

file copy

Maruzawa

Bussei

LIFE

SEMI — MONTHLY

PERSONALITY

Column

A well-known popular Bussei, Tadashi Hirota, formerly of Oakland has volunteered for Military Intelligence School at Camp Savage, Minnesota and is expected to leave this center in early part of June.

Being the president of the Bay District YBA, executive secretary of North America Buddhist Mission, director of the 'Buddhist Day' at the World's Fair, being known as one of the most promising public relations men among the Buddhist Circles, advisor and executive director for the recent Hana-Matsuri and YBA Topaz Confab, and other important roles, it had to take Tad to start our Bussei ball rolling.

Today, Tad is being very active in the Topaz center and also has been elected to the presidency of the Buddhist organization. He is now in Salt Lake City preparing for the coming Conference.

He deserves much credit and the Busseis in this City rabidly send their congratulation for his refined duties he is offering to us each day.

Dr. Tadashi George Tani formerly of Oakland has finally left the Minidoka Relocation Center for points East and will finally settle in the city of Chicago.

YBA members of the Bay Area will remember him as active in both YBA and the Sunday School groups.

Before evacuation, Tad Tani was one of the prominent Japanese Optometrists in Oakland working for Dr. R.W. WeHara. His sister, Yasuko, now in Chicago,

VOICE FROM ADMINISTRATION

Relocation or, as some people are calling it, resettlement is now receiving major attention at all ten relocation centers. Some day, in the near future, the whole of the United States will again be opened to resettlement but, for the present, opportunities are available to learn something of the Middle West and the East.

Americans living in these sections of the United States know very little about the Japanese or about Buddhism. Men and women of character and of courage are having their chance now to introduce themselves to America. The War Relocation Authority has signified its willingness and its desire to cooperate with the leaders of the Buddhist Church in their plans for providing for opportunities for persons who relocate from the centers to continue their worship as Buddhists.

Therefore, the extension of the Buddhist Faith and the extension of the relocation of persons of Japanese ancestry will go hand in hand in the joint effort to develop a stronger America.

Charles F. Ernst
Project Director

COMMUNITY

COUNCIL

On this occasion of your second publication of Topaz "Bussei Life," may I take this opportunity to express the good wishes of the people of this Community.

It is gratifying to see active church life in this Community among young people as well as the old. We, who are connected with self-government within this center, have tried to make this center operate as much as possible to correspond with that of a normal city on the outside, and we feel gratified to see normal church interest and spirit existing here. From experience, we have found that people with church background do make good residents. I hope, through proper church environment and training, we can make this a better Community in which to live in.

In closing may I again extend you our good wishes.

Mike Maruyama
Chairman, Community Council

has shown her ability as singer at YBA affairs.

It was indeed our misfortune to have the WRA send for Tad to go to Minidoka but our loss was their gain.

We all wish him the best of luck and success for the future in Chicago.

'TIS RUMOR

Keep your eyes peeled toward the 'Tis Rumored' column edited by person unknown. Featured also will be the "Ideal Bussei Boy and Girl" made up of outstanding Bussei members.

DELEGATES TO LEAVE ON WEDNESDAY

To decide the future of Buddhism in America, the 3rd National 9th Annual YBA Conference will be held in Salt Lake City from May 20-23. "Carry On Bussei" will be the theme.

Only delegates and cabinet officers of the free zones are invited to attend this business confab to discuss the topics listed in the program for each conference day.

Delegates from this center are Dr. Mitsugi Matoi, Mike Maruyama, Eiichi Sato, Hideo Kawahara, Hisako Kuroiwa, Nora Sakaki, June Nakayama, Akiyo Ota, Noboru Hanyu, Harry Ushijima, Hideko Shinagawa, Yosh Iso-no, Sachi Tajima, Yukino Takemoto, Margaret Kitashima, and Betty Koizumi. Eiichi Koizumi is leaving tomorrow to prepare with the art work.

The program for the 4-day confab is as follows:

THURSDAY

Registration--10-12 AM
National, Relocation Centers, Free Zones--1:30-6 PM.

FRIDAY

Relocation Center Problems and Policies.

1. Administration
2. Finance.
3. Religious Material.
4. Program.
5. Social Welfare--10-12 AM.
6. Student Relocation
7. Resettlement.
8. Church.
9. Centralization & Coordination.
10. General Jpse, American Problems.
11. Miscellaneous--1:30-6:00 P.M.

SATURDAY

Organizational Problems, 1. General--10:00-12:00 AM.

2. Relocation Center. 3. Free Zone. 4. Projects--2-5:00 PM.

Bussei Ball--9-12 P.M.

SUNDAY

Registration--9:00 AM, Opening Service & Ceremony--10:00 AM

Singfest--11:30 AM

Buffet Luncheon--11:45

Address--1:30 PM

Music Appreciation--2:30 P.M.

Bussei Speak--3:00 PM

Conference Picture--

4:00 P.M.

Closing Service--4:45 PM.

Banquet & Entertainment--6:00 PM.

Installation Ceremony--9:00 P.M.

Closing of Conference--9:30 P.M.

REV. KUMATA VOLUNTEERS

The Reverend Masaru Kumata, American-born clergyman of our Faith, has volunteered to serve as a chaplain for the Japanese American combat unit.

It was indicated by Wm. R. Arnold, chief of chaplains, that if the Rev. Kumata is inducted, he will become the U. S. Army's first chaplain of Japanese descent.

Since a number of Nisei volunteers will be Bussei at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, he will carry on with his duty there.

The Rev. Kumata was born in Seattle, Washington where he received his elementary and high school education in Seattle and also attended a business school there. He also received a degree from the Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan.

(To be cont'd, p.3)

JUNIOR GIRLS ORGANIZE CLUB

Through the combined efforts of the Rec 28 and 8 girls of Senior Sunday School class, the much-anticipated club for these girls became a reality last month when more than 25 members met at Rec 10 to form the "Junior Bussei Girls" organization.

The main objective of this club has been pointed out as a medium in having an outdoor sports team, handicrafts and other coordinations.

Teru Kaneko was elected as president of the newly-formed club, assisted by the following cabinet members: Asako Kawamoto, vice president; Sachiye Yanaba, secretary, and Yaeko Kami, treasurer. Supervising this club is the Rev. Kumata and the co-advisors are Hiromi Nakagaki and Hideko Shinagawa.

Y. B. A. SPONSORS "BINGO NIGHT"

To raise funds to send a delegation of Topaz Buddhists to the 3rd National Buddhists Conference in Salt Lake City held next week, the YP group will sponsor a 'Bingo Nite' tonight at the church from 7:30 o'clock.

Co-chairmen Mike Maruyama and Eiichi Sato announced that the public is also invited.

REMEMBER BINGO NITE!!

TOPAZ Y. B. A. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The YBA is now on its first membership drive with Treasurer Hideo Kawahara in charge.

Representative from every block has been selected to be responsible for contacting YBA members and distributing membership cards.

You are asked to cooperate toward a 100% membership. Hereafter, the "Bussei Life" will be distributed only to those holding membership cards.

TOPAZ YOUNG PEOPLES' SERVICES
May 16, 1943

Chairman: Nora Sakaki

1. Prelude.....BUSSEI KOSHIN KYOKU
2. Opening Address.....Chairman
3. Meditation
4. Incense Offering.....Keichi Kawamoto
Margaret Kitashima
5. Gatha.....SHINSHU SHUKA
6. Three Treasures
Kikkyomon
7. Sermon.....Rev. Okayama
8. Gatha.....ONDOKUSAN
9. Meditation
10. Closing Address.....Chairman
11. Announcements

THE CREED

WE RELY upon Tathagata Amitabha with our whole heart for the Enlightenment in the life to come, abstaining from all sundry practices and teachings, and giving up the trust in our powerless self.

We believe that the assurance of our Rebirth through His Salvation comes at the very moment we put our Faith in Him; and we call the Name, Namu-Amidabutsu, in happiness and thankfulness for His Mercy.

We also acknowledge gratefully the benign benevolence of our Founder and the succeeding Masters who have led us to believe in this profound teaching; and we do now endeavour to follow throughout our lives the Way laid down for us.

NATIONAL CONFAB REVITALIZATION PLANNED

Realizing the immediate necessity of revitalizing the present organization of the National YBA of the American Buddhist Churches, 78 official delegates representing the ten relocation centers and seven "free zone" chapters assembled in Salt Lake City from May 20 to 24 for a special emergency meeting. The Conference was presided over by Manabu Fukuda, national head from Poston, Arizona.

The five-day work conference was highlighted with special reports from the centers, "free zone" clubs, national officers, and reverends; discussions on relocation center problems and policies concerning the church, general Japanese American problems and organizational problems; and participation in the 9th Annual Intermountain District YBA Confab.

Mr. Sol Kimball, community organization expert of the WRA headquarters; Mr. Charles F. Ernst, Topaz project director; Rev. Fred Fertig, Protestant youth leader; and Mr. Hito Okada, National JAACL Treasurer, added a lot to the meeting with their timely messages to the Bussei leaders.

Resolutions were directed to Mr. Dillon S. Meyer, WRA head, thanking and commending him for his excellent guidance and management in meeting the problems of the war emergency created by evacuation and his interest in our group, and informing him of the creation of a national office.

Topaz was fortunate in having 21 of its members present at this important gathering. For the benefit of those who were not able to attend the conference, a summarized report of the business completed at the meetings is contained in this issue.

The general report of the emergency conference is being prepared by Rev. K. Kumata and Tad Hirota of the headquarters staff at the present time.

NEW POLICIES TO BE INITIATED

Two new policies will be inaugurated next Sunday by the Young Peoples group, it was revealed today by Tad Hirota, president. Beginning on June 13th, Sunday services for the YBA will be held from 7 P.M. and offerings will be taken.

Up to this date, services for the Bussei have been held on Sunday mornings. However, with the change of the adult schedule and the coming of better weather, YBA religious meetings will be held in the evenings.

Offerings will be taken at every service from now on to raise funds for the national headquarters. Next week-end being "Student Scholarship Aid Days" in all the churches, all the receipts at Sunday's service will be turned over to that fund.

KOIZUMIS MOVE TO CLEVELAND

Eiichi and Betty Koizumi departed from Topaz last Wednesday to relocate in Cleveland, Ohio, it was reported today. Both were members of the YBA and Eiichi, especially, was very helpful in all Bussei activities.

He will be employed as a paint sprayer at the Martin Company in Cleveland, according to the Relocation Office. Betty will seek employment upon her arrival there.

YBA MEET REPORTS

A summarization of the business concluded at the recent national emergency conference in Salt Lake as reported by official delegates from Topaz follows:

1. Revitalization of the existing YBA organization under the American Buddhist Churches. (a) To re-emphasize that we are not a new or separate organization, but that we are furthering a movement such as the CYBL, NYBL, IDYBL, or Tri-State YBL. (b) All decisions made at the conference were subject for approval by the YBA's in the relocation centers and free zone chapters. (c) The American Buddhist Churches is a sectarian sect, primarily Shinshu. It will be broad enough to welcome any group using the onem-butsu. However, it doesn't restrict any group from uniting.

2. Rev. J. Goldwater's movement "The Buddhist Brotherhood of America": We arrived at a decision and reviewed it again. Our policies are broad enough to tolerate such a parallel program as Rev. Goldwater's movement. The two groups will not be at severance with each other.

3. Purposes of National Headquarters: (a) To coordinate Young Buddhist activities in relocation centers and free zones. (b) To collect and disseminate pertinent information of activities and programs. (c) To compile religious material. (d) To edit and publish booklets on the Teachings of Buddha. (e) To establish public relations with organizations and individuals. (f) To arrange cooperative buying of supplies. (g) To carry on research regarding the systemization of the organization. (h) To keep in touch

(Continued on Page 4)

BUSSEI LIFE

PUBLISHED Semi-monthly at the
Central Utah Relocation Center
OFFICIAL Organ of the Topaz YBA

OUR YBA

Our YBA is made up of persons who formerly lived in the Bay Region cities of California, namely, San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, San Mateo, Palo Alto, Eden Township, and Washington Township. We number about 450 according to the officially registered list, but there are probably about 300 more eligible members.

Before evacuation we belonged to the CYBL and we took a leading role in many of its activities. From time to time, many of our leaders were state officers. The successful sponsorships of the "Bussei Festivals" at the Golden Gate International Exposition in 1939 and 1940 were among our greatest achievements.

Many of our key leaders back home are now scattered all over the country as a result of the war emergencies. Nobuo Yamichi, Yukio Kawamoto and Akira Oshida are at Camp Savage; Dr. Duke Itatani is in the Manzanar center; Kiyono Wakaye is located in Heart Mountain; Dr. Tad Tani was in Minidoka but is now relocated in Chicago; Masao Murata is at Fort Riley; Kimi Higashiuchi is living in Denver; Dr. John Koyama is in Gila River; Frank Oda and Ben Kawata are in Arache; and Jimmy Sugihara is teaching at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Yet, we're carrying on with new leaders sharing the burden with some of the old stand-bys. But we have been fortunate 'cause we're blessed with the presence of our national director, Rev. Kumata. His advice and leadership has proven invaluable to us in our greatest hour of need.

Our YBA has grown rapidly in size and activities since its start here in Topaz, and it will continue to grow with the keen interest and active support the members have given to date in promoting the ideals of this religious youth organization.

editorial

STILL OUR BEST BET

This is a good time to shake badly needed clarity into our heads, and rise above the turgid flow of ill-tempered censure and calumny which all too many evacuees have been pumping toward the plate every time the Citizens League came up to bat.

Somewhere along the road, the evacuee who didn't know better was first goaded by the evacuee who should know better into indicting the JACL on every conceivable count of a long list of accusations, ranging from responsibility for evacuation (as if the war and the Army had nothing to do with it) to the absence of "caviar from the mess tables. The reasons for all the off-center potshots at the League may be traceable to the human impulse to seek and flog a handy scapegoat in moments of despair and frustration.

Whatever the reasons, it has assumed the proportions of a major sport. JACL leaders in other centers have either suffered physical assault, or have been threatened with same. Hardly a single inconvenience, irritation and bump in the evacuation itinerary has failed to yield its share of irrational gripes against the League.

Forgotten was the great good the JACL did in the hectic days immediately preceding our uprooting and dislocation, when steady streams of issei and nisei stormed the JACL offices, day and night, seeking counsel and a desperately needed sense of stability in the midst of instability. And evidently forgotten, too, is the still greater good the League can do in the future as the one nisei organization in a position to speak nationally for Japanese Americans.

This is not a time for carping, but a time to support and make the best possible use of the good things available to us. The JACL has, of course, never pretended omniscience. But it still stands and works as our best bet.

---Dyke Miyagawa

editorial

INNER QUALITY

Many of us can find agreement in saying that "Tempura" is indeed a tasty dish. Once in a while the enjoyment lies in guessing what is covered by the "koromo" and in the anticipation of finding your guess come true. But the "koromo" itself does not constitute the whole of the meal; the essence lies in what is underneath.

Just so, no matter how glittering and beautiful a trinket may look, it is still a trinket, a bauble, and may not be classed as a jewel unless the "innards" are of the same quality as the surface. In other words it must be "solid" or "sterling."

Superficial education, sophistication and all may pass for the "real McCoy" once in a while but cannot compare with true wisdom and humility; qualities which are endowed upon those with faith in the spiritual guidance of the Buddha.

---Rev. K. Kumata

CONFERENCE POSTSCRIPTS =

Reverends present at the national YBA conference in Salt Lake City were Z. Okayama, S. Sanada and K. Kumata, Topaz; T. Terakawa, Minidoka; M. Kubose, Heart Mountain; Y. Iwanaga, Poston; G. Kono, Denson; N. Ishiura, Gila River; and C. Terakawa, host city.

Welcome visitors to this center following the confab included Noboru Ishitani, Tom Ozawa, Kiyono Wakaye, George Sato and Rev. Kubose, Heart Mountain; Art Takemoto, Poston; Ted Oseto and Shizuo Nakashita, Jerome; and Rev. G. Kono, Denson.

Hideko Shinagawa, Sachi Tajiri, Hisako Kuroiwa and June Nakayama of the local YBA aided national headquarters by taking minutes of the meetings. At present they are busy transcribing the notes.

TEACHERS TRAINING CLASSES STARTED

Training classes for the Buddhist Sunday School teachers are being held on every Thursday evening of the month except the last one at Rec. Hall #33 from 7:30 P.M., it was revealed today.

Reverends S. Sanada and T. Kashima are conducting the classes. Those Busseis interested in this training are invited to attend.

The last Thursday night of each month is set aside so the teachers can draft a suitable program for the Sunday Schools for the ensuing month.

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

All Busseis who have not officially registered by purchasing a membership card as yet are urged to do so as soon as possible at the Buddhist headquarters at Rec. Hall #33. Officially registered members will have first consideration at the affairs being scheduled.

BUSSEIS URGED TO BACK SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE

All YBA members are urged to support the showings of this week's film, "SUEZ", starring Tyrone Power, Loretta Young and Annabella, at various dining halls as the proceeds will be donated to the Student Aid Scholarship Fund. Through the courtesy of the Co-op, the high senior class will sponsor these presentations with David Iino and Kiyochi Kumekawa as chairmen.

These showings will be held nightly from 7:30 P.M. at the following locations: Monday, #16; Tuesday, #6; Wednesday, #27; Thursday, #33; Friday, #3; and Saturday at either #30 or #37.

The Topaz Student Aid Fund Committee is planning a series of different types of benefits to raise enough money to attain its \$2,000 goal. All groups in the center are behind this movement to aid the twenty most qualified students of the first graduating class of the local high school further their education in institutions of higher learnings.

Already over \$200 have been raised through various sources and next Saturday and Sunday the church groups will keep the bell rolling by holding "Student Aid Fund Days". Offerings taken in at all the services next week end will be turned over to this fund.

Among the projects being planned to aid this cause are Block 2 entertainment, community carnival, tag day, Girl Reserves punch and pie sales, auction of novelties by Industrial Art Department, high school dramas, letters to relocated residents and students, and more movies by the Co-op.

RELOCATION

Those planning to relocate in the near future should plan to attend one of the Relocation Forums being sponsored on Thursday nights at Dining Hall #32 by the Community Services Division. The forums start at 8 P.M.

Henry Tani is the chairman and two different persons speak on all phases of the relocation program at these meetings. The talks are followed by a question and answer period.

BISHOP BETTER

Following a major operation Wednesday night, Bishop R. Matsukage, head of the American Buddhist Churches, is convalescing in the hospital and feeling a little better, it was disclosed today by Rev. Z. Okayama. He has been ill for some time and the operation was necessitated by his weakening condition. Blood transfusions were given to him by a number of YBA members prior to the operation.

KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

MIKE MARUYAMA, 37-7-C, formerly of Alameda, co-chairman of Church Board of Directors, YBA coordinator, head of City Council, first class politician and card shark.

JUNE NAKAYAMA, 19-8-E, ex-S.F. gal, winner of many oratorical contests, YBA forensic chairman, secretary in Mr. Lorne Bell's office, able speaker and secretary.

VERNON ICHISAKA, 37-1-E, hails from Washington Township, Board member, YBA research chairman, JAFL leader, agricultural expert, civic worker and "behind-the-scenes" man.

SUMIKO KIDO, 22-9-B, came from Oakland, capable Sunday School teacher, member education department, cooperative in Bussei activities and likeable tutor.

MASUJI FUJII, 7-1-D, Berkeleyan, co-chairman of the Board of Directors, former CYEL prexy, active city councilman, married, key church leader and public welfare-minded person.

CONFAB SUMMARY CONTINUED

with the WRA and participation in relocation.

4. Personnel of National Headquarters: (a) To have a temporary headquarters at Topaz with Rev. Kumata as the Director of the Young Buddhist Association. (b) To establish a permanent headquarters in a free zone area as soon as practical. (c) To have one other person to start with Rev. Kumata, more if necessary and feasible. The Executive Secretary will be selected by Rev. Kumata during his tour, contacting those on the recommended list.

5. Finance: (a) To have the National YBA Treasurer submit an itemized report. (b) To have Rev. Kumata make a tour of all the Centers and Free Zone chapters to explain the National YBA movement; each group to be assessed \$35 to defray expenses of his trip. (c) To get Bishop Matsukage to direct introductory letters to the various Issei leaders and Reverends of the churches in the Centers and Free Zones regarding Rev. Kumata and his mission. (d) Each Center is to raise \$300 to take care of the expenses of headquarters for the initial 6-month period; each Free Zone chapter is to canvass its community for as much financial aid as possible.

6. Center program: (a) Utilize the reports of the various Centers such as setting up a paid YBA Office, staffed with as many people as possible. (b) Acceptance of Rev. Kumata's tour as the initial project of headquarters' program. (c) Centralization of all future programs of the Centers. (d) Compilation of an accurate list of members: 1. in case of relocation to record name, date, and address of such and type of employment or school name.

7. Free Zone chapter program: (a) Survey of all the chapters in the Free Zones, listing the names and addresses of the officers so that transfer could be affected and cordial welcome be given to those coming into such areas. (b) Participate in public relations work. (c) Assist in relocation to whatever degree possible. (d) To have a local field secretary as soon as it is possible. (e) To take a leading part in the creation of new chapters or sub-chapters.

8. Constitution to be formed: (a) To have one representative to the National Board from each recognized YBA in the Centers; specifically 13; the discretion to admit others will be empowered to the Board. (b) To have one representative from each recognized District or League in the Free Zone areas, namely, Intermountain, Tri-State, and New York; discretion up to the Board for admittance of new areas. (c) Officers of the National Board will be President, Vice-president, and Treasurer, elective among the Board members by the Board members. If a Board member is elected to one of the three offices, his election will not be considered a vacancy for that Center or Free Zone District. Because our proposed plan has not been approved, the present existing Board shall remain in office until approved and put into effect. (d) The Charter will be drawn up by the Tule Lake chapter.

9. Former leaders: There is a need for former leaders' participation in the local Young Buddhist Associations. Older members should be encouraged to participate in YBA programs.

10. References: (a) Have a centralized office where research and improvement work can be carried on; one way by which the YBA can be revitalized. (b) The Topaz Center has an Inter-Faith organization made up of all the ministers of the various religious faiths which coordinates buying of supplies, etc., sharing expenses, and helping to solve each other's problems. (c) Poston

#3 has a loose leaf Gatha Book; good idea to have this type of song book. (d) Arkansas has a leadership training program, alternating with the Sutra classes, preparing teachers as well as leaders. (e) Demarkation of young people's Sunday School under high school age and over high school age. Some of the organizations localize Bussei activities into blocks where leadership training can add to the practical experience. (f) To make, for instance, a miyogo and ogyaku to supply the need. Perhaps it is one source of finance. (g) To work in harmony with the Issei groups; we need their assistance.

11. Resolutions passed: (a) To Dillon S. Moyer of the National WRA, thanking and commending him for his excellent guidance and management in meeting the problems of the war emergency created by evacuation and his interest in our group, and informing him of the creation of a national headquarters and pledging our support in regards to relocation. (b) To the National Student Relocation Council, commending and gratefully acknowledging the manner in which it is carrying on its program and considering members of our faith for various scholarships. (c) To the War Department, Chaplain Corps, requesting immediate consideration to accept the voluntary enlistment of a Buddhist minister to serve as a chaplain for the Nisei combat unit. (d) to the Buddhist

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CABINET MEETING SET WEDNESDAY

An important meeting of the YBA executive board will be held this Wednesday night at the Buddhist Church, starting at 7:30 P.M., it was announced today by Akiko Ota, secretary. All delegates to the recent national conference are asked to attend also.

CONFERENCE SUMMARY CONCLUDED

(Continued from Page 4)

Brotherhood of America, in care of Rev. J. Goldwater, pledging our cooperation in the furtherance of that group's program for our mutual benefit.

12. Letters: (a) To the WRA headquarters, recommending the pushing of family and small group relocation; urging use of YBA members qualified to work in relocation offices; informing them of temporary place of headquarters and the name of our director; asking for aid in regards to church properties on Pacific Coast; and giving future plans for setting up of offices. (b) To the National JACL, commending and acknowledging the good the League is doing for the benefit of all Japanese Americans and their parents, and giving the national officers a vote of confidence.

13. Recognition: Through the efforts of Tad Hirota and Rev. Kumata, we have the understanding of the government agencies in our church program, which resulted in the revitalizing of many chapters in the Free Zones; this understanding was brought about largely through cooperation of the JACL.

14. Rev. Fred Fertig recognizes the worldliness of the Buddhist religion and its contributions. America is the melting pot of all cultures. He pointed out a six-point program which seeks to at once gain favorable recognition instead of distrust of American Buddhism, and to make Buddhism a religious contribution to American civilization and thus, world civilization. The six points follow: (1) The Bussei must early come to a clear knowledge and recognition of the values of their religion. (2) The Bussei should take pride in their faith. (3) The Bussei should as rapidly as possible, with the help

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ENDS VERY SUCCESSFULLY

The Topaz YBA membership drive officially ends today and according to Hide Kawahara, club treasurer and chairman of the campaign, it has been very successful with over 450 registering as members. The drive was carefully planned by the chairman and he received good

cooperation from key Busseis in each city block in regards to the sales of club membership cards.

Although the final check up has not been made, it is probable that the total registered will exceed the 500 mark. The drive has ended, but those who have not signed up as yet will be able to do so at the Buddhist headquarters in Rec. Hall #33.

The YBA executive board will meet this Wednesday night to map out a program for the next six weeks. All Busseis will be required to have membership cards to participate in the many activities which will be scheduled. Also, copies of the "Bussei Life" will be passed out to registered members only beginning today.

Special projects being planned are benefits for the "Student Aid Fund" and national assessment; club annual; leadership training classes; religious study classes; relocation forums; and public relations work. Details about these projects will be announced in the next issue of this paper.

Staff Desk

The editorial "Still Our Best Bet" was written by Dyke Miyagawa, formerly of Seattle, while he was in the Minidoka Relocation Center. At the present time, he is in Salt Lake City as the newest addition to the "Pacific Citizen" staff. Dyke is an outstanding labor-leader and liberal, and at one time, he was head of the Seaman's Union in the Pacific Northwest.

This is the third issue of the "Bussei Life" and the staff believes it is improving in coverage and quality. With Eiichi Koizumi gone to Cleveland, there is a need for a staff artist. Any one interested in this type of work should contact Hideko Shinagawa at 42-10-C.

Our thanks and appreciation go to the Topaz Times staff for the use of their equipment. Without their cooperation, this paper would not be possible.

of Nisei priests and Issei priests who choose to stay in the United States, work to disentangle Buddhism from any Shintoism or pro-Japanese elements. (4) The Bussei should strive seriously towards their own assimilation into American social, economic and political life. (5) The Bussei should learn and practice tolerance towards other faiths. (6) The Bussei need to develop a leadership and then a membership—that is informed in Buddhism, and can then help make Buddhism and its knowledge of Oriental culture and art an integral part of American and Western civilization.



"Relocation is the only thing that could promise the Nisei a chance in post war America, it seems, but it would also disperse the Busseis throughout a wide area without the benefit of their religion. I believe plans should be formulated to tie the Young Buddhists together—a centralized clearing house from which information, news and religious matter could be sent out for a moderate sum."

—Barry Saiki
Rohwer YBA Pres.

'TIS RUMORED

Snap-backs on the national Bussei conference in Salt Lake City.....

'FLASH'. Several of the local delegates were seen looking in a pawn shop window, particularly at those rings marked \$2.95! Can it mean happy days for them?

--due to cautions by Tad Hirota, delegates were told to go about in small groups, no more than 3 or 4, so every known couple had a field day by saying to the third or fourth party, "Now, we better split up, you know what Tad said.".....

--they say clothes makes a man-a certain Mr. Miniver had a new outfit donated by all the boys. Can't imagine why boys should chip in to outfit another boy--can you?.....

--on certain mornings of the confab boy delegates were seen yawning throughout the meetings--reason for this: 9 boys slept in two adjoining rooms and only two actually got any rest.....

--June Nakayama preferred the dances in Topaz to the big ball at the conference; she came home earlier than the rest, too. Can it be that she prefers staying at home?.....

--the wolf of the confab was your Mayor of Topaz, Mike Maruyama--he gave a demonstration of wolfing in one easy lesson at the mass gathering of the 9th Annual Intermountain YBA Conference. "wolfing is---censored---".....

--Eiichi Sato--true to the girl he left behind--withdrew his name from the list of those seeking blind dates--you members must all meet his wife, Dora, and baby, Dennis.... Harry Ushijima, true, too, but to who????.....

--delegates' happy hunting ground was Star Theater at 30¢ a person at night. The picture playing was "Mrs. Miniver". Ask Noboru Hanyu or any of the others.....

---Akiko Ota, the quiet girl, was never seen without an escort. One can

YOUNG PEOPLES' SERVICE

Sunday, June 6, 1943 11:30 A.M.

Chairman: Hideo Kawahara Organist: Hideko Shinagawa

- 1. Prelude Organ Solo
2. Kikyo-mon Congregation
3. Gatha: "Shin-shu Shu-ka Congregation
4. Offering of Incense Y.B.A. Representative Masako Neishi
5. Sermon Rev. S. Sanada
7. Meditation Congregation
8. Nembutsu
9. Announcement

Chairman: Tad Hirota

- 10. Postlude Organ Solo

never tell what a little freedom will do to a person, eh?..... --our Dr. delegate had a few happy days with a certain Yo "Moraga Hill" from Heart Mountain in S.L.C. On the same day our delegates left for Topaz, she headed for Tulsa, Oklahoma; she must have been "heart-broken". What a blind date can do for a fellow.....lucky Doc; he never used the phone in his own room but went to the next room to call her. Once he called three times in about 1 1/2 hours. He even taught her how to bowl and he also saw Mrs. Miniver.. She's cute boys!..... --Yukino "Coconut Grove" Takemoto claimed a most wonderful time at that dinner-dance rendezvous. Could it be that the food was so delicious, or was it because she had such a likeable companion?..... --Oh, yes! Sachi Tajima saw "Mrs. Miniver", too... --P.S. All the fun was enjoyed in the evenings and after the confab was over. --P.S.S. Ask the fellow delegates about the girl named Mary of the Ogden YBA. That's thirty today!



Recuperating in the city hospital following an appendicitis operation last Friday afternoon is Hiroshi Neishi, one of our delegates to the confab in Salt Lake City.

Yuk Kawahara, one of the greatest of basketball players to ever rise out of the ranks of the Nisei, is currently visiting his family here. He has been working in Denver in a civil service position. Yuk will bring his brother, Effie, who is also a top notch hoopster, back to Denver with him. They're leaving Tuesday.

A consistent visitor to this center is Kaz Oka of Ely, Nevada. He's formerly of Oakland and is now a house guest of the Hirota family. Kaz is a volunteer for the nisei combat unit and is awaiting his call. He's planning to leave for home tomorrow.

YBA members are reminded not to forget that June 20 is Father's Day.

NATIONAL FUND DRIVE STARTED

DIRECTOR VOICES YBA TO RAISE 300 DOLLARS VIEWS ON FUTURE FOR HEADQUARTERS FUND

"Relocation and the Future" was the subject of Project Director Ernst's address at the first evening service of the local YBA last Sunday. Due to unexpected rain only a small but appreciative and attentive group was present at the gathering.

In his usual sincere and convincing manner, Mr. C. F. Ernst presented his personal views on various problems faced by the evacuees, emphasizing the need of practical thinking. Following are some of the points that he stressed.

"We must all realize that this is a global war and that after the war is over there will be resettlement and readjustment, not only here in the United States but in Europe, Asia and all over the world. Resettlement will be a global problem. Realizing this, we must consider the opportunities offered now in order to assimilate into the fast tempo of the outside world."

"Where will the end of the war find us, not only physically and geographically, but socially and economically? Will we have been assimilated in the normal American life? Will Buddhism be accepted as one of the religions of this country, free from doubt and suspicion?"

"The Bussei of today have a very definite duty and responsibility placed upon their shoulders; that of disseminating the Teachings of Buddha among the American public."

He also stated that this should be accomplished with a broad, far reaching and well organized program.

To raise funds for the National YBA Headquarters for the period of July-December, 1943, the local YBA organization is starting a house to house drive among its members today continuing on for four weeks, it was announced by Tad Hirota, President.

MYER PLEASED WITH Y B A PLANS

Acknowledging a resolution passed at the National YBA Conference in Salt Lake City, Mr. Dillon S. Myer, WRA Director, addressed the following message to Rev. Kumata on June 2, 1943:

"WE ARE PLEASED TO HEAR OF YOUR PLAN TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO CO-ORDINATE YOUNG BUDDHIST ACTIVITIES IN RELOCATION CENTERS AND FREE ZONES. WE APPRECIATE YOUR OFFER TO COOPERATE WITH THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CARRYING OUT THE RELOCATION PROGRAM, AND WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN YOUR WORK."

Mr. Ernst revealed statistical figures on the recent registration and repatriation as it concerned the YBA members. Hearing Boards consisting of three members will consider requests of those registrants and repatriates who wish to revise their answers, he concluded.

Following the talk by the guest speaker, a question and answer period was conducted with Dr. Mitsugi Matoi as chairman.

The service was brought to a close with an inspiring prayer by Rev. K. Kumata. A gatha practice is planned as the feature of this Sunday evening's YBA meeting.

Other relocation center chapters are also conducting drives to meet the initial national assessment while the free zone groups are canvassing their communities for as much financial aid as possible.

Dr. Mitsugi Matoi, Hide Kawahara, Eiichi Sato, and Mike Maruyama will direct this campaign which is on a section basis. The following people are in charge of the divisions: Blocks 3, 8, 9, and 10, Yoshio Isono and Margaret Kitashima; 4, 5, 11, and 12, Yukino Takemoto and Hide Kawahara; 6, 7, 13, and 14, Mike Maruyama and Hisako Kuroiwa; 16, 22, 23, and 29, June Nakayama, and Mitsugi Matoi; 19, 20, 26, and 27, Eiichi Sato and Akiko Ota; 30, 31, 36 and 37, Nora Sakaki and Harry Ushijima; 33, 38, 39, and 40, Jack Machida and Hideko Shinagawa; 28, 34, 35, 41, and 42, Noboru Hanyu and Sachi Tajima.

Names of the donors will be published in the next two issues of the "Bussei Life."

BUSSEIS TO JOIN IN JULY 4TH FETE

The YBA will participate in the center-wide Fourth of July Festival, it was reported today by Akiko Ota, secretary.

The Busseis will sponsor one of the concessions at the carnival with Yoshio Isono and Sachi Tajima as directors.

All registered members are asked to cooperate with the chairmen.

BUSSEI LIFE

PUBLISHED Semi-monthly at the
Central Utah Relocation Center
OFFICIAL Organ of the Topaz YBA

OUR YBA

editorial.....

BUSSEI AND THE PRESENT WORLD

Since that fateful day of December 7, 1941, war clouds and war hysteria which cast threatening shadows has turned into reality what we thought a mere dream just two years ago.

The Bussei as well as all the Japanese Americans were placed in an uncomfortable and precarious position. There is no necessity in repeating, so clear is it to all, that jingoists and yellow journals looked with askance, eyed with suspicion these citizens of the United States who through chance of birth have the racial features of a Japanese.

While the attention of the nations was riveted upon the rapidly shifting scene of the war, the Army accomplished with a minimum of fanfare and publicity one of the most unusual operations in its history: the Evacuation of 100,000 Japanese--men, women, and children--from Military Area No. 1, a strip of territory extending 100 miles inland down the length of the West Coast. Wholly without precedent, this largest mass evacuation in American history has been accomplished by the Army.

Too, those of us who have gone through assembly center life and who are living in relocation centers now, have gone through and are going through a unique experience, at times painful and distressing. Those of you who evacuated voluntarily have rehabilitated yourselves in your new community life. We have all been living in a rather strange and different world; but above all this, we have learned to think philosophically, realistically, and practically instead of taking things for granted.

Whether we are those "citizens behind barbed wires," or whether we are living in a city far from the bounds of a relocation center, we, as Busseis, can live our lives as patriotic citizens by "right views, right aspirations, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, and right contemplation--the way of the Buddha's eightfold path."

Hours of study are not necessary in following this path, but the conviction that you, the Bussei are proud of your citizenship is vital.

Facing the dire actualities of the present situation realistically, our one view should be of loyalty, not only today, but at all times to the country of our birth.

America's system of government may not be the perfect institution; but it is the most nearly perfect on this earth. Hearing of those who lead an unbelievable existence in the old world should be adequate reason for us to aspire to preserve as well as to enrich this democratic system of government. But in doing so, right effort must be employed. Hundreds are the viewpoints expressed by newspapers, magazines and speakers; but we must draw our own conclusions through tolerance and clear thinking for the objective of all in America--the restoration of a just and durable peace. Whatever sacrifices we may be called to make will be a privilege for the safeguarding of the rights and privileges which only a democracy can give.

(Continued on page 4)

Our YBA held its first evening service last Sunday but it turned out to be a wash-out. The rains came unexpectedly during dinner time and the roads became so muddy that the majority of members decided to stay home. However, the old faithful gang was on hand to hear Project Director Ernst give an enlightening talk on relocation. With the aid of the weather man, this Sunday night's service should be well attended.

Our congratulations and thanks go to Shizuko Matsuzaki and Akiko Ota for selling the most membership cards during the recent drive. Chairman Hide Kawahara reported that a number of block representatives have not as yet turned in their results; these persons are requested to check in as soon as possible. Those who have not as yet obtained cards may contact Hide or any member of his committee.

The campaign for National Headquarters' fund commences today and the YBA board is looking forward to active cooperation and support from all its members. A sum of \$300 must be realized so the Busseis must call upon the assistance of the older niseis and elders. Let's give the sectional chairmen our 100% backing!

Our YBA will launch a book drive for "our boys in the service" within the very near future. If you have any books that aren't being used and are available for this purpose, kindly be ready to contribute to this campaign.

A card of thanks was received from Eiichi and Betty Koizumi, now relocated in Cleveland, Ohio. They commented that they have been lucky to date in regards to housing and employment. Betty is working as a clerk-typist for a furniture firm and Eiichi is employed by the Martin Company, a defense industry outfit.

That's thirty for today.

THOUGHTS FROM NATIONAL MEET

TIME FOR BUSSEIS TO "CARRY ON" WORK

Since the outbreak of the global war, our Buddhist activities have been confined only to that of local affairs. Then came the most unprecedented hysterical moments of our lives--mass evacuation.

We have, to this date, carried on our activities under omnifarious handicaps and difficulties. In fact, we have lost sight of our Brethrens in other relocation centers and free zones. Why? Perhaps there may be other angles to this, but my answer is "because we did not have a strong central coordinating office."

The theme of this confab was "Carry On, Bussei." On the walls of the temple hung banners of the ten relocation centers and six free zone chapters, which created a Brotherhood feeling that although the floor space of the temple was small, thousands upon thousands of you, fellow Buddhists, were with us in spirit.

The cornerstone has only been laid. The time has come for the Busseis to take over the responsibilities in "Carrying On." With health supreme and mind serene, let us all pull together and unite in this gallant March of Buddhism in America and pledge our life support.

By Rev. N. Ishiura
Gila River YBA

WEDDING BELLS SOON FOR ACTIVE LEADER

The engagement of Masako Matoi, active Bussei leader who previously lived in San Francisco, to Joe Oishi, former Richmond nursery operator, was announced recently by Mrs. Matoi at a tea given for members of the immediate families and friends.

Masako is employed as a senior clerk in the Cost Accounts Unit and Joe is working in Delta.

A PRAYER FOR STRENGTH

Give me, dear Lord, the strength to take
Whatever comes my way,
And keep me, Lord, from blowing up
In spite of what they say.
Give me a sense of humor,
Lord,
And teach me how to smile
Though forced to trudge
The hardest trail
For many a weary mile.

And then, if I can safely pass
Through all this time of stress
I pray, dear Lord, that you will keep
Me free of bitterness.
---Isako Koneshima
May, Intercollegian

FORMER BAY RESIDENT KILLED IN ACCIDENT

The late Hiroshi Okamura of San Francisco was killed recently in an accident at the Anache Relocation Center in Colorado, it was learned today.

He was well-known among the Bay Region people for his activeness in church and Boy Scout affairs; he also was associated with the Gale basketball team. The Rev. S. Sanada made a trip to Anache at the request of the Okamura family to officiate at the funeral service. The deceased is survived by his parents, wife and two children.

MITSUYASU-INADOMI TO BE ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. N. Mitsuyasu, 38-11-#, revealed the troth of their daughter, Haruko, to Kusuo Inadomi at their home last Sunday evening at a reception attended by members of the immediate families.

Haru, formerly of Berkeley, is now employed as a cost-clerk in the Agricultural Division and her fiance, former Oakland resident, is currently working with the Commissary staff.

BUDDHISTS HELP CITY COUNCIL

16 MEMBERS CHOSEN TO SERVE COMMUNITY

In the general election held Tuesday sixteen members of the Topaz Buddhist Church were elected to the new Community Council. Masuji Fujii, Eichi Sato and Toshio Yoshida, all church directors, were among those chosen.

Other successful candidates of the Buddhist faith were: Giichi Yoshioka, Dr. George Ochikubo, Motoki Kudo, Matsuzo Kurokawa, George Hagiwara, Michikazu Nakai, Shiro Morioka, Yikichi Sakai, Saiki Muneno, Senjiro Kawaguchi, Kyonosuke Shigezumi, and Seichi Yamamura.

These new Council representatives will take office on July 1st and will serve until the end of the year.

FATHER'S DAY

YBA SERVICE PAYS TRIBUTE TO FATHERS

Today is "Father's Day" and the YBA will pay tribute to all fathers by setting aside a minute of silence during its service tonight in sincere dedication to them. With Noboru Hanyu as chairman, the Young Buddhists will assemble at the church from 7 P.M. for the special religious meeting.

The program follows:

1. Prelude, organ solo
2. Invocation
3. Gatha: "Nembutsu"
4. Three Treasures
5. Dedication to Fathers
6. Sermon by Rev. Kumata
7. Gatha: "Softly Blew The Breezes"
8. Meditation
9. Promise
10. Gassho
11. Postlude, organ solo.

Following the service a business meeting and gatha practice will be held. The report on the recent board meeting will be featured.

TASK TO FOLLOW EIGHTFOLD PATH

(Continued from Page 2)

We are granted the freedom of speech, but that freedom unless used wisely will hurt us more than aid us. As descendants of one of the minority groups in America, our speech should be guarded against race prejudices; as we ourselves are so prejudiced against.

Whether we travel to the Middle West or East for employment or whether we are inducted into the Armed Forces, let us guard our actions, now more than ever. Right actions shall gain the confidence of our fellow Americans through our examples in loyalty and dependability.

Let us remain law-abiding citizens of our community and country. An opportunity has been presented to us wherein we may prove ourselves good and loyal citizens by living rightly even if sacrifices shall have to be made.

Our task, which takes much courage, is to overcome ignorance and forget selfish desires. By forgetting selfish desires, let us direct our effort towards national unity and defense; towards Victory and the ideals of peace and democracy.

Let us be mindful of the fact that today millions are suffering under the yoke of dictatorships. Though we may be confined within the limits of a project area, the flame from the torch of the Statue of Liberty is still burning. Let us offer Thanksgiving that as long as there is that flame, we shall enjoy the blessings of a constitutional government.

Let us remember to contemplate so that we will not be led astray from the Eightfold Path.

In the long run, we will probably profit by this painful and distressing experience. We had not made a satisfactory adjustment to American life prior to December 7; and

WRITERS NEEDED FOR LIFE STAFF

Tsugio Kubota has been appointed chief artist of the Bussei Life staff, replacing Eiichi Koizumi who recently left for Ohio.

The staff is still badly in need of volunteer news-writers and those who are interested should contact Hideko Shinagawa at the TOPAZ TIMES office during the work day or after dinner at 42-10-D. No experience is required.

The next issue will come out on July 4th and will feature information about the city-wide festival.

through the unforeseen exigencies of the war, it is possible that we can win for ourselves as far more satisfactory position in American life than we have enjoyed in the past. On the other hand, it is also possible that the evacuation policy can degenerate into a horrible fiasco, resulting in the possible post-war deportation of the aliens in the Japanese groups and in making social and economic pariahs out of the Niseis. The success or failure depends largely upon how thoroughly the problem can be interpreted to the American public so as to win for the War Relocation Authority complete freedom of action which we must have in dealing with the problem.

We, as Bussei, can handle our end of this problem by our loyalty to America, the preservation and enrichment of this democratic system of government, guarding our speech, right action instead of words to show our loyalty, to become worthy citizens of a community, right effort towards the restoration of peace, appreciation of the freedom that is still ours, right contemplation to preserve and achieve these principles--the way of the Buddha's Eightfold Path.

--June Nakayama

Know Your MEMBERS

MASAKO IKEDA, 16-2-B, formerly of Washington Township, top-notch athlete, good group leader, is at present working for Community Education Section as a recreational supervisor. SHIGE NAKAYAMA, 37-1-B, ex Alamedan, one of the Commissary boys, catcher for their potent softball team and rated as a hard worker.

VIRGINIA KAWAKAMI, 29-1-B, hails from Hayward, nicknamed "Fudge" for her sweetness, currently appointive personnel time-keeper, look for her at all social affairs.

KEICHI KAWAMOTO, 10-12-E, came from Berkeley, member of all-star basketball team, active in all sports fields, good looking but quiet lad.

YASUKO NOSAKA, 31-5-B, former San Mateo resident, received high school diploma at Tanforan, is now Community Education staff secretary, very steady church-goer.

TOMMY NITTA, 36-1-F, one of the younger set from Irvington, voted all-star on high school hoop squad, is among those graduating this week.

YEA NEWSBITS

Yoshio Isono has been appointed by the YBA Board to serve as co-chairman of special events with Sachi Tajima.

Katherine Nakaso is representing the National YBA at the youth conference at Estes Park, Colorado.

Dr. Kiyoshi Hikoyeda is at present visiting his family here in Topaz. He recently graduated with high honors in the school of dentistry at Washington University in St. Louis and is now a licensed instructor in that city.

Cpl/T Yukio Kawamoto is expected to arrive in Topaz tomorrow to visit his family and friends. He is now a graduate of the Camp Savage language school.

BUSSEI Life

MONTHLY

Vol. I No. 5

Topaz, Utah

Sunday, July 25, 1943

NEWS BITS

The next few weeks will see many of our staunch members and supporters leaving the four walls of the camp to enjoy the four freedoms of our Democracy.

Among those Chicago bound is our own Doc Matoi or "Moco" to his friends-- accepting hospitality of Dr. Tad Tani, another active Bussei leader. In his itinerary, he will visit friends and see the sights in general from Salt Lake City, Denver, St. Louis, Kansas City, thru to Chicago.....

The Ushijima Boy Harry, will also accompany Moco-- Let's rest assured he will be in fine hands...the Topaz YBA thanks the boys for their support and work and wishes them the best of luck in their future work....

Our loss in James Koga will be the gain of the nation's war effort--holds indescribable attractions for our boys... Chicago.

What with nearly eighty five girls out in Ogden now, our congregation seems sad.... Can't say all of them were Bussei but quite a few are there... to mention a few--- Mitsy Ozeki, Toriko and Natsuko Tomimatsu, Shizue, Chiye and Sawae Kuwano, Shizue Ota, Fujie Kawakami, Mitsue Hironaka.....

OBON COMMITTEE FORMED

Initial plans for the forthcoming Obon odori festival are being formulated by the young and old members of the Buddhist faith.

General chairman for the celebration will be Mr. Matsuzo Kurokawa. Officers of the Seijin board; Fujin Kai, Sunday School, YBA and Jr. Busseis will assist him in this 2 day celebration. Toshio Yoshida will be in charge of the entertainments for the program to be held at the High School plaza.

Practices for the bon-odori was started last night at the Buddhist Church with Juno Nakayama, Masako Neishi, Hanyu sisters, Yosh Isono, Nora Sakaki, and Grace Fujimoto instructing.

Looking absolutely stunning in her navy blue suit, Yone Nakayama departed last Tuesday for Grosse Pointe, Michigan....

Just when we thought the race riots were subsiding too....

Hidden talents were discovered the other nite when this quartet got together for some melodious harmonizing... Yosh, Grace, Heidi and Yasuko... NS

Weddings

Miss Haruko Mitayasu was married Sunday, July 18, to Kusuo Inadomi at the Buddhist Church.

Miss Kuni Nakagaki and Mas Nonaka were the attendants.

The new Mrs. Inadomi is formerly from Berkeley and is a post-clerk at the Agricultural Department.

They are now residing at 41-2-A.

Now living in Georgia are Tak Shiba and his bride, the former Noriko Yamauchi, both from San Mateo and former Buddhist leaders.

The bridegroom, who is associated with the ABC Hatchery near Atlanta, dashed up here to claim his bride at a pretty ceremony performed here.

Tak, the former track star and winner of many different track meets was attending the UC in Berkeley prior to evacuation.

BEST WISHES

Albert Hirota, a member of the Board of Directors is now in Salt Lake City who recently underwent a major operation.

We extend him our best wishes and hope to see him back with us again.

VISITING THE BISHOP

Miyoko Higuchi, representative of the Buddhist Church came to visit Bishop Matsukage from Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

Also visiting the Bishop are Messrs Harunosuke Higuchi, Tojiro Kono, and Mrs. Beppu of that center.

Mrs. Beppu, former president of the San Francisco Fujin Kai and from Fresno, prior to evacuation, was given a welcome party by the Topaz Fujin Kai at the Buddhist Church.

BUSSEI HERE ON MINISTERIAL STUDY

Active Bussei leader from Poston arrived in Topaz last week and immediately began his training to become a Buddhist minister under the Rev. Okayama.

Prior to his arrival here, he visited Denver, Amache, Rohwer and Jerome centers and now is a permanent resident of Topaz.

He will participate in various activities of the Buddhist Church.

REV KUMATA IN POSTON

The Rev. K. Kumata, national YBA director, is at the Poston II center with Mike Maruyama.

He is busily delivering the messages at different services there.

He is enroute to Poston I and onto Mesa, Arizona.

HARANO NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF SUN. SCH.

Katsuji Harano has been appointed as the Superintendent for the Topaz Buddhist Sunday School succeeding Nobuo Kitagaki, now in Chicago, Illinois.

Replacing Mr. Harano's place is Hiromi Nakagaki, vice superintendent for #28 while Sutemi Sugaya will be the vice superintendent for the Buddhist Church at Block #8.

Other new members added on the Sunday School staff are Yoshio Isono and Norman Hirose for the Intermediate class and Grace Fujimoto, as the secretary for the Buddhist Church 28.

Teachers Training classes are held on Thursday evenings at Rec. #33 from 7:30 PM and members of the Buddhist faith are always welcomed to attend this class.

IMPORTANT YBA Cabinet Meeting

To ferret out means of supporting the national drive for funds, the Young Buddhist association will meet Tuesday night from 8 o'clock at the Buddhist Church, it was learned from Nora Sakaki, president.

The young people's function as participants in the forthcoming Obon festival will be one of the major topics under discussion.

GATHA BOOKS OUT

Begun nearly five months ago under the sponsorship of the Topaz Buddhist Sunday School staff, the new Gatha books were finally completed and distributed last week. With approximately seventy-five pages of appropriate songs for children, young people and adults, the Gatha book will be the means whereby more variety can be given in our weekly and special services.

Perhaps the long postponed Gatha practice can now be realized.

Appreciation goes to the yeomen services of a few hard working people who toiled till the wee hours of the morning to hasten the day of completion.

Laurels go to the following: Hiromi Nakagaki and Al Hirota's artistic endeavors; Katsuji Harano's Japanese translations; Yasuko Ishida's beautiful English printings; Nora Sakaki, Tom Ochi, Yutaka Iwamasa, Mike Maruyama and Tsuyako Kataoka for their help in mimeographing and etc.; Masako Hanyu, Grace Fujimoto, Yosh Isono, Shigeo Nogami, Sachi Tajima and Frank Ouye for coming out night after night to bind the books.

The gatha books were published under the able management of Hideko Shinagawa.



Bussey
LIFE

AUGUST 29, 1943

NY RELOCATION POSSIBILITIES TOLD BY OKADA

Stanley T. Okada, executive secretary of the New York Buddhist Church, made a most timely visit to the Topaz project last weekend to confer with local church and center leaders about the relocation possibilities in the New York area.

With the present focus of interest in resettlement on the East Coast, his comprehensive report on the various conditions in that sector was of great interest to the administration officials, relocation office members and church groups.

Okada stated that job opportunities were plentiful except in a few limited professional fields. Even though a majority of the big cities are handicapped by housing shortages, New York does not face this problem at present.

After a few days stop in Topaz, he left for New York, encouraging relocation there.

BISHOP IMPROVES AFTER OPERATION

The Most Reverend Bishop R. Matsukage, who has been ill with stomach ulcer since the pre-war days, underwent a major operation at the Topaz Hospital recently.

Drs. Goto and Yamauchi performed the successful operation. The Bishop's condition has improved steadily since then.

DR. MATOI WORKS IN KANSAS CITY

Working as lens inspector for the Gerry Optical Company in Kansas City, Missouri, now is Dr. Mitsu-gi Matoi.

While in Topaz, he was vice-president of the YBA and a member of the hospital staff. He left here early this month.

MISS HISAKO KUROIWA TO MARRY TAD HIROTA

In the first Buddhist wedding to be conducted in English in Topaz, Miss Hisako Kuroiwa and Tad Hirota will repeat their marriage vows before the beautifully decorated altar of the Buddhist Church tonight. The Rev. K. M. Kumata will officiate.

The bride-to-be is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hisakichi Kuroiwa of 14-11-B. She has been working as secretary to the project director and is a former Berkeleyan. Her maid of honor will be Miss Yukino Takemoto.

Tad, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Masajiro Hirota of 5-12-C, is associated with the Topaz Times at present. He is a volunteer for Camp Savage and a former Oakland resident.

Best man for the prospective bridegroom will be Masato Mike Maruyama, former chairman of the city council. Ushers will be Masuji Fujii, Hide Kawahara, Hiroshi Neishi, Susumu and Mamoru Hirota, Motoki Kudo, Katsumi Kawaguchi and Haruki Kuroiwa.

The wedding will begin at 8 PM with Miss Fusaye Kunisawa singing "I Love You Truly". Miss Hideko Shinagawa will be the organist.

As president and secretary of the local YBA, both Tad and Hisako have been very active in Bussei work. They will make their home at 26-4-A until they relocate early next month.

The baishakunins for the couple are Rev. and Mrs. T. Kashima, it was revealed.

CABINET OFFICER REVEALS TROTH

Mr. and Mrs. Mitsutaro Ota, 20-8-B, announced the engagement of their eldest daughter, Akiko, to Kazuo Oka of Ely, Nevada, recently, it was learned today.

A former Berkeley resident, Akiko is at present serving as a laboratory technician on the hospital staff, and as corresponding secretary of the YBA.

Her fiance, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Oka of Ely, lived in Oakland before voluntarily evacuating to Nevada. He is a volunteer for Camp Savage.

No date has been set for the wedding as yet.

SUMO MEET

Sports enthusiasts are invited to attend the initial major sumo tournament to be held in this center this afternoon and night at the high school plaza, opposite Block 23, the CES disclosed today.

TEACHERS PLAN FAREWELL PARTY

The Topaz Buddhist Sunday School Teachers staff is planning a farewell party for its members who are being transferred to Tule Lake next month. The co-chairman for the affair are Yosh Isono and Yasuko Ishida.

The teachers who are leaving are Katsuji Harano, Hiromi Nakagaki, Sutemi Sugaya, Hideko Shinagawa, Kenzo Ouye, Norman Hirose and Tsuyako Kataoka.

OBON FESTIVAL PROVES SUCCESS

Although the program was interrupted by a terrific dust storm, over 3000 persons witnessed and participated in the gay Obon Festival here on August 14 and 15.

The event was climaxed with a colorful Bon Odori presentation in the high school plaza. Close to 200 gaily clad dancers took part in the odos.

BUSSEI LIFE . . .

AUGUST 29, 1943
VOL. 1, NO. 6

TOPAZ
UTAH

Editorial Staff

Editor.....Hideko Shinagawa
Associates....Nora Sakaki, Masato
Maruyama, Koichi Kawamoto, Henry
Shin and Rev. K. Kumata

TOTALITARIAN BELIEFS

The recent visit of the newspaper and radio men into the Center to allow them the opportunity of seeing relocation life as it actually exists has resulted in the publication of many articles pertaining to the Rohwer and Jerome projects.

The uncensored news reports obtained by the unescorted press men indicate that the visitors were able to get factual and unprejudiced views of the conditions and effects noticeable here. However, on some points, their interpretations have not been entirely correct.

For example, one of the articles states that Buddhism is a "state religion which in its outward exemplification might be compared to the neo-paganism which the Nazis have devised to oust the Christian faiths in Germany -- truly a religious axis."

Buddhist is neither neo-pagan in concept nor an outgrowth of totalitarian beliefs. It is rather a spiritual belief, based upon the teachings of Buddha, who was born in India roughly about 2400 years ago.

As an international religion, Buddhism ranks in the numbers of adherents with Christianity and Mohammedanism. As a philosophy, it is recognized by some of the greatest minds in the world today.

Contrary to the general fallacious belief, the Buddhists do not worship idols or images. However, they do have ornate temples and lavish altars--similar to the Catholic churches.

The sermons and strict adherence to the teachings of Buddha, involving in a narrow sense, the following of the Eight Noble Paths, the liberal Buddhist Ten Commandments, are fundamental to the Buddhist creed.

A majority of the Center people profess Buddhism as their creed and it is true that most of them are the older residents. Over half of the nisei are Buddhist in background, and the trust that can be placed in a Christian nisei can just as safely be placed on a Buddhist nisei.

Let us not forget that it was religious intolerance that aided in peopling the North American continent and that the right to profess any religion (as long as it is not contrary to the welfare of the nation) is one of the basic ideals of democracy.
(B.S.--ROHWER OUTPOST)

ON SWASTIKA SYMBOL

"The swastika is the oldest of geometric symbols on the earth. We didn't copy from the Germans, nor does the symbol indicate any connection between Japanese Buddhists and Germans. Buddhists have a saying that 'the turning of the wheel of law will crush all that is wrong.' The wheel spoken of in this saying is the religious symbol from which the Buddhist flyfoot or four-foot cross is derived. The swastika represents the four L's of Buddhism--Light, Love, Life and Liberty. In Sanskrit the swastika means 'fortunate' and that it is universally accepted as a presentment and promise of good luck. In one form or another this much discussed emblem has been used as a symbol of welfare from very early times. The swastika does not imply either connection with or adherence to Nazi principles." (By Rev. K. Kumata in Desert News.)

DAN CUPID BUSY.....Latest to emerge among the altar bound is angelic Akiko Ota, who shyly displays her sparkling left finger; she's now trothed to Kaz Oka of Ely, Nevada...Last evening Rev. S. Sanada performed marriage rites to unite Sachiye Mizota, former San Franciscan, and Masao Sato, ex Oaklander; the bride wore a beautiful Japanese kimono..... Pvt. Tad Hikoyeda, who was a Ohtani YBA leader in Berkeley, took Miss Yoshiko Takiguchi, who lived in S.F. prior to evacuation, as his wife yesterday afternoon at the local temple. He is headed for Camp Shelby.....Who's next...Mr. H. K.?????

THE TRANSFER.....Tule Lake will be the destination of some of our good leaders and athletes next month.....the athletic Honda and Kataoka lads will be sorely missed by fans.....the transfer movement will take the backbone of the Sunday School group; departing will be Katsuji Harano, Hiromi Nakagaki and Tsuyako Kataoka.....and our own staff editor, Hidoko Shinagawa, informs us of her plans to go there. She is also the only YP organizer.

GRIPSHOLM BOUND.....Miss Fumi Hanyu, popular YBA member, was among the 22 repatriates who departed from Topaz Monday for Jersey City, New Jersey, where they will board the Swedish exchange ship, Gripsholm, enroute to Japan on September 1. As a polished singer of Japanese songs, she took part in many public functions.

NEWSBITS.....Shige Nakayama, Harry Nakamura, Rocky Hitomi and Jim Machida now in Provo tell us they miss the weekly young people's services....The number of Bussei leaders left in camp is continually growing smaller; the past week saw active Eiichi Sato leave for N. Y.....Likeable Yukino Takemoto has moved into the project director's office; she formerly was employed by the relocation section.....The S.S. staff won't be the only one to miss Hiromi Nakagaki..how about it, Y.I???.....Mike Maruyama, #1 politician, continues to keep the girls guessing; it's about time he settled down....The Ogden YBA has requested Rev. Kumata to relocate there.