**Busing rider delays commission funding**

WASHINGTON—In the final hours of the lame-duck session, Congress has sent President Carter a Justice Department appropriation bill which includes \$1.5 million for funding the commission hearings in view of the oversight the last time in missing proper attribution to Michael Weegren's description of camp life in her "Years of Infamy." (see President's Corner this issue, page 4).

Rep. Norman Mineta's legislative assistant John Connerley explained the failure of the 96th Congress to authorize monies for the commission hearings at this time is a "temporary delay" in the process. Since the commission is law and will receive funding, the question was when. "I'm sure it will be one of the first items taken up by the 97th Congress," Connerley reported. "It might take several months longer than planned to get the money."

The Commission members were here designated by this time, its staff organized in December-January with initial hearings in February (dramatically on Feb. 19, perhaps, on the West Coast).

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**Holiday Schedule**

The annual Holiday Issue dated Dec. 19-26 will be published next week. A two-week break will follow. The 1981 schedule resumes with the New Year Special dated Jan. 29 (deadline for which is Jan. 2).

—Pacific Citizen

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**A diligent teacher fired as incompetent**

Dexter Waugh of the San Francisco Examiner went to Livingston in mid-November to interview Mis­ue Takahashi, who was fired by the Livingston Union School District (Nov. 28, 80) for being "incompetent" after 20 years of pro­fessional teaching. Waugh's report in the Sunday Ex­aminer the following Sunday, which has been reprinted by The Japanese Americans dailies. We join them but also include one of the large photos appearing with this sensationally written story...

By DEXTER WAUGH

LIVINGSTON, Merced County—Mis­ue Takahashi was absolutely devastated. She had gone away at the end of the three-day hearing in October, anticipating a favorable ruling from the panel that would de­cide her future as a teacher.

She got the notice in the mail on a Thursday in November, from the Office of Administrative Hearings in Sacra­mento. The panel had voted 2-0 to uphold her dismissal as a permanent certified em­ployee from the Livingston Union School District.

After 20 years and countless students, including her own four kids, who had gone through her eighth-grade class, Takahashi had become the first teacher in California to lose her job solely because she was found to be in­com­petent.

A group of students with learning disabilities stopped her and hugged her. They didn't know it was her last day but, said Takahashi, "It was a good enough sendoff for me."

Popular with her colleagues and students, Takahashi had been accused of having no control over her students.

A custodian working in her classroom testified he heard students mouthing obscenities while Takahashi acted as if nothing was going on.

Two persons who had been school principals at Livingston Intermediate testified they had seen students yelling and running in and out of her room, while the teacher "ignored the screams."

Takahashi denied all the ac­cusations. "They were not un­ruly. They did not misbehave. I am not incompetent," she said softly.

The move to dismiss a teacher for incompetence in a town of this size—about 4,000 people—was not an easy one, said Livingston Schools Super­intendent Harold Thompson.

"It was a calculated risk that it might split the community because incidents like this sometimes create havoc," said Thompson. "So far, it hasn't. Very rarely in the community knows the lady. She's of respect in the neighborhood."

Everybody in the commu­nity knows the lady. She's been here a long time. In other re­gards, she is considered a good person. If she was some­body who was undesirable it would have been easy to do.

But she's loyal and hardworking. The only basic problem was the kids just ran over her."

Takahashi, a native of near­by Turlock, was in the eighth grade when war with Japan broke out and all Americans of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast were herded into concentration camps. She spent the war years with her family in a camp in Colorado.

Her teacher in the camp helped her get a scholarship to Northwestern University. She later graduated from Stanford University.

She married, moved to Li­vingston, raised four children, served in the PTA. One day, a previous superintendent told her there was an opening for a teacher. She applied and got the position.

"Over the years Takahashi headed the Classroom Teach­ers Association, coached girls' basketball for a couple years in the commu­nity recreation program. She loved teaching, she said. Scores of teachers have been fired since 1971, when state law moved such dismiss­als proceeding out of Super­visor Court rooms and before a hearing panel. In the ex­perience of Administrative Law Judge Rudolf Michael (696) said the charges—combined with other charges—such as untruthfulness, unprofessional conduct, immorality.

"Normally, the districts throw in about four or five dif­ferent causes," said attorney Paul Loya, who argued against keeping Takahashi as a class­room teacher.

"I would have done that in this case if I thought they would have sustained. This was solely a case of com­petency."

Michael said his office fires about 30 teacher dis­missal cases a year, about half of which actually result in dis­missal.

One argument offered by Fresno attorney Ernest Tuttle III was that Takahashi's stu­dents met the academic re­quirements set by the district.

"Her kids did meet all the standards. Then to say she is incompetent, when the district set standards and she met all the standards, we don't think that's permissible."

"Just because on a partic­ular occasion a particular se­venth or eighth grader acts up you can't hold a particular teacher responsible. This is a difficult area to manage," he said.

Tuttle's argument about academic standards "didn't go unheeded," said panel chair­man Michael. But, he said, "if you could get passing grades in a chaotic classroom, God knows what they'd do in an envi­ronment that's more condu­cive to learning."

Superintendent Thompson said officials had been aware of "the problem" for about 10 years. But the move against Takahashi began about four years ago when two principals started writing negative re­ports about her classroom control.

Thompson said the admin­istration attempted to work with Takahashi, offering her spe­
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**IN 1839 IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**Original Siamese twins naturalized U.S. citizens**

By JIM BROWN
(Hawaii Hochi)

Although barriers against naturalization of Asians of foreign birth in the United States were not lifted until this century, two very famous Chinese brothers did become citizens of this country in 1839.

They were the original Siamese twins, Chang & Eng, joined from birth by a band of flesh containing a common navel. They were born in Thailand in 1811 to a Chinese father and a mother who were ¼ Thai and ¾ Chinese. They came to the United States as young men and eventually settled in North Carolina. In 1843 they married two sisters. They had a total of 21 children and died within two hours of each other in 1874.

The brothers later took the surname of Bunker. They were farmers, and until the Civil War ended, slaveholders. In the latter years of their marriage each had a separate household. They rigidly moved from one house to another every three days.

Today it is estimated that more than 1,000 of their descendants are scattered throughout the country. One of Eng’s grandsons had twins, who were also named Chang and Eng. Their grandfather, Robert, youngest of the original Eng’s sons, died in 1951.

The modern-day Eng owns the ancestral farm in North Carolina.

The most famous of the twin’s descendants was Air Force Major General Caleb Vance Haynes, grandson of Chang, and chief of the American Bomber Command in China during World War II.

More details about the pair can be found in “The Two”, a biography by Irving Wallace & Amy Wallace (Simon & Schuster, New York, 1978, $19.95).

Fluor gives $25,000 to JACC

LOS ANGELES—The Fluor Foundation, headquartered in Orange County, has donated $25,000 to the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center since Fluor formalized its contributions program with the formation of the Fluor Foundation in 1982, the international company supports approximate 700 educational, social services, philanthropic, and cultural activities through the Foundation and corporate donation programs.

Fluor Corp provides engineering, procurement and project management services and industrial clients throughout the world.

JACC President George J. Dritzak expressed appreciation to the foundation for its help and acknowledged the assistance of Ino Miyashita, senior structural engineer at Fluor Corp.

Ethnic studies grants offered

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Dept. of Education has extended its deadline for filing applications for grants under the Ethnic Studies Program to Jan. 4, 1984, according to the JACL Washington Office.

The grants provide financial assistance to nonprofit educational institutions, agencies and organizations in development and implementation of elementary and secondary educational curricula in order to afford students the opportunity to learn about their own cultural heritage as well as those of other ethnic groups, grants up to $175,000 per year will be announced in June. For information, write to U.S. Office of Educational Research and Improvement, Washington, D.C. 20202.

**TEACHER**

Continued From Page 2

vandalism. For some reason, this little town is a model community, as far as young people. We’ve never had a case where a room was vandalized.

Sixty percent of the students, he said, are Latino, and 25 percent of the faculty speak English and Spanish. Although there is a large adult Japanese-American population, there are only two Japanese-American students in the school.

*WA. STATE*

Continued From Page 1

is a graduate from Washington State University in social work, worked as a youth counselor in Portland and Puyallup and for the past 3 ½ years has been director of the Tacoma-based Asian American Alliance. A native of Puy­ allup Valley JACL, she assisted Art Wang in his successful bid as representative of the 26th district in Tacoma.

Greetings Omitted Due to Reawakening

We are not observing the holiday tradition of sending greeting cards this year, due to the passing of mother, Teru Kuwada.

FRANK & HELEN YAMAKOSHI Redley, Ca.
...of Infamy...

A freelance writer in San Francisco is a regular contributor to the Hotbed Mainichi, San Francisco Chronicle, the Sacramento Bee, and the Los Angeles Times.

By JORDAN PARDIAL
Sacramento, CA.

If you don’t know the name of Leslie L. Grogan, don’t feel bad. Just the same, though, his name should be well known to historians, World War II buffs and, perhaps, particularly Japanese Americans, seeking answers regarding the “relocation.”

Grogan lived in Daly City, died in undeserved obscurity a little more than five years ago at age 71. His memorial is a nine-page, single-spaced “log” he is supposed to have kept up on Dec. 10, 1941.

In this log, Grogan tells how, starting on Sunday, Nov. 30, he began intercepting and copying messages that were being communicated between the JACL’s districts, plus Kauai Office from Washington, D.C., and relevant staff members.

Among other items on a full agenda, one of the important points aired was the strategy that JACL would pursue once the commission completes its work on Congress:

There has been some discussion about seeking enabling legislation to nullify the statute of limitations so we could take our case to the courts, an idea first raised within the organization. It was felt that this approach to monetary compensation would be the most feasible of alternatives. The courts, it was believed, would be more amenable to a discussion of complications for damages action.

It was felt, however, that this strategy would be too cumbersome and too costly both in time and money. It was pointed out during the meeting by those experienced in Congress that, in the first place, it is unlikely we would be able to get such legislation passed because of the strong feeling in Congress that it is an unwarranted expansion of the bill of rights. In the second place, it would require the JACL to pursue its case to the courts, an idea first raised within the organization. It was felt that this approach to monetary compensation would be the most feasible of alternatives. The courts, it was believed, would be more amenable to a discussion of complications for damages action.

There was no agreement on a full agenda, one of the important points aired was the strategy that JACL would pursue once the commission completes its work on Congress. The organization has long been known for its dedication to the principles of human rights and justice, and its commitment to advancing the interests of the Japanese American community.

On Strategy

The San Francisco JACL held its annual convention at the Alexander Young Hotel.

REDRESS PHASE 3: by John Tateishi

On Dec. 10, 1941

Aging, Inc., New York), Hibakusha and to an Issei fund by the JACL.

THE PACIFIC CITIZEN, Friday, December 12, 1980

ISSN 0030-8577

pacific citizen

4-PACIFIC CITIZEN Friday, December 12, 1980

PRESIDENT’S CORNER: by Dr. Jim Tsugawa

During the San Francisco Convention, the JACL’s Western Area office was opened.

The Western Area office is responsible for the JACL’s activities in the Western United States, including California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, and Arizona.

On July 17, 1980, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) held its annual convention in San Francisco. The convention was held at the Alexander Young Hotel.

The JACL is a national organization founded in 1910. It is the largest and oldest Japanese American civil rights organization in the United States.

The JACL’s mission is to promote understanding and appreciation of Japanese American culture and history, and to advocate for the rights and interests of Japanese Americans.

The JACL has a long history of advocating for the rights of Japanese Americans, including during the internment and relocation of Japanese Americans during World War II.

The JACL’s Western Area office is a critical resource for Japanese Americans in the Western United States, providing support and resources to the JACL’s chapters and members in the region.

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U.S.-Japan Issues

Washington, D.C.

As everyone knows, the JACL is heavily preoccupied these days with the changes that will take place as a result of the installation of the Reagan landslide. There will be policy changes in government and changes in the personnel to carry them out, changes in the makeup of Congress, changes in leadership and membership, changes in the way the White House administers and entertains, and even changes be- 

Although the Reagan landslide had been elected, what Reagan the president will try to do.

So the popular pastime these days when the lame duck Congress is hurrying through its slate of "must" legislation is trying to guess the shape of changes to come in January when Jimmy Carter goes back to Plains, Ga., and the new administration takes over. And one of the questions being asked is what Reagan the policy will be toward Asia, and particularly Japan.

Previous administrations have told us that good rela-

Asking the president to do.

U.S.-Japan relations with Japan are of utmost importance to the United States. Yet they don't quite seem to jell into a warm, fully

trusting partnership even though there are many good reasons why they should be paid to the idea. Japan was, and still is, the cornerstone of American policy in the Far East. U.S.-Japanese trade is the largest between any two nations. The two countries work together in other than between Canada and the United States. Japan is dependent on U.S. military strength for its own safety, and the United States depends on virtually automatic Japanese friendship.

But it quickly becomes apparent to the fact-seeking visitor that, despite headlines about the harmful impact of the ongoing commercial relationship, the steady Americanization of Japan, the threat to Japanese culture and tradition, and the resultant loss of identity, the United States is doing its utmost to stimulate the economy and to encourage Japanese production.

What issues? There are plenty of them. The federal budget, for instance. Domestic energy policy, what to do about the nagging Japanese hostage problem, the dreamy Afghanistan invasion, the bothersome Iran-Iraq war, the Israeli-Egyptian peace that doesn't want to jell, the Polish unrest and what may result from it, the expanding Communist threat in the Caribbean, coups in black African dictatorships, staging of new metals, the steady disintegration of NATO as a viable alliance as its members insist on following their own interests, what to do about the increasing American military credibility with and without SALT go entirely down the drain, and so on and on.

Every once in a while in these discussions China and Taiwan always seem to be there. The issue of South Korea will pop up, but only briefly before the focus returns to some of the items listed in the previous paragraph.

The one exception was a session with Sen. Orrin Hatch, the conservative Republican from Utah who attended a conference in Tokyo some weeks ago to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Mutual Security Treaty. On the basis of that experience he told the Senate that previous administrations have failed to enhance the perception of values we ought to have from allies in Europe and Japan.

On this theme, he filled about seven pages of the Congressional Record on Nov. 19 with texts and reports on Japanese military installations. There's no much chance this materi-

al will be read any more than any other material in the Congressional Record, but at least it's there.

Now we'll have to wait and see what, if anything, happens when the Reagan administration takes over.

For the Record

The last two paragraphs in Bill Hosokawa's column on the Japanese Communist Party in the Congress Report on Jan. 10 were truncated and their omission of the italicized portions--ED.

The set of real estate, this fact

REWIND: by Bill Marutoni

New Wine in New Bottles

Philadelphia

For SOME YEARS, we've been advocating to the JACL national convention that the selection of the procedure by which biennial national conventions are awarded to a chapter. From the outset, we have decided that, on the whole, the process is far too important to be left to chance. Moreover, innovativechanges that we have not been evident in any chapter have been accompanied by much hoopla and glowing chamber-of-commerce promises. We hasten to add that we are grateful for such enthusiasm and the subsequent sacrifices of the convention committee of the chapter awarded the task of hosting a national convention. Indeed, we urge the enthusiastic by the selection of a delegation seeking the convention.

AT THE SAME time, however, there are a number of factors that should be soberly considered and weighed in this decision-making process, just to mention a few: Who recruits the delegates and boosters? Transportation facilities in not only reaching the site but also during the convention? What is to be the role of the national organization? What is the convention theme, principal speaker, support required, sharing of costs -- and, by the way, "how much will it cost?" If the chapter had previously hosted a convention, what had been the evaluation as to how well it had performed before? What thought, if any, has been given to organization and programming to attract younger (new) folks to these biennial gatherings? Do we solicit their views? (Indeed, we do provide means for "old timers" to provide constructive sugges-

THERE SHOULD be established a national standing committee on National Conventions. Such a committee would, among other things, act as an advisory body on the selection of chapters which conformed to the requirements of the procedures. The committee should survey the past history of conventions and may well urge a particular chapter to host a convention because of a particular JACL objective that happens to focus on that region of the country. In short, there should be deliberate decision making.

WE MAY DO well to pause and to reassess the entire matter of national conventions. We should be willing to sit aside all past practices so that new concepts, fresh approaches, and innovative changes will not be throttled by the inertia of the past. We do know we are willing to explore placing new wine--in new bottles.

Rokaji Conscious in Japanese

Part VII

Japanese thinking on Japanese phonetics has been vague. It is not a serious and scholarly attempt to understand the phonetic system of Japanese. The Japanese language is not spoken in the 50-tone Gestalt, and the unfitness of the kana for the analytical examination of speech sounds. The misconception of Japanese language as a language without consonants is unaccepted by the Japanese themselves. All three systems of Romaji orthography subscribe to it. But there are a considerable number of Japanese words and names in which consonants occur, and the Japanese have been dealing with them in different ways, as they occur that the previous generation of the students was not. Japanese teachers are educated in the same way the students are educated in the same way the teachers are educated in the same way, therefore there are varied degrees of explicit, as there are for instance the "kikko" and "okuiru," "pretty good" and "very good," "shoikai" and "shoikai.

A great majority of Japanese, including teachers of Japanese, do not think about, learn, and speak Romaji.

As for Romaji, the former become more knowledgeable about things Japanese, more of them are persuaded to the Heianbun view of Japanese phonology. But their 19th century predecessors who only had their ears to rely on seem to have caught on to the truth without hesitation. They discovered the great artist Holzai and established his name. Some even today in Hiroi, Tokyo, are closer to the way we pronounce the name than Holzai, as it is spelled today.

And today, there still are some who have minds of their own as to Japanese spelling. Donald Keane, in his translation of Chikakusa, is thinking about it. "Woo" is a term for the "gai" (which I do not quite understand) his spelling conveys a more accurate sound of the name than the traditional Kokousa.

By the way, Keane is another brilliant product of the WW II's Military Intelligence Language program. He delivers a lecture on Japanese literature, in Japanese, and does it without once using English. I often find it very difficult to write my Japanese column without some help from English.

For Japanese it must have been hampered by the way the book was published. We have not been evident in any chapter have been accompanied by much hoopla and glowing chamber-of-commerce promises.

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A great majority of Japanese, including teachers of Japanese, do not think about, learn, and speak Romaji.
By GEORGE KODAMA  
(National JACL Treas.)  

Los Angeles  
Saturday, Sept. 27, 1980, should be remembered as the day the JACL National Board dealt two crippling blows to the budget by giving away the astounding sum of $67,000 as shown in the adjoining column. When the National Convention adjourned from a trying budget session (at San Francisco this past summer), it was with the clear impression that everyone understood the JACL was working with a very tight budget with no room for tampering. The Board chose to think and act otherwise.

First, in the face of staff cries of anguish and alarm foretelling dire consequences if their demands were not met, the Board caved in and approved salary increases including related costs of almost $22,000. And this, coming on the heels of a near-10% across-the-board increase previously given which had not even become effective.

Next, the Board gave away $45,000 by way of a $5 spousal discount affecting close to 18,000 family units included in the current membership count. And as if that were enough and not included in the $67,000 "loss"—there was Board approval of a $2.00 incentive payment to chapters for signing up new members. This means that JACL would have to gain 3,300 new members just to reach the starting line!

In light of the 1981-82 dues increase, 1981 Blue Shield premium hikes, travel program discontinuance, and dwindling interest in JACL itself, we would be doing well just hanging onto our present membership. Now all of a sudden, our problems, financial and otherwise, have multiplied.

The main casualty in this mess is the "Other Programs and Contingency Reserve" line item. You can see from the proposed budget published in the PC shortly before the convention that this is a newly-created expense category established to fund all national committee work, national programs and whatever other special activities JACL finds necessary to undertake. Except for this item, all of the rest of the budget is what costs JACL to keep its doors open.

So, what started out as $25,000, savaged the tornads of the National Council, then left to the starting actions of the National Board, now ends up before the new year even begins with a deficit of almost $12,000. In itself, this is an absurdity. It is also intolerable since JACL would simply exist for its own sake and soon lose its raison d'être for existence for those buying the prevailing notion that meaningful programs are what attracts and holds the membership together.

Therefore, with no allocation for any purpose than to maintain the organization, we have no choice but to re-examine the entire budget and reallocate from other expense items so that the $25,000 is restored to its rightful place in the budget. In total, that will take $37,000 in cuts throughout the budget. And that is the task facing the National President, Treasurer and Director (the National Finance Committee).

My purpose here is to inform the membership and not to excoriate the National Board who, for the most part, is made up of well-meaning individuals with an abundance of good intentions but with a corresponding dearth of sound business judgment. I've said it many times before, and once again, JACL needs to be operated like a business because that's exactly what it is in nearly every sense of the word.

JACL must sell itself by providing value, however intangible that may seem to be at times, to justify the dollars it expects to receive. A corollary to value is good management by the organization's national leadership, and that includes caving in to every staff request. In my view, recent actions by JACL's governing body don't help in maintaining this concept.

********

From the shadows of Mt. Baldy in Sun Valley, Idaho...
Calendar

**OAKLAND, Yoshioka, CIapter**

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MISSING PERSON
Anyone knowing the whereabouts of YOSHINO ISHIGE (age 72), please contact his brother, Min Ishige by collect call at (415) 334-0374.

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YANKEE SAMURAI tells the hitherto secret story of nisei who shortened the Pacific War by at least two years at a saving of over 1,000,000 casualties, while their families and friends were interned behind barbed wire in American concentration camps.

Since publication in June, 1979, YANKEE SAMURAI has sold over 10,000 copies through mail orders and bookstores. Through Literary Guild, it has sold an additional 23,000 copies.

YANKEE SAMURAI has generated a number of governmental, literary and media events that are of historical and sociological significance to Japanese Americans. Americans and Japanese in Japan.

On May 9, 1980, the United States Army paid national tribute to Sergeant Frank Hachiya, Sergeant Terry Mizutari and Sergeant George Nakamura, Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) men, who gave their lives to America in the Pacific Theater during WWII by naming three academic buildings in their honor at Defense Language Institute, Presidio of Monterey, California. The stories of these three heroes are included in YANKEE SAMURAI.

NHK, Nippon Hoso Kyokai, the prestigious national TV broadcasting company of Tokyo, Japan covered the DLI building dedication.

NHK is now filming a nisei documentary based on the experiences of the three MISLS men and will include the immigration of Japanese to America, WW II, the Relocation, MISLs, 442 Regimental Combat Team and the JACL. Their program will be shown in Japan on December 7, 1980. Discussions have opened between NHK and PBS for possible adaptation of the documentary for television showings in America.

In late autumn, 1980, Hayakawa Publishers of Tokyo, Japan released their Japanese translation of YANKEE SAMURAI.

The Japanese language edition of Reader's Digest for December 1980 features a 3,000 word article on YANKEE SAMURAI.

In the meantime President Carter has signed the JACL Redress Bill, which establishes a Congressional Commission to investigate the four year internment of Japanese Americans from 1942 to 1946. The significance of this injustice cannot possibly be understood without knowing about the 442 Regimental Combat Team and MISLS. The 442 was highly publicized while they fought in Europe and afterwards. But the MISLS story was not revealed for thirty years and can be known only by reading YANKEE SAMURAI.

At this time, with the increased interest in Japanese-American history, we are offering special discounts from the regular $11.95 price. We suggest that you order copies of YANKEE SAMURAI for your own libraries, as gifts to your children and families and friends, as reference material to your representatives in Congress and as donations to your schools and public libraries. Please use the order blank which is provided for your convenience. Orders will be filled expeditiously.

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[Order Form]
Fridaay, December 12, 1980 / PACIFIC CITIZEN - 9

Bookshelf
• Wilson-Hosokawa recital of persecution especially 'well done'
  By Robert D. Shulman (Risky Mountain News)

Robert A. Wilson, an historian at UCLA, and Bill Hosokawa, an associate editor of the Denver Post, have collaborated on a detailed study of the 100-year history of the Japanese in the United States.

Their book, “East to America,” was nearly 20 years in the making, one of the products of the Japanese American Research Project begun in the early sixties.

The project assembled a large archive on Japanese Americans and arranged for several studies to be published making use of these materials. One of the best known of these books was Hosokawa’s 1969 popular history, “Nisei: The Quiet Americans.” While Hosokawa worked on “Nisei,” Wilson received the commission for a scholarly reference work.

When Wilson finished the manuscript of “East to America,” the powers at the Morrow publishing house decided that the book needed the finishing touches of an accomplished editor. Who better suited for the job than Bill Hosokawa? Happily, Hosokawa agreed to whip Wilson’s book into shape, and the result shows some of his skills.

As this publishing history suggests, “East to America” does not try to be a popular work. The style is academic with many long-winded quotations from professors slowing the pace. Still, Wilson was charged with supplementing, not supplanting, Hosokawa’s “Nisei.” He accomplishes this task well by providing a full bibliography and notes for scholars and students. Many of the details of the story have been told before, but “East to America” earns high marks for recounting the most dramatic incidents equally well.

The recital of the inescapable persecution of the Japanese in America during World War II is especially well done. For students of American ethnic groups and for anyone with a special interest in Japanese Americans, “East to America” deserves a place on the shelf next to Hosokawa’s “Nisei.”

Robert D. Shulman is an associate professor of history at the Univ. of Colorado in Boulder.

---

Many subscribers are purchasing copies of “East to America” for their friends or family members in distant parts. By simply filling out order coupon with the name & address of the recipient, JACL-JARP will ship those copies with the inscription, “Gift from—”, on the address label. With the thought of the approaching Holiday season, “East to America” will be an ideal and welcome gift. People intending to make these gifts are urged to send in their orders NOW. Please, make your orders early to avoid last minute hassle.

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(As of Oct. 15, 1980)

Thirty-Five Years in the Flying Panel, by Bill Hosokawa. Selections from the 35-year columns contributed by a leading columnist to the Japanese American newspaper, the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner.

Nisei: The Quiet Americans, by Bill Hosokawa. Popular History of the Japanese in America. Published in 320 recipes, 510 pages, color plates, $14.95. Available at fine bookstores or direct from the publisher. (See mailing ad for catalog.

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(Nihon means "Japan"
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A major crime story in Hawaii for the past five years, the Hawaii Penitentiary Authority decided Ray H. Tanji, 21, head of a Waialua architectural firm, to succeed Howard Squires as head of the city building department. Tanji, who grew up in Waialua, hopes to streamline the process to help reduce building costs, especially in housing. Other City Hall appointees include four from the local business community.

Music

Concert artists and orchestra players have begun seeing a new era on the American musical stage in the past decade, according to Leslie Rubenstein in the New York Times Magazine article Nov. 22. Yo-Yo Ma, 25, from China, has been the greatest cellist of all time ever since he made his debut on the New York Philharmonic.

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Angela Akiyama, Yosbimi Takeda, and Mas anf Okada are some of the artists who will assist in the adoption of babies in Japan. A special force kept absolute secrecy around the operation until the last moment, and the courts have been kept informed of all proceedings.

The city is best known for its fried chicken, which is sold in every store.

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Vancouver’s Japan town unlocking a secret

Vancouver, B.C.

Japantown: mention the name to most Vancouver residents, and they may think they heard you wrong. While Chinatown and Gastown are thriving tourist attractions, the existence of the small Japanese neighborhood centered on Powell Streets’ Oppenheimer Park, is almost a secret.

Today there are a few Japanese stores and restaurants in the area, including the popular Aki restaurant at 374 Powell, Fujiya Fish and Japanese Foods at 423 Powell, Miharaaya at 392 Powell, and just two blocks away on East Hastings, Shimizu Shoten, a kind of a Japanese supermarket.

There is also a Japanese community volunteer agency and senior citizens’ drop-in centre at 373 East Hastings. There’s the recently completed Buddhist Church at 220 Jackson, a Japanese language school at 475 Alexander, and a Japanese senior citizens’ home called Sakura-So at 376 Powell.

Before the turn of the century, the Powell Street area just east of Main was a well-to-do residential neighborhood, close to the city hall, the Carnegie Library at Main and Hastings, and to business interests nearby.

By 1900, the area had become a working-class neighborhood as prominent families moved into the West End.

By 1930, the Japanese community was firmly established in the area, which came to be known as Japantown or Little Tokyo. But during the evacuation of Japanese-Canadians during the Second World War, the home and property of the Japanese were confiscated by the government, and few returned to the area afterwards.

The Japanese population is now scattered throughout the city, with the largest residential community in Steveston.

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Thai

How man was meant to fly.

Although only a small percentage of the city’s Japanese population now lives in the area, it serves as a focal point for Japanese activities. Every summer, there is a Japanese festival in Oppenheimer Park, which brings the area to the attention of the rest of the city.

Paris is in the works for a beautification program in Japantown, similar to projects that turned Chinatown into a major tourist attraction. Council will decide this fall whether to go ahead with programs to install decorative lanterns, sidewalks and landscaping in the 300 and 400 blocks of Powell.

A total of $64,000 in funds from the Neighborhood improvement Program is tentatively earmarked for the project. If council gives its assent, the rest of the cost would be shared by the city and merchants and property owners in the area.

Most people affected by the proposal are in favor of it, seeing it as a step towards creating a major Japanese tourist area. But some feel the proposal ignores another aspect of the area—the people who live there.

In addition to the Japanese presence, the area houses more social service institutions than any other district of the city. Among them are a provincial government drug treatment centre, social service agencies such as St. James Social Services, a free medical clinic and several housing facilities.

A municipal study revealed three-quarters of the population in the Powell-Oppenheimer Park area had incomes of less than $3,000 in 1976, with 76 per cent receiving some kind of government assistance. Fifty-eight per cent of residents at that time had less than an elementary school education.

In addition, an estimated 10 per cent of the population is labelled as “hard to house,” meaning that psychiatric or drug problems force them into government-subsidized institution housing in the area.

The merchants in the area will tell you what those statistics mean. On any given day, drinking goes on openly in Oppenheimer Park. Passersby are verbally assaulted. Vandalism and brawling are common occurrences.

Oppenheimer, owner of Fujiya Fish and Japanese Foods, says the city has ignored the problem, which he believes may stand in the way of the success of any beautification project.

“Some people are afraid to come to Japantown,” he says. “If you see people lying on the street, that scares away the customers.”

There are four senior citizens’ homes in the area, and about 35 percent of area residents are over the age of 65.

According to Hirai, “even the old people are scared to walk around at night.”

He says some fellow merchants have moved out or are thinking of doing so because of the situation.

Another merchant bluntly predicted that unless the problems with drunkenness and destructive behavior in the area are corrected, the commercial aspect of the street will die.

“It doesn’t hurt to make it nice,” Hirai said. “But still the same problem will come up,” he says, glancing across the street to...