Berkeley—Bd Mtg. American S&L, 7:30 p.m.
May 26 (Wednesday)
Gardena Valley—Golf tournament, Alondra Park, 9:15 a.m.; Award Dnr. Kyoto Sukiyaki. (Entries due May 17).
ADD CALENDAR
May 28 (Friday)
MDC—Jr. JACL workshop, Northfield Inn, Southfield, Mich.
May 29 (Saturday)
Belmont—Gen Mtg.
May 30 (Sunday)
DC—Memorial Day Rites, Arlington National Cemetery.
June 1 (Tuesday)
PSWDYC—Nisei Relays Comm Mtg. Japanese Chamber of Comm., Rm 206, 125 Weller St., Los Angeles, 8 p.m.
June 6 (Sunday)
Sacramento—Comm Picnic, Elk Grove Park, 11 a.m.

CHAPTER PULSE

Downtown to fete Mrs. Yoshitomi, 78

Mrs. Misao Yoshitomi, 78, the wife of Junichi Yoshitomi, 82, will be honored as the Mother of the Year at the 10th annual Downtown L.A. JACL dinner tonight (May 7), 6:30 p.m. at Imperial Dragon Restaurant.

Born in Fukushima, she was married at Seattle in 1911, operating an apartment, raising four children while her husband was employed by Northern Pacific Railways there.

May Events

During the war, the family was interned and she volunteered her services to the church and community and continued the same after her arrival in Southern California.

Vice Consul Tomoko Katano will be guest speaker. Takito Yamaguchi will be emcee. Tickets are \$6 per person. The Yoshitomis, who live at 3810 S. Bronson, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this year with their family of Roy, Teruko Nakashima, Kimiko Arai, Sumiko Hachiyu, 15 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

auditorium.

Dr. Young, who retired as the zoo director in 1960, has been traveling around the world, filming and studying the habits of various animals. His recent filming and studying of the Gorilla of Japan will be the topic of his talk this Friday.

Field trip chairman Elmer Uchida announced that May 16 trip will be to Santa Barbara area.

Civic Affairs

Sequoia JACLers assist at Foreign Language fair

Some aspects of Japanese culture were presented by Sequoia JACLers at the sixth annual Fun Fair of the Foreign Language Assn. of Santa Clara County presented April 17 at Gunn High School, Palo Alto. Some 3,000 students and parents from surrounding schools attended.

There were demonstrations in flower arranging and bonsai, display of Japanese books and dolls, a koto concert by Mrs. T. Tana, and serving of tea and refreshments by Japanese-clad girls from Cubberly, Gunn and Wilbur high schools.

Thanks to June Matsueda, who secured more than 25 required number of petitions from interested students and noting that a Palo Alto teacher is qualified to teach Japanese, the Palo Alto United School District board was to meet May 3 on the issue of Japanese at the secondary level next fall.

Scholarship

45 Sansei compete for five San Jose awards

San Jose JACL scholarship chairman Helen Mineta reported 45 outstanding Sansei high school seniors of Santa Clara Valley are competing for five awards. Most of them were honored at the chapter potluck dinner recently.

Serving on the judging panel are: Albert Kogura, Carol Lee Ishikawa, Dale Sasaki, Elchi Sakay, Richard Sakay (chap. pres.) and Helen Mineta.

The scholarship candidates are: Blackford—Karen K. Omori, Gary Shiomoto; Leigh—Thomas Suguchi; Campbell—Gary Yamamoto; Prospect—Margie Ito, Terri Lynn Sakamoto; Andrew Hill—Carol Ishikawa; Dnr. Lodi—James Lick—Ken Taniguchi; Mt. Pleasant—Emile Anacleto, Kenneth Asybu, Donna Mallicoate; Oak Grove—Sharon Y. Arai, Harry K. Yamada; Fremont—Susan Mine; Lynbrook—Weasley Kaminski; Tak. Ar. Takemoto; Sunnyvale—Susan Heist; Gilroy—Randolph Kado; Los Gatos—Linda K. Sugai; Saratoga—Barbara K. Uenaka; Live Oak (Morgan Hill)—Yvonne Miyata, Marilyn Oshiro; Mountain View—Robert S. Kahn, Yukio Morimoto; Los Altos—Robin H. Okazaki; Cubberly—Sharon Noguchi, Kenneth Sakai; Gunn—Katherine Y. Tanaka; Palo Alto—Darrel Iki, Bette Tsujimoto.

San Jose—Helen Hayashimoto, Craig R. Tomita; Lincoln—John J. Fujimori, Robert S. Hiki, Scott Sakaguchi; Pioneer—James J. Miyajima; Buscher—Gary Miyajima, Anna Sakamaki; Peterson—Jill D. Hayashida, Gayle A. Nakamura; Santa Clara—Susan Slape; Wilcox—Ann Hara, Gary E. Kanemori.

Watsonville JACL to offer three awards High school graduates of Watsonville JACL members are eligible for the chapter \$300 award. All Japanese American high school graduates are eligible for a \$200 scholarship while the top student at Cabrillo College is eligible for a \$200 award. It was announced by Tommy Sakata, chapter president.

West Valley youth Co-op Market in Sunnyvale, Fremont Ave., and Sunnyvale-Saratoga Rd., is wrapping up its Japanese Festival Week this week with the West Valley JACL youth group managing a Japanese food booth May 8 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Proceeds will be used to finance youth activities.

Issei luncheon program Issei of Minneapolis-St. Paul will be guests of the Twin Cities Jr. JACL luncheon-program May 16 at the Church of the Good Samaritan. Entertainment will include folk music and Japanese koto dances by the youth.

Manzanar—

Continued from Previous Page

whole but from another perspective, I am pleased to see a movement dedicating Manzanar as some kind of symbol of something that took place

National planning meeting slated

LINDSAY — A mid-summer meeting of the National JACL Planning Commission is being planned, according to Tom T. Shimazaki, chairman, for Aug. 13-15. A meeting site in California is to be determined.

Commission members are expected to call upon chapters in the coming weeks for proposals to be considered at the mid-August meeting. A status report is to be prepared for the interim meeting of the National Board scheduled at Los Angeles in late July, Shimazaki added.

Among topics that have been mentioned is a JACL trust fund to complement the JACL endowment fund. The trust fund may serve those who would be willing and be happy to leave a bequest to the JACL, Shimazaki explained.

Other areas of interest involve scholarship foundation, student aid, education, membership, program and activities, charter trips to Japan, and the Headquarters moved to Los Angeles.

April Events

400 attend Palo Alto YABA-Sequoia 'CL dinner

As an occasion to hand out the awards and ribbons to the Palo Alto community youth basketball league, co-sponsored by Palo Alto Young Adult Buddhist Assn. and Sequoia JACL, the annual YABA-JACL potluck supper April 16 at the Palo Alto Buddhist Church hall drew nearly 400 persons.

Credit for the successful turnout went to the telephone committee for organizing the menu and assuring the turnout headed by Shirley Mori and her assistant Grace Kashiwa.

Marie Onitsuka and crew were responsible for food services; Ann Okamura and her youthful helpers greeting each with a name tag. Chapter president Ernest Murata presented a special plaque to Kay Fujimoto in recognition of his service to the community and youth basketball.

March Events

150 frolic at Hawaiian Night

Hawaiian Night at the International Institute was a real hit for 151 Milwaukee JACLers on Mar. 26 and the "Island" influence within the chapter was readily visible from the food, entertainment and fellowship.

Grace Musashi's bright green muiumuus and Tom Kiernan's colorful outfit won prizes for the best-dressed; Kathy Nakamoto wore the most original lei; and Lynn & Jill Shimabukuro and Kuni Teramura were the best dressed in the children's division. Entertainment treat was Carl Puhl's combo.

that maybe shouldn't have — this kind of reminder to the society as a whole. This is a kind of conscientious citizenship — one of the steps that is possible for us to do and can do in preventing the repetition of this sort of thing."

Camp Life

Mrs. Kochiyama addressed herself to the large Sansei audience when she described scenes of camp life in Arkansas and declared "I think you can be very proud of your parents who went into the forest and chopped wood and the mothers and sisters who sawed the wood the brothers brought in." She stated that "It was something very beautiful, very commending and very inspiring."

As convener of the afternoon meeting, Mrs. Embrey discussed the political, social and physical aspects of camp life in Manzanar from the point of view of a staff member of the Manzanar Press.

She appealed to the Nisei in the audience whom she said have had many heart-breaking experiences which we believe to be uniquely personal and our own to cherish or forget as we choose."

However, she emphasized, "We need to transmit our culture to succeeding generations; we need to teach the history of evacuation and place it in historical perspective so that the Nisei may have the tools necessary to protect themselves against discrimination and prejudice."

To Nisei Parents

She called on the Nisei to answer the questions the Sansei are asking, to tell them that the Nisei "are proud of having endured beyond en-

durance, for having survived an experience which was both intense and traumatic." Bob Nakamura's prize-winning film, "Manzanar" was shown as a finale to the Camp Teach-in.

U-NO BAR

Continued from Page 1

Although the practicality and feasibility of building a rest home or senior citizens complex has merit, there is some question of the length of utility. Many have said such is necessary because many of the Nisei are nearing retirement age and may enjoy the association and food of fellow Nisei. Regardless, low income housing of one type or another should be looked into explored carefully and developed where possible.

JACL Chapters or District Councils may engage in such activities or suggest such programs to individual chapter members or to the various members of the JA community and he part and parcel of the organizational committee. I see no reason why the total resources of JACL should not be made available to focus in this area.

Many of the younger JAs have already taken the initiative and have embarked on helping projects for the Issei. If nothing else, either the Chapters or District Councils can get involved too, or at least provide whatever assistance they can.

In 1972, the National Convention will focus on them during the Issei Tribute and, hopefully, we will do justice to them in more ways than just honoring them. The program the Washington, D.C. Chapter is preparing is truly an educational and once a lifetime type of experience. I doubt that any JA will ever have the opportunity to duplicate what is in store for them in D.C. The cost, it appears, will be cut down to the raw hope. It is my opinion it will be one of the most interesting, productive, unique, impressive and work oriented conventions we have had

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Aloha from Hawaii

by Richard Olma

At State Capitol

Honolulu

The state legislature ended its two-month session April 16 by passing seven important bills, as follows: (1) A \$1.8 billion budget; (2) funds for a 50,000-seat stadium; (3) second Univ. of Hawaii campus go-ahead; (4) Waikiki improvements; (5) welfare residency requirement; (6) 18-year-old vote; and (7) law, medical school studies.

Dead for this year are the following: (1) tougher pollution controls; (2) tighter ethics laws; (3) election spending controls; (4) Land Use Commission reform; (5) lobbyist registration; (6) no-fault auto insurance; (7) compulsory health insurance; (8) no-fault divorce law; (9) gun control; (10) Oahu rezoning moratorium; (11) failing newspaper bill.

As noted above, the state legislature has given final passage to the last increment of appropriations for a \$27 million, 50,000-seat stadium at Halawa. The measure, which goes to Gov. John A. Burns for his signature, cleared the senate by a 20-3 vote and the house by a 30-1 count. It seems assured now that work on the stadium will begin this year.

The state legislature has finally approved a special primary and general elections bill to fill the seat left vacant by the death of State Sen. Larry Kuriyama. If the bill is signed into law, Lt. Gov. George R. Ariyoshi says the special primary election will probably be held in late June.

Lt. Gov. Ariyoshi has appealed to Japanese Chamber of Commerce members to concern themselves with the emotional health of the state and the well-being of its children. There is no challenge more noble or important than helping young people find their identity through strengthening their pride in their cultural background, he said.

The state senate on April 16 brushed aside a long list of charges aimed at Dr. Walter B. Kuriyama and voted 18 to 6 to confirm his resignation to a four-year term as director of the state department of health.

A former county chairman and two members of the State House appear to be strong candidates for a seat in the State Senate in a special election this summer. Yoshiro Nakamura, a Democrat, and Rep. Howard Oda, a Republican, are former councilman and councilwoman, respectively. All three are expected to enter the contest for the seat left vacant last year after the murder of Sen. Larry N. Kuriyama.

Business Ticker

Hawaiian Airlines on April 21 called off its proposed merger with Aloha Airlines. John H. Magoon, Jr., chairman, president and majority stockholder of Hawaiian, said Wall St. leaders to both carriers turned thumbs down on the merger terms.

Rocky Aoki, 32, the owner of 15 restaurants across the U.S. under the name of Benihana, is in Honolulu to supervise the opening of another Benihana at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. It is scheduled to open May 15. He says he has plans to open similar

restaurants in London, Munich and Paris by next year.

Lionel Y. Tokioka has been named president of International Savings & Loan Assn., succeeding his father, Masayuki Tokioka, who now becomes board chairman. A 1969 Japan Air Lines survey shows that only 8 per cent of Japanese tourists who visit Hawaii feel they'd like to return here for a vacation. JAL figures show that Japanese overseas pleasure travelers increased 12-fold, from 21,000 in 1964 to more than 250,000 in 1969.

Wadsworth Yee, Republican state senator, has been named president of Grand Pacific Life Insurance Co., one of the Finance Factors group of companies. He succeeds Sen. Hiram L. Fong, who announced earlier this year he would resign the presidency of every Finance Factors firm. Yee has been executive vice president of Grand Pacific.

By Ryokichi Higashinaka, a registered professional engineer, has been made an associate in the consulting structural engineering firm of Shinagawa, Shimabuchi & Fukuda, Inc.

Ford Kono, former Ohio State Univ. and Olympic swimmer, has been named sales director of Servo Insurance Co., a division of Servo Pacific, Inc.

Names in the News

Former police chief Dan Liu has been awarded the Gold Good Citizenship Medal of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was honored April 23 at a \$6 a plate dinner at the Princess Kaiulani Hotel. Liu is now director of community affairs in the Pacific for American Airlines.

Masayuki Mitsuda landed a major contract to build a 100,000-sq-ft hotel on the south shore of Oahu. The hotel, to be built on a 100-acre site, is expected to be completed in 1975. Mitsuda is president of Mitsuda Development Co., a Honolulu-based real estate development firm.

Si-Houng Howard, 37, 22, an inmate of Hawaii Jail, estimates his net worth at \$50,000 and that he is willing to sell his eyes for that price so that he can get out of jail. Howard recently pleaded guilty to a 1969 battery against Ginger, his 35-year-old wife. She was hospitalized for several days in March when the couple was living in Waikiki with Mrs. Howard's two daughters by a previous marriage.

Attorney Ronald G.S. Au, first Jaycee from Hawaii to be elected a national vice president of the U.S. Jaycees, has announced that he is seeking the office of president. A testimonial dinner has been scheduled for Au at the Hilton Hawaiian Village May 13. In charge of the dinner are Kenneth Lee, Curt Yee and Wallace Ching.

The Judiciary

Mrs. Rosemary E. Silva of Ewa and her three children have been awarded \$65,000 by a Maui circuit court jury. Mrs. Silva's husband, Richard, was killed when his motorcycle struck a trailer loaded with sugar cane. His motorcycle hit the trailer of a truck that was crossing the highway. The jury found the owner of the truck, Wailuku Sugar Co., and the driver, Basilio Benavides, negligent and liable for damages.

Robert W.B. Chang, 48, a district court magistrate, is under serious consideration for elevation to Honolulu's circuit court, it has been learned. The circuit court post, a 10-year appointment, pays \$30,250 a year. Chang's current magistrate job, a four-year appointment position, pays \$23,670.

Sports Scene

Kenam Kim, state comptroller, says the 50,000-seat Halawa Stadium will be let out to contract in July with construction expected to require two years. So it looks as if football games will be played at the new stadium by the fall of 1973. "In our earlier consideration of a 34,000-seat stadium we had counted on having the stadium ready for

use in time for the Hula Bowl football game in January of 1973," Kim said. He added that because of the expansion of the stadium to 50,000 seats, it will require more time to get the facility ready.

Jarvis Tatum, former Islander baseball star who later played for the California Angels, is now a member of the Yakult Atoms of Japan's Central League. Tatum was traded by the Angels to the Red Sox but failed to make the grade with the Boston team and, in stead, signed with the Japanese team.

Political Scene

Minoru Shintani has been re-elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Republican Party on the Big Island. Forty-one delegates also re-elected Richard Penhallow as county committee man and Mrs. Dora Gimes as committeewoman. The convention passed a resolution opposing any further increases in county or state fuel tax and another asking elimination of the residency requirement for doctors licensed elsewhere in the U.S. to practice in Hawaii.

Where's the Fire?

Fire on April 18 heavily damaged the second floor banquet and party rooms at Aloha Grill, 1165 Bethel Street. Robert S. Teruya, owner, estimated damage at \$25,000. Teruya said he believed the fire may have been caused by an electrical short circuit. Only his wife and assistant manager James Takara were in the restaurant when the fire broke out about 4:35 a.m.

Hawaii Today

Hawaii's pineapple industry has lost much of its leadership in the world market because of increased costs, according to William F. Quinn, president of Dole Co. Speaking before the Western Association of Food Chains convention recently, Quinn said, "Right after the war, Hawaii produced about 70 per cent of the world's pineapple. Today it is a little more than 40 per cent." The reason for this, he said, is not because Hawaii's production has dropped but because other areas of the world, with much lower labor costs, have entered the world pineapple market.

Sunao Kido, director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, said on April 20 that nearly \$1 million in park improvements will be under contract on Sand Island before the next legislative session. A \$1 million appropriation authorized by the 1970 legislative session will provide a first increment of between 30 and 35 acres on the beach about halfway between the Bule Harbor entrance channel, Kido said. More than \$3.4 million in additional legislative appropriations will be needed to complete later phases of a park of at least 140 acres fronting the ocean. The city's largest beach park at present is Ala Moana Park with 76 acres.

Hayashi -

Continued from Back Page

luted cities, because the taxpayer and voter is unwilling to change.

And who loses? The people—poor people, minority people, old people, young people, all PEOPLE. The system at that point no longer serves the interest of the people. It makes exceptions for big business, the larger campaign contributors, the powerful, while further alienating the marginals.

Time for Change

When will this all end? Can it? Will we (yes, JACL members, too) begin to be willing to alter our life style to include the outsider. To allow the disaffected in. Will we allow a voice for the 18 year old voter, the anti-war demonstrator, the administration critic, the ethnic group activist?

It's all knotted up. Society. The System. The disaffected. And frustration, pain, agony, death become its by-products.

Yes, we do have a responsibility. We have little choice if we want to leave a place for future generations—for our own generation. We've got to begin to relate the various segments. The War, the Pollution, the discontent—it's all part of our present life style. We can't run away from it. We've got to deal with it. The cut in Welfare money, becomes directly connected to dissatisfaction of the taxpayer. The building of monstrous buildings, parking garages, etc., comes as a result of that same scarce money. The autos,

BOOK REVIEW: Allan Beekman

Signpost to Suicide

A FOOL'S LIFE, by Akutagawa Ryunosuke, tr. Will Petersen, with sketches by Tanaka Ryohel, a Shushinsha Book, New York: Grossman Publishers, 135 pp., \$10.

Born in Tokyo, March 1, 1892, sickly and hypersensitive as a child, Ryunosuke Akutagawa was later to describe himself as precocious, a voracious reader with a retentive memory. He excelled as a student and won admission to the top institution of higher learning in Japan, Tokyo University.

He studied English literature at the University from 1913 to 1916. There he laid the foundation for his future great reputation in the Japanese literary world.

He helped edit the student magazine *New Thought* (Shinshicho) and to it contributed his first short story, *The Old Age* (Ronen). In 1915, in another student literary magazine, *Imperial Library* (Teikoku Bunko), he published *The Rasho Gate* (Rashomon), a macabre and bizarre story of crime based on an original from an ancient work, but retold with the insight of modern psychology.

The *Rasho Gate* brought recognition of his talent and opened doors to the highest literary circles. This was a stimulating environment for the fledgling writer, for perhaps never before in the history of Japan had there been so many important authors producing at the same time.

He met Soseki Natsume, generally considered the greatest modern Japanese novelist, and adopted him as mentor.

Soseki, as this great author is commonly known, had also studied English literature at Tokyo University, but there is a striking difference in the outlook of Soseki and that of his gifted protégé. Soseki chose to write about the day to day happenings of his class; Akutagawa continued to retell 12th and 13th century Japanese tales.

A characteristic story of this period of his career is *Portrait of Hell* (Jigoku-hen), known in America through the recently exhibited film by the same name. In the film, a masterpiece of the cinematic art, one catches a glimpse of the tormented Akutagawa in the mad painter Yoshitake who insists, and believes, he

must witness torture to be able to paint the portrait of Hell his patron has requested.

By the age of 30, Akutagawa had turned away from the weird themes of past ages to seek inspiration in his own experiences. His style of writing is highly individualistic, expressive of his sensitive, neurotic temperament; his method is often compared to that of Flaubert. He polished and repolished each of his stories to near-perfection.

Still, at this turning point in his career, he must have already realized that he lacked the sustained imagination and constructive ability to write a novel. His later works fell short of the popularity of the earlier ones.

He speaks of a "vague uneasiness" that turned his thoughts toward suicide. From his final work, *A Fool's Life* (Aru Aho no Issho), the reader will find clues to what inspired this uneasiness. The random notes of the work begin with him at the age of 20 in a bookstore. The final note was written July 24, 1927, six months after his 35th birthday and seconds before he expired.

He was married and had three children. Unhappy in his relations with women, pessimistic about human nature, fearing his writing power was failing, dogged by ill health, his final work shows his preoccupation with suicide and his experiments with it. A photograph of him in Japanese clothes at this period, when the end was imminent, shows him at table, chin braced by a wasted arm, eyes glancing obliquely from beneath a high forehead covered with long hair, his expression one of brooding despair.

Under the final note, entitled *Defeat*, he wrote, "The hand taking up the pen had started to tremble. He drooped. His head, only after a 0.8 dose of Veronal did it have any clarity."

In preparation for the end, he had written his college friend and fellow-author, Masao Kume, "Whether or not this manuscript ought to be published, and of course, where it should be published or where I leave to you... At the fool in this manuscript, go ahead and laugh."

In this deluxe book, the original Japanese faces each page of English translation. The 51 notes, short but vivid, are like glimpses into the life of Akutagawa at different points in his career, with different aspects of his private life, including his relations with women.

The translator, Will Petersen, who has caught much of the flavor of the original text, lived in Japan from 1952 to 1965. In addition to a number of translated non-texts, he has written an important study of the Ryosonji stone garden.

Yes, we can get knotted up. But we can also untie that knot.

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6— Friday, May 7, 1971



Harry K. Honda

Ye Editor's Desk

THE JAPANESE ETHNIC PRESS

Very limited access by the Nisei to the newspaper trade publication, Editor & Publisher, has spared that venerable weekly some of the tart and caustic comments due their recent piece on the Japanese American ethnic press (E&P, Mar. 13) by Spyridon Granitsas. We're not inclined to ask permission to reprint something which might be mistaken for a responsible piece.

Only a knowledgeable and tolerant man could endure and excuse the confusion fumbling pell-mell through that article, which was undertaken as a sincere and noble venture to show generally that the ethnic press in America is still experiencing "some-growth symptoms".

The headline reads: "Nisei papers favor trade over politics." It is referring to editorial coverage and the fact that economic growth is reflected in larger income from advertising and the assumption of a Kyodo news executive in New York that Nisei papers in America subscribe to the code of the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Assn., which adopted self-restraint regarding political news after riots in Tokyo called off President Eisenhower's scheduled visit of Japan. The foreign correspondents for the Japan press might adhere to such a code—but they certainly do not comprise the "ethnic press" in America nor do Nisei papers worry about any code except for that which is "actionable" in a court of law.

The ethnic press is described as newspapers published in a foreign language or in English but addressing themselves to a national group. E&P reports there are 440 papers published in 38 foreign languages in the U.S., excluding English, with an estimated combined circulation of 2 million. The Japanese ethnic press accounts for nearly 70,000 in 1970.

The Kyodo news executive, asked what the Nisei reaction was to Agnew's use of "fat Jap", struck us as being classic "effete snob" stance when he said: "They generally seem to have taken Agnew's remark as an expression of intimacy rather than as a derogatory remark, although they resent the use of the mostly wartime word Jap." That expression might make Agnew happy but ignores the uproar that discommoded even the quietest of Japanese Americans. The protests were even heard in the halls of Congress (see Congressional Record, House, Sept. 23, 1968).

Bill Hosokawa, associate editor of The Denver Post, took special care to set the record straight by writing to E&P, which published his letter (Apr. 3) but with Granitsas replying in italics paragraph by paragraph in a nondescript manner. Granitsas will think we're inscrutable as we grinned to read this comment that "Hosokawa's letter is the only angry one" he has received on the series of the ethnic press from E&P readers.

Hosokawa tried in vain to distinguish the terms—the Japanese immigrant, their descendants or Nisei, and the Japanese in Japan. "The newspaper reading needs and tastes of these three groups of people are quite dissimilar," E&P was told, "but the article in question not only fails to do this (and) scrambles the three almost indiscriminately." This cultural impasse poses not only a problem with the Sansei (third generation Japanese in America) with his self-identity but also with the confused-to-us non-Japanese. Perhaps the Japanese American needs to step up a positive campaign on this score.

"Nisei" press, going back to the headline of the E&P article, then refers to Japanese-language press in the U.S. and not strictly its counterpart, the English sections which were added, as Hosokawa explained, "for the simple and logical reason that only a few of the Nisei would read or write Japanese".

One insight not generally perceptible in reading the Japanese ethnic press is the competition existing between the two language sections within the single newspaper—unless you can read Japanese and English. There is often news of interest to the English-reading Nisei found only in the Japanese section, as if one section was trying to "scoop" the other section. Employing Nisei editors who can handle both languages, however, has helped to ease that embarrassing situation. The Japanese sections in the U.S., on the other hand, all have capable editors who translate from English to Japanese.

Mrs. Kats Kunitzugu of the Kashu Mainichi, one of the few Nisei editors with literate command of both Japanese and English, gave up trying to unravel all the errors in Granitsas's piece. "It is surprising and dismaying that such a fly-by-night article can see the light of day in a journal as respected as Editor and Publisher," she wrote in a recent commentary.

Hosokawa is so disgusted that his regard for E&P as an authoritative and responsible publication has vanished.

We were even disheartened personally to find our paper called the "Pacific Review", in quoting from what appears to be a text from a JACL oratorical-essay contestant of several years back to show how proud we are to be Americans.

One midwest journalism professor, who spent a summer on the west coast researching an upcoming article on the Japanese ethnic press during World War II for the Journalism Quarterly, told us the E&P story "certainly did not jibe with my impressions of Japanese-language press".

That Granitsas has undertaken a survey of the ethnic press in E&P deserves recognition of a truly difficult assignment and maybe thankless after trying to cover the Japanese in America, but in reporting the important role the ethnic press plays in national and international affairs in these changing times he is literally brandishing the torch of liberty and hope that has brightened this nation before the world.

Hunting for warabi in the Mother Lode hills

By SHIG SAKAMOTO
Hokubei Mainichi

Sacramento
One Sunday morning coaxed by Missus and pressured by Mother-in-Law, I chauffeured them to the nearby hills some 45 miles from here and it turned out to be more enjoyable than I had expected. It was their annual warabi hunt day.

In case you are wondering what a "warabi" happens to be, it's an asparagus type fern growing wildly along sloped hillsides near town called Jackson and during certain seasonal periods, they grow in abundance, and according to my mother-in-law, they are a delicacy. I didn't know the thing existed and like myself, now you know.

Departure at 9 a.m. was a dreadful chore, especially on a Sunday where my habit at that particular hour is a cozy spot in bed. It was a beautiful morning, though, the sun was just beginning to warm up like a typical good Sacramento day. Just before we left, the phone rang and it was our dear mother who called to remind us that she is waiting for us and to hurry up. Mothers are an impatient lot, aren't they?

With me behind the wheels and two back-seat drivers to keep me alert, we hit the back country road and at this time of the year Mother Nature showed out its brilliant splendor as the grass was getting greener, the trees adding new leaves, poppies in their bright orange shade and even the weeds looked mighty good. It was spring, all right.

The first little town to pass through was Sloughhouse, if you want to call it a town, but it did remind me that the Chris Sasaki and Frank Ikeda family lived in that sector. We passed through several more historic looking towns, some on sloping hills, along winding roads, and a little stream probably loaded with trout. The water looked refreshing.

One particular town we came by was called Drytown. Its historical past must be interesting and one of the things that caught my eye and amused me was the town's only saloon which had a sign that read: "The Wettest Spot in Town."

We took an off-the-main-road-turn into a country road as mother gave me the instruction from her memory. After a short distance we arrived at our destination which was, to me, a place of no where but sloped hills and roaming cattle. But like Columbus must have said, "We are here."

With five rice gunny sacks, we all climbed over the fence and like a gentleman that I am, I let the ladies climb over first. Really, I didn't like the look of the mean looking steer that kept looking at us. As soon as we approached the fence and thinking safety first I decided that I'd go over the fence last. The girls laughed at me.

By the time I managed to get over the fence, the girls were already out of sight into the hillsides, so I went along to the other end thinking maybe I'll have better luck. Oh yes, before we separated, I was oriented on what a warabi looked like.

After about two hours of stooping, balancing myself on the hillsides, the bugs buzzing, I was sweating and toiling. For a moment it became monotonous so I kept myself from boredom, I whistled and even sang knowing that my voice is not all that what it is but it kept the gophers from coming out of their holes. After filling the sack up two-thirds full, I decided now and then to call it quits and locate the girls.

I did find them further down the hillside and to my surprise and dismay, they both had four sacks full. My goodness, I said. Their area was more abundant.

Since we were all done we decided to go back to our auto and eat our bento that my sister-in-law had thoughtfully prepared for this field trip.

It is hard to explain but you would readily agree that bento of sushi, nigiri and teriyaki chicken are so differently delicious when you eat them outdoors. It must be the touch of fresh mountain air that grips your stomach and increases your appetite.

Even the hot tea in a thermos was most tempting but we couldn't locate the tea bags for the hot water bottle. The problem was solved when we were ready to leave and found that mother was sitting on them all this time.

With our mission accomplished, our stomachs contented, we lazily made our return home viewing the scenic wonders as only Mother Nature could provide. It was a most pleasant adventure, although I didn't admit it to the girls.

IDYC co-chairmen

LOS ANGELES—Dave Hirai of Boise and Susan Yoshimura of Salt Lake City were named co-chairmen of Inter-mountain District Youth Council, succeeding Ron Aramaki, it was announced by Ron Wakabayashi, national youth services director.



Healthy Sign

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Letters to the Editor are subject to condensation. Each must be signed and addressed, though withheld from print upon request.

'Home Again'

Editor:
While spending our Christmas holidays in California this past year, my wife and I were given a copy of Home Again (Doubleday: \$4) by James Edmiston. After scanning the first couple pages, I became thoroughly engrossed and could not lay the book down. Although the story is centered primarily around one family and one daughter, in particular, many of the events noted in this book for all intents and purposes actually happened to all Japanese Americans before, during, and after WW2.

The book is packed with emotion and insight and is beautifully written. It outlines the anti-Japanese propaganda that had occurred even before the attack on Pearl Harbor, hardships and open prejudice encountered during evacuation, and subsequent difficulties the evacuees faced upon their return home.

Being a Sansei (born 1939), I never fully realized or appreciated the Japanese way. Having had the opportunity to read Home Again has greatly strengthened my cultural ties. In the book, the author illustrates the Japanese family structure with expertise—the dominance of the father, the faithful subservience of the mother, the unquestioning obedience of the children, and the steadfast loyalty of an uncle; the interaction of each family member that was required to form a solid family relationship.

Since many Nisei are overly concerned with our rapid assimilation into the white society and preoccupied with our attempts to lose identity as Asian Americans (see, Nagano's "In Search of Ethnic Identity", PC March 26), I suggest that Home Again be general reading for all Japanese offspring so that they might have a better understanding of hardships suffered by our people and of Japanese culture in general. This book may also help to dig out other more factual accounts of the Evacuation and Japanese heritage in America being published today.

JERRY UYEMOTO
Cornell University
Ithaca, N.Y.

(Author James Edmiston would have appreciated these words back in the late 1950s, when book sales among the Nisei were not as anticipated. Head of the WRA Office at San Jose in 1945-46, from which he gathered his fictionalized documentary, he went into writing scripts for TV and movies and died unexpectedly in 1959 at age 46.—Ed.)

Naming a chapter

Editor:
I learned from Warren Furutani's column (PC April 23), and the minutes of the National Executive Committee, that the Amerasia chapter of JACL has been forced to change their name and they adopted Los Angeles Inner City Chapter.

I am despondent because Amerasia was a beautiful name. And I am outraged because a chapter's name is an important expression of self.

25 Years Ago

In the Pacific Citizen, May 11, 1946

442nd RCT receives seventh unit citation for final offensive in Italy . . . MIS Language School at Ft. Snelling to be moved to Presidio of Monterey in June . . . Hudding Carter, editor-publisher of Greenville (Miss.) Delta Democrat Times, awarded Pulitzer Prize for 1945 editorials on racial, religious and economic tolerance by pointing to one (Aug. 27) on "Go for Broke" (text in May 18, 1946, PC).

Torao Takahashi, Issei, files suit at Los Angeles to test alien commercial fishing ban . . . Gen. Stilwell bans Nisei loyalty in talk at San Francisco JACL testimonial dinner to Japanese American veterans . . . Gen. Bradley will urge use of minority personnel by Veterans Administration . . . Airborne Veterans of U.S. (WW2 group) raps racial discrimination against Nisei by veteran organization.

A 20-year JACler returns to rap with leadership

(The writer below is prominently mentioned in Raymond Uno's column of April 2. That particular U-NO Bar also is one which deserves to be re-read because of the many pertinent questions Mrs. Seko raised facing JACL today.—Ed.)

By SACHI SEKO

Salt Lake City
It has taken me over twenty years to make a hesitant return to JACL. Oh, I've been a card carrying member most years. It takes a card to belong to the Credit Union or

GUEST COLUMN

to bowl, and now it entitles you to participation in a health insurance program.

JACL membership makes no demands, but if the national organization should gain some benefit specifically for those of Japanese ancestry, your color automatically gives you a piece of the pie. It's quite an arrangement and wouldn't you know it, it took those nice, quiet Japanese to give it to you.

The Presidents' Rap Session was the occasion for my homecoming. Funny, so many years had passed and apparently I had missed little.

And if there can exist in this sophisticated, technological era, something remotely representing regression—it was there. As I sat in a building (Japanese Church of Christ Educational Bldg.) which wasn't even conceived of way back then, mentally, perhaps sentimentally, my private pilgrimage returned me to Alice and Henry's home where much of the dialogue was conducted. Those were the days of communication, of more than skin-deep concern, of outreach. Those were the economic poor years—the time when having recently known total human indignity we were perhaps our splendid best.

If ever the inscrutable Japanese was readable, it was then. And having traveled an almost impossible road, we retained enough "go-for-broke" spirit.

Time passes and the naturalization act and partial restitution act, the evacuation losses become realities. Public opinion takes a favorable turn and we are no longer aware of direct discrimination.

The eyes of the nation focus on the plight of the blacks and Chicanos. Sufficient time has passed for us to achieve a certain level of physical, tangible security. Our scars begin to heal and fade.

But have we forgotten that once there was a lash across our backs and that we stood and endured its blood-stained pain. And that from human debasement and exile we once arose to join our voices, our courage, our talents, and even our meager funds for a common freedom. Where have we gone—the brave, good people—who coveted truth?

I return to search for myself, for my child. I seek my identity. But I want it true. I want it as strong and as beautiful as the simple pine. I will not accept the artificial plastic junked with fake decorations, devoid of natural grace. Give me not the "pseudo-culture," the imitation white, or worse, the mongrel yellow. Make us not liars who claim possession of a vague culture we imagine. Let us be honest and learn together.

The majority of the first immigrants were plain laborers who toiled in the earth and in canneries and in laying the transcontinental tracks. They contributed their essential share to that now-celebrated American dream. They were not ashamed of their labor, and by ignoring it and suddenly conjuring middle-class illusions of instant culture, we dishonor our real heritage and violate that one quality which enabled us to survive—pride.

I guess that is the loneliness I encountered that night. I have been away and since the time of our separation, with the rest of the nation, our real values have collapsed. We are sick. This illness will devour us until we shall perish. Our children, the Sansei, are demanding and are entitled to their identity. We belittle their intelligence and expose our hypocrisy when we become fearful of the naked truth. Let us share this exciting adventure of finding ourselves. Let us begin by re-learning the language of truth and pride.

—Salt Lake JACL Newsletter

Takasugi-

Continued from Front Page

High School administrators who chose a mass raid as the solution to the drug problem plaguing the campus.

For the innocent, a police record relating to narcotics will remain until sealed by order of court. Unfortunately, this sealing procedure is permitted, under existing law, after the passage of 5 years or when the juvenile attains 21 years, whichever first occurs. In the intervening years, college or job applications will undoubtedly inquire into the arrest record of the applicant.

With a little perception . . . a little enlightenment . . . a little flexible departure from the rules of "programmed people" . . . the results would have been constructively and more positively significant. How in the HELL do you unring a bell?



Jerry Enomoto

Perspectives

THE MINETA WIN—Noticed an interesting observation in the Sacramento JACL Chapter Newsletter, revolving around the recent big win by Norman Mineta in the San Jose mayor's race. Pointing out that the National JACL Constitution precludes endorsement of political candidates, the editorial comment asked the question, "Perhaps the National JACL Constitution needs to be amended to reflect the change in times?"

Indeed, this is a relevant question. Certainly a healthy vitality can be injected into JACL if issues can be debated politically. The organization need not be dominated by any party, even if partisan politics is no longer a "no-no". In past lukewarm debates about this issue, the biggest argument against becoming "political" was losing our tax exemption. Perhaps a change in times suggests a change in values?

Having been unsuccessful in reaching him personally, I wish to extend warm congratulations to Norman Mineta, via this column, for his significant accomplishment in winning the mayoralty of the fourth largest, and still-growing city in California. Another concrete sign of progress since the "concentration camp" days.

An editorial in the San Jose Mercury commented upon the fact that the race issue was never injected (at least not publicly) into this campaign. Let us hope that the editorial's optimistic point, that racism against Japanese is a thing of the past, is valid. Although a testimonial to Norman's ability and reputation, like the cliché "one swallow doesn't make a summer", one election of a Japanese American is only one more step toward the color blind society we seek.

PROGRESS—JAClers should be encouraged by the recent addition of David Ushio of Salt Lake City to the staff. His presence, as Assistant Washington Representative, in the nation's capitol means that JACL will gain badly needed muscle in legislative endeavors.

David has an impressive background of experience for one relatively young and, under Mike's tutelage, should become a tremendous asset to JACL.

The National Council's decision to approve this position will prove to be a wise investment in keeping JACL's national program in step with increasing needs for complete representation in Washington.

STUDENT AID—Through correspondence, I note the efforts of Dr. Roy Nishikawa's Student Aid Committee to convert this hitherto experimentally localized program into the national scope effort that the National Council mandated. Every district should be urged to establish its Student Aid Committee and provide input into making this a truly national program.

This activity has been very meaningful in meeting needs in PSW, and has the potential for expanding its value throughout our organization. It is well worth support.

Potshots

Don Hayashi



Knotted Up

A week or so ago, a series of events took place here to signify and dramatize certain social situations. Certainly the entire affair was not local. What we're talking about is Earth Day (the environmentalist's way of urgently calling us to live in accord with our natural environment) and the Spring Offensive (an active cause to disengage us from the Indochina War by a set date and hopefully bring the divisions in our nation to an end).

During this series of events, it can hardly help us to back off from the issues of the day. We do have a situation which supposedly separate things are really inter-related. We have grown up in an environment which has caused us to specialize. But the Youth are telling us that we've got to take everything in perspective. We can't consider one thing without leaving the other out of the picture.

Welfare Issue

Let's take a particular situation. Recently welfare recipients in the State of Oregon tried to plead their case before a "tight money-minded" state legislature subcommittee. They argued that things were bad.

To this Community Worker, things were indeed bad. With over 80% of the State's public assistance recipients unable to be considered employable (either too young or old, disabled, blind, or needed at home), the Governor was asking for the public to wait a while until the "Welfare recipients" could be put to work.

Also, the state welfare agency had only 80% of what it considered Minimum Living Standards (housing, food, clothing, medical, etc.) accepted into the Governor's budget. That 80% of life was then translated to be the "top budget."

The Joint Ways and Means Committee took the budget and proceeded to expose all the fraud and wastage (which actually accounted for less than 7% of the cases investigated) and told the recipients that the State has problems and that they should wait until the Federal Government passed a better law. It was of no surprise that

many recipients presented their case in Salem one evening in early April. They told of the human suffering. The legislators seemed to think that Oregon could lick its problems by "tightening the regulations" and making it more difficult for people to get on. In the meanwhile many worthy recipients were being rejected for welfare. They had to live on handouts and other illicit activities.

So how does this relate to the beginning of this column? Simple. It is all inter-related. We constantly find people with human need. People who have hurt and pain, and we dismiss the responsibility to solve the problem because "we don't have the money."

An Endless Cycle
What grates some of us is that while legislators scream that there is not enough money, commercial institutions, (banks, the paper pulp industry and others) can contribute to build monstrous polluting buildings in the city core. They lead to high density which means that people must commute. They require the employees and clients to buy autos, to purchase petroleum products (gas and oil). Which in turn causes people to scream for more highways, freeways, and roads.

So, they increase the gasoline tax and highway user tax, which build more roads, which causes more cars to be driven, which means buying more petroleum products (an endless cycle). The higher use of autos, the building of buildings, the need for parking garages, etc., lead to greater air and water pollution (not to mention people pollution). This means that we must spend vast sums of tax dollars for research to rescue the cities from virtual collapse. The schools and other tax beneficiaries suffer, because the voter is unhappy about higher taxes.

It seems like the only one who wins is big business. The banks, the petroleum industry, the auto dealer. Those who help to cause the climate to build a bigger, and "better" America (polluted, divided, alienated). This means that people on welfare have to live only 80% of life in pollution.

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