Matsueda Not Just in It for the Laughs

By George Johnston

Bob Matsueda was a man with a mission...a mission to enlighten, educate and sensitize millions of kids weaned on cartoons like millions of kids weaned on cartoons like millions of kids weaned on cartoons...

looking to Matsedaa, "They were thinking to colleges to make presen­ tations about redress and reparation ,..."
GARDENA, Calif. — "Thought into Action," a conference for individuals who want to promote an Asian community to achieve a social and/or political end for Asian Americans, will be offered April 30 at the Nakakusa Community Center, 1700 West 162nd St. Gardena, from 8:30 to 5:00 p.m.

The conference, which will require a $15 registration fee and which is limited to 40 participants, is sponsored by the Pacific South West District JACL and by the Nikkei Leadership Association as part of its efforts to promote community involvement from individuals who are concerned about issues that affect Asian Americans and to promote this involvement to the community at large.

Continued on page 10

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WASHINGTON — Rep. Robert Matsueda’s (D-Calif.) bill calling for a sweeping immigration reform bill recently became an "anti-family" and vowed he would oppose any legislation in the House of Representatives.

The Senate bill, co-authored by Senators Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.), seeks to move U.S. immigration policy in a direction that would provide legal status for some family members and more visas for young, English-speaking professionals.

"The Senate is telling the American public that this nation is no longer interested in families with a sense of community," Matsueda said. "It is telling the American public that the family that should take a back seat when it comes to immigration policy. This is neither an accurate reflection of national interest nor the type of message this country should be sending to the world.

The California lawmaker said that the Senate bill, if enacted into law, would seriously hurt future Asian American and Hispanic efforts to bring family members into the U.S. "The Senate would require the passage of a similar bill in the House plus the president’s signature before becoming law.

The Kennedy-Simpson bill hits hard at restricting the fifth Preference of immigration eligibility. This category is currently reserved for brothers and sisters (irregardless of age and marital status) of U.S. citizens. It is one of the most popular preference categories for Asian and Pacific immigrants seeking entry to the United States.

The Senate bill would: 1) limit the Fifth Preference category to unmarried brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens, and 2) reduce the quota from 64,000 entries to 21,000.

The bill would also award special consideration to applicants for English literacy, job skills, academic credentials and those who can invest at least $2 million in the U.S. and employ 10 or more U.S. residents.

Continued on page 3

MATSUEDA
Continued from front page

absurd reasons some people have against redness "without making it sound like an Asian studies class." But Matsueda doesn’t just do "Asian American" humor—his marlal also covers universal foibles and facades of male-female relationships, with priceless observations on things like how young men act at dances and breaking up with girls.

Continued

Matsueda’s outrageous on-stage antics may lead people to think he is some sort ofcontrol maniac. However, when just hanging out with the folks, he is a very considerate person with a sense ofsocial justice. Over the years, he has spent a lot oftime helping out with a variety of community affairs.

Speaking about himself and his close-knit group of friends who also help with his management, album production and publicity, Matsueda says "We believe thatwe are, to the best of our abilities, being socially relevant and conscious—we’re in the hole, but the thing that we’re all proud of is that we’ve raised thousands ofdollars for Asian organizations."

New Album

Currently, Matsueda is working on his third comedy album, which he plans to release later this year. In the meantime, his second album, Live in L.A. (which has rightfully been described as "a classic," is available in San Francisco-area Tower Records stores.

This album includes some very funny, on target material. It’s only shortening that the listener might be Matsueda’s body language. If you haven’t seen him live, you’ll wonder "What the heck’s going on?" during certain parts. The only solution is to see him in person if you get the chance.

If you do buy the album, wear headphones if there are children or easily offended people around. If you can swing it, call a bunch of freinds over and turn it up. If no one laughs, then get some new friends.

Copies of Bob Matsueda’s second album are available for $10 inflows, now available to all readers.
Continued from March 23 that presidential candidate Michael Dukakis (r) "should important part of the Asian culture, Tom and fellow NDCAPA co-

COP
Continued from page 1
Oct. 24, 1985
The report, which went to the city of SMPD personal analyst, was by the
chair Barbara Miyamoto traveled from the West Coast to Washington, D.C. last week to discuss the issue with lawmakers. In a meeting with Matsui, Tom and Miyamoto expres-

IMMIGRATION
Continued from page 2
"It is a direct slap in the face for Asian and Pacific Americans," said
Mitsui's endorsement co-

SUPPORT FOR DUKAKIS—U.S. Rep. Robert Matsui (l) predicted March 23 that presidential candidate Michael Dukakis (r) "should garner strong support from Asian and Pacific Americans in the upcoming California primary," Matsui has endorsed Dukakis and believes that Dukakis knows and understands "issues that are important to the Asian American community." Rep. Norman Mineta has also endorsed the Massachusetts governor, a front-runner among the Democrats.

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The Japanese Canadians

APARTLY the Japanese Canadians might be better versed about their cousins in the States below that we are of — judging by the greater amount of information in the States than In Canada. I am referring to the English and Yoko Yoshida of the Kashu Mainichi) found in the Canadian Nippon publications, the reason being due to a lack of Japanese in the U.S. that is not in Canada.

Yes! Did you know? This month, for instance, Robert Kodaguchi, the first managing director of the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto, is being bestowed the Order of Canada (Governor-General) Jean Siméon in Ottawa. Established in 1957, it recognizes outstanding achievement and service. It is Canada's most prestigious honor for a non-Citizen. If you didn't know about this, you may have that you are not familiar with the Canadian Nippon publications.

Canada aims to top the number of Canadian Nisei visiting the P.C. office in recent weeks, a good Merchant Mariners’ Belated Recognition

The Defense Department, on March 13, 1988, reluctantly awarded all more than 120,000 Japanese Canadians who joined the U.S. armed forces in the Pacific during World War II, a medal for their service. The award was delayed for nearly a year, a good indication of the difficulties in determining the eligibility of the recipients.

It seems to be the case that the U.S. military has not been able to determine the eligibility of the recipients, a good indication of the difficulties in determining the eligibility of the recipients.

The number of Canadian Nisei visiting the P.C. office in recent weeks, a good indication of the difficulties in determining the eligibility of the recipients.

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The Message of WW2 Redress Movement is ‘Never Again’

This article appeared in the Feb. 19 issue of the San Jose Mercury News. It was written in response to John Matsuoka’s book, “Repatriations Legislation Is Racist.” Susan Hayase is the author.

The Message of WW2 Redress Movement is ‘Never Again’

By Susan Hayase

Only 46 years ago today, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which resulted in the internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans. This is the day that the redress movement began.

It is clear that this act was in direct violation of the Bill of Rights. It is also clear that it was racist. What is not as clear is why John Matsuoka, in his recent column, calls the Redress Movement ‘Racist.’

Executive Order 9066, H.R. 442, called the Civil Liberties Act of 1941, was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on April 23, 1941. It attempts to redress the wrongs of 46 years ago with an official government apology and a token payment of $20,000 per internee.

This payment is token because it is comparatively small. The property loss in 1940 dollars by Japanese Americans would be over $3 billion. The loss of property was not the only loss. The political rights lost and the humiliation and trauma of false imprisonment last three years per internee.

The bill also redresses the suffering of the Aleutian Islanders, Native Americans from Alaska, who were treated from their homes and held in government concentration camps. Ten percent of them did not survive. The illegible conditions

Robert L. Shivers, agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Hawaii, Randall J. Fielder, president of the National Student Association, and Gen. Delos C. Emmons, who resisted orders to move all Japanese Americans out of Hawaii. Also honored were Han Wai King, an old Chinese extraction, and John A. Burns who fostered Nisei movement efforts.

Certainly we can do something like this on the mainland.

LETTERS

Continued from page 4

U.S.’s most flagrant violation of Congressional intent is arguably that against its own citizens. He resorts to the time-worn ‘The past is—’

As a matter of fact, Tsuchiwaya was chairman of a committee that, in 1986, celebrated the 100th anniversary of Japanese immigration to Hawaii, published a booklet honoring those who were interned and supported and identified that ethnic group. The criterion was that they acted even at personal loss and sacrifice.

A bill makes intriguing reading, particularly the stories of men who opposed the wholesale imprisonment of World War II. Among them are

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Certainly we can do something like this on the mainland.
Continued

We are impatient for the day that we can walk in peace without being watched by the government... The government should not be allowed to continue to try to use our pain to make decisions about our lives. We need to make our voices heard.


d

Ronald Reagan's belief that the Japanese are not a threat to the United States is not just rhetoric. There have been distortions and innuendo do not work. And...
s the U.S. citizens and residents of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated, relocated, and interned during World War II.

Title II—This section contains the authorities for FY1986 through 1988, which establish the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund to make the individual payments of $20,000 to the surviving individuals of Japanese ancestry. It contains the definitions of individuals and the waiving of any further claims against the federal government upon receipt of payments. It would also create the establishment of a board of directors for the fund, the purpose of which would be to carry out some of the research and public education activities on the relocation and internment of Japanese Americans and to improve the general welfare of the Japanese American community in the U.S.

The other sections of Title II relate to the review of certain cases of individual who received criminal convictions and the restitution of lost position, status, or entitlement for those individuals who held Federal positions at the time of relocation. Title III—This section establishes the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands Repatriation Fund. The Bulletin also has an explanation of the budgetary impact. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that enactment and full funding of the bill as reported would result in total Federal outlay of $859 million in FY1986, $903 million in 1989, $302 million in 1991, and $102 million in 1992. Left out is the outlay of an additional $102 million in 1989 to complete the five year stretchout.

There is also a statement about the Justice Department (DOJ) objection: "On behalf of the administration, the DOJ opposes S. 1000. The DOJ has stated that the parcel recommendation is unnecessary and a political infringement upon the president's authority, and the 1948 Japanese-American Evacuation Claims Act provided sufficient compensation for the injured parties." JACL-JACWCA is aware that some individuals who have written to the White House have received responses. As of this late date, which includes the statement that the Evacuation Claims Act was a fair settlement of the lawsuit as described, and those individuals who were removed from their West Coast homes.

Possible Amendments can be digged into their stumps. They were huge worms, said Numata, who also noted that worms could grow to 20 feet long by themselves. When her bandages were removed, she could see the worms. It must have been painful, but she continued to hold her child. In the days following, Nurnata un­ dertook several operations to remove gноrego порions of her stomach. Her skin burned as she went through 1947. The skin stubbornly refused to grow over the ex­ posed muscle fibers.

Hers was not the only tragedy in this hospital. Those occupying the other cubicles did too.

Some died.

One woman, who lost her right arm, sat next to her with a child in her other arm.

Another woman was digged into their stumps. They were huge worms, said Numata, who also noted that worms could grow to 20 feet long by themselves. When her bandages were removed, she could see the worms. It must have been painful, but she continued to hold her child.

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S. 1009

Continued from front page

HIROSHIMA

Numata, still on the back of her rescuer, came across a man wandering along the streets. "I don't see my daughter. I don't see my daughter," he cried. She turned and realized it was her father.

In the company of her and took her to a hospital. The entire focus of his attention was her daughter. He was under the impression that his daughter was injured, and all he could think of was to save his daughter." Numata said. At the hospital, she was reunited with her sister. They lay side-by-side on a mat. Her sister was standing near a window in the building when the bomb exploded. The splinters of glass injured her face and arms.

Numata, in a semi-conscious state because of the blood, recalls asking her sister about her leg. She had known it was injured but did not know the extent of the wound. "As soon as I learned I lost my leg I screamed. I wasn't able to get married, I wasn't able to climb the stairs. I wasn't able to work." In the following days, Numata under­ went several operations to remove gnorego portions of her stomach. Her skin burned as she went through 1947. The skin stubbornly refused to grow over the exposed muscle fibers. Hers was not the only tragedy in this hospital. Those occupying the other cubicles did too.

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Bill Yamashiro

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He has qualified every year for membership in the industry's exclusive Million Dollar Round Table. He has earned the National Quality Award every year, and for ten of those years, has been a Superior Life Top 100 producer. He is the first Japanese American to receive this award since the inception of that honor.

As a young man in his own company, he has qualified every year as an Exceptional Producer, American General Life's exclusive group of life underwriters. More importantly, however, and honors and records aside, Bill's dedication to the principles of life insurance and to the well-being of his clients and his clients' families is without question. Bill has produced more than $54,000,000 of protection for more than 2,400 policyowners underwriting insurance in the Los Angeles area.

Bill has earned the admiration and respect of his colleagues, and has been known as an effective and honest insurance professional.

By joining American General Life proudly salutes Bill Yamashiro, truly a legend among the great life insurance men and women of America.
**Downtown L.A. JACL Honors Mothers of Year**

**Los Angeles** — The annual Mothers’ Night Luncheon, sponsored by the Downtown Los Angeles Chapter JACL with the Japanese Women’s Association of Southern California, will be held Sunday, April 24 at the New Otani Hotel and Garden, Little Tokyo.

The novelty cocktail reception starts at 12:30 p.m., with the luncheon program at 1 p.m. The proceeds benefit the Sustaining Members fund, total $25,825.

The luncheon program includes a keynote address by Mrs. Yoshi Iwamoto, Los Angeles director of the Japanese Women’s Association, who will speak on the topic “Anime in the Socialization of Children.”

Mrs. Iwamoto is married to the late Ryohei Iwamoto, a native of Miyazaki, Japan. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and dedicated over 40 years to community service.

**Masaoke Fellows Fund**

Membership in the Masaoke Fellows is achieved by individual or corporate contributions of $200 or more to the JACL. Contributions to the fund are tax-deductible. Contributions can be sent to: JACL, Bldg. 4, Dept. JMF, 525 N. Market St., Seattle, WA 98104. For more information call (213) 687-2491.

**By Chin Iyama**

There was rapt silence in the room as the young woman outlined her reasons for supporting the redress movement of Japanese Americans. She spoke movingly to the audience gathered in the International Center.

The speaker was a Black student at Berkeley School District Focuses on Remembrance Program, with the Berkeley School District Focuses on Remembrance Program. The speaker was a Black student at Berkeley School District Focuses on Remembrance Program.

The Berkeley School District Focuses on Remembrance Program is very encouraging to Nikkei, and to the wider American community concerned about the protection of civil liberties, to see an entire school district focus on the “Day of Remembrance” and to draw out the complicated history and our collective experience. For it is ultimately children who must learn about these stories in order to become responsible citizens. But adults can learn and grow from such an experience as well.

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COLOR OF HONOR HONOREE-Filmmaker Loni Ding was honored by March 6 in front of the Japan America Theatre in Los Angeles at the benefit screening of her new film The Color of Honor. Pictures are (left to right) director Ding; actor Noriko Nishiwaki; and actor George Kanegai.

The P.C. CONNECTION:
The Salt Lake Days of East-West Business Matchmaker Stirs Memories

LOS ANGELES — Yoko Takenaka, a partner with the accounting firm Peat Marwick Main, heads its Japan Project which has an unverified cost of 1,200 Japanese clients in the U.S., the Los Angeles Times business writer Douglas Prantl reported in the weekly Pacific Rim feature last March 7.

The story is headlined “From Bean Counter to East-West Matchmaker” relating how Takenaka is putting Japanese companies in touch with U.S. investments.

But the connection for P.C. readers is midway in Franta’s feature: “Takenaka’s father came to the United States in 1903, and his mother in 1905. He was running the Colonial Hotel in Salt Lake City when he sent for his son Yoko in 1927. Yoko was 18 at the time.

“Today, Takenaka graduated from the college of arts of the University of Tokyo at the age of his class in accounting. Other leading students received job offers from all the Big Eight accounting firms. Takenaka got none.”

The P.C. Connection

Mention of “Colonial Hotel” to the Nisei who grew up in Utah will cause them to remember that place.

West I St South (where the Salt Palace stands today). The area then was the heart of Salt Lake City’s Nihonmachi.

It was the hotel where Mike Masaoka was staying, sharing a room with Joe Grant who by then was living at the hotel where Mike Masaoka was staying, sharing a room with Jim Matsumura; Ding; and George Kanegai.

The story relates to join an excursion to Salt Lake City when he sent for his son Yoko in 1927. Yoko was 18 at the time.

“Today, Takenaka graduated from the college of arts of the University of Tokyo at the age of his class in accounting. Other leading students received job offers from all the Big Eight accounting firms. Takenaka got none.”

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Mention of “Colonial Hotel” to the Nisei who grew up in Utah will cause them to remember that place.

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The Melting Pot

This article appeared in the January/February newsletter of the Northern California Chapter of the Anti- Discrimination Committee.

By Ron Wakabayashi

America, in a technical sense, is simply a ministerial function. Being an American could be characterized by social dynamics, especially if you happen to be an American of Asian descent. As a Japanese American, there is an opportunity to revisit the historical circumstances which shaped the identity as an American today.

My grandfather was born in Japan and came to this country when he was 10 years old. He lived through the Great Depression, World War II, and the struggle to achieve equal rights. His life was a testament to the challenges and opportunities faced by Asian Americans.

My dad, a second-generation Japanese American, also had a remarkable life. He was a successful businessman who contributed significantly to the community.

My grandmother, a proud Japanese American, was a strong influence in my life. She instilled in me a sense of pride in our heritage and a commitment to social justice.

I have been influenced by the experiences of both my parents. Their stories have shaped my understanding of what it means to be an American.

The challenges faced by Asian Americans continue to evolve. As we move forward, it is important to remember the lessons of the past and work towards a more inclusive and just society.

My grandfather, my dad, and my grandmother were all remarkable people. Their lives have inspired me to continue the fight for equal rights and to ensure that the next generation has the opportunity to live a fulfilling life.

The Melting Pot is a reminder of the diversity that makes America great. It is a place where we can come together and learn from each other.

I am proud to be a Japanese American and to be a part of the American story.
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Duties will include managing editing, ad sales and primary re­
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• Singles Bowling/Breakfast, 9:30 am. April 10, Single Bowling Wheel bowl, located at 2601 W. Wagon Wheel Rd. in Oxnard. All JACL members, family, and friends welcome. Singles meet at 11 am, following bowl. Info: Stan Mixak.

WEST VALLEY

• Annual Bridge/Bowling Night, 6 pm. April 8 & April 15 clubhouses. Dinner: 6 pm; Bridge: 7:30 pm; Bowlers will go to Saragota Lanes. Please bring own table service. Info: Bill Kumanagi, 408-258-6285 or Sumi Tanabe, 408-233-6193.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

• "Day at the Races," Santa Anita Park, April 8. The chapter has reserved Infield Pool Area #17. Parking (additional fee) is in lot #7. Donation: $10. Includes lunch. Children 12 and under admitted free; lunch is $5. To purchase tickets by mail, send a check with an enclosed S.A.S.E. to Doni Oshima, 668 E. 5th St., Arcadia, CA 91006 before April 4.

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