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Friday, February 16, 1990



OLYMPIA SENIOR JACLERS—Twelve Olympia JACL area senior citizens were honored at the Christmas potluck dinner Dec. 9 with past PNWDC Gov. Denny Yasuhara (extreme right) was guest speaker. Honored were (from left) Larry Moniz, Asako Arima, Sharon Ellis, Dr. Paul Ellis, Yukiko Abo, Fumi Saito, Miyoko Sato, Ruth Miyaki, and Yasuhara. (Some accepted the plaque recognizing the honoree's contributions "in making America a better place for all" for those who have deceased: Dr. James Arima, Edna Ellis, Tadayasu Abo, Susumu Sato, and Miyoko Sato.) Honorees Miyo Hisata and Mabel Okada are not pictured.

Spokane Spokesman Review, Nikkei Elders to Be Honored; Nakagawa, Ujifusa to Speak

SPOKANE, Wash. — The Spokane Nikkei community will honor its elderly Nisei and Issei on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Gung Ho Restaurant. Also to be recognized are the *Spokesman-Review*, its publisher and president William H. Cowles III; Christopher Peck, managing editor; G. Douglas Floyd, editorial page editor, and Peggy Kuhr, city editor. The *Spokesman-Review* is being honored for its lengthy record of sensitive and objective reporting of issues of significance to Japanese Americans.

It was one of the first major newspapers to strongly endorse monetary compensation for Japanese Americans. This is particularly significant, because of the conservative nature of its readership and because Spokane is the hometown of Speaker of the House Tom Foley. Beyond that, its sensitive reporting of minority problems and issues has been long appreciated by those affected.

National JACL President Cressey Nakagawa will address current and future issues for JACL, while Grant Ujifusa, LEC's strategy chair and lobbyist, will zero in on Redress lobbying and "what it took to get the job done."

In recent talks, Nakagawa has discussed the impact of the U.S.-Japan bilateral relationship upon Japanese Americans and the need for greater education and awareness among, not only, the general public, but among the Nikkei, themselves.

The two Nikkei leaders have represented Japanese American interests in the larger American community, as exemplified by increasing interest in JACL in the political arena and in U.S.-Japan relations.

They will also meet with Pacific Northwest leaders in Seattle on Friday, Feb. 23. For information regarding the Spokane event, contact Denny T. Yasuhara (509) 534-2576 and for Seattle, Vickie Toyohara, (206) 684-7779.

Illegal Aliens in Japan Count Climbs

TOKYO — The number of foreign immigrants in Japan without papers to work is officially estimated at 100,000, the *New York Times* reported recently, but some experts think the count may be three or four times that.

The immigrant problem came into focus after the arrival of 3,000 "boat people" from Vietnam who were allowed to remain under agreements signed in Geneva but hundreds of Chinese who came with them are being repatriated to China.

Equally disturbing was the comment of Mayor Yoji Nagase about the thousands of dark-skinned foreigners, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis, which caused the mayor of Kawaguchi to comment, "With so many dark-skinned foreigners in town, Japanese were having trouble seeing them at night." He later retracted and explained the comment was kind of a joke and said, "We in Japan must open our doors to immigration and give them proper training and education."

West L.A. JACL to Hear Playwright Poet Houston

LOS ANGELES — "Multiracial Asian Identity in the Arts" will be the topic of a free lecture given by award-winning playwright and poet Velina Hasu Houston on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 7:30 p.m., at the West Los Angeles Buddhist Church, corner of Corinth and La Grange in the Sawtelle district.

Houston's talk is sponsored by the West Los Angeles Chapter of the JACL. Houston, the founder of the Amerasian League, was twice-named a Rockefeller Foundation playwrighting fellow and is the recipient of numerous writing awards.

The lecture is part of the chapter's monthly lecture series on contemporary community issues. The free event is also endorsed by *Amerasia Journal*, a research publication of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. For more information, call Glenn Omatsu at UCLA, (213) 825-3415.

NBC Sportscaster Apologizes for Racial Slurs in S.F. Talk Show

LOS ANGELES — Speaker Willie Brown's Office of Asian and Pacific Affairs received a letter of apology last week from NBC sportscaster Bob Costas for racial slurs used during a talk show on a San Francisco radio station Dec. 3, 1989.

Talk show guest Art Donovan, on a syndicated program of KNBR, made racial slurs in reference to "Japs" and "Gooks." Asian and Pacific American listeners were outraged by the usage of such slurs, and the fact that the derogatory expressions were tolerated by the show.

"Speaker Willie Brown created this new office because he cares about and is sensitive to Asian and Pacific issues and concerns," said Marissa Castro, director of Speaker's Office of Asian and Pacific Affairs. "Speaker Brown is committed to helping the Asian and Pacific community of California in any way possible, and resolving this problem is just one example."

"I applaud Bob Costas for doing a written and on the air apology, and commend the program's social responsibility in apologizing as well as serving notice that these racial slurs will no longer be tolerated," said Mr. Speaker.

The letter reads as follows:

Dear Marissa,

I am very concerned about any possible misunderstanding or injured feelings arising from Art Donovan's comments on my radio program on December 3rd.

By way of explanation, Art Donovan was a football star of the 50s. His entire persona is that of a guileless man from another era—a crew-cut, blustering, naturally comic ex-jock. His appearances on the Tonight Show and David Letterman have been enthusiastically received. He is a decent, well-meaning man who simply was not aware of the scope and impact of the insensitive com-

ments he made that night.

During one 5-10 second portion of a rambling two-hour conversation, Donovan somehow got around to a mention of his World War II experiences, which he said he found more frightening than anything he encountered on the football field. It was here that Donovan, referring to his combat experience, made his unthinking reference to "Japs" and "Gooks"—using the terms employed by many servicemen at that time.

Had this program been taped, the offensive references would have been deleted. Even had there been a 7-second delay, as is the case with many talk shows, we'd have been able to push the button. Unfortunately, this was live. As soon as the words left Donovan's mouth I cringed—and I glanced at our producer Bruce Cornblatt, who was also stunned. I had to make an instantaneous decision: Interrupt Donovan and gently scold him for the comments while apologizing to the audience, or let it pass without calling additional attention to it. I chose the second option, although I now regret it.

I sincerely wish I had jumped in and made it clear that this sort of remark was offensive even if that was not Art Donovan's intent.

Those who have followed me through the years on radio and television realize I have always been very concerned with fair treatment and increased opportunities for minorities. We have frequently done programs devoted to those themes. I have often spoken out about racism in sports and have tried to take an enlightened and sensitive approach on issues such as these. Accordingly, I am very sorry that this incident occurred on my program and that I didn't do a better job of coping with it. I would very much appreciate it if you would convey my apologies to the appropriate individuals and media outlets.

Thank you very much.

BOB COSTAS

P.S. As promised, I will address this issue on this Sunday's (Feb. 4) program.

Discussion on JA Women at Oakland Museum

OAKLAND, Calif. — "Day of Remembrance," a panel discussion at the Oakland Museum by women affected by the wartime relocation of Japanese Americans, is the first in a series of programs held in conjunction with the exhibition "Strength and Diversity: Japanese American Women 1885-1990."

The discussion will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24 in the museum's lecture hall. Admission is free. Panelists sharing their personal stories include Shizuko Hata, 94;

Hisako Hibi, 82; Mei Nakano, 65 (author of *Japanese American Women, Three Generations*); Kiku Funabiki, 65; Phyllis Mizuhara, 59; Margene Fudenna, 41; and Diana Akiyama, 31. The panel will be moderated by San Francisco Community College teacher Alice Nakahata.

The Oakland Museum is located at 10th and Oak Streets in downtown Oakland, one block from the Lake Merritt BART station. For more information, call (415) 273-3401.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New City Ordinance Encourages Bilingual Signs

GARDEN GROVE, Calif. — Unlike other cities in Southern California which mandate English on their signs, the city of Garden Grove on Jan. 29 became the first city to approve an ordinance which encourages use of bilingual business signs. Korean American and Vietnamese American communities, through the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, had worked with the city planning commission in drafting the ordinance.

Taiwan Ruled Accountable for Slaying in U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO — The U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Dec. 29 that the Taiwan government can be held liable for the 1984 slaying of Henry Liu, the 52-year-old Chinese American journalist, by gunmen acting on the orders of a Taiwanese military official. The unanimous 3-0 reinstated a \$200 million wrongful death suit by his widow, Helen Liu. The court said the Taiwan's claim of sovereign immunity does not hold when officials of a foreign nation are charged with ordering the assassination of an American citizen in the United States. Liu, a frequent critic of the Taiwan government, was the author of *The Biography of C.K. Chiang*, a report on Taiwan's one-family rule which had been banned in Taiwan. Military courts in Taiwan ultimately convicted five men in the slaying, including Adm. Wong Hsi-ling, director of the Defense Intelligence Bureau for the Republic of China, who was found to have ordered the journalist's death. A sixth man was convicted and sentenced to prison in California.



SNAKE RIVER'S 1990 PRESIDENT—The Snake River Chapter of the JACL recently swore in its new officers for 1990. Pictured above are 1990 President Cathy Maeda (left), outgoing president and now ex-officio member, Randy Harano, and Harano's wife, Robie. Other 1990 officers are David Maeda, v.p.; Mike Iseri, treasurer; Laura Hiramatsu, secretary-historian; and Ted Takatori, scholarship chair. 1990 board members are Suzanne Uchida, Nita Maeda; Robie Harano; Marc Suyematsu, Tad Inouye Jr., Dyke Nagasaka; Murray Nishihara, Larry Matsumura, Kenny Hiramatsu, Rick Kitamura and Tracy Nakamura.

Chinese American Computer Programmer Seeks Reform of UCB Admissions Quota

SAN FRANCISCO — *USA Today's* newsmaker Feb. 6 was Arthur Hu, 31, a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who is a computer programmer. The headline with his picture read: "Asian says Whites are hurt by quotas."

His numbers-crunching has led to a federal bias investigation of UC Berkeley's affirmative action policy, that is discriminates against Whites by using quotas, forbidden under a 1984 Supreme Court decision.

What has the campus in an uproar are Hu's statistics: 61% of California high school graduates are White, but only 41% of students on the Berkeley campus are White. "I'm trying to reform affirmative action the way Gorbachev is reforming socialism. You can't do the wrong thing for the right reasons," he told the *USA Today* reporter.

Ling-chi Wang of the university's Ethnic Studies Program, called the probe "a dangerous all-out assault on civil rights."

He said, "My brother is now boycotting me. That's why people don't get involved with stuff like this."

Hu writes the "Hu's On First" column for *Asian Week*. He grew up in Renton, Wash., where his immigrant father was a chemist. Arthur is the oldest of six children, each an outstanding graduate who either finished Stanford or MIT, except for one "because we felt people felt our family had already won too many. But there you are: quotas!"

Japan-Style Summer Camp at Mt. Rainier Announced

SEATTLE — A summer camp near Mount Rainier to give U.S. high school students a taste of Japanese culture and language will be sponsored by the Japan-America Society here, according to Susan Mochizuki, executive director, who is seeking financial support for this and other future activities.

Two one-week sessions for 50 students each are scheduled to be held in August. "Participants will be immersed in an environment structured to be as similar as Japan as possible," she said. "Everything from language, signs, food, etc."

Mochizuki, a Nisei who graduated in Japanese studies at Yale, has frequently traveled and studied in Japan. She also worked as a foreign service officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo during the 1985 Tsukuba Expo and 1986 Tokyo economic summit.

Asian Americans in Higher Education Set for 3rd Annual Meet

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The San Jose Taiko Group will perform in a special concert to raise funds for Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) on Sunday, Feb. 25, at 7 p.m. in the Edgewater Ballroom of the Radisson Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento.

The concert performance is open to the public. Tickets are available through all BASS/Ticketmaster outlets in Northern California:

\$12.75, general admission; \$10 students, senior citizens and children. Tickets at the door will be \$15 general admission; \$12 for students, senior citizens and children.

All proceeds will go to support the activities of Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education, a non-profit organization.

Participants of the Third Annual Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education Conference "Windows of Opportunity: The Time Is Now!" will receive complimentary tickets to the event as part of their registration package.

The APAHE conference will be Feb. 25 to 27 at the Radisson Hotel. Keynote speakers include:

Dr. Joyce Tsunoda, chancellor of the Hawaii Community Colleges; Dr. Changlin Tien, vice chancellor, University of California at Irvine; and Dr. Ludy Ongkeko, professor, University of Southern California.

Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui have been invited to speak at the program.

For information about the concert, contact Cheryl Fong at (916) 323-5954. Individuals requesting information about the Third Annual Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education Conference should contact:

APAHE, P.O. Box 22367, Sacramento, CA 95822 or call Hoyt Fong at (916) 686-7420 or James Mar at (916) 484-8471.

Keeper of J.A. History Room Collection Resigns

SAN FRANCISCO—Seizo Oka, who developed the Japanese American History Room collection over a dozen years, announced his resignation as director just before Christmas.

Originally funded by then California First Bank, the collection of old newspapers, documents and artifacts was relocated to Japantown's Japanese Cultural and Community Center in 1986.

Oka said the History Room was being closed because of financial difficulties confronting the JCCCNC and the fact that center is not equipped to properly store the material.

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Riverside JACL Installation:

J.A. Community Bridges for Shin-Issei and Local Nikkei Generations Urged

By Harry K. Honda

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Dr. Masako Ishii-Kuntz, assistant professor of sociology at UC Riverside, wants to see bridges built in the Japanese American communities that enable the resident host generations interface and interact with the newly arrived Japanese immigrants or the "shin-Issei."

Dr. Ishii-Kuntz delved into the question of why the Japanese are still coming, though their numbers have been no more than 4,000 per year in the past 30 years. [It has dropped to less than 1,800 to the U.S. in the 1980s.]

While there are general theories of emigration—(a) search for educational and job opportunities; (b) religious and social reasons—"none seem to work with the shin-Issei," she found.

Her recent studies and on-going surveys seem to indicate the current "shin-Issei" have psychological reasons for emigrating. She related how the changing scene in Japan of marginal differences or even nonconformity may be the factors for some people to search for new vistas. There's too much pressure in Japan, she explained, to be the same and not feel different. "The nail that sticks up gets pounded down, says a Japanese adage," she added. lead paragraph of the washington dc report

Thus, with the revival of ethnic awareness among the young Japanese Americans (the Yonsei) as they identify with minority attitudes, Dr. Ishii-Kuntz said that ethnic solidarity can be fostered through connections with the shin-

Issei who are attempting to adapt in the U.S. and who identify with the Japanese American community. The bottom-line is communication in establishing this bridge, it was concluded.

The Hokkaido-born scholar came to UCR in 1987 via Washington State University, where she earned her graduate degrees. She was guest speaker at the 23rd annual Riverside JACL installation dinner Feb. 3 at the Palace of the Dragon Restaurant. Close to 100 attended, including City Councilman Jack Ward who extended greetings. Mark Takano was emcee.

The 1990 officers installed by PDWDC Vice Governor Sharon Kumagai, were:

RIVERSIDE JACL—Meiko Inaba, pres; Henry Nakakihara, vp; Lorna Nakamura, treas; Lily Taka, sec; Beverly Inaba, cor sec/hosp; Michiko Yoshimura, schol memb; Irene Ogata, hist; Katherine Kumamoto, nwsltr; Sumi Harada, "Sunshine"; William Takano, LEC; Dr. Gen Ogata, 1000 Club; Dr. Junji Kumamoto, redress/civ rts; Douglas Urata, del-insur; June Hayashibara, Douglas Kano, at-lg.

Baskets of local goodies, the family tree-ripened orange, lemon, grapefruit and avocado were offered as door prizes—a tradition that has well marked this chapter's annual dinner. [Our thanks to the Jimmy Uratas for winning a basket for this reporter.]

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Hate Crimes Stats Bill Passes Senate

WASHINGTON — Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-Calif., 13th Dist.), hailed passage of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act by the Senate by a vote of 92 to 4 this past week (Feb. 8). The Act passed the House last year (June 27, 1989) by a vote of 368 to 47.

"The Senate has now joined the House in sending a very important message to the American people and, in fact, the entire world. Crimes of hate, intolerance and prejudice must not and will not be tolerated," said Mineta, an original sponsor of the Act in the House.

"This legislation would be an important first step to understand fully the extent of harassment and violence fueled by bias in our society. With frightening regularity I hear of the terror inflicted upon Americans of Asian ancestry."

"Cambodian Americans have been assaulted in New England. Vietnamese Americans have been harassed in the Gulf Coast states. Passage of this legislation will send a strong signal that crimes spawned from racial, ethnic, sexual or religious hatred must stop," Mineta stressed.

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act would direct the attorney general to report all incidences of criminal acts that manifest prejudice based on race, religion, sexual preference, ethnicity, and others. The act would require the attorney general to publish an annual summary of its findings, which would be compiled from 1991 to 1995.

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act now awaits final passage by Congress before it can go to the White House for consideration by the President.

Blacks Starting to Move Back to Deep South

WASHINGTON—The Census Bureau reported the proportion of Blacks living in the South has increased for the first time this century. As of 1988, 56% of the nation's 30 million Blacks reside in the 16-state and D.C. region. One demographer said it was part of "the general movement to the Sunbelt." In 1900, the South had 90% of the nation's Blacks.

L.A. Area Boy Scout Council Honors 5 Nikkei

LOS ANGELES — Five Japanese Americans were accorded the highest honors for their volunteer work and philanthropy at the 73rd anniversary Boy Scouts of America recognition banquet Jan. 24 at the Bonaventure Hotel. Close to 1,000 persons attended.

The Silver Beaver award from the Los Angeles Area Council was presented to:

James J. Miyashiro, member and chairman of Maryknoll Troop 145; Edward K. Takahashi, member of Koyasan Troop 379 and chairman of its drum and bugle corps; and Gary H. Yoshiki of Gardena, an 18-year scoutmaster, district camporee chair, advisor and leader to junior leadership programs.

The Doctor of Philanthropy honors were accorded to:

Mitsuko Kawaguchi, owner of Fishing Processors; and Dr. Robert Nagamoto, a previous Silver Beaver honoree, co-chair for Keiro Nursing Home and on the board of Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, among other professional and civic organizations.

Takahashi's father, the late Bishop Seytsu Takahashi, was also a Silver Beaver awardee.

Asian American Trivia Tournament Slated in S.F.

SAN FRANCISCO — Nihonmachi Legal Outreach is sponsoring the second annual National Asian American Trivia Championships on Feb. 24.

Trivia questions will include the usual categories of history, sports, music, entertainment, art, literature, geography, and science but will also feature questions related to Asian Americans and Asian American history. Reservations for teams of from eight to 10 persons are now being accepted.

The competition will be held at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center, 1840 Sutter St. in San Francisco and will begin at 6:30 p.m. For information and applications, please contact the NLO office at (415) 567-6255.

Nihonmachi Legal Outreach is a non-profit legal services organization serving the Asian/Pacific Islander community of the San Francisco Bay Area.

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ANNIVERSARY—The Gardena Valley Gardeners' Association celebrates its 35th anniversary at its 1990 installation dinner. Pictured are Kuni Tamura, president; John Tanabe, LA County Gardeners Federation; Mas Fukai, chief deputy to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, and Kay Iizuka, GVGA past president.

Golden Bears of L.A. to Hold 1st Reunion

ROSEMEAD, Calif. — On April 5, the first Golden Bear Reunion will be held at the new Evergreen Baptist Church, 8026 E. Loren Lane. The Golden Bears, one of the premier AA, A, and B basketball teams in the '30s and '40s, were members of the YMCA and met regularly at the old Evergreen Baptist Church in Boyle Heights. For further details, contact:

Moon Kataoka, (213) 389-2161; Tak Morioka, (818) 280-0240; Min Tsuchiyama, (213) 722-1189; Jack Nagano, (818) 288-5705.

DEATHS

Fumio Shirokawa, 67, Hanford, Calif., Nov. 26; Selma-born resident of Lodi; survived by w. Akiko, s. Dean, d. Edna Fujiwara, Nancy, Ruth, Cora, 2 gc, br. Junji, Michio, sis. Iku Mayeda.

Tami Tanizaki, 90, Mie-ken Issei resident of Harbor City, Nov. 22; survived by s. Calvin, 2 gc.

Mary K. Tashima, 81, San Francisco-born resident of Davis, Nov. 11; survived by s. Dr. Roger, d. Julie Prunner (Germany), 4 gc, br. Buster Suzuki, sis. Eva Suzuki.

Yoshito Takeda, 87, Fresno, Nov. 29; survived by w. Miyako, s. George, 3 gc.

Dr. Katsumi Tawa, 59, Torrance, Nov. 27; survived by w. Kiyoko, s. Lawrence (Ky.), d. Renee (Japan), m. Chiyoko, br. Ken, sis. Junko Nakano.

Kimiko Thomas, 50, Monterey Park, Dec. 4; survived by h. Helmut, m. Harue Hamasaki, br. Toshio, Brian, sis. Joann.

Masaji Uchida, 77, Oroville, Dec. 1; survived by w. Chizu, s. Monte, Clyde, Alan.

Jan Tsuboi Uyeda, Altadena, Nov. 30; survived by h. Kurt, m. Jane Yamamoto; sis. Lynne Saito, br. Dean.

Lloyd N. Watari, 67, Carson, Calif., Dec. 2; Louisiana-born Nisei, survived by w. Tomi, d. Denise Miya, Michiko, sis. Alice Hashimoto, Grace Kaiyama, Sachiko Shibata (Japan).

Tsuruyo Yamada, 95, Hiroshima-born Los Angeles resident, Nov. 21; survived by s. Kazuhiko, Tetsuji, Gorow, 3 gc, 1 ggc.

Toshie Yamamoto, 91, Los Angeles, Nov. 28; naturalized U.S. citizen from Wakayama-ken, survived by s. Yoneo, d. Yaye Hayashi, Ruth Machiko.

Roy Takeo Yoshida, 80, Loomis, Dec. 6, Placer County JACL charter member (1928), P.C. correspondent, *Hokubei Mainichi* columnist, survived by sis. Mary Eib.

Dick M. Yoshioka, 73, Gardena, Dec. 4; Hiro-born, survived by w. Yoshie, s. Dr. Larry, 2 gc, brs. Jitsuo, Tatsumi, Masuo.

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H. Suzuki, V.P./Gen. Mgr. Y. Kubota, Advisor

Seibu Owner Shows Interest in Mariners

TOKYO — The Paris-based *International Herald Tribune's* Tokyo bureau chief Patrick Smith reported on Friday, Jan. 26, that Seibu railway chairman Toshiaki Tsutsumi, said to be the world's richest man, is heading a group seeking 25% interest in the Seattle Mariners, thus threatening to further inflame U.S. reaction to Japanese buy-outs of Americana.

The same story, also carried the next day by the *Washington Post*, was splashed here on the *Nikkan Sports*, an all-sports daily, which quoted Tsutsumi as denying any deal was in the works. The U.S. wire reporters quoting a U.S. official in Tokyo requesting anonymity confirmed the negotiations are serious.

Tsutsumi owns one of the most successful teams in professional Japanese baseball—the Seibu Lions. It was speculated Tsutsumi's possible denial was the fear of further inflaming U.S. resentment. Even if the sale is agreed upon, the transaction requires three-quarter approval of the American League's 14 club owners, simple majority approval of the National League owners, and permission of both the American League president and baseball commissioner.

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EDITORIAL OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN

Affirmative Action Quotas

Administrators of leading universities early this century feared that they were being flooded by a disproportionate number of Jewish students. Whether this was so is difficult to say because no one could agree on what was disproportionate. It was true, however, that the hard-working sons and daughters of Jewish immigrants were making their way on sheer merit into prestigious schools of law, medicine, economics and science. That meant there were fewer slots left for traditional students.

The administrators' solution to this problem, if it can be called that, was to establish secret quotas for Jews. After the quota had been filled, students who appeared to be Jewish were turned away regardless of their qualifications.

As times changed, quotas to limit Jewish enrollment were eliminated. But new quotas came into vogue for another purpose—to reserve places in universities for minorities who otherwise might not qualify for enrollment. Called affirmative action, it was a well-intentioned program to help minorities into the mainstream. One important flaw in this system was that it nurtured the suspicion that any minority student was in college only by the grace of an artificial quota.

Now there is ample suspicion that some prestigious universities are reverting to the original purpose of the quota system to limit the number of super-achieving Asian American students and reserve classroom space for other minorities. This is as unfair to Asian Americans as it was for Jews.

Recently another dimension to the problem was discovered. A study conducted by Arthur Hu, a Chinese American graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, indicates that affirmative action quotas have resulted in Whites being short-changed. While 61 percent of California high school graduates are White, Hu found, Whites make up only 41 percent of students at the University of California at Berkeley.

These apparently are raw figures and need analysis. But they reinforce the suspicion that the fairness of any artificial quota, regardless of intent, is suspect.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tashiro Name Was Missed

Your scholarship profile text (P.C. Sept. 8) was great. I only have one comment to make, and that is the omission of my late wife's maiden name. She was always known as Aiko Tashiro, pianist, and not Hiratsuka, and I want to retain the connection to the past. This is especially important to me because the nucleus of the fund establishing the scholarship was the *koden* that came from Japanese and non-Japanese people from around the USA, Japan and Europe who knew and loved her.

Aiko was an East Coast Nisei... born in New Haven, Conn. When the current generation of Nisei are gone, then, the name becomes less important, and when I am gone my son, Jon Shigeki Tashiro Hiratsuka, will become involved. However, for the foreseeable future I would appreciate the insertion of the Tashiro name in the title of the scholarship, created in her memory. Aiko was in college in upstate New York during the great depression on a four-year scholarship and this is, in a small way, our repayment to society that was good to her long ago.

This letter is not meant to criticize you, the Pacific Citizen or JACL—it is just that I don't want my wife's name omitted, and I am sure that it was not intentionally done but got lost in the shuffle along the way. I apologize beforehand if this letter hurts someone's feelings and I hope you will understand.

SHIGEKI HIRATSUKA
Tucson, Ariz.

The letter was also sent to Cheryl Kagawa, who conducted this year's JACL scholarship program at National JACL Headquarters.

Bouquets from the Mayor

I want to express my appreciation for the very moving story by Vincent Tajiri, "Remembrances from Pearl Harbor Sunday to Poston," (Jan. 5-12, P.C.)

The long overdue recounting of the Japanese American tragedy during World War II continues to enlighten us and increase our sensitivity to how easy it is to forget our basic values of fairness and justice.

Let us not forget, Tajiri's final statement was a truth for all time: "When reason runs thin, what defines the enemy?" Unless we remember, nothing will change.

Thank you for bringing it to us.

ANNE RUDIN
Mayor
Sacramento, Calif.

In your Newsmakers column of Oct. 13 there was a brief article that "Tamara Denise Toshiko Marler, Miss Oklahoma, won the talent competition in this year's Miss America finals." It seems to me that this is a remarkable achievement for a Nikkei and deserves more write up and a picture.

BILL SAKAKURA
Walnut Creek, Calif.

In accordance to Mr. Sakakura's wishes, contact with Marler was attempted through the Oklahoma state representative for the Miss America Pageant. When Marler called, it was missed by the editorial department. Although one further attempt to reach Marler via the mail was made, the P.C. received no further response. Sorry, Bill.

■ Letters to the Editor should be typewritten (double-spaced) or legibly hand-printed and no more than 200 words. A contact phone number and address must be included or P.C. will not print the letter. Letters may be subject to editing.



FROM THE FRYING PAN

BILL HOSOKAWA

Once Lowly Miso Soup Gains Popularity

In *Sushi and Sourdough*, his recent book about the Japanese in Alaska, Tooru Kanazawa tells about the way meals were served in the salmon cannery bunkhouses. The tables were not large, and to save space boiled rice was piled into dishpans which were slipped into crude wire frames suspended about forehead high with cords from the ceiling. You simply reached out and served yourself when you needed another bowl of rice which for teenage cannery hands was often.

I remember those times well. There wasn't much variety to what you ate with the rice because the labor contractors weren't in business to be generous. Usually it was salmon, grilled or baked, three times a day, plus a cooked vegetable like Chinese cabbage. And miso soup served in dingy, chipped lacquer bowls.

Miso soup with meals was as inevitable as salmon. I discovered early that no matter how it is made, there is something repulsive-looking about miso soup. Miso, which is a concoction of

fermented soy beans, has an unpleasant bilious color that makes the soup look like a potion of brown clay dissolved in swamp water.

My fellow Nisei laborers professed to hate miso soup and so early on I decided I didn't like it either. Perhaps it was the monotony of miso soup for three meals every day. Perhaps it was the way it looked. Actually, the taste isn't half bad and after I didn't have to have miso soup regularly, I came to enjoy it.

I got to thinking about all this the other evening while at a Japanese restaurant. There were two youngish Caucasian couples at an adjoining table, and I overheard the waitress offering them a choice of clear or miso soup before the entree. All four chose miso.

If anyone had suggested in our cannery messhall many decades ago that some day white-skinned Americans would be consuming miso soup by choice, there would have been rude hoots of disagreement and derision.

I don't know what brought about

change. There was a time when the only seafood familiar to many Americans was canned salmon or salt cod. Catholics were derided as mackerel-snappers, and the thought of eating fish raw would turn people pale. Not any more. It's a hick town these days that doesn't have a sushi restaurant, and few of them would survive on Japanese or Nikkei patronage alone. (As a matter of fact, prices are such that most Nisei can afford sushi only infrequently.) And they're brewing soy sauce, which we used to call bug-juice, in the conservative American Midwest for sale in supermarkets nationwide.

There's been a furor about Japanese purchase of American real estate, the inroads Japanese cars have made into Detroit's domain, and the predominance of Japanese-made electronic goods. But we haven't heard as much about the growing popularity of Japanese food as a change of pace from such traditional American dishes as tacos, spaghetti and chow mein. When Americans show a preference for miso soup, it's something that deserves attention.

JACL WINDOW ON WASHINGTON

PAUL IGASAKI

JACL WASHINGTON, D.C. REPRESENTATIVE

Report to the National Board

The following is the report presented to the JACL National Board Jan. 19-21 by JACL Washington Representative Paul Igasaki. The report covers the period between the September and January board meetings.

WASHINGTON

I. LEGISLATION



A. Census/Immigration Linkage. As a member of the Coalition for a Fair & Constitutional Census Count, the JACL helped to defeat efforts to link immigration status to census participation despite constitutional provisions to the contrary.

B. H.R. 672, Legal Immigration Reform. JACL has submitted testimony on Rep. Howard Berman's bill, which is the House immigration bill that is most supportive of family preference immigration and lacks prejudicial points for English language ability that some other proposals contain. Targeted mailings, meetings with both subcommittee members and their staffs and presentations to regional delegations have been undertaken. Prospects unclear due to the variety of proposals being considered.

C. S. 419, the Hate Crimes Statistics Act. Have urged Senate leadership to move this bill, which has already passed the House as well as the Senate Judiciary Committee. Would catalogue all hate crimes, useful in fight against rising anti-Asian violence. If scheduled, prospects for passage are good.

D. H.R. 2580, Immigration Amendment for Immigrant Domestic Violence Victims. In cooperation with California Asian Domestic Violence Coalition, have supported H.R. 2580, which amends the Marriage Fraud Amendments of 1986 to provide an alternative to reliance on an abusive spouse for normalization of immigration status. Current law requires immigrant spouse to wait two years after marriage as a conditional resident at which time the citizen spouse only may apply for permanency. Discourages abused spouse from seeking protection from violence. Asian Americans disproportionately affected. Prospects unclear.

E. House Concurrent Resolution 147, Asian American College Admissions. This Resolution, which purports to put Congress on record as opposing discrimination against Asians in college admissions, is not what it seems. Without legal effect, the bill has been used by its sponsor, Rep. Dana

Rohrabacher, to attack affirmative action programs and to set Asian American interests against those of other minorities. JACL, which has been joined by the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), the Asian American Task Force on University Admissions and several other groups, has opposed the bill in favor of less divisive and more effective approaches. Reps. Matsui and Mineta are working closely with us in seeking a less problematic alternative to H. Con. Res. 147. Later this month, a group of West Coast Asian representatives will join JACL and OCA in meeting with key Congresspeople and community groups on the issue.

II. Other Quarterly Activities

A. Washington Leadership Conference. 1989—Sept. 30 to Oct. 6. Twelve participants from around the nation met with legislators, civil rights leaders and government officials, providing valuable insights for coming years. Have prepared tentative budget for 1990 program to explore outside funding options.

B. Anti-Asian Violence Conference. —Nov. 1. Cosponsored with the OCA, funded by Anheuser-Busch, at the Dirksen Senate Office Building, presented panels of community representatives from around the nation that provided regional perspectives on the growing problem of racially motivated

Continued on Page 5

PLANTED IN GOOD SOIL

EXCERPTS: CHAPTER XVII

Texas Issei Farms in Rio Grande Valley Succeed Except the 'Yamato Colony'

By Masakazu Iwata

Continued from the Previous Week

Rice Pioneer Kishi

Kichimatsu Kishi, the other pioneer rice grower and entrepreneur, likewise made great contributions to Texas. As one of the largest Japanese rice growers in Texas during the height of his career, farming 3,300 acres, his initial investment was not insignificant, and his operations continued to add to the economy of the state until he terminated rice production in 1922 (due to low prices, high labor costs, and increasing salinity of the water) and retired from farming and oil production in 1941. His various operations gave employment to many as the rice and other crops were planted, harvested, and marketed. He gave help and opportunities to many Issei tenants as they began their life in farming.

And he was an innovator. He mixed his own fertilizer, a practice that was not general but effective. He was one of the early farmers to use the services of surveyors to lay out levees in a scientific manner. He used ditching machines to drain lowlands. He utilized machinery to build embankments to hold back flood waters. He imported Shinriki rice from Japan and introduced it to the region.

And he, moreover, had social concern; although himself a Buddhist, he donated four acres of his land, built upon it after consultation with the Rev. W.W. Watts of Orange a fully-furnished Christian church which he maintained for the children of his colony until it scattered.

Missouri Pacific Railroad

In the southernmost portion of Texas, adjacent to the Mexican border, other Japanese farmers settled in the Rio Grande Valley comprising the four counties of Willacy, Cameron, Hidalgo, and Starr. The river valley with its fertile alluvial soil long was a sugar cane and cattle raising region.

After the construction of the Missouri Pacific railroad and its linkage with Houston to the northeast in 1904, the Rio Grande Valley became known very early for vegetable production as well as subsequently for cotton and grapefruit production.

The earliest footprints in the hot, insect-breeding valley were those of the inspiring Issei who after 1908 with outlay literally of "blood, sweat, and tears" laid the cornerstone for Japanese agricultural activities along the Rio Grande. Japanese sources indicate that in 1908 Heishirō Miyamoto, a salesman for a Japanese firm in Houston, coming to the valley noted its possibilities for citrus production. The heralded success of Saburō Arai and Seitō Saibara of Houston in their sales of Satsuma orange trees induced Miyamoto to purchase 20 acres of land as a nursery site near the town of Mission. He operated it in the early phase through a manager until he himself located there permanently. In the 1920s the nursery was phased out and Miyamoto engaged in farming near Pharr before he moved to Mexico about 1924.

Among the Issei who were to follow Miyamoto to the Rio Grande Valley included Hachirō Sawamura, Tamezō Katō, and the first Issei to die in the valley by the name of Tsutsumi. Among this early group, Katō remained in farming while Sawamura, having failed in his venture in 1924, moved to Houston to become a restaurant operator.

In 1907 Uichi Shimotsu, a graduate of Colorado A. and M., came to San Juan and farmed there for two years, later moving to San Benito where he raised vegetables, cantaloupes, and cotton. In later years, with the assistance of his sons, he expanded his farm operations to over 1,000 acres. His wife, Takako, who arrived in 1917, was the first Japanese woman in the valley while her first-born, a daughter, became the earliest Nisei to be born in the Rio Grande Valley. There were Issei males who were married in this period, but to Mexican wives.

In 1910, Tamezō Katō and W. Kamitani settled in the Mission district, the latter in 1912 moving to San Benito where he raised cabbage reputed to have sold for from \$70 to \$80 per ton in 1918, thus enabling him to purchase 80 acres of land. He became the first Japanese

citrus grower in the valley when he put in grapefruit trees on 25 acres of his land. Other early Issei purchasers of land in this period were Tanijirō Kawamura and his partners who acquired 30 acres in San Benito, where land in proximity to town sold for about \$100 an acre and that less conveniently located brought from \$40 to \$50 per acre.

The crops of these early pioneer growers included cabbage, cantaloupes, cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, bellpepper, and squash, which were consigned in the main to distributors in Houston, San Antonio, Fort Worth, and Dallas as well as to brokers in Ok-

Miyamoto's Nursery Precursor of Vegetable Farms in Texas by the Gulf and Mexican Border

lahoma. The produce, in order to retain its freshness, was shipped via railroad express.

Other names that appear in the annals of Issei history during its early phase include Seiichi Noguchi and Nobutarō Kitayama among others who came to San Benito in 1913. Hidesaburō Nakajima and Katsuhiko Tomiyasu who settled in McAllen in 1914 followed by Etsujirō Izumigawa and in 1916 Minoru Kawahata, the valley's Issei leader-to-be, arrived in San Benito to take up residence.

Brownsville's Yamato Colony

It was during the years prior to World War I that white landowners in the valley, fully acquainted with the skill and industry of Japanese farmers, encouraged them to settle on their lands. Pushed by the developing sentiments against the Issei farmers and pulled by the possibilities in the Rio Grande Valley, many immigrant farmers in the Pacific Coast states and elsewhere where the anti-alien movement was prevalent migrated southward to the ultimate of the concessions made by the anti-alien proponents was that they would not encourage the influx of Japanese into the region, and as a result the final land law that emerged from the state legislature was one that permitted Issei already in possession of land prior to the enactment of the legislation to retain and dispose of it at will. In the Harlingen case, the citizens were doing more than discouraging the entry of Japanese into the valley. A resident Issei, Tokujirō Oyama, in commenting on the incident that saw the Japanese families forced to return to their original destination, said that the basic reason for the treatment was because one of the Issei boasted that he was ready to buy up a large tract of land. The psychology of the whites in the valley was similar to that of people today who fear the results of widespread purchase of land and property by businessmen and investors from Japan. It was possible for vigilante practices in those days whereas today such reaction, although possible, would probably take a less overt form.

Despite the agitation of the '20s, in the 1930s the last decade of the Issei era, other Japanese arrived; names such as Isao Date, Satoru Date, Yasutaro Niki, and Sentarō Otsuki are mentioned in Japanese annals as coming to Hidalgo while Kumazō Tanamachi settled in San Benito.

In Rio Grande Valley

It is significant to note that the very first institution that the Japanese in the Rio Grande Valley established was a Christian church. In 1925 Minoru Kawahata, who had come to Hidalgo the previous year from Pharr at the invitation of lawyer-farmer Ben Kelly, was instrumental in founding a church, which was operated as a mission church of the McAllen Baptist Church after 1931.

Christianity in the Rio Grande Valley has been strongly entrenched among the Issei, a divergence from the general pattern of many Japanese farm communities. If Toyohiko Kagawa's overarching influence in Utah was in stimulating the farmers to establish farm cooperatives, in the Rio Grande country his name is synonymous with the movement that he initiated, the Friends of Jesus.

The *Iesu no Tomo no Kai* was introduced in the early 1950s to this region by Kyōko Arai of Houston and from

the meetings held at the home of Tokujirō Oyama in San Benito radiated throughout the valley and in more recent times touched the lives of many prominent Issei farm families. As a community service, in typical Japanese fashion, the group has decorated with fresh flowers the grave sites of all Japanese buried in the valley and, moreover, has erected headstones over the graves of two Issei pioneers who had died without relatives or friends interested in marking their grave site. The movement's impact upon both Issei male and female in the farming communities of the valley in the immediate post-World War II era was such that it was credited with establishing along the Rio Grande a *heima kyō* or a "region of peace."

Interestingly, if religion took hold in the valley—Christianity, a religion alien to the Japanese traditionally—the concept of inculcating in the Nisei the language and culture of Japan, so prevalent in most established farming communities, did not; it was not until long after the Issei era, in the 1960s, that a language school was founded in the valley.

An interview with Henry Kawahata, the son of the pioneer leader Minoru Kawahata, revealed the accomplishments of the Issei farmers of the valley who laid the economic base for the Nisei successors in agriculture. In the 1960s it was estimated that 6,000 acres of the total 12,000 acres of land in cotton was grown by Japanese. In 1965 of the 15,000 acres under cultivation in the Rio Grande Valley, the Japanese controlled 5% of the cropland and 3% of the arable acreage.

Large farms operated by the Japanese included the Tanamachi farm which had 400 acres in crops. Approximately 50% of the 50 families in the farming community owned land ranging from 40 acres to 700 acres (the Kitayama, Shimotsu, and Kawahata holdings were the largest with about 120, 400, and 700 acres, respectively). This develop-

Minoru Kawahata with 7 Others Establish 'Yamato Colony' in 1917 on Old Sugar Plantation

ment could not have been possible without the efforts and hardships endured by the Issei pioneers who plowed the first furrows in the mesquite- and cactus-covered, snake-infested alluvial soil of the Rio Grande Valley.

Pioneer Minoru Kawahata

One of the earlier large-scale Issei farm operators was Minoru Kawahata, born in 1890 in Kagoshima, who came to Brownsville, Texas in 1917 and soon thereafter together with seven of his fellow-countrymen established the Yamato Colony. Its failure took him to Pharr where in 1922 he was operating a packing shed. Two years later, upon the urgings of Ben Kelly, a lawyer-farmer, Kawahata moved to Hidalgo.

From 1924 to 1929, the Kawahata operations were to extend over 2,000 acres. He allotted acreage to Japanese tenants who produced the crops, furnishing them with tools and fertilizer to facilitate production. He also loaned money to the farmers.

Then came the depression years with all the ramifications of deflation, one of which was that Kawahata bade goodbye to much of the money extended to the tenants as loans. Low prices limited or precluded profit. And if monetary problems were not enough, Kawahata bore the brunt of natural calamity. At one time floods destroyed ten acres of planted fields of vegetables and cotton as well as 20 acres of orange trees that were set out in 1927.

The years between 1930 and 1932 were for the Kawahata family dark ones. During one year creditors attached a part of the profit he had made from a successful cantaloupe season for a loan that was outstanding. It was during this period that his son Henry was forced to peddle cantaloupes (Hale's Best variety usually planted in January or February) which fortunately netted about \$10 a day. By 1933 the father was once more back on his feet due to a fascinating aspect of farming: one can lose money one year but regain it all the next.

Certainly the hardships endured by this farmer, who in the 1920s was also plagued with tuberculosis, epitomized the Issei throughout the valley. Securing money by borrowing or by selling their mules and obtaining seeds and groceries on credit, the Issei gradually built up their enterprise.

Difficulties undoubtedly stimulated the creative genius in many as well as their inclination to risk for possible success. Hence it was a boon of sorts. For Kawahata, for instance, his particular

experiences led him to experimentation; he did the impossible. When other farmers of the valley stated dogmatically that "You can't plant lettuce successfully in the Rio Grande Valley," he refused to listen. He planted the crop on his Hidalgo farm and produced excellent lettuce, each acre yielding from 250 to 300 crates of the green gold. By 1942, the end of the Issei era, the Kawahata farm had as much as 650 acres in this

Kawahata Cited with Promoting Lettuce in Rio Grande Valley; Issei Grew Tomatoes, Melons

truck crop. The menu of the Casa de Palma Hotel in McAllen served "Kawahata lettuce with French or Roquefort cheese." The valley recognized Kawahata's contribution; the McAllen, Texas, *Valley Evening Monitor* stated in a feature article on the operation in 1941: "He [Kawahata] was credited with promoting lettuce production in the region." The valley which up to 1904 grew nothing but rice, sugar cane, and a few patches of *frijole* beans, by the 1960s was sending out 100,000 cars of fruits and vegetables per year. Lettuce, cabbage, carrots, onions, cantaloupes, and 50% of the nation's annual production of tomatoes left the valley. The Issei farmers played no small part in this development.

Texas's Yamato Colony

Reverting to her husband's days with the Yamato Colony in Brownsville in Cameron County, Mrs. Minoru Kawahata who had come to the United States as a picture bride in 1915, gave some particulars that normal Japanese sources do not cover.

The seven partners leased several hundred acres of what was a sugar cane plantation on which George Brulay had built a sugar mill during the sugar cane boom that began around 1908. The Japanese used from 50 to 100 laborers in their operation involving the production of beans, potatoes, and tomatoes.

The wife of pioneer farmer Nobutarō Kitayama also added to the information regarding the colony. She recalled cooking for the colonists, ringing the breakfast bell at 7:00 in the morning, for lunch at 12:00 and the dinner bell at 6:00 in the evening. The Issei even put in a siding for freight cars. She recalled that frost killed a large acreage of beans, and after several years of operation the colony dissolved, the

partners taking ten years to repay the debt. According to her recollection, W.E. McDavid, a shipper, and John Lomax, a San Benito banker, advanced the money to Minoru Kawahata to undertake the colony.

Nobutarō Kitayama who after the Yamato Colony venture farmed in Pharr, San Benito, and Donna, died in 1962, but his son by that time was operating a 1,000-acre cotton and vegetable farm. A picture bride, his wife related that when she met him for the first time in 1917 she was a bit taken aback by the fact that instead of the "tall, dark, and handsome" man she had envisaged she found her new husband to be "short with a sun-darkened countenance."

Postwar California Growers

In an interview, Isamu Taniguchi, a large-scale tomato producer from Brentwood, Contra Costa County, California, who settled in San Benito in 1946 to raise winter vegetables, had some observations regarding the Issei farmers in the Rio Grande Valley after discussing knowledgeably various aspects of Japanese farming. Alluding to the courage of the pioneer farmers who came to the valley, Taniguchi said:

"It was much more difficult for the Issei to come here and farm than it was for those in California; when one con-

Postwar Era Finds Issei Farmers from California Raising Winter Vegetables

fronted problems and distress here, there was less likelihood of receiving help because Japanese were few and far between."

And the author's conversation in Hidalgo, Texas, with Luke Giichi Sueyasu, also like Taniguchi a recent arrival from the Stockton district in California, revealed the scattering effect World War II and the relocation of the Japanese from the Pacific Coast had upon some of the farming people. Sueyasu was a long-time supervisor of the farming operations for the Empire Navigation Co., owned and operated by George Shima, the California potato king. After an interlude, 1934-1938, during which he was with the Medford Land Company as superintendent, he was employed by Tōgō Shima from 1938 to 1941 as the Issei era came to an end.

To Be Continued

IGASAKI

Continued from Page 4

violence against Asian Americans. Focused on the Hate Crimes Statistics Act as a legislative response. Attendance by legislative staff people, Congresspeople and Senators, and civil rights groups as well as local Asian American groups.

C. **Ming Hai Loo case.** In the wake of the racial killing of Ming Hai Loo, a Chinese American in North Carolina, have worked with a coalition of national groups that have come together following the Nov. 1 conference. JACL arranged a meeting with Dept. of Justice officials responsible for possible civil rights prosecution.

D. **1990 Census.** Have met with census officials about the need for publicizing the 1990 census in the Japanese American community. Will be helping to produce a video promoting Asian census participation and will disseminate appropriate information to community.

E. **Media Monitoring.** Have responded to a number of negative racial media images appearing in connection with Japanese investments here, including publishing responses to a *N. Y. Newsday* column, a cartoon in a local Virginia newspaper, and a letter linking trade problems to Redress in a local Pennsylvania paper. Have expressed concern to *Newsday* and *Washington Post* for lack of coverage of Loo Case in wake of racial killings of African Americans.

III. Emerging Issues, Requests for Support

A. **Vietnamese American Fishing Case.** Request for *amicus curiae* brief from JACL in support of Vietnamese American fishermen being prosecuted under a 200 year-old law banning non-citizens from piloting or owning fishing

vessels. Similar to discrimination against Japanese American fishermen prior to World War II. Seek historical perspective of JA community. *Amicus* due by Feb. 12, 1990, but can be filed later by stipulation (probably necessary).

B. **African American Reparations, H.R. 3745.** Rep. John Conyers recently filed a bill to create a Commission to study the impact of slavery and subsequent racism on African Americans and to explore appropriate remedies, including reparations. Filed shortly after J.A. Redress entitlement was passed. We have been getting mailings on issue, but have not yet been asked for support. Whether hearings will be held or if it will come up this session is not yet clear. Prospects are not clear.

C. **Civil Rights Act of 1990.** The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights has requested our support and involvement in efforts to pass remedial legislation in the wake of Supreme Court decisions narrowing the rights of those seeking to challenge discriminatory practices by Employers. Expect a bill to be filed shortly after Congress returns on January 23, 1990. Will be a high priority for civil rights community in this session. This does not address affirmative action of minority set-aside programs (separate legislation is anticipated in those areas).

D. **Employer Sanctions.** Asian Law Caucus has asked JACL to join a coalition seeking the end of employer sanctions provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. ALC noted JACL's joining with the American Friends in a court challenge to the same provisions (*AFSC v. Thornburgh*) and to raids on employers in Japan-town, San Francisco in requesting support. An element of concern in this issue as well is the concept of a national I.D. card to aid in enforcement practices.

THE CALENDAR

DELRAY BEACH, FLA.

■ Present—April 15—"The Cult of Tea: An Exhibit Commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the Death of Sen no Rikyu," the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd.

LOS ANGELES AREA

■ Present—Feb. 25—East West Players' production of *The Chairman's Wife* by Wakako Yamauchi. Times: Th-S, 8 pm; Sun. matinees, 2 pm. Admission: \$12, \$15/ea. Info, tickets: 213 660-0366.

■ Present—March 4—"Lu-Huan: Stone Carvings by a Chinese Master," an exhibition featuring his stone carvings, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Blvd. Museum hours: T-Su, 10 am-5 pm. Admission: Adults, \$3/ea; students and senior citizens with ID, \$1.50/ea; children 5-12, .75/ea; children under five and museum members free. Info: 213 744-DINO.

■ Present—Feb. 18—"Nishijin-1,500 Years of Tradition," an exhibition of fine textiles, fabrics and costumes, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center's George J. Doizaki Gallery, 244 S. San Pedro St. Gallery Hours: T-F, noon-5 pm; S & Su, 11 am-4 pm. Free. Info: 213 628-2725.

■ Feb. 22—The Asian Business League of Southern California's Winter Open House, Th, 6:30-9:30 pm, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Blue Ribbon Rm., 135 N. Grand Ave., Admission: \$5/ea, members; \$7/ea., non-members. Info: (all 213) Katherine Wong, 256-4125; Vincent Wong, 473-2148; or Henry Yee, 255-3847.

■ Feb. 24—Installation dinner of the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California, S. Gung Hay Restaurant, Gardena. No-host cocktails: 6 pm. Dinner: 6:30 pm. Admission: \$18/ea., members; \$22/ea., non-members. Guest speaker: Nobu McCarthy. Mail reservations by Feb. 17 to JAHSCC, P.O. Box 3164, Torrance, CA 90510-3164. Info: Sue Embrey, 213 662-5102.

PHOENIX

■ Feb. 29-March 3—"Japan Week '90," sites throughout the Phoenix-area. Info: Japan America Society of Phoenix, 602 968-6650.

SACRAMENTO

■ Feb. 25—"San Jose Taiko in Concert," a fundraiser for Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education, Su, Edgewater Ballroom, 500 Leisure Ln. Tickets: (advance & at-the-door) General admission, \$12.75/ea. or \$15/ea.; senior citizens, students & children, \$10/ea. or \$12/ea.; for advance ticket

sales, call 415 762-2277 or 916 923-2277. Registered APAHE Conference participants receive complimentary admission. Info: APAHE, P.O. Box 22367, Sacramento, CA 95822 or call (both 916) Hoyt Fong, 686-7420 or James K. Mar, 484-8471.

■ Feb. 25-27—"Windows of Opportunity—The Time Is Now!," the 3rd annual Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education Conference, the new Radisson Hotel. Pre-registration: \$115; late fee, \$150; student rate, \$60, \$75 late. Accommodations: \$58 single, \$68 double, \$78 triple & \$88 quadruple, plus 10% occupancy tax. Info: (both 916) Hoyt Fong, 686-7420 or James K. Mar, 484-8471.

■ April 15—Deadline for registration for the Military Intelligence Association of Northern California AJA Veteran's reunion to be held June 29 in Kailua-Kona Hawaii. Info: Shiro Tokuno, 916 925-0019.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

■ Present—May 13—"Strength & Diversity: Japanese American Women, 1885-1990," an exhibition co-sponsored by the National Japanese American Historical Society and the Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak St., Oakland. Hours: W-S, 10 am-5 pm; Su, noon-7 pm. Free admission. Info: (both 415) NJAHS, 431-5007; Oakland Museum, 273-3842 or 273-3401.

■ March 10—The annual Northern California Japanese American Senior Center's Shin Nen Kai, Mt. View Buddhist Temple, 10:30 am-2:30 pm.

SAN JOSE

■ Feb. 19—Day of Remembrance, sponsored by the Nihonmachi Outreach Committee, M, 6 pm, San Jose Buddhist Church, 640 N. 5th St. Speakers: Rep. Norman Mineta, Alan Nishio (NCRR), Jorge Gonzales (Raza Si) & NOC member Sue Tokushige. Cultural performance: Jon Jang & the Pan Asian Arkestra. Reception follows with George Yoshida & Sentimental Journey. Info: (all 408) Richard Konda, 287-9710 (days); Robert Suyeda, 255-4535; or Susan Hayase, 292-6938 (eves.)

■ March 25—Jackson-Taylor Business & Professional Associations' 1990 Annual Dinner, Su, Bini's Bar & Grille, 337 E. Taylor St. Cocktails: 6 pm. Dinner: 6:30 pm. Info: 408 298-4303.

SEATTLE

■ March 3—Annual Sukiyaki Dinner, 4-7 pm, S., Blaine Memorial United Church, 3001-24th Ave. South. Take-out: 3:30-7 pm. Pre-5 pm diners eligible for door prize (take-out diners not eligible). Highlights: Bonsai display by James Nakahara and Japanese doll display by Michiko Ono. Tickets: Adults, \$6/ea.; 70 & over and 11 and under, \$4/ea. Info: 206 723-1536.

Publicity items for The Calendar must be typewritten (double-spaced) or legibly hand-printed and mailed at least THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE. Please specify a day or night phone contact for further information.

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Briefly Noted by Harry K. Honda

TOYOHICO KAGAWA: *Apostle of Love and Social Justice*, By Robert Schildgen. Centenary Books, 1442-A Walnut St., Suite 415, Berkeley, CA 94709; 341 pp., \$18.95 hard, \$12.95 soft (1989) [Add 7% tax in Calif.; \$1.50 p/book shipping.]

There is a Kagawa St. in the Pacific Palisades (90272), probably one of the first streets in the Los Angeles basin to bear a Japanese name. We can only suggest that it was named for this individual, Toyohiko Kagawa [1888-1960], because of his good works as a Presbyterian preacher, lecturer and social worker. Years ago, the Presbyterian conference grounds was also in this area below the Riviera Country Club.

Kagawa was often called the Japanese Gandhi, the Japanese Albert Schweitzer or the St. Francis of Japan. Author Robert Schildgen finds him to be a precursor of today's liberation theology, which is strongly oriented toward helping the poor in Latin America, but Kagawa was also a man with great flaws. His work often left him with less for his own family. [As for family, his daughter Umeko Momii, now a Presbyterian minister in Salinas, Calif., and her husband John are Salinas Valley JACLers.]

Many a Nisei may have heard Kagawa preach when he toured the U.S. in the 1930s. This book will reawaken those moments and satisfy a yearning to know more about a man who has made world history.

About the author: Schildgen, 46, is a senior editor at China Books in San Francisco and hails from Wisconsin. He moved to Berkeley in 1972 to edit the Mark Twain papers at the Univ. of California. He researched the U.S. cooperative movement as a scholar-in-residence at Oberlin in 1987 and is best known as editor of the award-winning *Berkeley Co-op News*.

SUSHI AND SOURDOUGH: *A Novel*, By Tooru J. Kanazawa. Univ. of Washington Press, P.O. Box 50096, Seattle, WA 98145; 266 pp., \$19.95 soft (1989).

The story-line: Matajiri Fuse leaves Japan in the 1890s in pursuit of an American fortune—prospecting for gold in Alaska. Once he finds that he can make better a living as a barber, he brings his family to join him and eventually American-born children are added to the clan. First of those, Toranosuke (nicknamed Thor by his Scandinavian neighbors), inherits his father's adventurous spirit and leaves home for the first time at age 12 to work in the salmon cannery. It is in the 1920s as the story ends and he learns his Japanese heritage and his American birthright could not be reconciled without cost.

Tooru Kanazawa has drawn on recollections of his own Alaskan childhood, and has included names of the legendary Issei prospectors (sourdoughs) like Juiro Wada and Frank Yasuda of the turn of the century. The author, a newspaperman and now a retired travel agent, wrote the novel to relate the Issei-Nisei story in Alaska in an entertaining and enduring manner. He is following the literary vehicle that James Michener has driven so successfully since his *Tales of the South Pacific* was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1948.

A Nisei contemporary, Gordon Hirabayashi says, "*Sushi and Sourdough* is a gripping and tantalizing fictional narrative as well as a valuable social and economic history of an era."

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'Through Innocent Eyes'

Essays, Artwork of Poston I High School Students Compiled as Book and Audiotape

LOS ANGELES — What was the effect of the Evacuation on school-aged Japanese American children? Insight may be gleaned from *Through Innocent Eyes*, a compilation of writings and artwork of then-young Japanese American internees.

Edited by Vincent Tajiri, the book contains illustrations and sketches by the students along with contributing work by other known authors of the camp experience: Yuji Ichioka, Lane Hirabayashi, and Tajiri. Also included is an interview with Ray Franchi, the schoolteacher who originally compiled the student's work and the full text of documents setting forth the internment process.

The book will be offered in hardcover and softcover at prepublication prices until late spring. The limited edition hardcover is \$49.50 prepublication and \$55 after publication. The embossed edition (softcover) is \$29.50 prepublication and \$35 after publication. The book is scheduled for release in March of this year.

The Nisei stories and poetry are

brought to life through readings in the audio version of *Through Innocent Eyes*. With an introduction by George Takei (of Star Trek fame), the tape was produced by Family Media Publishing's award-winning producer, Rennie Mau. The audio version features a dramatized soundtrack and is scheduled for simultaneous release with the book.

Presale price for the audio version of *Through Innocent Eyes* is \$15; \$18 after publication. As with the book, prices include shipping and handling.

Those interested in buying either the books or the audiotape should write to Keiro Services, P.O. Box 33819, Los Angeles, CA 90033-0819. For more information about the book and audiotape, contact:

The Public Affairs/Development Office of Keiro Services at (213) 263-1007 exts. 202 or 224.

Hawaii Literary Quarterly Starts Its 11th Year

HONOLULU — A literary magazine which sprang from a writers' conference in 1978 with about 75 subscribers now has 600, according to editors Eric Chock and Darrell H.Y. Lum of *Bamboo Ridge*, the Hawaiian writers' quarterly. Franklin Odo, director of the Ethnic Studies Program at the University of Hawaii, reminded that literature serves as a vital link to one's past.

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Sea Urchin Industry in Maine Seen in Decline

PORTLAND, Maine — Surge in the sea urchin industry on the coast of Maine has started to fade—because of quality, according to Atsushi Tamaki of the ISF Trading Co. here.

With the supply dwindling in California because of overfishing, Japanese began looking at Maine from 1986, to the delight of fishermen here who had scored the green-colored urchin as a pest. But in the rush to fill orders, few worried about quality so that this season, Tamaki and others have been refusing shipments. The quality is based on weight and color—bright yellow being highly prized, the Japanese buyers explained.

Boom or not, Maine has welcomed the winter trend for fishermen.

Lafcadio Hearn Society Organized in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Ohio—An international Lafcadio Hearn Society is being organized here where the writer began his career as a journalist in Cincinnati in 1872, the Cincinnati JACL reported.

A delegation will travel to Japan this summer for the 100th anniversary celebration of Hearn's arrival in Japan. For information:

Prof. Jon C. Hughes, Dept. of English & Comparative Literature, Mail Loc. 68, Univ. of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221.

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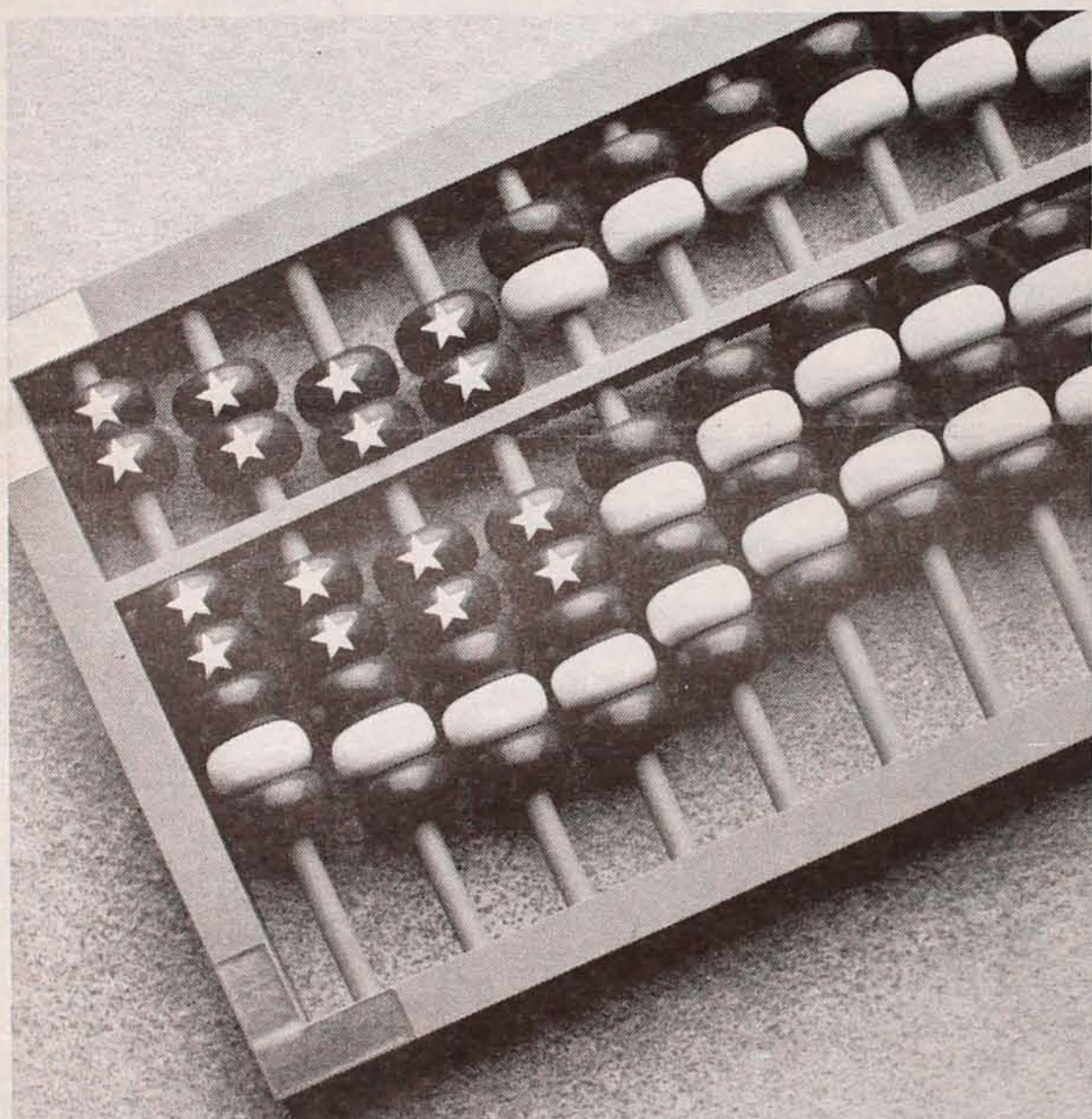
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CENSUS '90



THE NEWSMAKERS



SIDNEY YAMAZAKI



ELIZABETH AKAMATSU

► **Sidney Yamazaki**, onetime West L.A. JACL president, is the West L.A. Lions Club "man of the year" for more than 25 years of community service. An educator by profession, he will be honored at an awards luncheon on Tuesday, Feb. 27, noon, at Stoner Park Gym, 1835 Stoner Ave., West L.A. For reservations: call Hank Baizer (213) 398-7931. Previous recipients on the West L.A. JACL board include past presidents **George and Toy Kanegai**.

► Japanese literature scholar **Edward Seidensticker** and a part-time Honolulu resident, who is probably best known for his translation of the classic *Tale of Genji*, has backed out of a distinguished professorship at the University of Hawaii because he didn't want to sign a loyalty oath to the U.S. and Hawaii constitutions, the *Honolulu Advertiser* reported Feb. 2. UH president Albert Simone said it was state law to sign. Waivers are allowed under certain circumstances, such as alien employees or temporary workers. The pre-WWII loyalty oath was adopted when a lot of people questioned the loyalty of Japanese Americans.

► **Barack Obama**, 28, was elected the first Black president on Feb. 5 in its 104-year history of the Harvard Law Review, a prestigious job considered the highest student position at the law school. He succeeds **Peter Yu**, a Chinese American who is graduating this year and will serve as a clerk for Chief Judge Patricia Wald on the U.S. court of appeals. Born in Hawaii, Obama's late father was a finance minister in Kenya and his mother Ann Dunham is an American anthropologist now doing field work in Indonesia.

► **Dr. Izumi Taniguchi**, professor of economics at CSU-Fresno, was appointed by State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown as an executive board member of the Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellowship Program. The term expires Dec. 31, 1992. The program provides college graduates with first-hand knowledge of the state legislature through work in the Assembly and a graduate seminar.

► **Tom Nakagawa** of Sacramento entertained 100 wheel-chair ridden senior citizens at Sutter Oak Center. A member of the American Federation of Musicians Local 12 for the past 15 years, he is now negotiating a contract to entertain aboard the "Delta King," the 100-year-old stern wheeler docked by the levee in Old Sacramento.

► **Judge Donald Tsukiyama**, 56, of the Hawaii circuit court is leaving the bench when his term expires April 23. A former state public defender, he did not give any reason for his decision. On Jan. 19, Hawaii Governor Waihee nominated Oahu Circuit Judge **Ronald T. Y. Moon**, 49, to the supreme court to succeed **Justice Edward Nakamura**, who retired. If confirmed by the state senate, Moon will be the first Korean American in the country to serve on a state supreme court. Under the state constitution, Moon will automatically become a member of the high court unless the senate acts to reject the appointment within 30 days. A Republican and practicing law at the time, he was appointed by Governor Ariyoshi to the circuit court. He graduated Coe College in 1962, and earned his law degree at the University of Iowa in 1965.

► Sacramento County Municipal Court Judge **Charles Kobayashi** sentenced State Sen. Art Torres of Los Angeles to 14 days in jail and fined him \$1,330 after he pleaded no contest Jan. 25 to his second drunk driving charge in two years. The judge recommended he be allowed to participate in the county work program instead of going to jail, and suspended his driver's license for 18 months and placed him on four years' probation. **Ben I. Haraguchi**, 47, and **Michiko Ito Crampe**, 42, who specialize in advising Japanese clients on U.S. investments and operations, have joined the 530-lawyer Morrison & Foerster firm as partners in the New York office. The firm has eight domestic and overseas offices including Tokyo. Crampe is remembered as the first lawyer admitted to practice in both Japan and the United States, when she was admitted to the New York state bar in 1976.

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JACL PULSE

FLORIN

► "Constitutional Triumph and the Challenge for the Future," the 8th annual Day of Remembrance, Sat., Feb. 24, Florin YBA Hall, 8320 Florin Rd., Sacramento. Display of Exhibits: 6 pm. Program: 7 pm. Speakers: Rep. Norman Mineta, JACL-LEC Chair Jerry Enomoto. Info: 916 443-8570.

GREATER L.A. SINGLES

► The 8th Annual Installation Dinner-Dance, Sat., Feb. 24, Holiday Inn, 2640 Lakewood Blvd., Long Beach. Cost: \$26/ea.; \$29 after Feb. 16. No-host cocktails: 6 pm. Dinner: 7 pm. Dancing: Until midnight. Comedian: Charlie Laborts. Music: Taka. Send checks made payable to Greater L.A. Singles JACL to Janet Okubo, 21207 S. Avalon #156, Carson, CA 90745. Info: (both 213) Janet, 835-7568 or Joyce, 329-5882.

LATIN AMERICA

► Installation Brunch, 10 am, Sun., Feb. 25, Casa Escobar Restaurant (213 822-2199), 14160 Palawan Way, Marina del Rey. Tickets: \$15/ea. Send checks made out to Latin America Chapter, Keiko Masumura, 15011 Van Buren St., Gardena, CA 90247. Reservation deadline: Feb. 16. Info: (all 213) Larry Tokuyama, 730-1916; Tami Ige, 254-9486; or Miki Yamazaki, 391-1556.

LAS VEGAS

► Redress dinner, 6:30 pm, Fri., March 9, Cathay House Restaurant, 5300 W. Spring Mt. Rd. Cost: \$15/ea. Special guest: Grant Ujifusa. Info: Fred Fukumoto, 702 362-3742.

MARINA

► "Better Late than Never New Year's Dinner," Sat., Feb. 24, Cherrystone Restaurant, Gardena. Cost: \$18/ea. Info: (both 213) Joy Murosako, 473-8908; Sharon Kumagai, 826-8951; or Hiromi Saruwatari, 818 843-6334.

SAN MATEO

► Installation dinner, Sat., Feb. 24, Szechuan Flower Restaurant, 180 E. 4th Ave., San Mateo. No-host cocktails: 6 pm. Dinner: 7 pm. Cost: \$20/ea. Slide Presentation on the history of the Japanese in San Mateo County, 1872-1942: Richard Nakamishi. Tickets: Checks made payable to the San Mateo JACL should be mailed to the JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont, San Mateo, CA 94401. Info: 415 343-2793.

RENO

► Potluck/general meeting, Sun., Feb. 25, noon-3 pm, Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada St., Reno. Please bring "white elephant" gift for raffle. ► Scholarship Teriyaki Dinner/Sushi Sale, Sun., March 19, noon-4pm, Senior Citizen Center, 9th & Sutro St., Reno. Help needed for food preparation. Volunteers: Joni Sun, 702 331-2097.

WEST L.A.

► "Multiracial Asian Identity in the Arts," a free public lecture by playwright/poet Velina Hasu Houston, Tues., Feb. 27, 7:30 pm, West Los Angeles Buddhist Church (corner of Corinth & La Grange). Endorsed by *Amerasia Journal*. Info: Glenn Omatsu, 213 825-3415. ► Candidates for Miss Western Los Angeles are sought, will the winning applicant to participate in the Nisei Week Festival Queens Pageant. Applicants must be at least between 19 years old and no more than 25 years on Aug. 18, 1990. Applicants must reside in the Western region of Los Angeles. Info: (both 213) Eleanor, 398-9813 or Jean, 390-6914.

Items publicizing JACL events should be type-written (double-spaced) or legibly hand-printed and mailed at least THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE to the P.C. office. Please include contact phone numbers, addresses, etc.

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1990 Group Tours

(Revised Feb. 1990)

- # 3 Japan Cherry Blossom Tour
Mar 26-Apr 6
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- # 4 Williamsburg Cherry Blossom Tour
Apr 6-Apr 13
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- # 5 Best of Florida with EPCOT
Apr 13-Apr 22
Bill Sakurai, escort
- # 6 Mexico & Yucatan
Apr 22-Apr 29
Masako Kobayashi, escort
- # 7 Japan Ura-Nihon Tour
May 23-Jun 4
Ray Ishii, escort
- # 8 Scenic Colorado & New Mexico
Jun 16-Jun 24
Bill Sakurai, escort
- # 9 Portugal/Spain & Morocco
Jun 1-Jun 17
Toy Kanegai, escort
- # 10 Parks & Canyon Spectacular
Jun 10-Jun 22
Yuki Sato, escort
- # 11 Salmon Fishing
Jul 23-Jul 30
P & G Murakawa, escorts
- # 12 Japan Summer Basic Tour
Jun 23-Jul 4
- # 13 MIS Vets Kona Reunion
Jun 26-Jul 1
George Kanegai, escort
- # 14 Alaska Cruise and Land
Jun 27-Jul 8
Masako Kobayashi, escort
- # 15 Oberammergau
(Passion Play & Medjugorje)
Jul 7-Jul 23
Toy Kanegai, escort
- # 15a Japan Tohoku Festival
Aug 1-Aug 9
- # 16 Scandinavia & Russia
Aug 6-Aug 25
H & J Mochizuki, escorts
- # 17 Canadian Rockies
Aug 1-Aug 12
Yuki Sato, escort
- # 18 Yugoslavia
Sep 8-Sep 22
P. Murakawa/V. Ohara, escorts
- # 18a Continental Europe
Sep 20-Oct 6
Yuki Sato, escort
- # 19 Niagara Falls & Canada/NE Fall Foliage
Sep 27-Oct 11
Bill Sakurai, escort
- # 19a Old Japan & Shikoku Tour
Oct 1-Oct 15
Toy Kanegai, escort
- # 20 Hokkaido & Tohoku Tour
Sep 24-Oct 8
Ray Ishii, escort
- # 21 Japan in Fall
Oct 8-Oct 19
Galen Murakawa, escort
- # 22 Egypt & Africa
Nov 6-Nov 20
Toy Kanegai, escort
- # 23 South American
Oct 8-Oct 27
Masako Kobayashi
- # 24 Singapore, Bangkok, Malaysia, Hong Kong
Nov 26-Dec 13
Bill Sakurai, escort
- # 25 Japan, Hong Kong Xmas Shopping
Dec 7-Dec 15
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