

Nikkei EEO office manager in Va. passed over, alleges bias

RICHMOND, Va.—A Japanese American woman in charge of Virginia's equal employment opportunity office here has accused her boss of discriminating against her on racial grounds in charges filed the past week.

(Details are contained in Glenn Frankel's story in the Washington Post Oct. 22.)

Maya Hasegawa, who has worked for the EEO office for more than five years and the office manager for two, contends in her suit that she was denied a \$27,380-a-year post in the state agency because her boss, Kenneth B. Yancey, the state's top personnel officer, wanted to hire a less-qualified black.

"Ironic would be one way to characterize it," her attorney D. Patrick Lacy Jr. said.

Yancey has been under fire for allegedly lax enforcement of state and federal anti-bias laws. Critics are saying Yancey passed over Hasegawa for a black applicant to combat image problems of the Dalton administration has had with blacks. Gov. John Dalton and Yancey have denied the allegations.

It was also recalled a survey and critical report by the Governor's EEO Committee, then classified as confidential until excerpts were printed by the Washington Post in news articles last summer, indicated there was cronyism in state hiring practices. After the articles appeared, Yancey issued a memo threatening "immediate termination" of any employee caught leaking such reports.

Yancey's own EEO Committee had questioned the state's commitment to minority hiring, asserting it had been given "low priority" by Gov. Dalton's top administrators. Records show

PSW to screen CBS-TV's 'Pride & Shame'

LOS ANGELES—Little Tokyo Tower continues to be the favorite and convenient gathering place for the PSWDC with different chapters hosting the affair. For the fourth quarterly session this time, Nov. 16, Hollywood JACL is in charge.

Aki Ohno, district 1000 Club chair, announced the much acclaimed TV film, CBS's *The Pride and the Shame*, will be shown during the luncheon. This is the classic film on the Evacuation, narrated by Walter Cronkite. Public is invited.

PSWDC governor Wiley Higuchi announced Hollywood JACLer Amy Uno Ishii's slide show, *The Japanese American Experience*, will also be presented.

On the agenda is PSWDC's commitment to raise funds for the redress campaign, now revised downward from \$380,000 to \$240,450 nation-wide in anticipation of public hearings by the commission next year. PSW's share is \$93,600. DC executive board member Mike Mitoma will chair this portion of the agenda.



Oda (Mako) in his Little Tokyo apartment.

whites predominate in most state agencies while a high number of blacks hold janitorial and other menial low-paying duties.

Hasegawa has also filed a discrimination complaint against Yancey with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Employees called it favoritism and racial discrimination in Yancey's hiring last April of Elsie G. Holland to be director of the Equal Opportunity office and Hasegawa's immediate supervisor. A prominent Virginia Republican, she previously taught education courses at Virginia Union University but had no training or previous experience in personnel management or equal

opportunity programs.

Hasegawa stated in her complaint that Yancey told her she was qualified and capable of doing the director's job but that he wanted to hire "someone black". That, Hasegawa contended, was "maliciously and intentionally" discriminatory because of her race and is seeking \$275,000 in damages.

Yancey conceded "race and sex were factors in the selection of Dr. Holland, but her credentials speak for themselves." Of her work as an educator, in civil rights and politics, Yancey concluded, she was "uniquely qualified to manage our equal employment opportunity and employment practices programs". #

Pasadena Sansei wins '81 Rose parade crown

PASADENA, Ca.—Leslie Kim Kawai, 18, was chosen the 1981 queen of the Tournament of Roses, the first minority titlist in the 92-year history of the New Year's Day pageant.

Between Oct. 28, when the announcement was made in front of the Tournament House on Orange Grove (once belonging to the Wrigley of gum fame), till Jan. 1, she and her court of seven princesses (Lourdes Jeanette Vita is of Filipino ancestry) are committed to 80 official functions. Miss Kawai is also the tallest member of the court, standing at 5 ft. 8 and weighing 120 lb.

A third generation Japanese American, but more significantly a third generation Pasadenan as well, she is the daughter of Shig and Aya Kawai. Her grandfather, Toichiro Kawai, came from Japan as a carpenter's mate aboard a U.S. sailing vessel, in 1898, settling in Pasadena. When Henry Huntington (of the red car fame) bought a Japanese teahouse at Fair Oaks and California, Kawai was called on for help in getting it set up in the Huntington Gardens in San Marino. It is still there. The Issei pioneer also constructed the no-nail drum bridge and the bell tower which grace the Japanese gardens, which are part of the Huntington Library & Art Gallery. He also designed and built some of the prize-winning horse-drawn entries from the earliest Rose Parades.

Leslie's aunt, Kimiko Kawai, and four other Pasadena Japanese girls rode on a float entered by Imperial Hotel of Tokyo in 1916. "I am the first member of the family since then to take an active part in the Rose Parade," she said in an interview before her selection as queen. "I have watched the parade ever since I can remember and I have wanted to be a princess ever since ..."

Her father, Shig, played football at Pasadena City College with Jackie Robinson. Her uncle, Nobu, now retired, founded the Nisei group prewar that was to become the Pasadena JACL. Another uncle, Akira, teaches at PCC, where Leslie is currently enrolled in the new Queen's studies (English, philosophy and Japanese). She is a June graduate from the Sacred Heart Academy at Flintridge.

Leslie is planning a career in fashions. She has been fashion modeling at the Pasadena Hilton, has studied for the past 10 years at the Pasadena Dance Theater and hopes to choreograph some numbers next year. Her hobbies include sewing and baking. She has worked the past three years with the Pasadena Red Cross at the Special Olympics for the Mentally Retarded and Handicapped.

Judging is based on personality, poise, appearance and aca-



● Pacific Citizen Review:

'Hito Hata: Raise the Banner'

By KATS KUNITSUGU

Amid palpable excitement and great expectations, *Hito Hata: Raise the Banner*, the first feature-length film written, produced, directed and acted by Asian Americans received its premiere at the Ahmanson Theater of the Los Angeles Music Center on Oct. 26.

The Ahmanson's 1,500 seats were nearly sold out at \$25 and \$100 (in the Golden Circle) for the gala occasion, as the Japanese community turned out en masse to see "the Issei story", told not in Hollywood terms but created by those who had an emotional, self-identifying stake in it.

However, if this be the Issei story, we say, in the words of the immortal New York cartoon, it's spinach, and we say to hell with it. It was less than convincing and downright misleading in crucial areas which made it propaganda, rather than the truth.

The fault can be laid directly at two lines in the long list of credits: "Story by Visual Communications." I have never read a good story written by a committee, and "Hito Hata" is no exception. Too many chefs do spoil the broth.

Oda, the Kagoshima "dirt farmer" who came to America, because he was tired of eating sweet potatoes for breakfast, sweet potatoes for lunch and sweet potatoes for supper, is the protagonist of this tale, and in as splendid and inspired piece of acting as I have ever witnessed on the screen by any actor, Mako takes a concept and comes within a hair's breath of turning it into

an immortal characterization.

But Shakespeare was right when he said, "The story's the thing." There was very little story, only a great many episodes strung together without enough build-up and explanations to make emotional sense. We are left looking at a story of a man's life with gaping holes where his feelings and his attitudes and the events that shaped them should have been. We are shown that Oda became good friends with a fellow crew member, Ito, from whom he parted to seek his fortune elsewhere, vowing to meet again but whom he was never to see again. How did Ito get to be such friends with Oda? What dreams, what experiences did they share to make their parting so poignant?

THERE ARE OTHER episodes which also fail to make emotional sense, fail to grip our sympathies on behalf of Oda and make us care what happened to him. Apparently the makers of "Hito Hata" were only interested in Oda as a symbol and not as a man who could have existed whole.

As a symbol, Oda exemplifies the young filmmakers' concept of the Issei as victims. Nowhere in "Hito Hata" did I find any understanding of the pride which sustained a whole generation of pioneers. This pride is not the futile defiance of Oda in the Evacuation scene in refusing to surrender his flute. It was inconceivable to this reviewer, who went through the whole

Continued on Back Page

'Shōgun', 'Roots' discounted by teachers in ethnics

SAN FRANCISCO—The National Council on Ethnic Heritage Studies convened at San Francisco State University for a three-day meeting Oct. 8-10, that raised questions about varied approaches to ethnic heritage programs.

Eight of the twelve Council members heard presentations by representatives of the Chinese, Korean, Italian and Japanese American communities, the Oakland Unified School District, and the California State Department of Education.

The Council is an advisory and grant funding arm of the U.S. Department of Education that assists in the development of elementary and secondary school curriculum materials.

But these Council meetings were not geared for groups to petition for the \$3 million in grants available over the next fiscal year.

"It was more a 'show and tell' session," said J.D. Hokoyama, acting national director of JACL. "We appeared to let them know that we're here and that a need for educational materials exists."

Accompanied by Peter Takeuchi, co-director of the JACL-TV project, JACL presented a multi-media presentation providing an overview of Japanese American history and sparked an hour-long discussion on the value of ethnic heritage programs.

Nikkei woman heads state commission

SACRAMENTO, Ca.—Irene Y. Hirano, director of THE (To Help Everywoman) Clinic, a major health clinic in Los Angeles, was elected chairperson of the Calif. Commission on the Status of Women. Appointed to the commission in 1976 by Gov. Brown, she is currently on the board of the National Women's Health Network and head of the Calif. Asian-Pacific Women's Network. The commission was created in 1965 to work to eliminate sex-based inequities, study the changing role and responsibilities of women, and promote means by which women can realize their potential as individuals and members of society.

"In the next year, we will be studying the issue of equal pay for work of comparable worth and surveying the women of California to determine their most pressing needs," Hirano said of her coming year, "as well as continuing our programs on educational equity, women's health and violence against women."

Fong Jr. spared recall election

HONOLULU—The petition to recall City Councilman Hiram L. Fong Jr. failed because it was 526 signatures short. The recall group had turned in 3,382 signatures and only 2,079 needed to be certified as registered voters in Fong's Ma-noa-Waikiki district.

Most of the disqualifications were due to illegibility (669), voters outside the district (667) and those who were not registered to vote (340), City Clerk Paul Maeda announced Oct. 16.

Japanese breakfast

LOS ANGELES—New Otani Hotel's A Thousand Cranes Restaurant now features Japanese breakfast weekdays from 7-9:30 a.m., main course being cooked fish, baked salmon, or egg cakes and imported yam potatoes.

Had the petition been successful, Fong would have been the first Honolulu city councilman to ever face recall.

Nisei vets to head Sac'to parade

SACRAMENTO—The Capital City will have its first State Veterans Day parade and Capitol ceremonies on Monday, Nov. 10, honoring the Japanese Americans who served and leading will be Hershey Miyamura of Gallup, N.M., a Medal of Honor winner from the Korean conflict. Many Nisei veterans from up and down the state are expected to participate.

Other units are to be honored in future state veterans day parade, it was announced by Jesse Orta, a state agency official.

This was the same slide show featured during the Convention Sayonara banquet Aug. 1.

Hokoyama and some Council members stated that such programs be done by the ethnic groups themselves in order "to insure the accuracy and the integrity of the materials."

Council Chairman, Dr. John A. Kromkowski, president of the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs, Washington, D.C., brought up "Roots" and "Shōgun" as examples of popular ethnic history programs and drew criticism from Hokoyama and people in the audience.

"Shōgun was 'another samurai film,' said Hokoyama, 'made for entertainment and profit, not for education.'

Dr. Phillip McGee, acting director of the School of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State stated, "We in the Black Studies Department do not identify 'Roots' as an example of ethnic programming and we have some real problems with the way in which Roots was presented on television."

After further discussion, Kromkowski said that it is the responsibility of the National Council to enable people "to tell their own stories."

However, the lack of money often governs which group gets the opportunity to relate its history. "When you have many groups groveling for the \$3 million, the result is our turning against each other, Hokoyama responded. "More money is

PC People

● Military

Navy Intelligence SP 2C **John M. Ishikawa** was recently selected as the Fleet Ocean Surveillance Information Facility, Western Pacific, Kami Seya Japan "Wizard of the Quarter". The Wizard of the Quarter award is tailored to the Intelligence Specialist rating and similar to other U.S. Navy ships and stations Outstanding Sailor of the Quarter achievement awards. Petty Officer Ishikawa is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Moffet Ishikawa of San Jose, California. He graduated from San Jose High in 1972 and UC Berkeley in 1976 prior to enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1977.

● Government

Mayor Eunice Sato of Long Beach, and **Jean Ushijima**, City Clerk of Beverly Hills, attended a pilot program at USC for elected and management women in local government, funded by the Housing and Urban Development's Office of Policy Development and Research.

● Honors

Ryuei Masuoka, 72, retired rinkan of Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Betsuin, was decorated by the Japanese government on Culture Day (Nov. 3) with the 5th Order of the Sacred Treasure.

needed to produce these educational materials."

Everyone agreed, but Kromkowski stressed that larger allocations in the area of ethnic studies would only be possible if groups make their concerns known to their elected representatives in Washington, D.C.

The JACL also had on display various books and material it had published, such as Hosokawa's "Nisei: The Quiet Americans", Chuman's "Bamboo People", the new Wilson-Hosokawa book, "East to America", pamphlets on Redress, and the Teachers' Resource Manual on J.A. Studies.

The meetings were hosted by the San Francisco State University School of Ethnic Studies.

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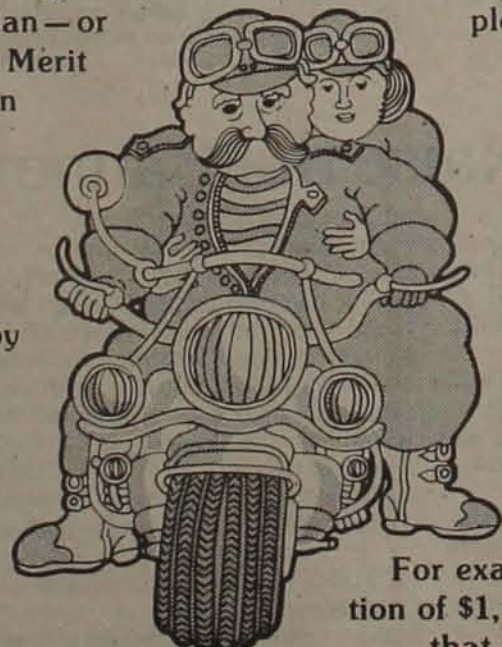
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Hawaii Lt. Gov. King to keynote CCDC convention

FRESNO, Ca.—The Central California District Council of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) will hold its 31st annual convention Nov. 15-16 at the Hacienda Inn, Fresno. Jean Sadako King, lieutenant governor of Hawaii, will be the keynote speaker at the Sunday convention dinner in the Las Vegas Room.

Lt. Gov. King, born in Honolulu, is the eldest child of William and

Chiyo Murakami McKillop. Her educational background includes two collegiate degrees from Univ. of Hawaii and from New York University. Talented, photogenic and an outstanding speaker, she has had a meteoric rise in Hawaii politics, rising rapidly from the state House, to the state Senate, to the lieutenant governorship. Observers predict a very bright future for her in both Hawaiian and national politics.

A special panel by the Asian Pacific Women's Organization on *To be an Asian Woman, To be an Asian Man* will held on Sunday, Nov. 16, 1:30 p.m., with public affairs director Frances Reyes Acosta of Channel 30 (KFSN-TV) moderating. There is no charge for attending this workshop.

Other out-of-town speakers addressing the district will be J.D. Hokoyama, acting national JACL director; Floyd Shimomura, nat'l vice-president for public affairs, and PC editor Harry Honda.

"We are expecting a turnout of over 500 for the Sunday dinner. The public is invited to the workshop and dinner," stated Shig Nagao, Selma JACL president, in charge of the dinner which will commence at 6:30 p.m., preceded

by a no-host cocktail hour from 5:30. The convention pre-registration package of \$12 per person

which includes dinner may be obtained by Nov. 7 from Mae Takahashi, Fresno (431-4144).

Milwaukee all set for Holiday Folk Fair

MILWAUKEE—This will be the 37th annual Holiday Folk Fair, scheduled Nov. 21-23 at the Mecca (Milwaukee Exposition & Convention Center & Arena), and again Milwaukee JACL has been invited to add a Japanese touch to the fair with a sales booth. (PC records show Milwaukee JACLers have been consistent participants since 1955 and Charlie Matsumoto, this year's general chairman, has been capably handling this fund-raiser for years.)

As in the past, help is expected from Thursday night prior to opening to unload material for the exhibit booth, sales booth and the JAY's food booth. Booths will be decorated Friday afternoon before the doors open to the public at 5 p.m.

A children's group has been practicing the Tanko Bushi to be staged at the Folk Fair.

Resale of items will follow at the chapter general meeting Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m. at International Institute. The new board will meet Dec. 1 at Ed Jonokuchi's residence and will be installed at the inaugural banquet scheduled Jan. 25 at Country Gardens.

Also, the Christmas party Dec. 7 will be held at the Mitchell Park Conservatory.

CCDC Issei memorial hall endorsed

FRESNO—Past governors of the Central California JACL district council met Oct. 21 and endorsed the proposed Issei memorial hall, with the center being designed not only as a cultural and community center but also a place that would appeal to youth activities.

"It should be a center in which the whole family would support and make use of," past governor Robert Kanagawa said. Mark Oba, architect, is seeking input to help reflect the need and dream of the entire Nikkei community. Further discussion is being planned at the Nov. 15 CCDC meeting at Hacienda Inn.

Chapter Pulse

Fresno

Application deadline is Nov. 15 for high school juniors or seniors for the Fresno JACL scholarship to the 1981 Presidential Classroom for Young Americans, it was announced by Dr. Izumi Taniguchi (439-8769).

Chapter scholarship covers the \$25 deposit fee, \$300 tuition and roundtrip air fare. Program is a jam-packed one-week in Washington studying government first hand, meeting with legislators, top government officials, foreign dignitaries and other students from around the country. This is Fresno JACL's sixth year of sponsorship.

Marin County

Marin County JACL installation dinner is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 7, at Dominic's Harbor Restaurant, San Rafael. JACLer of the Biennium John Tateishi will be guest speaker.

Program chair Jim Patterson, 1519 Buchanan, Novato 94947, is handling reservations until Nov. 28, offering a menu choice of prime rib (\$13.50) or chicken Toscana (\$11).

Monterey Peninsula

The annual Monterey Peninsula JACL picnic Oct. 5 at Toro Park was, on all accounts, beautiful—the day, steaks and all the trimmings, the help and turnout of 135 which included 16 from the Issei Kai. Credits went to:

Dick Kawamoto, Marie Kawamoto, Ko Kadani, chefs; Nancy Kitahara, cake; Frank Tanaka, sports eqmt; Helen Nakasako, Robin Pickering, Mo Ishizuka, Hedy Yamamoto, Doug Jacobs, Nancy Nakajima, Skye Gota, Priscilla Okumura, Kako Matsuyama, Taya Kawashima, food; Bob Miyamoto, Herb Tanaka, Kaye Tanaka, cooks; Goro Yamamoto, Pet Nakasako, Susie Tanaka, John Gota, helpers; Jerry Sasaki, bingo; Sumitomo Bank, prizes; Alan Miyamoto, reserv.

San Jose

Duane Kubo, co-director of Visual Communication's "Hito Hata: Raise the Banner", will be guest speaker at the San Jose JACL installation dinner on Friday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. at Zorba's Restaurant, 1350 S. Bascom Ave. Tom & Nadine Yamamoto will provide the dance music to conclude the gala event.

Charles Kubokawa, past district governor, will be installing officer. Onetime San Jose JACL president, Rep. Norman Y. Mineta, will be toastmaster. Tickets (\$13 per person) are available at the NB Dept. Store on Jackson St. or by calling 295-1250 or 292-2914.

Seabrook

Year-end events coming up for Seabrook JACLers start with a senior citizen appreciation night program on Saturday, Dec. 6, 6 p.m. at the Buddhist Church hall featuring a buffet supper, entertainment and souvenir picture taking. Kanoko Masatani, chair, is being assisted by:

Sunkie Oye, Ellen Nakamura, entertainment; Mary Nagao, inv; Fusaye Kazaoka, Iddy Asada, dnr; Carol Nagao, dec; K Masatani, games & prizes.

Chapter reminded the Buddhist Church chow mein dinner will be held Nov. 9 and the mochitsuki Dec. 27-28.

Scott Nagao is heading the PC Holiday Issue solicitations.



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YE EDITOR'S DESK: Harry Honda



Midwest Variations

An aspect of JACL which often escapes the majority of its members on the west coast is the role chapters play elsewhere. We catch the variations by perusing newsletters from the chapters. The latest issue from Milwaukee JACL gives us a prime example of what JACL can mean to its community.

As a metropolitan area in Wisconsin, the 1970 Census shows Milwaukee with 1.5 million people and slightly over 1,000 Japanese. Chapter represents about 100 households in the city or 120 statewide (based on the number of PC subscribers).

The piece to catch our attention was the Board Chairman's column, by Andy Mayeshiba, chapter president, where he recognizes the efforts of Mrs. Sei Pramenko, "who has done much to bolster the standing of the Japanese American community in the Milwaukee area with her many voluntary contributions to the various projects throughout the city". The latest, again, is helping one in distress. As Andy reports:

"It seems a bride-to-be came from Japan with a divorce decree, intent on being married to a Milwaukeean. The day before the marriage, the judge refused to marry them unless it was confirmed that the document in Japanese was indeed a divorce decree. The International Institute put them in touch with Mrs. Pramenko, who confirmed the nature of the documents ... All ended well on top of that. Seems she not only offered her services as a linguist, but entertained them with a Japanese-style luncheon in her home.

The Cincinnati JACL newsletter, "Grains of Rice", has been consistently strong on cultural heritage—though the latest one was only publicizing plans of the International Folk Festival (Oct. 17-19). Of about 30 chapters publishing newsletters which cross our desk, this one stands out for originality in the department imparting Japanese heritage to children in communities such as southwestern Ohio. Perhaps the chapter might reprint just these pages and come up with a pamphlet which could be a surprise hit at a future Folk Festival. As for the metropolitan Cincinnati area (1970 Census) and its 1.38 million, there are 715 Japanese tallied. Currently, the chapter has about 120 households.

More recently at the JACL convention, chapter president Jackie Vidourek was inquiring about audio-visual aids on contemporary and traditional Japan.

It just so happened that Barry Saiki, our "Nisei in Japan" columnist and the JACL president in Tokyo, had brought along two such slide sets, which we found attractively packaged and reasonably priced. PC has sets No. 5 and 6.

There are seven sets: (1) Japan of Today (60 scenes) \$32; (2) Climate and Way of Life (60) \$32; (3) Agriculture, Industry, Transport and Communications (6) \$32; (4) Annual Observances, Traditional Architecture and Customs, Arts and Craft (60) \$32; (5) Life Patterns in Japan Today (100 slides) \$49; (6) History of Japan (100) \$49; (7) Modern History of Japan (60) \$37. PC Office has some brochures, but sets can be ordered through Saiki who thinks a slight discount is possible. The material comes with a cassette (featuring koto music background and narrated by a woman's voice with an Oxonian culture) and a booklet, all produced by the International Society for Educational Information, Tokyo.

Sets 5 and 6 also come with narrations in French, Spanish or German. Anyone interested may write to Barry Saiki, Universal Public Relations, Shiba PO Box 201, Tokyo.

THE LOCAL BEAT

Our fall social calendar has been heavier than usual. We've covered the *Hito Hata: Raise the Banner* premiere at Los Angeles Music Center (where stood the house of my parents on the Hope St. side upon their return from Rohwer) ... Little Tokyo's tribute to its honorary mayor, Councilman Gil Lindsay, at the Bonaventure the same weekend was a nostalgic nifty—his old cronies being on tap to toast him: Rep. Ed Roybal, whose seat he took over when Ed went to Congress; Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who had Lindsay on his staff as deputy for 10 years; and Mayor Tom Bradley, the second Negro city councilman—Gil was first in 1963; and Little Tokyo's leadership from elder statesman Katsuma Mukaeda down ... As the night wore on, "Mayor" Gil was being hailed as the "Emperor" of Little Tokyo, receiving a *hachimaki*, gorgeous red happi coat and a *tantō* to remember the acclamation. Nikkei organizations were generous also in their presentations to the councilman who has been in public life for over 30 years.

■ To know the laws is not to memorize their letter but to grasp their full force and meaning. —Justinian Code.

Letterbox

● **An Election Thought**

Editor:
 As I write this letter ten days before the presidential election, you may be interested in my observations at the candidates' forum at the recent JACL National Convention.

As I sat there listening to the three candidates, Tom T. Shimasaki, Dr. James K. Tsujimura and Lillian Kimura espouse their respective platforms, in my mind I compared them to the three U.S. presidential candidates.

Mr. Shimasaki due to his age and being the only one to voice his opposition to the ERA struck me as being of the Reagan mold. Ms. Kimura's position on various issues indicated that she tended to be the most liberal on social issues and seemed to be the equivalent of a John Anderson.

So I guess by the process of elimination, President Tsujimura would be JACL's counterpart of a President Carter.

Based on this "scientific" analysis I wonder who will be elected on Nov. 4?

JIM NISHIZAKA
 Torrance, California

● **Inside Santa Anita**

Editor:
 On October 18 here in San Diego I saw Bob Nakamura's film "Manzanar" and Amy Uno Ishii's "The Japanese American Experience". In these photographic records I saw once again the bleak tar-paper barracks of the relocation centers, a recollection from almost 40 years ago.

Bleak as they were, these tar paper barracks were luxurious apartments compared with the accommodations that we Issei and Nisei were placed in during the first part of 1942.

We Japanese on the west coast were rounded up several weeks after Pearl Harbor and while presumably inland relocation centers were being built we were placed in "assembly centers". My assembly center was the Santa Anita race-track (race-tracks were used by the Wartime Civilian Control Agency—WCCA—because race-tracks have big parking areas on which temporary shacks can be built). My father, mother, I, and a quiet Issei bachelor friend were assigned a stable for living quarters. My parents occupied the rear of the stable where the race-horse stays and Mr. Shimada and I slept in the anteroom where I presume fodder is kept and a dog sleeps.

Unappealing as a stable was, it was better than a small, crowded room that an entire family occupied in a tar paper shack erected in the parking area.

I remember the odor of the sewage that was continuously being pumped up and hauled away by trucks. Apparently the Santa Anita sewerage had not been designed for daily use by 18,000 persons.

I remember too that when we left the wholesale produce market on 7th Street and Central Avenue in Los Angeles for the assembly center the young persons in our bus sang school songs as though they were going on an outing. When the barbed wire and machine-gun towers came into view the singing abruptly stopped.

If Senator S.I. Hayakawa and his family had lived for six months in a stable or a small room barely big enough to hold army cots, perhaps, after being gypped out of choice California real estate by unscrupulous non-Japanese Americans, and then had languished for three years in a relocation center it is possible that he would be screaming for reparations today.

NAOMI KASHIWABARA
 San Diego, Ca.

Title I council

WASHINGTON — The National Advisory Council on Education of Disadvantaged Children to oversee implementation of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act will publish a "how-to" handbook in July, 1981, the Washington JACL Office was informed. The council (425-13th St NW, Suite 1012, Washington, DC 20004) needs to identify actual school practices in diverse settings to include in the book, especially from parents or staff working with Title I services to eligible handicapped or limited English proficient children.

AFTER IT ALL BLOWS AWAY...



FROM HAPPY VALLEY: by Sachi Seko

A checkbook, shoes and shirts

Salt Lake City:
 My son had misconceptions about a checkbook for a long time. He thought it was a magical instrument to obtain instant gratification. Whenever something caught his eye that shouted for immediate purchase, he thought nothing of saying to me, "Write a check." The situation has not changed much since he opened his own checking account. Now, he says, "Let's use your checkbook."

Whenever I complain about his insatiable materialism, he says, "I wonder how it feels to be so old you don't want anything."

The trouble is, the things I want are not for sale. I could use a new pair of feet. My feet have been a problem and an embarrassment. I no longer leave my shoes where they can be seen. Before, I used to kick them off at the bottom of the stairs when I hurried in from gardening. One day, I heard my son's new friends asking, "Where's your little sister?" My son said he was an only child. Then, one of the boys asked, "Whose shoes are those?" The children's size three, narrow, shoes were mine.

Shoe salesmen shudder when they see my feet. They behave as if I deliberately stunted their growth and make a variety of incredulous statements. They examine my feet as if they were an inhuman curiosity. Sometimes, they invite other sales clerks and customers to inspect them. Over the years, in desperation, I have developed a line that effectively terminates commentary, "I told my grandmother she shouldn't bind my feet. I promised I wouldn't run away, but she wouldn't listen."

After the last unsuccessful expedition for shoes, I said to my son, "I'm not going shopping anymore."

My son, who was busily snipping the price tags from a pile of new clothing said, "That's a very negative attitude. Life would be miserable if you couldn't go shopping. Think of all the fun you'll miss. Only an eccentric doesn't want things."

CLIFF'S CORNER: by Dr. Clifford Uyeda



President

San Francisco

One of the prime requisites for the office of the National JACL President is thick skin. You can't satisfy everyone. You can also be sure that many who disagree with you will go on the attack. Many will be vicious.

One can insure against attacks by being totally non-committal, holding no views, and publicly supporting only motherhood, apple pie and the country's flag.

JACL is a multi-interest, multi-view organization. Sensitivity to ethnic concerns is one of vital interests among members. We even have a National Committee for Ethnic Concerns. From human rights, job discrimination to aging and retirement, there is not a subject of interest to Japanese Americans which is not of concern to JACL members because we are also the one and the same. More than thirty National JACL Committees tell the scope and the extent of JACL interests. However, expressing views which are considered by some not strictly JACL business will be criticized, "Who do you think you are?"

Dr. Jim Tsujimura is an ophthalmologist. His long years of involvement in JACL has nothing to do with his formal professional training. For JACL membership to know Jim better, to understand why he believes as he does, we need to hear him on many subjects.

As a National President you can't dwell on every prick which draws blood. It hurts, but you can't scream.

As this biennium progresses we will all get to know Jim a lot better because he will share with us his experiences and more important his thoughts concerning these experiences. Knowing Jim a great deal more than just the title he holds is also a step toward better understanding of the organization he heads—the JACL.



FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa

Pioneer Issei Families of Bend, Ore.

Denver, Colo.

A few weeks ago I wrote a column out of Bend, Ore., deploring, among other things, the absence of an interesting Japanese angle. Well, as often happens, I was wrong. There was a fascinating angle if only I had dug back 40 years into history I did not have time to do and which Yuriko Konno Zaima of Los Angeles did for me.

Yuriko Konno and her older sister, Nobuko, were born in Pasco, Wash., near the southeastern corner of the state. Konno was a retired section foreman, based at a desolate prairie station called Levey on the Oregon Trunk Line. It was a wild area, infested with rattlesnakes and coyotes. Yuriko writes:

"According to Mother, wild creatures would come to the doorstep. Father taught Mother how to shoot a pistol for protection. Mother used to tell us how she would practice shooting into the Snake River, using cans for targets."

When Nobuko approached school age, Konno bid on a foremanship in Redmond, Ore., a town of 500 16 miles north of Bend, so his children could go to school. Three other children, Tomiko, Seichi and Joyce, were born there. Yuriko recalls that among the happier moments of their childhood were the infrequent trips to Bend to shop at the J.C. Penney store.

There were a few other Japanese families in the area. The Akiyamas lived in Culver, and the Tanakas and Tambaras lived in Bend. The oldest Tambara son, Toru, now deceased, was a high school athlete of some considerable note in the mid-'30s, Yuriko recalls.

These families ran into no little prejudice. Yuriko remembers her mother describing how tomatoes and other

rotten vegetables were thrown at them on their arrival in Redmond. But there were many who befriended her. The mother, Ito Kanno, learned to bake bread and can food from Caucasian friends.

In time, Kanno built a small greenhouse for his wife, and she started bedding plants—flowers and vegetables—which enabled the local residents to enjoy gardens despite the short growing season. At first neighbors would buy the seedlings, but later there was such a demand that Ito Kanno wholesaled her plants at the local feed store. Meanwhile, she and her family were growing green peppers, tomatoes and other vegetables that won blue ribbons at the county fair. She added to the family's income by marketing surplus vegetables at the Piggly Wiggly in exchange for groceries.

After Konno died, Ito married another Issei, George Kinase who took care of the children as his own. When war came, many staunch friends supported the Kinase family while others demanded that the Japanese be fired from their railroad jobs. By then, Nobuko, Yuriko and Tomiko were working away from home. The high school principal and a minister offered to keep Joyce and Seichi in their homes to finish the school year, but Kinase decided it was wiser to move in with friends in Seattle.

George Kinase died in 1979 at age 96. Ito, now 91, is living in Hawaii with her daughter Joyce. Last summer she returned to Oregon to visit friends and realized one of her great ambitions. She climbed on a horse and went for an hour-long trail ride into the mountains, a fitting sentimental journey for a pistol-packing Issei lady who had to learn to use a firearm for her protection.

Of her central Oregon youth, Yuriko Konno Zaima writes: "It was a way of life I am happy to have experienced. Like everyone else we lived a very hard life what with five children, lacking material things, but we had a

EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani

Cold Sweat and Clammy Hands

Philadelphia



FOR THE TEENAGER, one of life's greatest mile-posts undoubtedly is attaining the status of a licensed automobile operator. Having that piece of cardboard represents so many things: proof of legal identity, no more ten-speed bike, unlimited mobility, sheer power merely with a slight depression on the accelerator. The rites of puberty are inconsequential compared to the day that the mailman brings the driver's license from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

WE ARE NOW in the excruciating midst of crossing the Rubicon with our youngest taking lessons under a temporary driving permit. For those of you who have mercifully forgotten how it was, and for those innocents who are yet to undergo this traumatic agony, may we briefly catalog some aspects. (Sharing the trauma is a catharsis for us, making the agony a bit more tolerable.)

THERE'S THE DAY when the temporary driving permit arrives, far too sooner than you had expected. (You only wish your other mail could be so prompt.) Your teenager matter-of-factly jars you with the nonchalant request to take her - in our case it is daughter Felicia - out for a few lessons. In your car. Your car! The car that you've lovingly kept polished, under whose hood resides a well-tuned engine from weekends of tin-

kering; your car for which fondness has grown with the passage of years. You unsuccessfully attempt to suppress a gulp, hoping that she didn't notice.

TRYING TO REMAIN calm in the impending crisis, you coolly suggest that she enroll in a driving school course. (Far better that some rental vehicle end up with crushed fenders than your cherished vehicle.) But even as you make the suggestion, you know you're in a losing battle; you can already hear the gears to your car grinding, the car lurching, the gleaming chrome and polished paint wrapped around some hapless tree.

WE ARE NOW on the road. You find that when writers speak of cold sweat and clammy hands, such is not fiction. All kinds of thoughts, all dreadful, swirl through your mind: Is my will up to date? Les'see, how far away are we from the nearest hospital? Every fireplug, every telephone pole, every parked car appears as an inevitable target. While appearing casual as possible (an impossible feat), your left hand casually dangles near the emergency brake, your right hand braced against the door, and both feet planted firmly against the floorboards.

SHE "KILLS" THE engine a couple of times, for which she apologizes. You smile weakly and assure her that everyone has that difficulty at the outset; that she'll soon "get the hang" of it. The gears don't grind as you had feared, except maybe once. And you become a bit more hopeful that your cherished chariot will perhaps survive this ordeal. And many of the other fears, - every intersection as the spot where your life can be snuffed out, every pedestrian a likely candidate for a death statistic, - do not materialize.

OUR DRIVEWAY NEVER looked so good, as we arrived. When asked by her mother how it went, she nonchalantly tells her "no sweat." No sweat? That's her side of the story.*

* Since writing this column some weeks ago, Felicia passed her test and received a regular driver's license.

35 Years Ago

in the Pacific Citizen

NOVEMBER 10, 1945

Oct. 19—Expatriate (Fumiko Tamura, Los Angeles) files suit to regain citizenship status; had renounced due to "fear, mistake, misunderstanding and duress" while in Manzanar.

Oct. 20—Nearly 1,300 men of 42nd returning home from Italy aboard Liberty ships; over 800 part of original group which came overseas in May 1944.

Oct. 20—Canadian Army lifts secrecy on its Japanese language war school in Vancouver, B.C.; about 60 in group.

Oct. 21—Adm. Nimitz, commander of U.S. Pacific fleet, cites Nisei "served with distinction" in Pacific theater; has no objection to enlistment of Japanese Americans in Navy.

Oct. 31—Cartoonist Bill Mauldin blasts anti-Nisei activities and native fascists in N.Y. Herald-Tribune forum on current problems.

Nov. 1—WRA official James Edmiston praises Santa Clara valley residents for their attitude on evacuees, "better received here than anywhere else".

Nov. 2—Nearly 300 Issei evacuated from Hawaii to be interned Santa Fe, N.M. camp arrive in Seattle for voyage home.

Nov. 3—So Pacific RR accedes to El Dorado Legion post's demand to remove evacuee section hands at Shingle Springs; eight families involved.

Nov. 5—Legion, Eagle and Sac'to chamber of commerce protest plans to house evacuees at Camp Kohler Army barracks; had been used as assembly center in 1942.

Nov. 7—Baptist congregation raises \$380 to help rebuild Cosma Sakamoto home in Loomis destroyed by fire in September, night before family was to return from Amache camp.

Nov. 8—American Council on Race Relations (chaired by Clarence Pickett of Philadelphia) calls for congressional action to reimburse evacuees for wartime losses and "glossing over" resettlement problems.

Nov. 10—PC editorial criticizes final Aug. 29 Army Board report on Pearl Harbor for totally ignoring loyalty of Hawaii's Nisei.

very close family relationship. My sister Nobuko was also a pioneer, for she was the first Nisei to go to school in the area in 1923 in the midst of early prejudice. I followed three years later, but she opened the path for the rest of us ... What resourceful people our Issei parents were. We have so much to be proud of." #

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Bookshelf

Poems, poems, poems

Thirty-three poets are represented in AMERICAN BORN AND FOREIGN: An anthology of Asian American poetry (Sunbury Press, Box 274 Jerome Ave. Station, Bronx, N.Y., \$3.50, 152pp) that creates moods, describes feelings or injects messages with a minimum of words and structure in some instances.

Richard Oyama (he's PC contributor Joe Oyama's son), now in San Francisco, co-edited this liter-

ary effort while working with the Basement Writers Workshop in the mid-1970s, a community arts group in New York's Chinatown. He and Fay Chiang were co-founders of the Workshop, a small mimeo press to publish Asian American writers. Sunbury Press has recognized and boosted their literary effort with the book.

Among the Nikkei contributors are Lonny Kaneko, Lane Nishikawa, Janice Mirikitani, Lori Higa, Merle Okada, Laura Tokunaga, Doug Yamamoto, Tomie Arai and Lawson Fusao Inada ("the poet laureate of Asian America").

Looking for a short poem to reprint here as a closing sampler, there weren't any... then I remembered this was not an anthology of Haiku or Tanka.—H.H.

Temple bell tower

FRESNO—A temple bell tower, 5 feet high and 3 1/2 feet in diameter, is being completed in front of the Buddhist Church here. The bell was given by Yehan Numata, Japanese industrialist, to his relative, the Rev. Chien Numata, who once served here. The bell tower is one of the seven features of a basic temple plan.

1000 Club

Year of Membership Indicated.
* Century ** Corp L-Life

| | |
|---|-------|
| Oct 20-23, 1980 (15) | |
| Berkeley: 2-Chie Kondo, 11-A Scarcella. | |
| Chicago: 123-Roy M. Kuroye. | |
| Downtown Los Angeles: 29-David Y | |
| Nitake, 23-Mitsuhiko H. Shimizu. | |
| Eden Township: 21-Momotaro Kawa- | |
| hara, 21-Sam Isami Kawahara. | |
| Florn: 22-Bill S. Taketa. | |
| Pasadena: 30-Yoneo Y. Deguchi. | |
| Philadelphia: 21-Chiyoko Koiwai. | |
| Sacramento: 21-Dr. Stanley Y. Inouye, 18- | |
| Dr. Hitoshi Okamoto. | |
| Watsonville: 14-Kenzo Yoshida. | |
| West Valley: 13-Dr. Seiji Shiba. | |
| Washington, DC: 2-Michio Nakajima. | |
| SUMMARY (Since Dec. 31, 1979) | |
| Active (Previous total) | 1,837 |
| Total this report | 15 |
| Current total | 1,852 |

JACL National Youth Conference Revisited

By **BRUCE K. SHIMIZU**
National Youth Director

Sacramento

July 22-27 was the hottest week of the year in Sacramento where the average daily temperature never dipped below 100°. This was the setting for the 1980 National Youth Conference at Cal State University, Sacramento.

Speakers from across the country gathered to present the history, culture and experience that is "Japanese American". A myriad of topics were woven into many informative workshops and activities. Subjects ranged from the early immigration of Japanese to the current day communication problems between Nisei and Sansei.

It wasn't all work though. The first night the youth enjoyed an evening luau along the banks of the American River. The food was prepared by the youth of the NC-WN-P District Council, as was the entire conference. National Vice-President for Public Affairs **Floyd Shimomura** dropped by to see how things were going, but he didn't stay for the disco that followed. The shores of the river came alive with the pulsing disco beat as the youth danced into the night.

Opening the conference program was Mr. **Jerry Enomoto**, former California Director of Youth and Adult Corrections. He spoke of the need for young people to get involved in JACL and its programs. Stressing the importance of new ideas and younger leaders for JACL, the former National President and the first National Youth Commissioner stated JACL's needs for the future very clearly. Jerry took time to come from New Mexico and share his experiences with the youth. From all of the conference participants and youth... thanks!

Mr. **Yuji Ichioka**, lecturer in Asian American Studies at UCLA, continued the program with his highly informative presentation on the Issei. Based on his extensive research into the early history of Japanese American pioneers, he presented a factual, but sensitive account of our beginnings. Listening to the stories of their tremendous struggles in settling in America, the youth became acutely aware of their lack of knowledge of these early Americans.

Prof. Roger Daniels, head of the History Department at the Univ. of Cincinnati, consultant to the JACL Television Project,

and author of several books on Japanese American history, spoke on the WW2 experience of Japanese Americans. Daniels led the youth through the course of events that culminated in the wholesale evacuation and incarceration of 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry. An informative and very interesting session, it left the youth with high hopes for the upcoming commission hearings. (Note: Professor Daniels was a witness at the recent House Committee hearings on H.R. 5499 speaking in favor of the passage of the bill).

The Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony was discussed by **Henry Taketa** of the Sacramento JACL. Taketa is an attorney in Sacramento and has done a lot of research on the colony. He presented a slide show depicting the history of the ill fated colony telling of this early group of Issei pioneers and how their dreams ended in failure. From the television series "Death Valley Days", the youth viewed a fictional account of the demise of the Wakamatsu Colony entitled, "The Dragon of Gold Hill". Mr. & Mrs. Taketa braved the 105° heat later in the week to join us at the site of the colony.

Professor Toaru Ishiyama, director of the Cuyahoga County Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, instructor at Case Western Reserve University, and acting president of the Cleveland Chapter joined **Hiroshi Kashiwagi**, a reknown Nisei playwright and founding member of the San Francisco based "Center Players", for a workshop on the Nisei. Through frank discussion of the sociological and psychological problems that face the average Nisei, they attempted to help the youth understand more about their parents.

A series of workshops dealing with current problems of young Japanese Americans was presented by volunteers **Mitzi Tanaka**, **Mike Ito**, and **Lisa Tanaka** of the Richmond Maxi Center in San Francisco. The program also included volunteer counsellor **Glen Hatakeyama**. **Nan Serzaki** of the San Francisco Japanese Family Service Program coordinated the successful event. Tying into what had transpired at the Nisei workshop, the participants placed a lot of emphasis on parent/child relations.

Third year Harvard student and volunteer research assistant for the National Redress Committee **Lon Hatamiya** from Marysville presented a session on JACL's Redress Program. He explained the legislative process that the bills had gone through and what lie ahead. (This workshop was held before the President signed the Commission Bill). Lon projected the benefits of the commission hearings and stressed the educational importance of this piece of legislation. He also showed excerpts from the March 22 Testimonial Dinner of an interview with **John Tateishi** and **Mike Masaoka's** speech. The questions that followed were very interesting and it was evident that much of the knowledge the youth had acquired was beginning to surface.

Singer/songwriter **Philip Kan Gotanda**, known for "The Avocado Kid" and "Song for a Nisei Fisherman", entertained and encouraged the youth to use their creative talents. Through his music Philip offered his impressions of life as an Asian American, speaking of his personal struggles between his desires and those of a conservative society. This proved to be a very moving session, one filled with deep emotion and wonderful music.

Thursday evening the youth took the night off from school to let their hair down and spend some money. The biennial Monte Carlo Night started off slow, but eventually picked up and soon everyone had the fever. An auction followed with such valuable prizes as Mt. St. Helens ash, Sebastopol apples, and more importantly, "junk food", selling for millions in funny money.

The last day of workshops was kicked off by four members of the Asian American Theater Company, **Judy Nihei**, **Mark Hayashi**, **Dennis Kubo**, and **Amy Hill Udo**. They presented a session on communications which involved many different forms of both verbal and non-verbal communication. This workshop in particular was enjoyed by the youth because it gave them the opportunity to get up and get involved. Everyone who partici-

pated agreed that this workshop was a real unique and exciting experience.

Funding has always been a problem for JACL and especially for the Youth Program. Professor **Robert Fuchigami** of the Education Department at Sonoma State University offered his services to help youth better understand grantsmanship. This session opened a new arena of funding to the participants. At the conclusion they were encouraged to look around their local communities for grant monies for JACL programming. Hopefully through other workshops like this, JACLers will be more inclined to seek federal, state, and local grants for worthwhile projects.

This ended the educational portion of the conference and the youth were turned loose on the American River for an afternoon of river rafting. Although hampered by a few logistical delays, the voyagers managed to trek the river and return tanned and quite satisfied. The evening was one of rest and relaxation, Japanese American Youth style. So as you can guess the next morning's 9:00 departure for the Wakamatsu Colony was dragged on until almost 10:30.

We boarded the busses (non-air conditioned) for the trip to the site of the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony near Coloma. Mr. & Mrs. **Henry Taketa** were there to greet us and after a brief explanation of the historical monument, they took us to the grave site of Okei. She was one of the colonists who remained in Gold Hill after the colony disbanded. Water was poured over the grave stone and a moment of silence was observed in memory of these pioneers from Aizu Wakamatsu.

Folsom lake was our next destination where the youth were greeted by a barbecue lunch and the hottest day of the year. Under these adverse conditions the youth held a meeting to discuss the merging of the JAYs into JACL. There was a lot of discussion and skepticism, but the decision was made to ask JACL to accept the JAYs into the organization. Japanese American youth wouldn't mind joining JACL if they could participate actively. The youth recognize the fact that JACL leadership is getting older and that new leaders need to become involved. This was their contribution in helping the evolution of this change.

The youth also elected a new National Youth Council Chairperson, **Ron Tajii**. Ron, a student at U.C. Irvine, is from Santa Rosa, California and a member of the Sonoma Chapter. He has been involved in Jr. JACL and JAYs for almost ten years and has many ideas for the National Youth Program. Having served in various chapter offices, he has been a chapter president sitting on the JACL Chapter Board. Ron replaces **Cathy Hironaka** who served as the N.Y.C.C. for the past two years. Cathy is a graduate student at Michigan State University and is originally from Dayton, Ohio. (Yes, she is the daughter of P.C. cartoonist **Pete Hironaka**).

The final night of the conference was spent at the Sacramento Community/Convention Center enjoying fine food, song, and the inspirational words of Mr. **George Takei**. Publicized as "A Celebration", the final night banquet/dance was emceed by **Ms. Wendy Tokuda**, anchorperson of KPIX Television News. **Dr. Clifford Uyeda**, then National President for JACL offered greetings from the organization and praised the youth for participating in such a worthwhile conference. Also in attendance were **Dr. James Tsujimura**, then National Vice-President for Research and Services; **George Kodama**, National Secretary/Treasurer; **James Murakami**, past National JACL President; and members of the JACL National Staff.

Keynote speaker **George Takei**, star of the television series and motion picture "Star Trek", and author of the science fiction thriller **Mirror Friend, Mirror Foe**, spoke on the importance of young Japanese Americans becoming involved in their communities. He noted that the increasing tension between U.S. and Japanese industry is once again placing Japanese Americans in the position of bearing the brunt of racial hostilities. Mr. Takei pointed out that no matter how high Japanese Americans have risen on the social scale, we have a long way to go before we are equal.

The evening climaxed with "Too Hot", a dance dedicated to the youth who participated in the conference and in part to the weather. Music was provided by Arrival and the youth boogied til late in the night. The next day was spent saying good-bye and collecting addresses of new made friends. The staff of the conference was left counting pillow cases, sheets and towels. For a few of the youth their next destination was San Francisco... or should I say Millbrae, for the JACL National Convention.

This conference was quite an experience for the youth and it is my hope that programs like this will continue. JACL has an obligation to provide the people of the Japanese American community with this type of educational material and opportunities like this to meet and discuss current J/A problems. Through concepts like Operation 80's, JACL can make a difference. #

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Calendar

* Non-JACL event

- NOV. 7 (Friday)
Cleveland—Bd mtg.
Diablo Valley—Boutique Sale (2da), Soroptimists, Pleasant Hill
*Los Angeles—SAAY Open House, 4209 Sta Monica Bl. #1, 3-7pm
- NOV. 8 (Saturday)
Stockton—1000 Club dist whing ding, Gong Lee Minnie's Restaurant, 5:30pm
East Los Angeles—Schol benefit dance, Nishi Hongwanji Hall, 9pm
Eden Township—JACL/AA's inst dnr, Francesco's Restaurant, 7pm; Vernon Yoshioka, spkr
*Los Angeles—Asn Busi Assn buffet, Kaz Inouye res, Bel Air, 4pm
- NOV. 9 (Sunday)
NC-WNPDC/Lodi—Dist sess-elections, New Yorker Coffee Shop, 9am
Hoosier—Memb pitch-in dnr, Auntie Mame's Child Dvlpmt Ctr, 2-5pm
- NOV. 10 (Monday)
Alameda—Bd mtg, Buena Vista Uni Methodist Ch, 7:30pm
Milwaukee—Bd mtg
- NOV. 11 (Tuesday)
Stockton—Election mtg, Cal First Bank, 8pm
- NOV. 12 (Wednesday)
*San Francisco—Parent-Youth mtg, Summito Bank-Geary Office, 7:30pm
*Los Angeles—Equisvest Associates 10th anny Open House, El Monte, 4:30pm
- NOV. 14 (Friday)
Philadelphia—Bd mtg, T Maebori's res, San Jose—Inst dnr-dance, Zorba's, 7pm; Duane Kubo, Hito Hata director, spkr
- NOV. 15 (Saturday)
CCDC/Fresno—DC conv (2da), Hacienda Inn; Sat eve mtg, Sun 1:30pm workshop: 'Asian Woman, Asian Man', Sun 6:30 banq: Lt Gov Jean S King of Hawaii, spkr
Riverside—Community Thanksgiving dnr, 1st Christian Church
- *West Los Angeles—Inst dnr, Miramar Sheraton, Sta Monica, 7pm; Sup'r Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, spkr
*Gardena—No Gda Uni Meth Ch bazaar, 11am-3pm
- NOV. 16 (Sunday)
PSWDC/Hollywood—DC sess, Little Tokyo Tower, 9am; CBS-TV's "Nisei: the Pride and the Shame", noon
Cincinnati—Bd mtg, J Vidourek's, 1pm
*San Francisco—Japanese Speech contest, Christ United Presbyterian Ch, 1pm
- NOV. 19 (Wednesday)
San Mateo—Bd mtg, Sturge Presbyterian Church, 8pm
- NOV. 21 (Friday)
Milwaukee—Folk Fair (3da), MECCA
Contra Costa—CARP pre-retirement mtg, East Bay Free Meth Ch, El Cerrito, 8pm
*Los Angeles—Japan Expo '80 (3da), Conv Ctr, noon-10pm
*Seattle—Nippon Kan celebration (2da)
- NOV. 22 (Saturday)
Tri-Valley—Sake tasting, Numano's, Berkeley
Boise Valley—Dnr mtg, North's Chuckwagon, Nampa, 6:30pm; Inspection of JACL Hall to follow
- NOV. 23 (Sunday)
Salinas Valley—Sr Cit Thanksgiving dnr, Lincoln Ave Presbyterian Church
*San Jose—Hito Hata: Raise the Banner film, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, 7pm
- NOV. 29 (Saturday)
Milwaukee—Gen mtg, Folk Fair resale, Int Instit, 7:30pm
*Marysville—35th NC YBL Conf, Buddhist Church; George Takei, keynote spkr
- NOV. 30 (Sunday)
Boise Valley—Family bowling party, Nampa Bowling Ctr, 1-6pm
- DEC. 1 (Monday)
Milwaukee—Bd mtg, Ed Jonokuchi's res, 7:30pm

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KUNITSUGU Continued from Front Page

process 38 years ago, that the lieutenant would hang his tail in retreat in the face of only a glare from Oda. That flute would have been confiscated by force, or the lieutenant would have demanded that Oda unwrap it and show him it was not a weapon.

The Issei knew what it mean by *makeke katsu*, win by losing. They swallowed their pride many times, but they survived, because in their hearts they knew they were somebody, true Japanese out of the Meiji Restoration Era who were going to make it in an alien land, come hell or high water, and if they themselves couldn't quite make it, they were going to make sure their children would.

Having made Oda a bachelor was a mistake. Generally speaking, bachelors were Issei who led a dissolute life and were unwilling to take on the responsibilities represented by a family. They were the ones who went on the town on payday, laughing at the *richigimono* who went to the bank instead, sending money back to their parents and relatives in Japan, in time having a bride found for them, via pictures or otherwise, and finally raising a family.

Oda would have been more believable, had he at least a wife, particularly since there was no lack in his character or appearance to explain his bachelorhood. They could have been a childless couple, or they could have had a son who died in World War II. His wife could have died soon after, leaving Oda to live alone in Little Tokyo.

In fact, a whole dramatic crisis in the life of the Issei, when divided loyalties rent families throughout the American concentration camps, is missing in "Hito Hata".

THE SAME ISSEI-AS-VICTIM mentality is seen in the sequences involving Tatsumi, Oda's friend who takes the money from the CRA and moves to Skid Row. So intent were the

filmmakers in making the CRA the bad guys that they had no qualms about overlooking the fact that CRA would not have approved payment for Tatsumi, if they knew he intended to move into a Skid Row hotel. The move has to be to a comparable or better housing, with strictly defined requirements. The portrayal of the CRA as a briber of long-time residents to move out of Little Tokyo is unfair and untrue.

The fact is that Oda and Tatsumi, if they were long-time residents in Little Tokyo, would have been among the first to move into Little Tokyo Towers, but again, this would have spoiled the concept of Issei as victims. The Issei never looked on themselves as poor-little-me victims, because they understood that pride is a triumph of the spirit, not a childish macho defiance of the moment. Of what good is Oda's "raising the banner" in the last scene, when all it does is to postpone the inevitable? His old hotel would still have to come down.

THE BEST THING about "Hito Hata" was director Bob Nakamura's strong point—documentary reporting. The scenes in Oda's Little Tokyo apartment were gems of the telling detail, beautifully photographed. Such everyday gestures as giving the goldfish won at the carnival a home in a Mason jar or mixing a cup of instant coffee (with three teaspoons of sugar) told more about Oda's life and his Issei-ness than any number of dramatic and expensive flashbacks, including a re-creation of a 1930s Nisei Week, which was useless to the story. A rapid montage of sepia photographs would have been just as effective.

If Visual Communications can recognize that writing is every bit as specialized a field as cinematography or directing and leave off trying to fit the story to what they think life ought to be, they have a great future. I salute their courage and perseverance in making the film. They have the Issei pioneering spirit, but at this point of their development, they haven't quite figured out how to package it in a film. #

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