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JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

1940-45

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# *The Japanese American Creed*



I am proud that I am an American citizen of Japanese ancestry, for my very background makes me appreciate more fully the wonderful advantages of this nation. I believe in her institutions, ideals, and traditions; I glory in her heritage; I boast of her history; I trust in her future. She has granted me liberties and opportunities such as no individual enjoys in this world today. She has given me an education befitting kings. She has entrusted me with the responsibilities of the franchise. She has permitted me to build a home, to earn a livelihood, to worship, think, speak, and act as I please—as a free man equal to every other man.

Although some individuals may discriminate against me, I shall never become bitter or lose faith, for I know that such persons are not representative of the majority of the American people. True, I shall do all in my power to discourage such practices, but I shall do it in the American way: above-board, in the open, through courts of law, by education, by proving myself to be worthy of equal treatment and consideration. I am firm in my belief that American sportsmanship and attitude of fair play will judge citizenship and patriotism on the basis of action and achievement, and not on the basis of physical characteristics.

Because I believe in America, and I trust she believes in me, and because I have received innumerable benefits from her, I pledge myself to do honor to her at all times and in all places; to support her constitution; to obey her laws; to respect her flag; to defend her against all enemies, foreign or domestic; to actively assume my duties and obligations as a citizen, cheerfully and without any reservations whatsoever, in the hope that I may become a better American in a greater America.

—Mike Masaoka.



As read before the United States Senate and  
printed in the Congressional Record, May 9, 1941

**JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE**  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
413-415 BEASON BUILDING  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

## *The Japanese American Creed*



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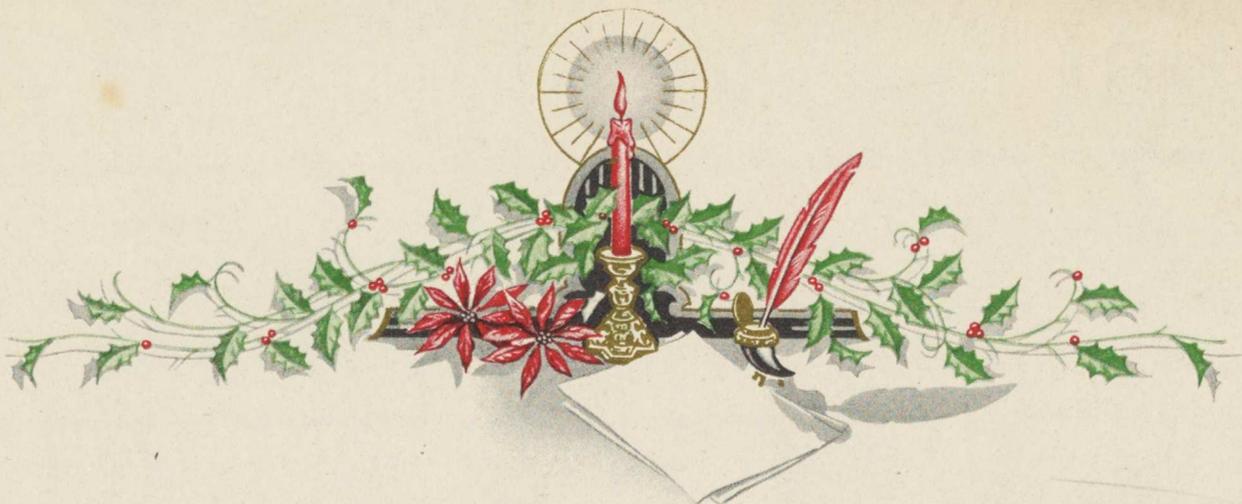
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JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

Pasadena Chapter

35 S. Raymond Avenue Room 308

Pasadena, California



Christmas, 1943

Dear Friend:

This is the third wartime Christmas since Pearl Harbor. For Japanese Americans, as for all Americans, it is the most hopeful Christmas since that December 7 of 1941.

Overseas our armies have advanced with such rapidity that we are now assured of ultimate victory. And at home, for Japanese Americans, the future has never been so bright as it is today. This Christmas, many Japanese Americans who last year lived within the confines of the relocation centers will celebrate the holiday season in their own homes. They will worship God in the churches of their choosing in new cities across the country.

With them and for them we thank you for the part you have played in making our American dream of liberty come true. How much we owe you and the thousands of other friends who have supported us we can never fully say. But we shall always remember.

Surely the work you do is part of the guarantee that men all over the world will someday be able to honor Christmas Day in the spirit of peace and brotherhood in which it was born.

Very sincerely yours,

THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

*Yasuo Kido*

President

*Wanglin  
Fores  
Wanglin*

H. Langman

# Report on the Japanese Evacuation Situation

Investigation by DICK MILLS

acting on instructions of the Northern Section of the Regional Council in session  
March 8, 1942

As a result of almost three days of constant investigations in the Bay area I am convinced of the following: Whether we like it or not there is going to be mass evacuation of all Japanese. Galen Fisher met with Colonel Magill Tuesday and was told that there would be no selective evacuation process. Magill said that he was aware of the tremendous industrial and agricultural maladjustment which such a mass movement entails, but that the Army now felt that it was the lesser of two evils. Protection of war industry and safety of the Japanese themselves is possible only by complete evacuation according to Army circles.

General De Witt has announced that the Army will recognize the Japanese American Citizens League as the official body of Japanese through which it will deal. There is considerable dissatisfaction on the part of the Japanese as a result of this announcement. For the most part, the J.A.C.L. represents the interest of only the Buddhist and the younger set. The Christian groups and all older Japanese whether alien or citizen are not represented. The J.A.C.L. is leaning over backwards to cooperate in the evacuation venture and as such does not mirror the real feelings or attitudes of the Japanese citizens.

There is every indication that college students who choose to do so will be permitted to stay in school until the close of the semester. However, it is doubtful that many of them will stay if it means separation from their families. The Army will be happy to give permission to either families or to individual students who elect to go---on their own steam---to some place in the Middle West. They need only to assure the Army that a means of livelihood has been found. This means that we are at liberty to discover homes in the Middle West which will open their doors to Japanese students and colleges which will provide scholarships of some sorts. Again, it is doubtful that many students will take advantage of any offers until their families have been safely settled. Our task here is to keep in touch, during the next few months, with all those Japanese students with whom we have worked. By mid-summer, we ought to be able to assist them in getting a new college home for next Fall. Student Associations, all over the nation, can help by being on the look out for homes which will be willing to take in a Japanese citizen and for colleges which will be willing to assist in the education of these students.

According to the best authority, the evacuation process will begin about March 21st. The first groups in California to go will be those in and around Los Angeles. They will be sent to one of the two reception centers now being build, one at Bluth and the other at Manzanare, both in California. From there they will be assigned to inland industry or to resettlement campus which are to be built. Both of the reception centers are in desert country which is incapable of vegetation.

The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco has been appointed property custodian for evacuees by the Treasury Department. It is hoped that the mere existence of this program will eliminate or forestall most of the sharp practices that are now feared. However, there is no indication that the Japanese people are likely to accept this plan with confidence. They object to turning homes, furniture, businesses, etc., over to a bank. I suspect that many of them will continue to sell their goods for a song in order to be free from worry. The Quakers are urging their members to act as custodians for such property as the Japanese may want to turn over to them. In fact, some families have rented from evacuating Japanese

the home which they are leaving. These Quakers will live in these homes and care for them until the Japanese return.

No word has yet been given as to the treatment which the sick, the aged, etc., can expect. Also there are in San Francisco alone some two hundred people who come from mixed families and are only slightly Japanese. There is no word as to whether they will be included in the evacuation. Schools in the Bay Area report that within the last two weeks over two hundred Japanese enrolled in high schools and colleges have dropped out. The anxiety over the future and the fear and despair which they face at home makes it impossible for them to study.

All told, there are over one-hundred thousand Japanese citizens and alien living on the West Coast. There are about twenty-five thousand German and Italian aliens on the Coast. There is no indication that the offspring of German and Italian aliens will be evacuated.

Galen Fisher, with whom I talked, is a member of a committee in the Bay Area known as the "Committee on National Security and Fair Play." This committee has strongly urged for the past two weeks that the Army adopt the plan of selective evacuation. Feeling that it has lost that battle, it is turning its attention to urging that an intelligent and fair board of review be set up at the reception centers in order that individual Japanese will be treated intelligently. As they are sent on from the reception centers, great care should be exercised to see that they are placed in the sort of work that they are equipped to do. In no other way can we reconcile this evacuation. Mr. Fisher urges that all of us continually urge the Army to handle with care this important phase of the evacuation. He suggests further that we insist that the Federal Security Administration be assigned the job of establishing the resettlement camps. There seems to be a great deal of distrust of the results if the resettlement is done by the Army.

So far, the government has not announced the sort of financial arrangements it will make in order to permit people to reach the reception centers. It is presumed that expenses will be provided.

The concern of our Council was, first of all, at the point of violation of the rights of citizens. Admitting that certain procedures for protection are necessary in time of war, we were still unable to understand the wisdom of theory of moving out all Japanese regardless of their rights as citizens. Our first concern, therefore, was to urge for selective evacuation. Frankly, I think the order which was given to evacuate all Japanese this week is a great tragedy. However, it is up to our group to continue to do what may be of real service. Such things as these occur to me: (1) here on the West Coast each of us can extend our friendship and our confidence to all the Japanese we know; (2) we can write letters of commendation about the Japanese to the local papers as well as urge our newspapers on campuses and elsewhere to print encouraging comments about Japanese. I am convinced that it is impossible for us to understand how dejected these people feel. Anything in print that seems to them to be favorable helps dispel the awful feeling of persecution; (3) as either students or faculty, we can on our own, or through our families, act as custodians for the property which Japanese will have to leave. The papers announce that the Federal Reserve Bank will act as mediators in such procedure. Also, those of us who are renting homes or rooms can render a distinct service by renting from Japanese the homes they are vacating. Nothing will strengthen morale as much as this step; (4) further, we can write letters to Tom Clark, Director of Resettlement, urging him to recognize the tremendous importance of education and suggest that he take steps to have funds provided for the continuance of education among Japanese young men and women. In addition, we can present

facts to the authorities in our schools and to the town officials with the request that they too bring pressure to see that some provision is made for the continuance of education, either in resettlement camps, or in direct subsidy from the Government to enable college men and women to continue their education; (5) we should not only write to Colonel W.L. Magill, Jr., Director of Evacuation, urging him to turn the matter of building resettlement camps over to the Federal Security Administration, which has a fine record in the administering of such jobs, but we should urge parents, school officials, and city officials to push for this sort of thing. I am convinced that the administering of resettlement by the Army, with its insistence of treating civilians as subjects, will be a tragic mistake; (6) all of us should be on guard constantly to voice our objection to newspaper articles or radio programs which are designed to stir up hatred toward the Japanese; (7) in addition to our Christian Association contacts, many of us have friends in the Middle West who may be able to assist in settling a Japanese family either in their home, or in their neighborhood. It is our responsibility to provide as many facts as possible for our friends in the Middle West about our Japanese friends, and at the same time assure our Japanese friends that a friendly welcome awaits them if it is possible to work out such a transplanting. Furthermore, it is likely, here on the Coast, that a few students will not leave when their families move out and that they therefore will need friends, a home and food. We certainly can help in this area.

I expect soon to have a report of the Tolman Committee which has been sampling the public's reaction to this evacuation process. At this point, I have had no word as to what sort of things this committee discovered. In addition, I expect to get copies of instructions which are being sent to the State Employment Offices. These offices, for the time being, are acting as centers of information.

One thing I wish we could do in the way of concerted action is to bring pressure to see that the evacuation process is carried out slowly enough to permit decent human treatment of all Japanese. A hasty wholesale evacuation is sure to produce great human suffering. It is also my opinion that if the evacuation process goes slowly enough, that the very interest (Associated Farmers and National Association of Manufacturers) which are not bringing such pressure to get the Japanese removed, will reverse their opinion because of the pinch to their pocketbooks. Should this happen, I think it is entirely likely that the all-out evacuation order could be modified to one of selective evacuation for those who are still left. I recognize that there is some danger of violence occurring to the Japanese should a sabotage charge get pinned on them, but I doubt that the total effects of local violence will be as great as the crushing effect evacuation will have on the personalities of all these people.

Below are the names of some of the people who are connected with this order to evacuate alien and Japanese:

In charge of Army regulations:

General De Witt whose office is in the Presidio of San Francisco  
San Francisco, California

Director of Evacuation under General De Witt:

Colonel W.L. Magill, Jr., whose office is in San Francisco

Director of Resettlement, Department of Justice:

Mr. Tom Clark, Federal Security Building, 785 Market Street  
San Francisco, California

Assistant Secretary of War:

Mr. John J. McCloy whose office is in Washington, D.C.

Coordinator of Information:

Mr. David P. Barrows, 333 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California

Tolan Committee Staff Director:

Mr. Robert K. Lamb, 1355 Market Street, San Francisco, California

Social Security Administrator:

Mr. Richard Neustadt, 785 Market Street, San Francisco, California

Laisson Official between State Government and Japanese People:

Mr. George Shigekawa, Governor's Office, Sacramento, California

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD C. MILLS

715 South Hope Street  
Los Angeles, California  
3/14/42  
et

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY  
2031 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California

Bulletin # 142

April 7, 1942

RE: TEST CASES

The Min Yasui case in Portland, Oregon, is gaining considerable attention. The facts seem to indicate that one Minoru Yasui, a Nisei attorney who worked for the Japanese consulate in Chicago as late as last December 7th, registered with the State Department as a propaganda agent for a foreign government, and a reserve lieutenant in the United States Army, deliberately violated the curfew regulations and surrendered to the police with the declared intentions of legally determining the right of the military authorities to impose such restrictions upon American citizens of Japanese extraction. Yasui contends that such actions are discriminatory and unconstitutional. At the present time, he is "out" on bail and is said to be circulating a petition among the Portland chapter members demanding that the National Organization take some definite stand on the question of the constitutional rights of the Japanese Americans.

In regards to this particular case, as well as all other test cases of this nature, without any references being made to those individuals who are serving as the subjects for judicial review, this office releases the following statement:

National Headquarters is unalterably opposed to test cases to determine the constitutionality of military regulations at this time. We have reached this decision unanimously after examining all the facts in light of our national policy of: "the greatest good for the greatest number."

We recognize that self-styled martyrs who are willing to be jailed in order that they might fight for the rights of citizenship, as many of them allege, capture the headlines and the imaginations of many more persons than our seemingly indifferent stand. We realize that many Japanese and others who are interested in our welfare have condemned the JACL for its apparent lackadaisical attitude on the matter of defending the rights and privileges of American citizens with Japanese features.

But, we submit that a careful examination of all of the facts with the view of doing the greatest good for the greatest number will justify our position on such matters as these.

In the first place, our primary consideration as good Americans is the total war effort. Individuals and groups are not important when the life of the nation is at stake. We have been asked to evacuate from the Pacific coast as a military measure designed to strengthen national defense. We will cooperate in the war effort.

Secondly, as a national organization and as individuals, we have pledged our whole-hearted cooperation to the President, without qualifications or reservations, in the winning of the war. We will not violate our pledge.

Thirdly, we have continually cooperated with the Federal Government on all regulations and orders in the hope that our cooperation would inspire a reciprocal cooperation on their part. Our hopes have been justified. We will continue our policy of cooperation.

Fourthly, the gracious acceptance of all army regulations and orders and cooperating with them to the fullest extent is our contribution to the national defense effort. It is the sacrifice which we have been called upon to make. Although our contribution may seem greater than most, it still remains that it must be our share in the program. We will make our contributions to our nation.

Fifthly, public opinion is opposed to any measure which seems to be directed against the Army and its authority. Should we challenge their right to pass such regulations as the five mile travel limit and the curfew restrictions, we might be damned as fifth columnists who are attempting to sabotage the military plans and to embarrass the government at a time when a united front is essential. We will not take any action which might be construed as an organized effort to sabotage Army measures which are designed for the public safety.

Sixthly, even assuming that we should win a test case, which we doubt, we may be in the same position as the nation which wins a war and loses the peace. It will take so long for a case of this nature to run the gamut of the courts from the lowest to the highest that we will, in all probability, be evacuated out of this area before it is finally passed upon by the Supreme Court. Even though we should win a legal victory, if the people at large resented our activities, it might have been better either to have lost or not to have attempted a contest. Too, if we should lose the case, which appears likely at this time, we have no further recourse: the law has been settled and cannot be reversed. It would appear more sensible if all legal actions of this nature were left until after the war when public sentiment may have changed and suits might be initiated to recover for damages suffered. Even this latter step is a moot question at this time. We do not intend to attempt to win a case and lose goodwill.

Seventhly, attempts to slow up or to question military dictates may result in irritating those in charge so that they may retaliate by instituting more and stricter regulations. Whatever may be said against the procedure followed by the Army in conducting this evacuation is one thing but no one can gainsay the statement that they have been tolerant, fair, and as reasonable as possible in their treatment of this problem. We do not intend to force them to change their attitudes on this matter.

Eighthly, if our recollection serves correctly, Attorney General Biddle, one of the greatest defenders of civil rights in this country, declared that there was little chance that the courts would go beyond the military should any person desire to challenge the legality of the President's proclamation which gave the Secretary of War and his military commanders the power to designate zones in which any and all persons might be excluded and to facilitate the removal of the undesirable persons by adopting whatever measures were deemed necessary and proper. We trust that the opinion of the Attorney General represents the majority of the jurists' opinions on this subject.

Ninthly, the American Civil Liberties Union, after polling its members as to whether they should make a test case of the Army orders for evacuation, decided against it. When the one group of all groups which has most vigorously and consistently battled against great odds for civil liberties in this nation concedes that a court test of legality should not be attempted, we are ready to accept their verdict. If the general orders should not be challenged, then it seems only logical that the supplementary orders necessary to effect the evacuation should also not be contested. We are not disposed to question the wisdom of the American Civil Liberties Union on questions of this kind.

Tenthly, unfavorable publicity often results from attempting such test cases. The Yasui case is one in point. Editorial comments as well as news reports did not concentrate their attention on the question of the constitutionality of the regulations involved but rather featured the fact that the subject for the test was a former paid propagandist for the Japanese government. Moreover, from letters sent to the various public opinion sections of the newspapers, we can gather that the majority of those who wrote in were very vicious in their condemnation not only of Yasui but also of all Japanese. This incident just gave them one more excuse for publicly branding us as treacherous and dangerous. One letter, printed in the San Francisco Examiner, for example, declared that "All Japanese Americans Should be Discharged from the Army because Yasui, a reserve lieutenant, had deliberately violated regulations." The letter went on to say that "Yasui took advantage of an American education, going to the University of Oregon, and paid that back with the usual Japanese treachery." Because our motives are too often misunderstood and unfavorable publicity often results which is injurious not only to the person so involved but also to all the Japanese in America, we believe that test cases should not be made. We do not intend to create any unnecessary excuses for denouncing the Japanese as disloyal and dangerous.

Lastly, we are not giving up our rights as citizens by cooperating with the government in the evacuation program. We may be temporarily suspending or sacrificing some of our privileges and rights of citizenship in the greater aim of protecting them for all time to come and to defeat those powers which seek to destroy them. When the war is won, we are confident that all our rights and privileges will be returned to us a hundredfold because we cooperated in the winning of the war. We will consistently adhere to this announced principle of cooperation.

In times like these, let us remember that it is much easier to be a martyr than it is to be a quiet, self-suffering good citizen who is vitally interested in the winning of the war. To win this time will require sacrifices beyond those demanded in the First World War, and the sacrifices which we are called upon to make are even greater than those demanded of the majority. Because our sacrifice is greater, let us trust that our rewards in that greater America which is to come will be that much the greater.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark M. ...". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

National Secretary and Field Executive

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JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY  
2031 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California

Bulletin # 149

April 9, 1942

The following letter, which is enclosed for your information, was prepared by the National Secretary for Mr. Milton S. Eisenhower:

April 6, 1942

Mr. Milton S. Eisenhower, Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Western Defense Command and Fourth Army Headquarters  
Whitcomb Hotel  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Eisenhower:

Before submitting our recommendations for your consideration, may I, on behalf of the members of our committee and the 20,000 members of the Japanese American Citizens League, extend to you and the members of your staff our heartfelt appreciation for the privilege and opportunity of meeting with you and discussing our mutual problems regarding the relocation of Japanese evacuees from the Pacific Coast. Your sympathetic understanding and vision of the tremendous forces involved have convinced us of your sincerity and ability. We are grateful that our Federal Government has appointed a man of your calibre to direct the humane and democratic resettlement of us unfortunate people who have been called upon to leave our homes and businesses in order that the military defenses of our country may be strengthened. We are hopeful that our suggestions and recommendations will be given the utmost consideration as the frank and reasoned opinions of a number of representative American citizens of Japanese extraction who are legitimately and sincerely interested in cooperating with our Government in the successful and happy solution to this tragedy.

BACKGROUND

Before introducing various suggestions as to what might and ought to be done, may we mention a few pertinent facts which we feel will be helpful to you as background material in your study of this problem.

In the first place, the entire evacuation program is complicated by the fact that we are dealing with a society which is composed of both American citizens and "enemy aliens." Moreover, the very parents of the citizens are "enemy aliens." Approximately two-thirds of this society are citizens while one-third is foreign born. Because both groups are living under the same roof in most cases, the tendency may be to treat both generations as one. This may be dangerous for the future, for the citizens have been taught that they are entitled to certain inalienable rights which no other citizenry enjoys. To deny them these rights and to subject them to the same treatment, or what may appear to be worse, than the so-called enemies of their own country may create an embittered and disillusioned class of citizens after the war which will be of little value to the nation in the great task of reconstruction and rehabilitation. Furthermore, by respecting their citizenship, the argument that we are fighting for certain principles abroad while destroying them at home, which has been advanced by some, will be refuted. Too, the propaganda of the Axis powers to the effect that we are dividing our nation into classes and races will be discredited should some definite means of recognizing the citizenship of the Japanese Americans be announced.

Secondly, there is a wide gap between the ages of the first and second generations. According to our estimates, the average age of the Japan-born is about sixty years while that of the United States-born is close to twenty-one. This means that one generation has just about reached "the end of the trail," has developed certain mores and folkways, and has become accustomed to certain climatic conditions; the other

generation is just reaching their majority, is at the impressionable age, and is eagerly awaiting a chance to make a success of their lives. We are afraid that a great number, estimated by some to be as high as fifty per cent, of the older generation will pass away with the coming of the summer heat or the cold of winter because they cannot adjust themselves to the rigors of camp life and the changes in climate and humidity. As for the younger generation, may we venture to say that the spirit with which they are inoculated during their "exile" will determine the type of American which they will be in the years to come.

Thirdly, popular conceptions notwithstanding, more Japanese are located in the urban areas than on the farms. Our estimates indicate that approximately sixty per cent are city-dwellers while forty per cent are engaged in agricultural pursuits. This simply means that most of the Japanese, when finally resettled for the duration, must be relocated with the thought in mind that they cannot and will not be farmers.

Fourthly, the Japanese communities, as a group, are thrifty, proud, and civic-minded. We have often been told that we manage to stay off relief rolls better than any other group; etc. If these traits are worth preserving, then those in charge of relocation should so word their regulations and conduct their activities that these characteristics may be maintained and fostered.

Fifthly, the second generation Japanese are probably better educated, as a class, than almost any other second generation immigrant group. We have demonstrated a remarkable desire to learn, and our parents have sacrificed much in order that their children might be better equipped to compete in the American way than they themselves were some forty or fifty years ago. Regardless of what type of resettlement is contemplated, education should be one of the first considerations of those in charge.

Sixthly, the Japanese people, by the large, are more American than Oriental. Our parent generation has spent more than eighty per cent of their lives here in the United States. Only a few have ever returned to Japan. Most of them are more loyal to these United States in their patient, quiet way than a majority of those who are demanding that we be put into concentration camps because we are allegedly disloyal and dangerous. As for us citizens, we can only say that we, as a group, know no other allegiance or country. We were born, educated, made friends, established homes and businesses, etc., here. Although our physical characteristics may mark us apart, most of us desire to assume, with every other American, our share in the winning of this war. In all projects, the fact that most of us are American and desire to be treated as such should be a primary consideration.

Seventhly, the Japanese have no national organization except the Japanese American Citizens League, which is confined only to the American citizens of Japanese extraction. While other nationality groups may have a number of national organizations which purport to represent them, the Japanese have only our organization, which is non-partisan and non-sectarian, to speak for them on a national basis. We believe that it is important that this factor be kept in mind, for both the first and second generation, by the large, have greater confidence in our League than they have in any other organization or group of leaders, regardless of their nationality or affiliation.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

##### GENERAL STATEMENT:

Because the problems incidental to the actual evacuation are strictly in the hands of the military and are not under your jurisdiction, we shall not submit any recommendations which have to deal with that phase. We shall attempt to confine our suggestions to those which fall under your province.

We believe that it should be kept constantly in mind by those

charged with the responsibility of relocation and resettlement that we Japanese, both nationals and citizens alike, in the great majority are cooperating in this evacuation process because we feel that this is our contribution to the national defense efforts of our country and not because we are disloyal or subversive, as charged by many. We are doing our best to follow out the various regulations and orders because we feel that this is our patriotic duty and not because we are submitting to the demands of the jingoists, race-haters, and politicians who have demanded that we be placed in concentration camps. We have not contested the right of the military to order this movement, even though it meant leaving all that we hold dear and sacred, because we believe that cooperation on our part will mean a reciprocal cooperation on the part of the government.

Above all, we desire that it be distinctly understood that we are most grateful to the great majority of the American people and to our Federal Government for their tolerance, sympathy, and understanding during this tragic era. We have confidence in our Government and a living faith in the American people that we shall not be permitted to be the victims of persecution and violence and that, when the war is won, we shall have a greater and more unified United States in which we Japanese Americans will have a vital and significant part.

#### GENERAL POLICIES:

We believe that all projects should be directed (1) to create "Better Americans In A Greater America"; (2) to maintain a high and healthy morale among the evacuees; (3) to train them to cope with the difficult problems of adjustment and rehabilitation after the war; (4) to permit them to actually and actively participate in the war effort of our nation; and (5) to develop a community spirit of cooperative action and service to others before self.

We suggest that your office formulate certain broad, general, and well-defined policies which you have set as your goal or aim, and that we Japanese Americans be given the discretionary powers to build and to function within your outlines. While we believe in self-government, we are somewhat skeptical as to the practicability of permitting us to set up all the policies and practices which will govern our conduct in these projects and elsewhere without proper and adequate supervision.

We are concerned with the fact that most of us have never lived in a community which was preponderantly Japanese; and we are wondering what effect this peculiar situation will have on our younger "teen" age people should they be confined to these camps for several years. As it is, our group has constantly been condemned as being too clannish to be assimilated into the American cultural pattern.

We suggest that as much intercourse with "white" Americans be permitted as possible. We do not relish the thought of "Little Tokyos" springing up in these resettlement projects, for by so doing we are only perpetuating the very things which we hope to eliminate: those mannerisms and thoughts which mark us apart, aside from our physical characteristics. We hope for a one hundred per cent American community. And, for such a community, it is essential that Caucasian contacts are maintained personally through daily intercourse and not through the medium of letters or books.

#### DRAFTEE STATUS:

We believe that American citizens of Japanese ancestry should continue to be permitted to serve in the armed forces of the United States. We further hold that the members of the Japanese communities, whether they be in camps or not, should be privileged to participate in any and every government registration or request for service. This is vital for morale.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS:

We recommend that a vigorous public relations campaign be carried out among three general groups, namely: (1) the public at large, (2) the Japanese themselves, and (3) the government.

We believe that it is essential that the American public at large be convinced that we are not the ungrateful, dangerous, treacherous Japs which some persons would have them believe. We believe that speakers, both Japanese Americans and other Americans, should tour the east, the south, the midwest, the mountains, and even the Pacific Coast to explain our position and to refute some of the allegations and accusations which have been hurled at us. In this connection, we believe that the military authorities ought to amplify their reasons for requesting this evacuation and also to publically acknowledge that the great majority of Japanese, in their opinion, are loyal and that they have been most cooperative and uncomplaining in their response to army orders. It is important that the public be informed so that these evacuees may not only be resettled during the duration but also that they be welcomed to their present homes when they return after the war. Moreover, by having Japanese Americans laud the work of the War Relocation Authority, we may be able to create a favorable public sentiment which will permit your office to do that which you desire in the relocation of our group.

If your program is to succeed, it must be "sold" to the Japanese, both those in camps and those who are outside of them. Persons in whom we have confidence must not only be in responsible positions but must also explain the "why's and wherefor's" of the program. If the reasons behind many of the orders and regulations could have been explained in detail, much of the confusion and bewilderment could have been avoided. To avoid a repetition of this confusion, a vigorous program of information and public relations must be carried on among the Japanese people, particularly among the younger American citizens of Japanese ancestry who are not old enough to appreciate the significance of the problem.

In order that your office may have the necessary funds and powers to carry on the outlined projects, it is important that the members of Congress and the Executive Departments understand and appreciate what you are doing, both from the standpoint of the American public and its future policy and the Japanese and their attempt to fit into the cultural pattern.

## EDUCATION:

We believe that the educational program which will be carried out in these resettlement projects, together with the arrangements made for those interested in higher education, will be the most instrumental factor in molding the future of the young Japanese Americans.

One thing is certain: there should be no Japanese language schools.

Another important item is that all classes should be so integrated that every student will be inculcated with the spirit of Americanism and democratic processes. The entire program should be well directed and well rounded, with particular emphasis on those classes which will train the students in leadership, personal and community adjustment and rehabilitation, mental and social hygiene, vocations, handicraft, social graces, personality development, etc. Special stress should be laid on the enunciation and pronunciation of words so that awkward and "Oriental" sounds will be eliminated.

The need for highly competent instructors is evident. Because of their greater responsibility, they must be better than the average teacher. We are opposed to such plans as asking retired instructors and volunteers to aid in the teaching, for we are most likely to get instructors who are either too old for this type of teaching or those who were not successful elsewhere. We suggest that all instructors,

whether they be Japanese Americans or not, be required to take a thorough examination before being submitted to teach. This is very important because it will be in the classrooms that the most significant work in the molding of good Americans can be done.

In addition, we suggest that nurseries be established for pre-school age children and that high school age students be permitted to go outside of camps and attend regular high schools wherever practicable and possible. We believe that these outside contacts would be most helpful.

Too, there should be Americanization and English classes for those who are interested, as well as adult education classes for those who have completed high school courses. University extension classes are also recommended.

For those students now in college, we suggest that some system of permitting them to transfer to colleges and universities outside of the military zones be established. Federal aid should be made available to them in order that they may complete their education and become useful citizens. The non-resident fees of many of the state schools should either be waived or paid for by the state from which these students are forced to leave.

It is our contention that if the community or family knew that they had some one dear to them on the outside preparing for the life to come that the morale of the group would be bolstered and maintained even in the darkest of days. Finally, it will be in the education of our group as a whole that the salvation of our nationality rests.

#### RELIGION:

Recognizing the value of spiritual forces and the work of the churches in this task of evacuation and resettlement, we suggest that every opportunity be given to carry on normal religious activity. We are especially concerned with the future of the Buddhist faith, for although about one-half of the Japanese people are followers of this faith they lack the "outside" contacts of the Christian churches and are probably the most misunderstood of all of our groups. Moreover, we believe that special care should be taken to see that conflicts arising within and between faith be avoided.

While we recognize the need for religious education and activity in the relocation program, we strongly urge that steps be taken to confine the work of the church people to phases of religious worship only and that they are not permitted to engage in other sphere of activity. We believe that the social and recreational requirements of the community, for example, should be taken care of by the community and not broken up into church groups for the special attention of their own congregations.

#### SPORTS AND RECREATION:

We believe that sports, recreation, and socials of all kinds are necessary for the morale of the communities. Adequate facilities for the above should be provided as soon as possible after arrival at these projects. These should be organized along a mass or team basis as much as possible so that the idea of teamwork can be stressed. Competent instructors and leaders should be provided.

We recommend that every person be required to participate in some form of physical activity under proper supervision and direction.

The competitive spirit should be fostered, possibly by organized league play within the camps for those sports which are susceptible to such organization and by inter-camp competition or exhibitions with near by high schools or athletic clubs. The latter might also be used as a method of keeping in "touch" with the "outside" world.

Motion pictures and outside entertainment should be provided on a regular schedule wherever possible. Dramas, one-act plays, special programs, etc., produced by the members of the communities under proper direction and supervision should prove of great interest and value.

Dances, parties, and other forms of socials should be encouraged as one means of keeping the spirits of the people on the upgrade.

#### PUBLICATIONS AND RADIOS:

We believe that all magazines, periodicals, publications, newspapers, and books should be permitted in the resettlement projects without undue restrictions. We also believe that every family unit or other unit should be permitted to have and to use a standard radio receiving set.

We suggest that every project have its own newspaper or mimeographed bulletin so that all the people within that community will know what is going on.

Perhaps it might be best if Japanese language newspapers are permitted, provided that they are under government supervision, so that the first generation, most of whom cannot read or understand English too well, might be kept informed as to the happenings in the world and the latest regulations concerning their conduct.

We suggest that every resettlement project have an adequate library. In this connection, may we suggest that those Japanese who have libraries of fine books, as well as collections of magazines, should be asked to contribute them for the use of these projects, rather than disposing of them at ridiculous prices or even giving them away. If this suggestion is accepted, immediate action is necessary for we have reports that many evacuees are selling valuable series like the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the Harvard Classics, the Book of Knowledge, etc., by the pound in order to realize something on their books.

#### HEALTH AND MEDICAL FACILITIES:

We recommend that the physical and mental well being of every individual be assured by a competent medical and dental staff and adequate facilities. We are concerned over the possibilities that many of the first generation will not be able to survive the hardships of their new life. We are also concerned over the possibilities of contagious and epidemics which might sweep the projects.

We believe that particular attention should be given the problem of expectant mothers and the care of children.

We believe that the chronic infirm and ill should be left at public wards and institutions so that they will not clutter up the hospitals and beds, as well as demand the attention of doctors and nurses who are needed for the care of the general evacuees.

We believe that the latest medical practices and equipment should be used in the treatment of all patients and that the government bear the expense of all necessary medical and dental care, including hospitalization and special attention or treatment.

#### JAPANESE PROFESSIONAL AND SPECIALLY-TRAINED PEOPLE:

We believe that as many Japanese as possible, especially those with special training, such as doctors, dentists, nurses, social workers, architects, draftsmen, etc., should be used in the work, both at the induction centers and at the permanent settlements. Those whose training and experience qualify them for special tasks should be assigned them and utilized in supervisory or administrative capacities over outside workers as much as possible. If shortages exist, as certainly they shall, it is suggested that only qualified persons be accepted

for work, for too often volunteers are those who have failed to make a success of their work elsewhere.

#### BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY:

We believe that all businesses and industries should be of the cooperative nature and that, as far as possible, they should deal with some valuable contributing-to-the-national-defense type of work.

Credit unions, savings association, cooperative buying and selling organizations--all aimed at promoting an "esprit de corps" should be encouraged, rather than individual canteens or stores. The entire management and control should be in the hands of the Japanese themselves

As far as industrial products and manufacturing is concerned, the type of objects to be manufactured should be such as to require the minimum amount of machinery and equipment, as well transportation and processing. Each industry site should be as near as possible to the source of materials and hand fabricable articles made of clay, wood, cloth, etc., might prove successful both from the standpoint of marketing and locating the plant. The articles to be manufactured should include many things formerly imported and now hard to get. Wooden objects such as furniture, toys, barrels, boxes, etc.; clay products such as bowls, plates, crucibles; chemical retorts; papermaking and allied products; leather goods such as shoes, cartridge belts, etc.; fiber goods like rope, mats, baskets, etc., are distinct possibilities. Weaving, textiles, and sewing might furnish an outlet for the women.

As much as possible of the work produced should consist of things that are needed by the armed forces or as feeders to defense industries. Such government agencies as the War Productions Board, the National Resources Planning Board, the W. P. A., and others should be contacted to determine what is needed requiring the least machinery and the most handicraft. Camouflage nets have been suggested for the fishermen as a possibility.

We believe that the men and women should be employed as nearly as possible in the same lines as they were in normal life. Where this is impossible, it is suggested that most Japanese are quite skillful with their hands. Artificial flowers might be made, for example, for the eastern markets.

If the work of all is readily seen as vital to the national defense, it would materially aid the morale of the group in that it would indicate that the government has some degree of confidence in us and that we are actually contributing to the national defense effort.

#### AGRICULTURE:

We recommend that a sound and balanced agricultural program be adopted in these resettlement areas. The program should be directed and supervised by the Federal Government and should be so planned that it will fit into the pattern of postwar planning of this Government, keeping in mind that these farmers should be permitted to engage in those particular fields of agriculture to which they are accustomed as far as possible. The type of farming, within the community, should be as diversified as possible unless the aim is to produce for other markets and special emphasis should be placed on the production of vital foods. Government agencies which should be able to render considerable assistance are the Department of Agriculture, the War Boards, the Soil Conservation Service, Farm Security Administration, and the various agricultural colleges. Proper soil and water conservation practices should be encouraged.

We believe that proper laboratory facilities, with all necessary equipment, tools, and other facilities, should be set up in the various resettlement areas so that certain important agricultural experiments can be undertaken. Qualified Japanese American research men from the

agricultural colleges should be given an opportunity to work on these experiments under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. This group of technicians should include soil chemists, entomologists, plant pathologists, agricultural engineers, etc.

The Japanese American farmers should be permitted to participate in the national farm youth organizations and programs, such as the Future Farmers of America and 4-H Clubs, for the purpose of developing leadership, character, and talents. Vegetables, fruit, and other products grown or raised in these projects should be entered into competition at the county and state fairs.

In agriculture, as in business, the cooperative principles should be practiced as much as possible in every phase of the agricultural industry, from cooperative buying and planning to cooperative marketing of the products.

The equipment now owned and used by the Japanese on their own farms should be transported and used wherever possible so that the expenses of purchasing new equipment will not be a factor in planning these projects.

Canneries and other processing centers should be established and operated by the Japanese. Packing houses and sheds, too, are possibilities.

The Federal Government should also consider the possibilities of setting up farm work projects in certain agricultural areas, as reforestation, irrigation, etc., projects.

The remarkable success of the Japanese Americans along new agricultural pursuits that will aid in the war effort should be undertaken by the government. Dairy farming, beekeeping, bulb growing, mushroom growing, soybean and castor bean growing are among many possible fields which the Japanese have not yet engaged in with particular success or in numbers.

#### LABOR AND WAGES:

We believe that all Japanese who are requested to work on certain projects should be guaranteed the prevailing wages and hours, as well as working conditions. Just because we happen to be evacuees should not be an excuse for exploitation and slavery, either industrially or agriculturally.

Should the work be such that group movement is necessary, the family unit should be maintained. Proper housing, sanitation, medication, etc., should be the required prerequisites before permission to hire or use evacuee labor is granted.

Special care should be given to all labor contracts so that conflicts with existing labor groups or unions will not occur.

We are opposed to the creation of "labor pools" in which the entire Japanese evacuee community is placed and from which only the men will be transported from project to project to do work.

Public works may be a partial solution to the problem, provided that the family unit idea could be kept, and would be a morale builder inasmuch as they would be contributing to the public welfare. This suggestion presupposes that the "chain-gang" theory of convict labor will not be followed as suggested by some.

A graduated scale of compensation for labor with emphasis on initiative and skill is desirable as a general rule.

#### CITIZENSHIP RECOGNITION:

Inasmuch as most of us are American citizens and are proud of that designation, it is highly important that immediate and effective

means of maintaining that pride be formulated and announced.

Infringements on civil liberties should be kept at the absolute minimum and should not be invoked unless necessary, they should be applied to all without regard to race, color, or national origin. Detailed and complete explanations for the necessity of every prohibitive order should be made to all concerned, and such explanations should be made on the basis of a patriotic appeal and not on the idea of one group being more disloyal than any other group.

We urge the Federal Government and the Western Defense Command to clear up the notion that they believe that the Japanese, as a group, are more disloyal and dangerous than any other group and that we here in America are classed on the same level with the militarists in Japan itself. If this were done, we are confident that all the Japanese would appreciate this gesture more than anything else which could or might be done.

Assurances should be given that the War Relocation Authority and the Attorney General's office will protest any attempt on the part of any state or of the Congress itself to pass discriminatory legislation against the Japanese while they are in these resettlement camps and that they frown upon any attempt to deprive American citizens of Japanese ancestry of their citizenship.

Freedom of movement outside of the prohibited areas should be granted all citizens.

Paradoxical as this may seem, we are opposed to Hearing or Determining Boards or Commissions which might attempt to determine the loyalty of those in these resettlement projects. We believe that the regular agencies of the government, such as the FBI, should investigate and intern or jail all disloyal or questionable persons, be they citizens or otherwise. We believe that it would be impossible to obtain a qualified personnel capable of determining the loyalty or non-loyalty of over a hundred thousand people. Personal likes and dislikes might enter in. And, should a person be adjudged disloyal at this time because of something which he might have said or done years ago, he would be branded for life and would prove useless after the war. We believe that the American concepts of justice--that one is innocent until proved guilty--should be applicable to all citizens, including ourselves. Until definite facts of overt actions of disloyalty can be shown, we believe that all persons should be accepted at their face value, as loyal and devoted citizens of the United States.

As far as possible and practicable, Japanese Americans should be treated in the same manner as all other American citizens, and certainly with greater consideration than the "enemy aliens".

Because of the unusual and unprecedented requests made upon American citizens of Japanese ancestry, special provisions should be made to compensate them for the temporary loss of some of their privileges and rights. This might be in the form of "certificates" of citizenship or appreciation, or some other token which will help them retain their self-respect in their own eyes and in the eyes of their fellow citizens.

#### ORGANIZATION:

Self-government as far as possible and practicable should be the order of the day. Because most of those involved are citizens, the citizens should be given special privileges over and above those granted to the non-citizens.

We recommend that only citizens who have attained their majority be permitted to vote and to hold offices of any sort, elective or appointive. We suggest that the Japan-born be permitted to elect advisory boards which would advise the elected officials as to what ought to be done, etc., but which has no veto or other powers.

Every resettlement project should be permitted to draw up its own constitution, as it were, in a manner corresponding to the constitutional conventions held by the several states before their admittance into the union. They should be guided by the rules set up by the War Relocation Authority, said rules being considered in the same relation as the Federal Constitution is to the state constitutions. Most resettlement camps might be governed in the manner of the states, being divided into districts and counties. As far as possible, the actual terms used in the political field ought to be used. Either bicameral or unicameral legislatures might be set up, with executive and judicial departments to correspond. The project supervisors could serve in the capacity of "federal men" and over-ride the wishes of the "state" group. Appeal from the decisions of the supervisory council might be made directly to the War Relocation Authority officials.

Each project should be permitted to select a certain number of persons, depending upon its size, who would represent them in an inter-resettlement projects "congress" which would meet at stated intervals and make recommendations to the War Relocation Authority.

The entire theme of the government should parallel as much as possible the actual governmental set up of the United States so that lessons in practical democracy will be taught to all concerned. All citizens should be required to register before being permitted to vote. A minature congress should be set up to pass legislation; an executive department created to enforce the legislation; and a judiciary either appointed or elected to determine the legality of all actions. All problems relating to the camps, such as policing, fire-fighting, etc., should be dealt with by the citizens themselves.

Properly coordinated and supervised, a program of this nature will not only give to all concerned a greater appreciation of the workings of our government but also invaluable leadership training so that all evacuee citizens will be more ably prepared to help in the solving of the tremendous post-war problems.

#### PRIVATE PROJECTS:

We recommend that all persons, groups, or communities which have resettlement plans of their own in mind should be permitted to "carry them out", provided that they can receive government approval.

As far as individuals who desire to leave the prohibited areas and go to other regions outside of the Pacific Coast states are concerned, we suggest that they be granted permits to do so if they can produce satisfactory evidence that they have a place to go, a job or some one to take care of them so that they will not become public charges, and the community to which they wish to go will permit them to come. If the individual desires government aid in reaching his destination, another problem arises which would have to be dealt with on the basis of government policy.

For groups and communities which desire to go out as a unit and resettle as a unit, we believe that the government ought to furnish every encouragement. If such groups or communities already have resettlement sites in mind, the government ought to examine them thoroughly in terms of desirability as to location, public reaction, productivity, present and needed facilities, etc. If no government funds are needed, and the projects are approved, permission for the groups or communities to resettle ought to be granted. If funds are necessary, government policy will again govern. If groups and communities desire to go out as units to resettle but do not have any specific sites in mind, the government field men should recommend those which they feel are best adapted for that particular group or community. Then, the interested groups should be permitted to select representatives who will be allowed to examine the lands and report back to their group. If the group then approves, they can make the necessary arrangements with the government.

On all group or community projects, we urge that the government give special attention to these factors:

(1) No individual or group, regardless of their nationality, should be permitted to make exorbitant profits out of this resettlement program.

(2) The projects should be so situated that they are not obnoxious to the people already present or dangerously close to military depots or possible military programs.

(3) The groups or communities should be large enough so that special military protection could be given if necessary and still small enough so that they would not constitute a menace to the locality.

(4) The group should be so well organized, either because of long acquaintanceship with each other or because of special interests which bind them together, so that they will be able to get along with the minimum of trouble and disagreement.

(5) The group should be able to bear all or most of the costs of setting up such resettlement projects or give satisfactory evidence that they can repay whatever loans the government may grant them.

(6) The project is reasonable capable of sustaining or supporting the number and the type of people who desire to resettle there.

(7) The project either has sufficient housing and other facilities or can be supplied with the necessary buildings, etc., without too much cost or delay to accommodate the resettlement group.

#### INDUCTION OR ASSEMBLY CENTERS:

Because first impressions are so important, we suggest that as many of the above recommendations as possible be made available at these initial centers. Proper management and planned routines will do much to eliminate the confusion and troubles which mark so many of these projects. Recreational, social, and athletic facilities for young and old should be ready so that the evacuees will not be bored by the lack of something to do. If possible, every person should be put to some type of work or planned program. Schools for the elementary and the secondary students should be available to all so that classwork can be continued with the minimum loss of time. Adequate food, both as to quality and quantity, should be supplied. Special efforts should be made to make everyone feel at "home" and that they are invited to help in the general program. Religious services for all denominations and religions should be available. Proper medical and dental facilities should be set up to take care of any and all cases, from fatigue to childbirth to accident treatments. Processing of the evacuees should be completed as soon as possible so that they may be sent to the semi-permanent or permanent projects without too much delay.

#### SEMI AND PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS:

We suggest that as many of the general recommendations given as applicable and desirable should be adopted and applied to the semi-permanent or permanent resettlement projects.

In addition, we believe that those of us who are to be resettled at a particular point should be allowed to help in creating that center. The homes should be as home-looking as possible, and as comfortable as humanly possible under the circumstances. As much of the normal living process as is consistent with the location and the times should be permitted. Their stored furniture and other articles, if possible, ought to be shipped to them as soon as possible so that normal housekeeping, to some extent at least, may be resumed.

Everyone should be put to some task immediately. Idle hands and idle minds will create problems which might be avoided if all were put to some constructive and useful work.

The entire population ought to be called together and the plans for the duration explained in full detail to all concerned. Questions should be answered in detail and suggestions invited.

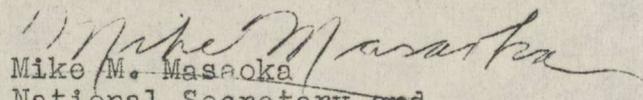
The projects should be in full operation within a day or two of the arrival of the evacuees. Conditions and other considerations should be as normal and non-camp-like as possible. No intimation or hint should be given that they are in concentration camps or in protective custody, or that the government does not have full faith and confidence in them as a group and as individuals.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS:

We must apologize for this lengthy and wordy list of recommendations. We are fully aware that you and your staff have considered most of them to your attention as some of our ideas concerning what ought to be done in the resettlement of the Japanese evacuees. The list of recommendations does not pretend to deal with every problem and merely represents our thoughts regarding those which came into our minds. We trust that they will be of some service and value to you.

Finally, in concluding this letter to you, may we reiterate the pledge of our Japanese American Citizens League to cooperate with you to the best of our abilities and to offer to you and our Government the individual and organizational facilities at our disposal.

Respectfully submitted,  
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

  
Mike M. Masaoka  
National Secretary and  
Field Executive

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
Beason Building  
Salt Lake City 1, Utah

Bulletin #25

August 24, 1944

LETTER FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT

August 14, 1944

Mr. John Haynes Holmes  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
American Civil Liberties Union  
170 Fifth Avenue  
New York City (10), N. Y.

My dear Mr. Holmes:

This is in reply to your letter in which you asked reconsideration of the reply made on April 24 by the late Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, concerning the question you previously raised regarding the opening of the Naval Service to Japanese Americans.

I have given your letter the careful reconsideration you request and which it deserves, but find that it is impossible to accede to the proposal that they be made eligible for any of the various branches of the Naval Service, including the Women's Reserves. This policy is dictated not by any fundamental distrust of the loyalty of this group as a class but because of the peculiar conditions which are encountered in present Naval warfare and which would make their presence particularly troublesome in active areas of combat, such as in the Pacific. Insofar as these reasons prevent men of Japanese ancestry from being utilized in the Naval Service at sea, the only possible remaining capacities in which either men or women could be utilized would be on shore. Even in such billets, however, they would be subjected to more or less continuous, if unjustifiable, suspicion because of certain deep-seated prejudices which are aggravated in the psychology of war.

Moreover, this determination has been necessary because the immediate needs of the Navy require general service personnel capable of performing unlimited duties in any capacity to which assigned, either ashore or afloat. You will, therefore, perceive the impracticability of giving consideration to proposals which are otherwise meritorious, but which create collateral racial problems of a complex nature which cannot be handled adequately under war conditions at home or in combat. It is believed that, while this may work an incidental hardship upon certain loyal Japanese Americans with valuable capabilities and talents, they will realize that during these trying times their own ultimate interests will best be advanced by performing important war-supporting duties on the home front rather than to insist upon the recognition of a status which it is impractical to grant in time of war.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph A. Bard  
Acting Secretary of the Navy

The attached is a tentative draft of a letter sent to Saburo Kido for his consideration and revision. It is intended to reflect the concern of the JACL to the Chairman of the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization.

September 8, 1945

Hon. Samuel Dickstein, Chairman  
House Committee on  
Immigration & Naturalization  
446 Old House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dickstein:

Your committee hearings, conducted in various parts of the country recently, have evoked favorable comment, especially among those who believe our immigration policy should not lag too far behind the challenging needs of these times.

In seeking to humanize our immigration laws, your committee sets a high standard of statecraft. Legislation which your committee recommends, we are confident, will surely do much to promote the democratic philosophy both within and toward this country.

Naturalization laws have excluded nationals from certain places of origin as "ineligible to citizenship." Now, in evidence of our emerging will to accord naturalization privileges to the composite peoples in our land, Congress has rescinded former restrictions upon Chinese nationals. Bills on similar permissive legislation for Filipinos and East Indians are pending.

This enabling trend is further instanced in the cases of Japanese nationals who have volunteered for the armed forces. If found qualified and accepted, they have been able to become citizens of the United States.

Others of Japanese ancestry have contributed toward victory to the best of their ability and circumstances. They were unable to enlist in the armed forces and thereby obtain citizenship. Yet, surely their wartime participation in other than the military services merits consideration for their eligibility to citizenship.

September 6, 1945

Thousands of Japanese aliens have aided by production on farms, and by work in ordnance plants, war industries and government service. Still others have rendered an inestimable contribution by engaging in critical, secret and strategical branches of the war effort. Many more have sent forth their sons into the armed forces, where their outstanding performance is a matter of public record. Some of their boys will not be coming home.

In varying degrees these American residents of Japanese descent have set themselves apart from their aggressor parent nation. They have become "state-less people." They cannot become American citizens, and they have alienated themselves from Japan.

Japanese nationals in vital fields of our war effort have taken positive, irrevocable steps in demonstrating where their loyalty and allegiance reside. They have volunteered for the Military and Naval Intelligence Language Schools, Psychological War Services, Office of War Information, Office of Strategic Services, Army Map Services, Transliteration Services, Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, Cleavage Services and Federal Communications Commission.

The necessary secrecy which has shrouded their work has kept the light of favorable publicity from playing up the valuable aid of these aliens. As far as their native country of Japan is concerned, they have rendered themselves socially unacceptable and exiles, politically. In the United States, under present laws, they can never be citizens; they are forever aliens.

Their situation exemplifies a salutary need to extend to all found worthy the privilege of acquiring citizenship, irrespective of race or place of origin.

If we are to broaden the base of participation in American life and realize more fully the democratic concepts in our own land, American statesmen will scrutinize our naturalization laws with standards of liberty, humanity and justice.

Very truly yours,

---

Saburo Kido  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
National Headquarters  
413 Beason Bldg. Salt Lake City 1, Utah

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September 12, 1945

Honorable Tom C. Clark  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

With the termination of the war, the deportation of enemy aliens of Japanese ancestry will be pressed most likely. Inasmuch as the discretionary authority has been delegated to you, we wish to present our views with the hope that they may be helpful to you in your execution of this responsibility.

We are aware of the fact that a large number of alien Japanese residents were arrested and interned at the outbreak of war. Subsequently through hearings and further investigations, many were paroled or released outright.

While you were connected with the Wartime Civil Control Administration, we appealed to you to intercede with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in behalf of the alien Japanese to stop further arresting when the mass evacuation from the West Coast was impending. We expressed our opinion at that time that we had confidence in the Issei and that great hardships would be avoided if the men were permitted to help their families to evacuate without endangering the security of this country. We are of the same opinion and firmly believe that the internees who were the leaders of the Japanese communities will not be inimical to the welfare of this country even if they should be permitted to remain in this country. Most of them have resided in this country for the major portion of their lives, some forty to fifty years.

We appreciate the fact that the organizational activities and connections were factors which resulted in the internment in most cases. And as a precautionary measure, many were detained for the duration of the war. However, we believe that in almost every instance, they were not anti-American but were carrying on their activities merely as community leaders and the chosen officers of their organization. As peacetime undertakings, the activities were not viewed as illegal or dangerous. Almost every other nationality group carried similar activities in connection with the country of their parents. Many of the functions were sponsored or approved by American public officials. The circumstances of war changed the situation. As innocent victims, it seems harsh to penalize these internees with deportation. We are confident that those who desire to remain in this country or those with families would not have jeopardized their position if they had known that their activities

would be looked upon with suspicion or as anti-American.

Those who knowingly and intentionally aided in any type of espionage work should be placed in one category. On the other hand, those who participated in activities because of the fact that they were subjects of Japan or chosen representatives of their organization should not be deported merely on grounds of suspicion.

A large number have families with children who are American citizens. Some have sons or daughters in the American armed forces with their full consent and approval. We believe the loyalty of their children is one fact to indicate that they were not anti-American. If these internees should desire to remain in this country, we believe every possible opportunity should be given them. It is through no fault of theirs that they remained subjects of Japan. The naturalization laws of this country denied them the privileges of becoming American citizens.

We believe the following factors should be given some consideration in judging the merits of each case:

1. The number of years the internee has resided in this country.
2. Whether a person is married and his family is residing in this country.
3. The loyalty displayed by his family members during the war period.
4. Whether the internee has had business or property investments to indicate his desire to permanently reside in this country.
5. The civic and community activities in which he participated which contributed to the general welfare.
- ✓ 6. His sympathy and leadership in Americanization activities before the war.
- ✓ 7. Whether the internee has indicated his desire to return to Japan or remain in this country.
- ✓ 8. Whether any member of his family served in the armed forces.
- ✓ 9. Whether he has knowingly and intentionally participated in espionage activities.
10. The recommendations he has been able to receive from friends who are reputable citizens but not necessarily prominent.
- ✓ 11. Whether his pro-Japan activities were in connection with his leadership of organizations and similar to what every other nationality group had been doing.
- ✓ 12. Whether he had been anti-American in his attitude or participated

September 12, 1945

in pro-Japan activities in order to promote better understanding between the two countries.

13. Whether his pro-Japan activities were openly done or of a secret nature.

14. The contributions made to Japan should be balanced with those made to organizations in this country.

15. Purchase of war bonds by family of internee or for his own account before and after the outbreak of war.

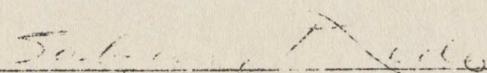
16. Whether a person's pro-Japan activities were for business and social reasons.

We sincerely hope that with the first hand knowledge you were able to obtain while you were on the West Coast before and after the outbreak of hostilities, your conclusions are the same as ours. We hope that you will give every internee, unless he has been directly connected with espionage activities, every opportunity to remain in this country if he should so desire and thereby enable him to reunite with his family or to return to the community where he had been established prior to the outbreak of the war. We believe most of them have lived the greater part of their lives in this country and would prefer it to Japan if they could be given the choice.

We believe that a humane and fair treatment could be extended to the internees by a victorious nation. To be magnanimous to the innocent victims of war when national welfare is not endangered is the American way and a compensation for the bringing up of sons and daughters loyal to the United States. A liberal and understanding attitude could be accorded to those who have not been anti-American, who have families in this country, and who desire to remain as residents of this country as evidenced by their conduct before and after the outbreak of war.

In closing may we express our appreciation for the interest that the Department of Justice has shown in the West Coast violences since the lifting of the West Coast ban by the Western Defense Command and for the respect and recognition accorded to the civil rights of those of Japanese parentage throughout the war emergency.

Sincerely yours,

  
National President

MEETING  
Of  
ADVISORY BOARD OF THE

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZEN'S LEAGUE

417 Market Street, San Francisco

December 13, 1945, 10:30 a. m.

Present: Chairman, Allen C. Blaisdell, Galen M. Fisher, Josephine Duvneck, Joe Masaoka, Ruth W. Kingman, Laurence Hewes.

Report on present program of Regional Office of Japanese American Citizen's League, by Joe Masaoka.

Program divided into two parts:

- (1) Public Relations: Giving publicity to favorable government actions, interpreting community attitudes to returnees, particularly to Issei, etc.
- (2) Social Action:
  - a) Development of Japanese American Civil Rights Union, to raise \$125,000 to fight escheat cases.
  - b) Assistance to individuals, often involving time and travel.

Foundation Grants made to Japanese American Citizen's League, on basis of:

- (1) Service to Nisei and parents.
- (2) Reactivation of JACL Units.

General Discussion re program described:

Subject: Reactivation of JACL chapters.

- (1) JACL trying to get returnees recognized as individuals, as residents of this country, not merely as emissaries of good-will for Japanese American population.
- (2) Training for integration best accomplished through development of JACL chapters.
- (3) Former leaders now relocated in East.
- (4) Potential leaders only 17-20 years of age badly in need of advice and guidance.
- (5) Present process promotional. Formerly growth occurred from leadership-down. Now from membership-up to leadership.

Subject: Self-support a goal of JACL.

- (1) Pattern set in Denver - at first had to receive help - now entirely self-supporting. May take two years in California.

Motion made by Mrs. Kingman and seconded by Mr. Hewes calling for a meeting in near future of Advisory Board and representatives of the Rosenberg Foundation, to discuss developing problems of JACL.

- (2) Support of Foundation, granted for two year period, should be gradually decreased.
- (3) JACL difficulties due to:
  - a) Distrust of Issei and some Nisei of JACL policies in support of Government at time of war.
  - b) All presently obtainable funds needed for (1) evacuee assistance, and (2) escheat cases.

Subject: Membership of Caucasians in JACL.

Question: (1) Should Caucasians be active in JACL?

- (2) Should JACL members concentrate only on JACL activities, or should they enter other groups as individuals or as JACL representatives?

Discussion: (1) JACL feels that group participation will be possible after adjustment of returnees.

- (2) Nisei shy and retiring; still need leadership of JACL before they will take part in other activities.

Subject: Japanese American Civil Rights Union.

Question: How are funds handled?

Answer: Now through office of JACL - later will be under committee elected by group.

Suggestion: (Dr. Fisher) Formation and basis for organization should be put in writing immediately.

Subject: Membership dues of JACL.

Discussion: (1) All membership dues should be credited to JACL, as such figures indicate popular support. Of interest to Foundation.

- (2) Same for contributions of Issei.

Subject: Financial accounts of JACL.

Suggestion: Professional help on books be requested from Rosenberg Foundation.

Suggestion: Local office should provide evidence that local membership should assist regional office.

Question: Has JACL been able to tap resources (ed.note - local, legal advice, etc.) to help support needy cases?

Answer: Yes, involving approximately \$50,000.

Motion by Mr. Hewes, seconded by Dr. Fisher, and carried. Requesting Mr. Masaoka to put on paper the entire organizational and financial structure of the plans of the Japanese American Defense Union to raise \$125,000 for the escheat cases.

Motion made earlier by Mrs. Kingman, re meeting with Rosenberg Foundation representatives, withdrawn by Mrs. Kingman, until such time as further information is available. Mr. Hewes seconded the withdrawal.

Motion made by Dr. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Hewes, requesting Mr. Masaoka to develop and set down a plan (tentative) for the financing of JACL for three years, indicating an increasing degree of self-support in the last year.

Adjournment - at 12:20 p.m.

## MINUTES

JOINT MEETING OF THE JAFL ADVISORY AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES, International Institute, August 15, 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Miss Annie Clo Watson  
Dr. John C. Leffler  
Ernest Besig (American Civil Liberties Union)  
Mari Okazaki (International Institute)  
Roy Takagi  
Joe Masaoka  
Dave Tatsuno

ABSENT: DUE TO REPORTED TRANSPORTATION DISRUPTIONS

Mrs. Ruth Kingman  
Laurence Hewes  
Galen Fisher  
Mrs. Jane Davis  
*Davis McEntire*  
were unable to be present.

Allen Blaisdell, Mrs. Josephine Duveneck, and Joseph James were out of town.

Ed Banfield, due to a prior engagement, was unable to be present.

### WRA RELOCATION METHODS CRITICIZED

Regional Representative Joe Grant Masaoka explained that he had called the meeting and had not cancelled it despite its being V-J Day because of the urgency of examining the WRA methods of forcing closure of relocation centers.

Masaoka reported that information had been transmitted to him regarding the coercive policy employed toward center residents. He related how residents who had not made relocation plans were notified by the Project Director to discuss their problems at an appointed time. The center resident is escorted by Internal Security and MP's at the appointed hour to the Project Director or Relocation Officer, who then inquires whether relocation plans had been made.

In the event of a negative answer, the resident is told that a train will be departing on a designated date to his point of origin. Should the evacuee inquire about housing or means of support, he is assured the WRA field offices will adequately take care of the matter. (WRA field offices can only hope but cannot provide living quarters in communities already facing acute housing shortage.)

If the evacuee ventures the opinion that he does not care to leave at the scheduled time, he is warned that no other government assistance will be forthcoming. Furthermore, on the date set for the center closure, all electricity and water will be turned off, food supplies will cease, and maintenance of the center shall end. The

evacuee has no other recourse than to comply with the center administration decision to force eviction.

Because Canal Camp of Gila River Relocation Center and Camps 2 and 3 of the Poston Relocation Center are scheduled to close as of October 1, their announced terminations are watched as test cases. Apparently, WRA hopes that the complete liquidation of these camps will demonstrate to other centers the futility of hoping for alternatives. The WRA is determined to employ total and even unnecessarily harsh means to effect this demonstration.

WRA field offices admit that housing is a difficult, if not impossible, situation and that they are not prepared to handle the mass return of evacuees to their districts, in spite of official assurances published within the centers.

Masaoka read an announcement posted in the Poston Relocation Center under date of August 7:

"The assistant advisors will not include on these special trains any families who are dependent, for whom satisfactory arrangements have not been made; neither will families who have an excludee or detainee member be included.

"In the event that a family does not respond to the project director's memo within three days it must be assumed that the family will return to their place of legal residence. The assistant advisor will proceed as follows:

- "a) Contact the appropriate property office to arrange for the delivery of ten boxes to the family.
- "b) Notify the Internal Security section who will escort the family head to the relocation office, where the assistant advisor will explain to him that if he does not apply for assistance the family will be considered eligible for only a transportation grant to their place of legal residence. Persons designated for departure on Sept. 5, shall be given until August 18 to choose their destination.

"Persons designated for departure on Sept. 12, shall be given until August 25 to choose their destination.

"Persons designated for departure on Sept. 19, shall be given until Sept. 1, to choose their destination.

"Persons designated for departure on Sept. 24 shall be given until Sept. 11 to choose their destination.

Mr. Carter  
Relocation Officer"

After the reading Masaoka pointed out the actual methods employed to back up this announcement is arbitrarily compulsory although its language is not too indicative of the stern measures adopted by the

center administration. Conditions bordering on near hysteria have been described as obtaining within the centers.

According to Masaoka, a Nisei soldier serving in the Philippine Islands has sought discharge and has come back to the states. He has aged and ailing parents who do not know where to go nor who can support them, and his insistent request for discharge was made to come home and provide for them. This Nisei sergeant says there are thousands of other Nisei soldiers in the Pacific who feel as he does but cannot obtain release. He indicated, too, their continued services in the army of occupation are required more than even before.

Masaoka also related how he had been called into conference several weeks ago by Jules Sietz, Washington WRA official, who had been sent out to stimulate relocation efforts on the part of field offices. Sietz had assured the conference, composed of Fred Ross, WRA District Officer; Robert Gibson, Council for Civic Unity; Joseph James, American Council on Race Relations, and NAACP; and myself, that housing is being made available and that relocation was proceeding.

However, upon being questioned rather sharply about the availability of housing, Sietz admitted their WRA policy, current in the thinking of WRA administration officials, was that they hoped to create by the forced influx of returnees to each area such a situation of "imminent crisis" that municipal authorities and the Army and Navy will be compelled to make available some type of housing.

#### D i s c u s s i o n :

JACL Regional Representative related how many hardships and inhumanities are being faced by center residents when thus compelled to leave. He pointed out how National President Saburo Kido had sought support in January for deferred closure of some of the centers to be used as a Maintenance Camp for unemployable and unrelocatable families and individuals. Consensus at that time was that centers should be abolished.

Masaoka now reports the general criticism to the WRA policies in closing centers without providing for shelter and adequate assistance to returnees after their departure from the centers. A number of organizations are now active in seeking to mobilize nation-wide public sentiment in protest. They hope that with this national support, enough pressure can be brought upon the Secretary of Interior and the President to intercede for a more moderate and considerate center-liquidation policy.

Those present at this meeting pointed out how JACL, by adopting a policy of cooperation with WRA, felt that the utmost benefits could be secured for the greatest number of evacuees. Because of this cooperative attitude, the JACL has been highly condemned in many quarters and particularly among evacuees. The expressions made were unanimous that JACL, in the name of evacuee human beings and absentee

Nisei soldiers and to assert its place of leadership for those of Japanese descent, take strong public issue with the WRA that center closure alternatives should be adopted, until housing and other dependency assistance is definitely forthcoming to those requiring it.

The Regional Representative was authorized to phone by long distance this attitude of the "best friends of JACL" to its National President in Salt Lake City. The National Organization, with the concurrence of its National Committee, shall make public announcement of its attitude to strongly advise center residents to resist compulsory methods of being relocated until adequate assurances of housing and assistance are definitely promised. Masaoka was also instructed, by the body, to draw up a resolution expressive of the sentiment of those present, which can be later circulated for the endorsement and concurrence of other organizations, and then transmitted as deemed necessary for enabling action.

It was felt that in view of this urgent situation, JACL should take a strong, forthright position and advise the centers of its attitude. The WRA should be taken to task and its methods made a public issue.

#### JACL TO MAKE PRESENTATION AT COMMITTEE HEARINGS

To be conducted under the chairmanship of Representative Dickstein, New York, the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization will hold hearings in San Francisco on August 27, 28, 29, and 30. The agenda is slated to be, in addition to top immigration matters, "stateless people," alien enemies, deportation of aliens interned in detention centers, and the enforcement of deportation orders. The National Association of International Institutes, according to Annie Clo Watson, has adopted an immigration policy expressed at the committee hearings in New York. Their own local International Institute is preparing presentations on a number of hardship cases, as well as the formulation of an over-all immigration policy, which will generally seek modification of the present national and racial quotas.

Ernest Besig of ACLU observed their organization is concerned in the coercive methods employed by WRA in compelling evacuees to leave the centers but declared there is no law to prevent the use of such methods. He said the ACLU is also preparing legal cases to test the validity of citizenship renunciation by the unavoidable duress and atmosphere in Tulelake under which many Nisei expatriated. It was his opinion that children of 15 and 16 thus sign away their birthright without the capacity to clearly weigh the consequences of their action.

It was felt that the matter of dual citizenship would arise. All present agreed that an attorney such as Maurice Harrison, or perhaps Judge Denman, would be ideal to make such a presentation. Masaoka expressed the opinion that in any discussion of "stateless people," reportedly numbering some 5,000 expatriated Nisei in Tulelake, the publicity would be unfavorable and reflect upon all Americans of Japanese descent.

To counteract this unfavorable publicity, it was generally agreed that a petition be presented on behalf of "aliens ineligible to citizenship," such as Issei working on strategic projects and as language instructors for the United States Government. Also, a petition to enable naturalization for immediate relatives of those in the armed forces and the merchant marines be recommended.

The sentiment was expressed that a competent, expert attorney, such as Saburo Kido, should prepare the various legal presentations but should have other prominent and influential Caucasian friends make the actual pleadings.

Masaoka was instructed to contact Mr. Wickson of the local office, U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, to ascertain the agenda and secure permission for the JACL to make its presentations.

Masaoka was instructed to convey these ideas in his long-distance phone call to the National President.

#### ADJUSTMENT OF EXPENDITURES TO BUDGET

Masaoka explained that, upon recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the original Regional Representative salary, budgeted at \$175, was increased to \$200.

Because of the necessity to attend frequent meetings and make interviews, the Regional Representative pointed out that a smooth flow of work was not always moving to the secretary because of frequent appointments and interruptions. The possibility for securing dictating equipment was brought out. Since the rent, budgeted at \$60 per month has been obtained at \$35, it was the feeling that the \$25 saved could be devoted, if deemed necessary, by the Regional Representative, to the purchase of a recording machine.

The Regional Representative mentioned that as it becomes necessary to secure wide-spread support for the organization in both membership and finances, a thorough canvass of Japanese American returnees might become advantageous in the fall and winter. To do this effectively, he made the observation that an automobile would be helpful. In response to this suggestion, it was the feeling that should such vehicle be deemed helpful, part of the travel expense, budgeted at \$800, might be devoted to such purchase.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

JGM: sm

Joe Grant Masaoka  
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

#### NOTE PARTICULARLY:

The resolution is herewith attached. The wording, perhaps, may be improved.

Attached also are copies of letters from authoritative sources on the housing situation. Phone inquiries today revealed that very little changes expected in the housing situation, even with the cessation of hostilities. On the NAH letter the last sentence of the second paragraph makes note of the phrase "eligible to occupy war housing that has been made available under the provisions of the Lanham Act." Unfortunately, while eligible, there is no war housing available. Furthermore, with the ceasing of hostilities, though there is an expectation that cut backs in war industries may release employees who might return to their former homes outside the West Coast, 65 percent of Caucasian war workers polled have indicated they will remain. Eighty-five percent of non-white war workers polled have indicated they will stay here.

The wives of servicemen now residing in San Francisco and other coast ports will probably return to their former homes under the impression that they can wait for their husbands at home since discharges will not remain longer than a couple of days or so in these coast ports. This lessening of housing demand, however, will be balanced by the three quarter of a million soldiers who will be returning to this area and to their families who may then require housing.

It is a sad commentary that as housing might conceivably become easier to secure, jobs will become correspondingly harder to obtain.

COPY

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
525 Market Street, San Francisco 5, California

August 7, 1945

Dr. Matt N. Crawford  
Acting Executive Secretary  
Council for Civic Unity  
101 Post Street  
San Francisco 8, California

Dear Mr. Crawford:

We are pleased to respond to your request for "a statement of the housing situation now existing and in the immediate future," requested by your Japanese Resettlement Committee of the Council.

This Authority is currently managing 12,079 units of housing, either constructed or under construction. 9,565 of these units, which include dormitories, trailers and portable dwellings, were built exclusively for occupancy by in-migrant employees of the United States Naval Drydocks at Hunters Point. 150 units have been allocated to the respective Army and Navy housing offices. The balance of 2,364 units, which include 273 trailers, are occupied by war workers qualified in accordance with NHA directives through the War Housing Center to this Authority.

There are no vacancies in any project today.

Two small projects, not included above, are being constructed directly by the Federal Government for occupancy by naval personnel and will be managed by this Authority when completed.

The efforts of this Authority to secure additional war housing have not been successful and our current information from the NHA indicates that Agency is not presently contemplating allocating funds for or programming any additional war housing in San Francisco.

Six permanent projects, totaling 1,114 units, will be constructed by this Authority as soon after the war as conditions will permit. In addition the Authority has applied to the Federal Government for the construction of an additional 5,000 permanent low rent housing units in the postwar period. Completion of this program is dependent upon the passage of the Wagner-Ellender Housing Act which has been recently introduced into Congress.

Very truly yours,

/s/ JOHN W. BEARD  
Executive Director

JWB-a

COPY

NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY  
Office of the Administrator

Region VI  
Balboa Bldg., 593 Market St.  
San Francisco 5, California

August 9, 1945

Mr. Matt N. Crawford  
Acting Executive Secretary  
Council for Civic Unity  
101 Post Street  
San Francisco 8, California

Dear Mr. Crawford:

This will acknowledge receipt of your communication of August 6, 1945, wherein you request information as to what steps are being taken to make available housing for persons of Japanese ancestry who are returning to this area from the Several War Relocation Centers.

Recently, several conferences have been held between the War Relocation Authority, Federal Public Housing Authority and the National Housing Agency with respect to this problem and some definite steps are being taken by the War Relocation Authority to secure housing for the returning Japanese. In this regard, however, we would suggest that you communitate with that organization for definite information. As you know, many of the returning families will be eligible to occupy war housing that has been made available under the provisions of the Lanham Act.

Furthermore, we are informed that there is still an outstanding quota of priorities in the San Francisco West Bay locality that are available to these Japanese families if they desire to build housing for themselves. We are hopeful that when this quota is exhausted we may be in a position to make available additional priorities for home construction for these families.

We have been keenly aware of the problems confronting the families of Japanese ancestry who are returning to this area and have been lending every assistance possible in devising ways and means of solving some of them.

You can be assured that we will continue our efforts in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ C. J. HORAN for

PRESTON L. WRIGHT  
Regional Representative

A RESOLUTION ON THE RESETTLEMENT  
OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE DESCENT

page 2

(5) That a special old age federal assistance fund be set up to provide for these displaced aliens who cannot qualify under legal aid categories of their respective states.

That the United States cannot jeopardize its moral leadership among the nations of the world by ill-considered treatment of its own citizens and people dislocated by war.

That this resolution be transmitted to the  
President  
Secretary of the Interior  
Director, War Relocation Authority.

Respectfully submitted,

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

By: Saburo Kido  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

A RESOLUTION ON THE RESETTLEMENT OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE DESCENT

CENTER  
EVICTION  
METHODS  
WITHOUT  
PROVIDING  
HOUSING  
DECRIED

WHEREAS, Relocation of our American citizens and residents of Japanese descent from War Relocation Authority centers on a humane and just basis has motivated the interest of the national organization of the Japanese American Citizens League; and

The Japanese American Citizens League believes the federal government, as the prime mover in the evacuation, has an inescapable moral and legal responsibility toward these evacuees which does not end with the closing of the centers; and

The Japanese American Citizens League, and informed Americans who are cognizant of the WRA program, favor the early resettlement of evacuees wherever they elect to go, are, nevertheless deeply disturbed by the precipitate means, inflicting demonstrable hardships upon evacuees, with which the War Relocation Authority seeks to gain this admittedly desirable end; and

Persisting in these methods of compulsory resettlement adds further inhumanities and injustices upon these evacuees and inevitably aggravates community tensions in already congested housing areas; n o w  
t h e r e f o r e

FIVE  
POINT  
PROGRAM  
URGED  
AS  
ALTERNATIVE

BE IT RESOLVED: That we reaffirm the government responsibility toward these federally displaced people, who normally maintained unusual records for self-dependency, by recommending this FIVE POINT PROGRAM:

(1) That evacuees shall not be evicted from the centers until an adequate plan --- adapted to each individual or family, including available housing and means of support --- is devised, according to good social work methods.

(2) That a center or housing projects close to the evacuees' point of origin be employed as an Interim Center for those who have not been able to make adequate resettlement plans within the center closing deadline dates.

(3) That a Maintenance Center, as close as possible to the evacuees' point of origin, be created for those 60 years and older; widows and soldiers' wives with children; and others, unemployable and incapacitated, whose return to their original communities would necessitate their becoming public charges.

(4) That special dependency assistance through the Social Security Agency be provided for those who are relocatable but who require aid to become self-sustaining.

1055-31

ADC  
Fair Play Comm.

STATEMENT

For the Standing Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, United States Congress, March 19, 1947, of Mike M. Masaoka, national legislative director of the Japanese American Citizens League Anti-Discrimination Committee, Inc., P. O. Box 1628, Washington 13, D. C.

At the outset, I wish to thank the members of this Subcommittee on behalf of the organization I represent for the courtesy and privilege of appearing before you this morning to express our convictions and our concern for the various legislative measures now under your consideration.

By way of explaining our interest in these matters, may I say that the Anti-Discrimination Committee was incorporated last summer as the legislative agency of the Japanese American Citizens League. We have some fifty local committees throughout the United States and our membership is composed of American citizens of Japanese ancestry and other Americans of good will.

Since its organization in 1930, the Japanese American Citizens League has consistently and constantly endeavored to improve the common lot and life of all Japanese in the United States as Americans, keeping in mind that the real interests of our country are identical with our own group interests.

While I am officially representing only American citizens of Japanese ancestry this morning, I am mindful that I am also speaking out for those other American citizens and their alien parents who are stigmatized as we are, as being of races "inadmissible to the United States and ineligible to naturalization".

These races now in the United States are revealed by the records of the Alien Registration Section of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The number of aliens in the "ineligible" category, as of June 30, 1943, are as follows:

Afghans .....	191
Malayans .....	274
Thailanders .....	178
Koreans .....	3,521
Japanese .....	90,928
British Pacific Islanders ..	247
French Pacific Islanders ...	116
Guamians .....	288
Javanese .....	283
Netherland Indians .....	170
Sumatrans .....	<u>111</u>
TOTAL	96,485

These figures include the Territory of Hawaii and other territorial possessions.

All of these, citizens and aliens alike, are more or less involved in the legislation now under study.

The specific bills under consideration at the moment, I understand, are House Resolutions 245, 674, and 1115, introduced by Congressmen Walter H. Judd, George P. Miller, and Herman P. Eberharter, respectively.



2--statement

Since all of these measures are designed to eliminate certain inequities in our immigration laws insofar as they relate to the deportation of "inadmissible" aliens, among whom are those of the categories named above, we endorse them in principle.

We favor H.R. 245 and H.R. 674, which are identical because, in addition to those deportable aliens who will be afforded relief by H.R. 1115, they provide for the suspension of the deportation of aliens who made valuable contributions to our war effort and loyally aided the United States during World War II. We are firmly convinced that these aliens who contributed so much to the winning of the war, whether they fall into the "hardship category" or not, are entitled to asylum in the country they served so well and at such risks.

Perhaps we are blinded by our own "prejudice" but we believe that some bill incorporating the essential aims of the three measures now under consideration should receive the favorable attention of the Congress if only as a matter of simple justice and equity.

It is our considered judgment, however, that this Subcommittee should consider a more fundamental approach to the situation that created the need for this proposed stopgap legislation. We respectfully suggest that the appropriate time has come when the Congress should repeal the last remaining racial barriers against naturalization and immigration.

The enactment of such basic legislation would not only obviate the necessity for such piecemeal remedies as suggested in the bills under present discussion but would also solve many more injustices and inequities.

Such a step is in complete accord with recent congressional policy. The Chinese were granted naturalization and quota privileges in 1943; the Filipinos and British Indians in 1945. Today, only a few "peoples" remain in the "inadmissible" and "ineligible" class.

Our practice of designating certain "races" and "peoples" as "inferior" and "undesirable" as immigrants and citizens is contrary to our commitments under the United Nations Charter and smacks of the racist doctrines of Hitler and Tojo, not to mention its repugnance to the principles for which so many American soldiers of all nationalities fought and died. In fact, when Earl G. Harrison resigned as United States Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization in 1944, he said that the only country in the world, outside of the United States, that observes racial discrimination in matters relating to naturalization was Nazi Germany. Now that Germany has been eliminated from the picture, this dubious distinction belongs only to us.

While I must admit in all candor that perhaps there are some who will question the propriety of repealing the Oriental Exclusion Act, I submit that we can find no logical or reasonable basis for denying to the few thousand resident aliens now legally in the United States the privilege of becoming a citizen.

Since the largest group involved is the Japanese, may I comment on their record as resident aliens. Most of them have been in the United States for more than a quarter of a century; many for over fifty years. They

3--statement

have made significant contributions to every community in which they have resided, particularly in the field of agriculture. They have proved themselves to be law abiding, thrifty, and good citizens by any standard applicable to any first generation immigrant group.

In the recent war, these ninety odd thousand Japanese residents were classified as "enemy aliens" -- not because they remained aliens by choice, but because they had no other alternative. These "enemy aliens", particularly those on the west coast of the United States, were called upon to suffer uniquely and to sacrifice as much as any other minority. Because of their faith in the American way and in the ultimate fair play of the American people, these resident Japanese conducted themselves loyally.

They not only aided in the factories and the farms of our victorious war effort, but many served in the vitally important counter-intelligence, map-drawing, interpretation and translation, and documentation sections of our government.

Moreover, they urged their sons and daughters to volunteer for combat duty with the American armies in Europe and in the Pacific. And, in the words of the late General Joseph W. Stilwell, these Japanese American troops "bought an awful big hunk of America with their blood".

Yet, today, fifty thousand parents of these gallant soldiers cannot become citizens of the country for which they and their children gave so much.

They are still branded as "enemy aliens" and we, their American citizen children, are forced to suffer because of this accident of birth.

Many bemedaled war veterans are losing their lands because their parents who are "ineligible to citizenship" bought that land for them years ago.

The Iwamura brothers, for example, both ex-sergeants, one having served in the Pacific in military intelligence and the other a Purple Heart veteran of the famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Italy and France, had to buy back their land from the State for \$29,625. Miss Tomoye Fujita, an American citizen born in Sanger, California, worked for the Federal Communications Commission as a foreign language broadcast translator. Her brother served in the American Army. The State "escheated" her lands because her "ineligible to citizenship" father and mother had given it to her many years ago.

And if these alien land laws in some 12 western states were strictly enforced, American citizens could not permit their own parents to live on the same land with them.

"Ineligible" aliens are excluded by law from almost one hundred different fields of employment, vocations, and businesses in the several states. While most of these apply to all aliens, nevertheless they are permanent prohibitions to our parents, among others, because they cannot remove themselves from the alien classification through naturalization. And in isolated places and cases, the prohibitions are specifically extended only to "ineligible" aliens. Until recently, in Portland, Oregon, no Japanese national could receive a business license of any kind. In California, no Japanese alien can engage in commercial fishing -- "as a conservation measure", the State Fish

4--statement

Commission puts it.

Mrs. Nawa Munemori, widowed mother of Congressional Medal of Honor winner Private First Class Sadao Munemori, cannot receive an old age pension from her state, even though the United States government has awarded her the small pension that all dependents of soldiers killed in our country's service receive. My own mother, who had five sons who fought overseas in Europe, with one son killed and three others receiving the Purple Heart among some 30 odd decorations and ribbons, isn't sure that she can lease property for commercial or residential purposes, because even this right to earn a living or to have a home is contested by California.

Most of our parents have lived a long and useful life. They have done their best to bring us up as citizens worthy of the great heritage that is America's. We ask that they, too, be allowed to share with us the priceless privilege of American citizenship. For aside from all other considerations, this citizenship will prove to them that at long last they have been accepted by their fellow Americans as worthy of our citizenship, that they are not only good enough to live in our country and to pay taxes but also to be citizens in our country.

We respectfully urge, therefore, that this Subcommittee give serious consideration to a bill that proposes to remove the last remaining racial barriers to naturalization and immigration. Such a bill is H.R. 857 by Delegate Joseph R. Farrington of Hawaii. I have been informed that the Justice Department is in complete sympathy with the aims of the Farrington bill, but that they feel that the resolution as presently drawn is administratively unworkable. If this is the case, we urge that a proper bill be drafted immediately, and that this Subcommittee give serious consideration to it in the light of the present conditions in the United States and the world.

The enactment of such corrective legislation would accomplish that which is contemplated by the Judd, Miller, and Eberharter bills and much more; it would also eliminate some incongruities in our present laws and in some proposed statutes.

An example of the former is the plight of the Japanese wives of American servicemen. Even though the Congress in 1945 passed a Soldier Brides Act, it has been held that this Act does not cover those American soldiers who were unfortunate enough to fall in love with and to marry a person of Japanese "race", even though that person is a citizen of our neighbor, Canada. They cannot bring their wives into the United States with them. Accordingly, private bills have had to be introduced for their relief.

As exemplary instances of proposed legislation that carries on this discrimination, there are those bills that would permit the alien parents of honorably discharged American veterans, except those "ineligible to naturalization", to become citizens by taking the proper oaths in the appropriate courts.

Because we feel so strongly on this subject, and because we feel that a great majority of Americans, including many of our comrades in arms of all nationalities who fought with us overseas, believe with us that naturalization and immigration privileges ought to be extended to all those now denied them, we earnestly recommend that

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this Subcommittee call for and conduct public hearings as soon as your convenience permits.

We know that we are not alone in this plea. Recently, a number of distinguished Americans throughout the nation organized themselves as the Committee for Equality in Naturalization with the avowed purpose of attempting to correct this tragic situation.

A few of the committee members are:

Mrs. Wallace B. Alexander, prominent club woman and civic leader, San Francisco, California; Roger N. Baldwin, director, American Civil Liberties Union, New York City; Dr. Eugene E. Barnett, general secretary, National Council of the Young Men's Christian Association, New York City; Miss Pearl Buck, author and Far Eastern expert, Perkasio, Pennsylvania; Dr. Miles Cary, educator, Honolulu, Hawaii; William R. Castle, former ambassador to Japan and former assistant secretary of state; Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch, provost of the University of California, Berkeley, California; Dr. Edwin Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, Chicago, Illinois; Earl M. Finch, businessman, Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Galen M. Fisher, former YMCA secretary in Japan, Orinda, California; Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, pastor emeritus, Riverside Church, New York City; Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Lester N. Granger, executive secretary, National Urban League, New York City; Dean Earl G. Harrison, former United States Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, dean of the School of Law of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;

Charles R. Hemenway, businessman, Honolulu, Hawaii; Charles E. Hughes, Jr., attorney, New York City; Mrs. Mary Ingraham, president of the National Board, Young Women's Christian Association; Dr. Rufus M. Jones, chairman, American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Robert Kenny, former Attorney General of California, Los Angeles, California; Mrs. Ruth Kingman, president, California Council for Civic Unity, Oakland, California; Rt. Rev. Arthur Kinsolving, chairman, National Committee on Christian Education, Phoenix, Arizona; Benjamin Kizer, vice-chairman, Institute of Pacific Relations, Spokane, Washington; Road Lewis, director, Common Council for American Unity, New York City; Alfred J. Lundberg, retired church leader, Oakland, California; Earnest B. MacNaughton, banker, Portland, Oregon;

John J. McCloy, former assistant secretary of war, New York City; Mrs. Burton W. Musser, former United States delegate to the Pan American Conferences, Salt Lake City, Utah; Dr. John Nason, president, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania; Bishop Edwin O'Hara, Kansas City, Missouri; Dr. James G. Patton, president, National Farmers Union, Denver, Colorado; James L. Paxton, businessman, Omaha, Nebraska; Dr. Clarence C. Pickett, secretary, American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Jacob Potofsky, president, Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, New York City; A. Philip Randolph, N.A.A.C.P. and president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, New York City; Rabbi Irving Reichert, San Francisco, California; Bishop C. Roifsnider, Pasadena, California; Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Hyde Park, New York; Walter Reuther, president, United Auto Workers Union, Detroit, Michigan; Will Rogers, Jr., newspaper publisher, Hollywood, California; Joseph Scott,

6--statement

attorney, Los Angeles, California; Lumen Shafer, chairman, Foreign Missions Conference of North America, New York City;

Dr. Jesse F. Steiner, author and Far Eastern expert, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington; Mrs. Joseph W. Stilwell, Monterey, California; Dr. Charles P. Taft, president, Federal Council of Churches of Christ, Cincinnati, Ohio; Willard S. Townsend, businessman, Chicago, Illinois; Bishop Henry St. George Tucker, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in North America, Richmond, Virginia; Dr. Henry Pitney Van Dusen, president, Union Theological Seminary, New York City; Richard J. Walsh, publisher, president, East and West Association, New York City; and Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, president emeritus, Stanford University, former Secretary of the Interior, Stanford, California.

It is interesting in this connection to note that the National Opinion Research Center of the University of Denver in their Report No. 33 pointed out that last year a public opinion poll of the people in the United States showed that twice as many of those questioned thought that the Japanese in this country who are not citizens should be granted this privilege as those who did not, with ten per cent undecided.

In the name of the soldier dead of all nationalities who died that we might have an opportunity to fashion a better America and a greater world of peace, justice, and equality for all, we urge the immediate removal of the racial bars in our federal naturalization and immigration laws as a small yet significant step in the right direction. In the name of our loyal parents who have demonstrated through the years every qualification of exemplary Americanism, we petition this Subcommittee to initiate now the necessary action to grant them their last remaining desire: citizenship in the country of their adoption and of their children's birth.

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

Southern California Regional Office  
258 East First Street  
Los Angeles 12  
MAdison 6-4471

*Enclosed in  
3-7-49 letter*

RE: HR 199, Equality in  
Naturalization and Immigration

On March 1, 1949, the House of Representatives passed by an overwhelming voice vote HR 199, Equality in Naturalization and Immigration. This bill will open up the naturalization procedures to those who are now ineligible because of their racial background. The following are excerpts from the speeches made by California Congressmen on the floor of the House of Representatives in support of this bill. The statement made by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. of New York regarding the atmosphere of the House was so remarkable that it is also included here.

Mr. POWELL. Mr. Chairman, to rise in the midst of this atmosphere and propose an amendment does not sit well on my conscience, because, frankly, I have never seen such a fine atmosphere of good will and brotherhood in terms of race relations since I have been in Congress, and I want to compliment everyone. I was just saying to one of my colleagues that 20 years ago a bill like this introduced in this body would have torn these seats up. I want to congratulate everyone for his wholehearted endorsement of this excellent bill.

Mr. Leroy JOHNSON, Stockton. Mr. Chairman, I want to say a few words on behalf of this bill. We have had a long history of irritation and conflict with oriental peoples in California which I believe this bill will solve. As the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. Judd) mentioned a short time ago we first had it during the gold rush days and during the railroad construction days in the sixties and seventies. It finally culminated in 1898, I believe, when Mr. Geary, a Member of Congress from the first district authorized the anti-Chinese legislation which was passed. Later on we had the Japanese problem. They were coming to California in great numbers prior to the First World War. We were fearful that because of their rapid increase in population, they would overwhelm the white race. I am frank to say that I was one of those who had that fear. In 1920 I was a member of the delegation from California which went to the national convention of the American Legion. The delegation was instrumental in having a resolution passed by the national convention of the American Legion providing that in the future no more immigrants should be allowed from those countries whose nationals were not eligible to become citizens. Later the 1924 immigration act was passed which excluded orientals from citizenship. But curiously time and evolution have solved the problem that worried us, which was based on the Japanese birth rate. In 1920 we projected the birthrate of Japanese forward about 50 years, and thought that in that period, due to their large families they would equal the white population. The result that followed, as far as the American-born Japanese, was the Japanese became thoroughly Americanized. The best proof of it was that they began to have small families with one, two or three children just like the white Americans. As they were educated and lifted their standards of living, they became more American in every way. Their birthrate decreased. For instance, Paul Scharrenberg, a great labor leader in California, advocated that they be given a quota and that we recognize that they were people who were worthy of becoming Americans and that they had the capacity of becoming thoroughly Americanized in every way.

With the small quota provided in this bill we need have no fear that any of the group involved will flood our country. We will have to admit, I think, that this is a one-way street.

There are no Americans who want to migrate to Japan or to the islands of the Pacific, but those people will want to migrate to our country where they will have better opportunities for a broader and freer life.

We are trying to build good will around the world. I say to you that you cannot do it by picking out certain races because of their color, nationality, or other reasons and barring them from the privileges that we accord to other peoples throughout the world. That is the merit of this legislation. By this legislation we are recognizing that this group of people are human beings just as we are. They are human beings just like the Germans, the Italians, the Scandinavians and the Irish who came to America and who have had a big part in making America what it is. If we accord this new group equal treatment, we hope that we will plant the seeds of friendship and the seeds of good will which will help us to build this world into a peaceful world. That is the all-important problem before our

country, namely, to find some way to get stability in the world. We want to find some way to get peace in the world, and this is one step in that direction. That is why I favor this legislation. This step by us will give hope and happiness to many people in all parts of the world.

Mr. Chet HOLIFIELD, Los Angeles. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of HR 199. I believe that this bill is a worthy one, and that its passage is long overdue. It seems to me that it is a matter of basic justice that we give to the permanent alien residents of the United States the right to become naturalized citizens. I am also in agreement with the principle that immigration quotas should be established for the people now excluded in the Asian and Pacific areas.

This bill will make it possible for the fathers, mothers, and other relatives of boys who served in the American armed forces in the recent World War II, to become American citizens. In my particular district, the largest racial group which will be affected will be those of Japanese ancestry. There are, at this time, living in my district many of the Japanese-American veterans who won undying fame in the famous 442nd Regiment. There are also buried in the cemeteries of my district many of the Japanese American soldiers who gave their lives in defense of our country.

Surely these boys have demonstrated their loyalty to the Government of the United States. Surely it is a matter of plain justice that their relatives be allowed to put on the cloak of citizenship of the country for which their sons fought and died.

I am personally acquainted with many of the Japanese Americans who live in my district and I want especially to mention the East Los Angeles Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. I have met with these young people and have discussed their problems with them. I know that they are worthy citizens of our great country. Their loyalty and their ability to contribute in the years to come will aid greatly in carrying out the principles of our democracy. I am proud to have them as constituents of the 19th Congressional District of California and I am proud to stand on the floor today and ask my colleagues to vote for HR 199 which allows their relatives now residing in the United States to become naturalized citizens and establishes immigration quotas for other individuals from the land of their racial origin.

The number of people affected in my district probably would not amount to over three or four hundred. There might be 500 in my congressional district. So they are not a great political factor in any election in my district. I do not come here to plead their cause from that standpoint. I plead their cause because I think that a principle of real democracy is involved in this question.

Historically, the people of the State of California have shown a great antipathy toward the Japanese people. A great deal of this antipathy goes back to the early gold-rush days and more recently it was caused by their economic competition in the field of vegetable, fruit, and flower growing. Farm organizations and farmer groups were against the Japanese people because they could outproduce and outcompete in the field of agricultural production. But after the war was over and the Japanese American people in California proved their loyalty to the country, that feeling began to die down. Now there are only just a few individuals here and there, and one or two rock-ribbed reactionary groups that are against this particular bill. Our great Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce is in favor of this particular bill with the limits of the committee amendments.

Mr. George MILLER, Alameda. Mr. Chairman, this is a good bill. This bill knocks in the head the theory of superior races. This bill is opposed to the theory advanced by Hitler's Germany and the war lords of Japan and accepts the American theory of equality. It puts into effect the Christian principle of the dignity of man. Man was made in the likeness of his Maker, and the Christian theory does not teach that the pigments in a man's skin or his racial origin are a basis of judgment.

This is a good bill. It is a bill that will make for better understanding and peace, a better understanding of the peoples of the great Pacific Basin, whose good will we must cultivate and have. We on the Pacific coast know these people. We know the Japanese particularly. We are proud of their service to this country during the war. They were given the acid test and were not found wanting. I think the best evidence of that was established last year when the Board of Supervisors of the City of San Francisco passed a memorial urging the adoption of the predecessor of this bill. An editorial later appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, one of the oldest and foremost papers on the Pacific coast, urging the adoption of this bill.

I think this marks a new era in legislation of this type and character. That era commenced with the passage of the bill that set up the token Chinese quota. It was enhanced by the passage of the bill that set up the token quota for the East Indian

people. We now complete it by removing immigration restrictions on the people of the Pacific triangle. This is a bill that, if enacted into law, will bring great good to this country in the future.

Mr. Gordon MCDONOUGH, Hollywood. Mr. Chairman, I wish to call attention to the fact that if there is an area in the United States that would be opposed to this type of legislation, where it affects Chinese and Japanese, it might be the State of California. But on the contrary, it is just the reverse there.

I have resolutions from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, which endorsed the bill when it was before the committee a year ago, who reassert their same feeling about it at this time, and recommend that this bill be passed.

Similar resolutions have been passed by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, which represents the business interests of the community, endorsing the bill, and endorsing it in the belief that under the present restrictions, Japanese who are not privileged to become citizens of the United States, are working under a very severe handicap and that this legislation would relieve that situation.

I just wanted to impress that on the committee, from an area of the United States which felt the impact of Pearl Harbor perhaps more than any other section of the United States. Where we had to resort to reallocation of some 36,000 families of Japanese origin into relocation camps and then out of those camps, many of these boys born in the United States, born of Japanese alien parents, entered the United States armed services and came out of the war with fine records and have now returned to their homes and are seeking to relieve their parents of the embarrassment of denial of citizenship, which this bill would provide.

The fact that these people are racially ineligible for citizenship automatically denies them many privileges. In California these aliens are barred from such occupations as law, real estate, insurance, teaching in public schools and civil service. They cannot become dictors, dentists, public accountants, pharmacists or registered nurses. The most controversial of these restrictions are those of the California Alien Land Law that prevents these aliens from owning or leasing real property. This law was difficult to enforce and has been the center of much controversy. On January 19, 1948 the United States Supreme Court rendered a decision involving one of these land cases--Oyama against State of California--that has made it virtually impossible to enforce legally strict compliance with the California land law. The attorney general of California has announced that as a result of this decision, the State will not proceed with other similar cases. In the Oyama case the alien Japanese provided the money, but his citizen son took title to the land. However, California's attorney general has stated that the decision of some of the Supreme Court Justices was such that he doubts the wisdom of prosecuting cases even if title were taken by a stranger on behalf of the alien.

This development naturally minimizes the practical effect this proposed bill would have in relation to our alien land laws. Representatives of a large local title company concur in this view.

In conclusion it appears that this bill as it relates to the aliens now in this country would not have any serious effects on our community

**DECLARATION OF EVACUATION LOSSES FILED WITH THE LEGAL RIGHTS  
DEFENSE COMMITTEE OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE**

I, ....., American citizen .....  
American Resident of Japanese ancestry

**1. PRESENT MAILING ADDRESS:**

(hereby register this declaration of losses resulting from evacuation un-  
(der Executive Order 9066, dated Feb. 19, 1942. This statement is com-  
(piled to the best of my recollection and knowledge and is subject to  
(revision. This loss compilation is directly attributable to Executive  
(Order 9066 and not by reason of war, military service or business condi-  
(tions. Evacuation, based on ancestral origin, caused unduly dispropor-  
(tionate property damages, as compared to the normal wartime experience  
(of the unevacuated population.)

**2. PRESENT OCCUPATION:**

**3. AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BIRTHDATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BIRTHPLACE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4. MY DEPENDENTS**      Name      Relationship      Male      Female      Age      Remarks

- ARE: 1. ....  
2. ....  
3. / ....  
4. ....  
5. ....  
6. ....

**5. PRE-EVACUATION OCCUPATION OR BUSINESS:**

**6. " HOME OR FARM ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**7. " BUSINESS ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**8. NUMBER OF YEARS ESTABLISHED IN ABOVE LIVELIHOOD:** \_\_\_\_\_ **IN ABOVE LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**9. ESTIMATED PRESENT ANNUAL INCOME \$** \_\_\_\_\_, as of date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Note: If return is recent, estimate the average income received  
( for the actual period since return and project it for a year.)

**10. COMMENTS ON PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE IMPROVEMENT IN EARNING POWER WITHOUT ASSISTANCE:** .....

Soon: \_\_\_\_\_ Eventually: \_\_\_\_\_ None: \_\_\_\_\_

**11. MARKED DETERIORATION IN HEALTH DIRECTLY RESULTING FROM EVACUATION OF SELF OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ **Medical Attention \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** .....

**12. ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL INCOME:** 1936 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1937 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1938 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
1939 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1940 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1941 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Compiled from Income Tax records , Sales Tax Records , or other  
(documents . Calculated to the best of my recollection with the  
(aid of family members .)

**13. AMOUNT OF PARTIAL SUBSISTENCE GAINED FROM FARM, BUSINESS OR EMPLOYMENT:**

1936 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1937 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1938 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
1939 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1940 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; 1941 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**In Farming At Evacuation Time:**

**14. CROP VALUE \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOLD FOR \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**15. FARM WORTH \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOLD FOR \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**16. HOME WORTH \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOLD FOR \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**17. EQUIPMENT \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOLD FOR \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Calculation of Loss In Leasing:**

**18. FARM RENTAL WORTH \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **LEASED AT \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **ANNUAL LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**19. HOME RENTAL WORTH \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **LEASED AT \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **ANNUAL LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**20. EQUIPMENT " " \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **LEASED AT \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **ANNUAL LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Number of Acres Operation:**

Crop      Acreage      Market Value      Crop      Acreage      Market Value

**21.** .....  
**22.** .....  
**23.** .....

**24. ORCHARD NEGLECT:** Years needed to return to normalcy \_\_\_\_\_ **Yearly Loss \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**25. GREENHOUSE, COOPS, EQUIPMENT DETERIORATION:** Repairs require \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**26. REESTABLISHMENT IN OPERATION TO FORMER CONDITION REQUIRES \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**27. Comment:**

**28. FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS WORTH \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOLD FOR \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
Present replacement cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**29. HOUSE WORTH \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOLD FOR \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**30. HOUSE RENTAL WORTH \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **RENTED FOR \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **FROM** \_\_\_\_\_ **TO** \_\_\_\_\_  
**LOSS \$** \_\_\_\_\_

In Business At Evacuation Time:

- 31. TOTAL VALUE OF BUSINESS, INCLUDING ALL ASSETS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 32. SOLD FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 33. FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ SOLD FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 34. INVENTORY VALUE \$ \_\_\_\_\_ SOLD FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 35. GOING VALUE, GOOD WILL WORTH \$ \_\_\_\_\_ SOLD FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 36. Total Number of Workers \_\_\_\_\_; Annual Volume of Business \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 37. REAL PROPERTY WORTH \$ \_\_\_\_\_ SOLD FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 38. COSTS OF LIQUIDATING BUSINESS, FIXTURES, INVENTORY.....LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 39. COSTS OF NEGOTIATING NEW ARRANGEMENTS, ATTORNEY'S FEES.....LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 40. STORAGE CHARGES, CUSTODIAN'S FEES.....LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 41. Time spent in liquidating assets and business details.....LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Calculation of Loss in Leasing or Absentee Management:
- 42. ESTIMATED AMOUNT LOST 1942 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 1943 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 43. BY MILITARY EXCLUSION 1944 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 1945 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 44. In Service Business or Profession, Earning Power Was Stopped: Yes  No
- 45. Clientele Has Been Lost By Evacuation: Yes  No
- 46. Number of Years In Building Clientele \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Income Loss \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 47. Equipment, Tools WORTH \$ \_\_\_\_\_ SOLD FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_
- LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 48. TOTAL COST OF EVACUATING MY FAMILY.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 49. Cost of medical inoculations.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 50. Crating, drayage, freight charges.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 51. Total warehousing charges.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 52. Special purchases of trunks, suitcases, trailer, outdoor clothes, shoes, etc.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 53. Purchase of car or truck for voluntary evacuation.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 54. Motoring expenses to destination.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 55. Bus, rail fares and other expenses.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 56. TOTAL COSTS OF LIVING IN THE RELOCATION CENTER.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 57. Purchases made to furnish barracks.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 58. Clothes bought, clothing allowance received.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 59. Shoes brought, shoe allowance received.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 60. Foodstuffs bought to supplement mess fare.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 61. Books, medications, recreational equipment, notions bought....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 62. Wage allowance received for center work.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 63. TOTAL COST OF RESETTLEMENT FROM A RELOCATION CENTER.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 64. Travel grant received or personal funds expended.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 65. Subsistence allowance received or personal funds.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 66. Cost of Personal Effects Bought.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 67. Cost of Furnishings Purchased.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 68. Costs involved in starting in business, occupation.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 69. Costs of idleness while seeking employment, opportunities.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 70. TOTAL COSTS OF RETURN TO THE WEST COAST.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 71. Travel grant received or transportation costs.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 72. Costs of idleness while seeking housing, job.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 73. Costs of renovating, repairs.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 74. Costs of reestablishment.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 75. Costs in buying a house.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 76. Costs of buying furniture, household effects.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 77. ESTIMATED LOSSES DUE TO LOOTING, RANSACKING, VANDALISM, DEFAACEMENT \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Of personal, real and tangible property resulting from evacuation.  
(Not including normal depreciation, wear and tear)
- 78. ESTIMATED LOSSES DUE TO MISMANAGEMENT, REMOTE CONTROL, FALSIFIED REPORTS, FORCED SALES, FRAUDS, MISREPRESENTATION.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 79. COSTS OF PROPERTY INSPECTION & BUSINESS TRIPS during the period of Military Exclusion, including roundtrip expenses, escort costs.\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 80. ANY OTHER EXPENSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF EVACUATION not covered above. Detail sheets, schedules, comments may be attached. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby solemnly swear (or affirm) that the answers to the foregoing questions are as accurate as my recollection and knowledge make possible. This statement is made for the purposes of an evacuation loss survey and is not a claim for compensation.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
WITNESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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Meeting of Advisory Board of the Japanese American Citizens League  
417 Market Street, San Francisco, California, December 15, 1945, 10:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman, Allen C. Blaisdell, Galen M. Fisher,  
Josephine Blivenock, Joe Masaska, Ruth W. Kingman,  
Lawrence Hewes.

Report on present program of Regional J.A.C.L. of Joe Masaska.

Program divided into two parts

1. Public Relations: giving publicity to favorable government actions, interpreting community attitudes to returnees, particularly to J.S.A. etc.

2. Social Action:

a) Development of Japanese Am. Civil Rights Union, to raise \$125,000 to fight escheat cases.

b) Assistance to individuals, often involving time and travel.

Foundation Grants made to J.A.C.L. on basis of

1. Service to wives + parents.
2. Reactivation of J.A.C.L. units.

General Discussion re program described:

Subject: Reactivation of J.A.C.L. Chapters

1. J.A.C.L. trying to get returnees recognized as individuals as residents of this country, not merely as emissaries of good will in J.A. population.
2. Training for integration best accomplished thru development of J.A.C.L. chapters.
3. Former leaders now relocated in east.
4. Potential leaders only 17-20 yrs of age - badly in need of advice + guidance.
5. Present process promotional. Former growth occurred from leadership-down, now from membership-up to leadership.

Subject: Self support a goal of J.A.C.L.

1. Pattern set in Hawaii - at first had to receive help - now entirely self support, may take 2 years in California.

motion.

Mention made by Mrs. Kingman early in meeting in near future of J.A.C.L. and of Japanese American Citizens League. Also mention made by Mr. Hewes.

2. Support of Foundations, granted for 2 yr. period should be gradually decreased.

3. J.A.C.C. difficulties due to:

a) Distrust of Issei + some Issei of J.A.C.C. policies in support of gov. at time of war.

b) All presently obtain-able funds needed for DeWanee assistance and 2) ex-hat cases.

Subject: Membership of Caucasians in J.A.C.C.

Question: Should Caucasians be active in J.A.C.C.

2. Should J.A.C.C. members concentrate only on J.A.C.C. activities or should they enter other groups as individuals or as J.A.C.C. Representatives?

Discussion: 1. J.A.C.C. feel that group participation will be possible after adjustment of return.  
2. Nisei who are retiring, still need leadership of J.A.C.C. before they will take part in other activities.

Subject: Japanese American Civil Rights Union.

Question: How are funds handled?

Answer: How. thru office of J.A.C.C. later will be under committee selected by group.

Suggestion (Fisher) - Formation + basis for organization should be put in writing immediately.

Subject: Membership dues of J.A.C.C.

Discussion: 1. All membership dues should be credited to J.A.C.C. as such figures indicate popular support. Of interest to Foundation.

2. Same for contributions of Issei.

Subject: Financial accounts of J.A.C.C.

Suggestion: Professional help should be requested from Rosemary Foundation.

Suggestion: Local office should provide evidence that local membership should assist regional office.

Question: Has J.A.C.C. been able to tap resources (ed. note - local legal aid etc.) to help support needy cases?

Answer: Yes, involving approx. \$50,000.

Motion by Mr. Hertz recorded <sup>by Fisher</sup> & carried - requested Mr. Maszoka

to put on paper the entire organizational  
and financial structure of the plans of  
the Japanese American Relief Union to raise  
\$125,000 for the escheat cases.

Resolution made earlier by Mr. Kijin, re meeting with Quaker  
Foundation representatives, with drawing <sup>by Mrs. Kigin</sup> until such  
time as further information is available. Mr. Kew  
Motion made by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Kew, request  
Mr. Masuda to develop and set down a plan (tentative)  
for the financing of J.A.R.U. for 3 years, indicating  
an increasing degree of self support in the last  
year.

Adjournment, at 12:20 p.m.

Presented to New York Conference on Japanese American Resettlement  
J A C L O B J E C T I V E S  
A NATIONAL PROGRAM OF RECONVERSION AND REHABILITATION FOR  
JAPANESE AMERICANS

1. RE-AFFIRMATION OF FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066:  
A continuing federal agency is needed to administer terminal problems resulting from people displaced by federal decision. Among considerations are:

- a) No evictions from present public housing until other dwellings are made available.
- b) Family housing at public housing projects for returnees, now living in emergency hostels or cramped with friends, on the basis of their being distressed war dislocatees.
- c) An assistance fund to provide for aged persons who cannot qualify for categorical aid in their respective states because of alien status, and for other evacuees incapable of self-support.
- d) Individual processing, re-training and placement for those finding adjustment to self-support difficult.
- e) Future releases of factual information to counteract the stigma and discriminations engendered against the entire population of American citizens and residents of Japanese descent by the operation of Executive Order No. 9066.
- f) Reestablishment assistance for potentially self-sustaining returnees.
- g) Amelioration of hardship cases: FOR INSTANCE, Oct. 30, 1945:  
REPORT OF SCOTTY H. TSUCHIYA, REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE JACL  
L o s A n g e l e s , C a l .

"In the case of Mr. Watanabe, 86 years old, and Mrs. Watanabe, 84 years old, blind, deaf and body half paralyzed, Mr. Watanabe begged that his wife not be put in the hospital because she cannot speak the English language. He is fearful, should they be separated now, his wife's condition would only grow worse and she would pass away within a short time from loneliness. (Watanabe not being a hospital case would not be able to stay with his wife.)

"Mr. Watanabe's one and only wish is for a small place where the bedroom, latrine and bathroom are under one roof.

"He told us, he does not wish to go to the Trailer camp because going there...the latrine and bath house is outside and community shared. There he would not be allowed to carry his wife into the Men's latrine and bath house, nor would he be allowed in the Women's section. He said that, at least, at Lomita being among Japanese people and their knowing his problem, he can go in and out of the Men and Women's section without uneasiness.

"Also, there are three very narrow steps at the only entrance of the Trailer. The door is narrow, which would make it very difficult and dangerous for Mr. Watanabe to carry his wife through the door and attempt the narrow steps. The latrine and bath house also have steps as the Trailers are all elevated off the ground.

"Mrs. Fujii, 64 years old. Arthritis has deformed the fingers of both her hands as well as toes and feet. She has no power of moving and cannot put her shoes on herself or dress herself. Mr. Fujii has to go with her to the latrine, help her remove the crutches from under her arm and has to seat her on the toilet and then has to help her get up. They refused the trailer on the same basis as Mr. Watanabe.

"Mr. Fujii said his wife could not pass through the narrow door of the Trailer on crutches and by no means can she descend or ascend the narrow steps on crutches; she has a difficult enough time to walk on level ground...

"The rainy weather is here now and we are having two days of it. We had a call from the Air Strip in Lomita this morning in regards to the unsanitary condition everyone is confronted with there. There are only three latrine units to serve the 600 in the Lomita Air Strip. There are 6 toilets and 6 laundry tubs to one unit. No disinfectants are provided for the latrines. The laundry tubs are used by the people to wash clothes,

wash dishes, baby bottles, baby chambers, bathe babies, etc., as no other facilities are provided for this need. Three latrine units are not adequate to serve 600 people and they wanted us to do something about it."

REPORT OF JOE GRANT MASAOKA, REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, J A C L  
S a n F r a n c i s c o , C a l . Nov. 2, 1945.

"Aged, incapacitated, unemployable and indigent returnees receiving county welfare find their \$33.85 (female) and \$31.85 (male) dependency allowances insufficient to cover their monthly expenses of \$43 for board and rent. The same deficiency plagues indigent hostel residents. Private cooking is prohibited in both project and hostel. QUESTION: How can the \$8 monthly shortage be made up?

"Freight shipments 3,000 miles away are made cost-free but deliveries within a 25 mile radius are chargeable to the evacuee. This drayage of property within a 25 mile area of rail head or warehouse is assumed by the WRA only if a pauper's oath is signed.

"WRA warehouses are scheduled to close around April 1, 1946. Evacuee property must be accepted before this date, although it is expected many evacuees will still have to be living in cramped quarters where storage space is impossible.

"Big family fathers of 8, 9, 10, and 11 find themselves faced with a daily food bill of \$1 per head while in the housing projects or hostels. As farmers they made ends meet, but as wage earners and common laborers, how can their paychecks cover enough for food, rent, clothing, and the numerous incidentals?

\* \* \*

2. SUPREME COURT CONSTITUTIONALITY OF LAND SEIZURES UNDER ALIEN LAND LAW TO BE TESTED

- a) It is based upon race discrimination. Japanese Americans are the only group appreciably affected.
- b) Denies the equal protection of laws (14th Amendment) to Japanese Americans, since it is Nisei lands which are under escheat proceedings, made possible by the California Alien Land Law.
- c) It imputes unfair presumptions of bad faith in the acquirement of real estate.
- d) Establishment of a statute of limitations is called for.

3. SEEK UNBIASED ISSUANCES OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

- a) Constitutional rights of citizens and foreign born, who are legally restricted from gaining naturalization, should be upheld.
- b) Denials due to national origin place an undue hardship on dependents who are American citizens.

4. RACE RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS STUNT AMERICANIZATION IDEALS

- a) Legal housing segregations are an unlawful combination in restraint of American documentary principles.
- b) Minority members are kept from attaining homes in keeping with aspirations and personal standards.

5. RE-DETERMINATION OF EVACUATION CONSTITUTIONALITY BY SUPREME COURT

- a) Free men are faced with an unprecedented power, placed in the hands of the military, which can be wielded in a threatening fashion against the civil liberties of other groups.
- b) Now freed from the constraint of military urgency, the Supreme Court ought to be given the opportunity to reverse its "legalization of racism," particularly in view of the war record of Japanese American and the tactical potentialities of atomic bomb offense.
- c) Just as the commanders of Pearl Harbor are subject to court martial for their military shortcomings, Gen. John L. DeWitt should be cross-examined for his "race theory" decision. Left unchallenged, it poses under the guise of military authority similar inhumanity to other groups.

6. COMPENSATION FOR LOSSES SUFFERED BY REASON OF EVACUATION
  - a) Disproportionate financial damages, as compared to other civilian war losses, were inflicted upon evacuees by Executive Order No. 9066. Subsequent confinement to centers stopped their further earning power.
  - b) A bi-partisan congressional committee to study losses occasioned by Executive Order 9066 would be advisable in view of the needy situation of many evacuees.
  - c) Congressional passage of a special act would enable restitution and indemnification in the Court of Claims.
  - d) The carrying out of Executive Order No. 9066 was a positive order directed against members of one race, penalizing them solely on the basis of ancestral origin. Expropriation and common thievery of their properties resulted.
7. DISCRIMINATORY CASUALTY INSURANCE RATES SHOULD BE ABOLISHED
  - a) Alleged higher risks should be disproved through hearings held by legislative Interim Committees and the state Insurance Commissioner.
  - b) Japanese Americans pay premium surcharges from 50% to 300%, or are faced with refusals for public liability and property damage.
8. NISEI ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION DESIRABLE
  - a) Possible barriers to full enjoyment of the GI Bill of Rights and Benefits by Nisei soldiers can be cleared more readily by a Japanese American administrative officer.
  - b) Problems of Nisei GI's are further complicated by the dislocation of their families by evacuation.
9. WORKMEN'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SHOULD BE SOUGHT
  - a) Workers unemployed by the circumstance of the Pacific war received unemployment compensation until they were placed in relocation centers when payments ceased. The interrupted benefits should be continued for the period set by law.
10. RE-INSTATEMENT OF NISEI CIVIL SERVICE WORKERS SHOULD BE FACILITATED
11. NON-RECOGNITION OF CABLE ACT SHOULD BE REVERSED
  - a) Federal legislation permitting Nisei women married to Issei to retain their citizenship has been over-ruled by a state court on the basis of alleged dual citizenship.
12. NAVY ENLISTMENT PROHIBITION TO NISEI SHOULD BE RETRACTED
13. FEDERAL, STATE, MUNICIPAL FEPC SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED

\* \* \*

F o r   A M E R I C A N   R E S I D E N T S   O F   J A P A N E S E  
A N C E S T R Y

1. CITIZENSHIP THRU NATURALIZATION FOR ISSEI SHOULD BE SECURED
  - a) With an act establishing Chinese eligibility to citizenship, and a Filipino and East Indian's enabling act pending, American residents of Japanese descent should be considered under an "accepting" legislative bill for naturalization.
2. DEPORTATION OF ALIENS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS
  - a) Japanese nationals who are detained should have their deportation reviewed under judicial proceedings where legal evidence, rather than supposition and allegation, can control the determination. Many such aliens have sons in the United States Army.
  - b) International merchants who are Japanese aliens engaged in trade with Japan become subject to deportation orders. Deprivation of the family head and chief support works an especial hardship upon dependents who are American citizens.
3. REPARATIONS COMMISSION SEIZURES OF PROPERTY SHOULD BE LEGALLY DETERMINED
  - a) Issei, inadmissible to citizenship, have had their properties subject to the jurisdiction of Federal Reserve Blocked

Accounts and the Alien Property Custodian. As long-time residents of their adopted country, any confiscation of their properties by the Allied Reparations Commission should be on the basis of their essential allegiance, as determined by judicial procedure. Not only the Issei but his children and dependents who are American citizens are affected. The sanctity of any impairment to the self respect of those with American Citizenship must be examined closely.

4. FISH AND GAME CODE ISSEI RESTRICTIONS ARE DISCRIMINATORY

- a) The California state legislature revised its state fish and game codes to prohibit aliens of Japanese descent from engaging in commercial or sport fishing. Not only does it keep life-long Issei fishermen from engaging in the only livelihood they know but Nisei fishermen cannot go to sea so long as the Issei boat-owners are barred.

5. REVOCAION OF CONTRABAND PROHIBITIONS IS TIMELY

- a) Refusing release of radios, flashlights, knives, bows and arrows, swords and cameras to Issei seems illogical when Nisei can have and operate such articles in the same home as their Issei parents. Wartime security measures become senseless when they are needlessly prolonged.

6. REMOVAL OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS JUSTIFIABLE BY CESSATION OF WAR

- a) Confining aliens of Japanese descent on a mass basis, even though individually their sons may have set a brilliant war record, is no longer justifiable. Issei are still permitted to move about only within a five-mile radius of their home.

Los Angeles



# VANGUARD

Vol. 1, No. 2

Los Angeles, California

September, 1947

## Fred Fertig Appointed Full-Time Executive Secretary of Chapter

One of the major plans made at the "Leaders' Advance" in July was carried out on August 8 when Fred Fertig was engaged as full-time executive secretary of the Los Angeles JACL Chapter. His desk is in the Regional Office.

In announcing Fertig's appointment, the cabinet and committee heads said they believed their choice was a wise one because of Fertig's years of background in sociological work with Japanese and other racial groups. His wide range of contacts with civic organizations as well as inter-racial groups is expected by the leaders to prove invaluable to the local Chapter in furthering its program.

In taking office, Fertig said he was intrigued with the possibilities the position afforded him. "The JACL by its very nature will be the major agency of developing community unity," he declared. "It is especially important they develop unity to combat prejudices as a minority," he stated.

The new executive secretary welcomed criticism and emphasized that the services of his office were open to everyone.

For further comments by Executive Secretary Fred Fertig, see his letter to the editor in the column "PUBLIC OPINION" on Page 2 of this issue.

Fertig was graduated from Chapman College of this city in 1936. He then attended the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif., for three years.

He served as pastor of Nisei churches in Northern and Southern California for six years. (Continued on Page 8)

## Senator Tsukiyama to Be Representative in Case for Statehood

Senator Wilfred Tsukiyama (R.), Hawaii's only Senator of Japanese ancestry will be one of the representatives to Washington, D.C., when the Territory presents its case for statehood, according to his daughter Doris, who visited here for a fortnight the latter part of August.

Senator Tsukiyama represents the Nuanu District of Honolulu. He was elected to office in November, 1946. Previously, he was district attorney of Honolulu.

Whether Senator Tsukiyama will support Dewey, Stassen or Warren as the Republican Party's candidate for President in 1948 was not known by his daughter, since she says her father is "keeping mum" on this subject.

Miss Tsukiyama is enroute to New York City where she will attend a beauty culture school.



FRED FERTIG

## Movies of Occupied Japan Feature Monthly Local League Gathering; Fertig Introduced

Movies of occupied Japan featured the monthly meeting of the Los Angeles JACL Chapter held on August 21 in the Miyako Hotel Conference Room. Reed Lawton, formerly an interpreter and an adjutant with the war crimes trials in Tokyo, gave a running commentary with the showing of the films which he took. Lawton is presently director and owner of a linguistic institute in this city.

Chapter President Frank Chuman introduced Fred Fertig, newly-appointed full-time executive secretary, to the members. Fertig said the

three questions asked him most during his brief time in office were: 1. How do you like the job? 2. Aren't you discouraged already? 3. What's the matter with the JACL?

Eiji Tanabe, Southern California representative of the National JACL, reported on the five-day national staff meeting held in Salt Lake City August 13 to 17. He revealed that the staff had unanimously recommended JACL membership for the Issei.

Richard Itanaga, co-editor of the VANGUARD, spoke briefly on the problems and policies of the publication.

## MASAOKA WHISKS IN AND OUT OF CITY IN A DAY

Mike Masaoka, legislative director of the Anti-Discrimination Committee, was here briefly on August 26.

Arriving in the early afternoon by plane from San Francisco, he attended a leaders' dinner meeting at 5 p.m. and a general gathering at 8 p.m.

Masaoka then left by air at 11 for Washington, D. C.

## Hawaiian Members of 442nd Prove Claims Made Over Nostalgic Glasses of Spirits

The 442nd Combat Team's Island members sent two convincing reasons to prove that their oft-repeated "no can beat Hawaiian wahines" statements made over reminiscent tumbblers of vino and cognac were not idle boasts. The reasons arrived here in mid-August by Clipper in the sylphlike forms of Blanche Jikaku and Jane Udo, 442nd queens from Honolulu and Hilo, respectively.

They were chosen in May by ticket sales vote at similar carnivals held in Honolulu and Hilo. Proceeds from the enterprises will go toward the erection of living war memorials in the form of elaborate club houses in the two cities for veterans of all races and creeds.

The queens had been roused from a sound sleep for the interview by Fred Matsuo, live-wire director of the Hawaiian "Takarazuka" troupe, who has been beating the publicity drums for them.

Both were smartly dressed in suits out of Hawaii's most exclusive shops. They answered questions graciously and effectively parried many of this writers' ideas of witty verbal thrusts.

Both girls are rather tall for Nisei, 21-year-old Miss Jikaku is 5 feet 4 and a half inches tall and 20 year old Miss Udo is but an inch shorter.

Miss Udo is a secretary (Continued on Page 8)

## COMBAT TEAM QUEENS SURROUND MAYOR



"We've come a long way from home," says Jane Udo (right), 442nd queen from Hilo, Hawaii, to Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles as Blanche Jikaku, the Combat Team's queen from Honolulu, Oahu, smilingly looks on.

--PHOTO COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

## Many Beneficial Bills Introduced In First Session

More than 200 bills designed to benefit persons of Japanese ancestry were introduced during the First Session of the 80th Congress, according to Mike Masaoka, national Anti-Discrimination Committee legislative director. The session was adjourned July 27.

Legislation on immigration and naturalization relating to persons of Japanese ancestry received by the Senate numbered 29 public and 38 private bills, while the House were recipients of 38 public and 82 private bills.

Four bills, two private and two public, which Masaoka says specifically benefited persons of Japanese ancestry, were passed during the past session and signed by President Truman.

The first public bill passed was the First Deficiency Appropriations Bill, which included a section indemnifying 97 former Poston and Manzanar residents for losses sustained through fires in the centers.

The other public bill to become law was the legislation permitting inadmissible alien spouses of American veterans or servicemen to enter this country for permanent residence provided they were married within 30 days after the enactment of the act. The bill was signed on July 22. This was the first time since the Oriental Exclusion Act of 1924 that Congress has made a

### Progressive Program Planned

Out of the "Leaders' Advance" held in July emerged the post-war policy and program of the Los Angeles JAACL Chapter. It is gratifying to note the dinner-meetings did live up to its theme. Advances were made. The participants did not allow the discussions to retrogress or be braked to a standstill by ostentatious double-talk so common in gatherings of this nature. Instead, problems were attacked in a direct, crisp manner.

A healthy and promising sign of progress was the apparent determination of the leaders to follow an objective rather than a subjective program. From the wording of the aims of the Chapter, it is evident the policy makers are striving to have local persons of Japanese ancestry abandon their pre-war and present isolationists' ways. Community integration is being stressed. This attitude was actively applied during the "advance" when community leaders of other races took part in the confabs.

An active program is being planned to foster increased community participation by Nisei in joint socials, study groups and work shops. Vocational opportunities will be actively promoted. In order to help Japanese Americans acquire a sense of security in community affairs, the Chapter will sponsor study groups in Nisei psychology.

A proposal to sponsor a medical center, home for the aged, orphans' home and similar activities, as Issei organizations did before the war, was defeated. Instead, more

### THE HUB OF NISEI PROGRESS



efficient ways of referring persons of Japanese ancestry to community welfare services are being worked out. It is pleasing to note this cosmopolitan attitude has been adopted and the old method of "looking after our own kind" has been cast aside. For the solving of such problems, there should be a joining in with the general community.

Along with this objective trend of community consciousness is the heartening recognition that the Nisei is not a special case. The Japanese American has many problems in common with other minority groups. Cooperation in the fight for abolition of discriminative measures whenever possible is obviously the best means of success rather than an individual struggle.

Techniques for carrying on an efficient public relations program are being developed. The JAACL's program must be properly publicized in order to favorably impress the community and beat down prejudice. The Nisei as a personality must be "sold" in order to gain unprejudiced but uninformed persons as friends.

In order to facilitate the entire program, Fred Fertig, an individual with a wealth of background in inter-racial and community activities, has been engaged as full-time executive secretary.

However, the success of this ambitious program, no matter how well-planned or executed, is doomed to failure unless the Nisei shed their cloaks of apathy, roll up their sleeves and make a sincere effort to carry out the progressive plans born of the "Leaders' Advance."

### The President's Corner

By Frank Chuman

Eight months have gone by since the formal reactivation of the Los Angeles Chapter. Time has fled swiftly and silently by, not "on wings of song" perhaps, so much as on wings of pressing problems.

It was a hardy cabinet member indeed, who, upon his first meeting with his other newly elected members back in the bleak days of January, 1947, did not think as he saw the months stretch interminably ahead in his year of imposed duty, of how he or they as cabinet members could ever hope to wrest order and cohesion, form, substance and direction from a sprawling metropolitan organization which had lain dormant during the long war years. And yet as I look back over the road which we have traveled, I cannot help but marvel at the shape of things to come for the Chapter. True, there is still the confusion of problem and policy, the indistinct delineations of responsibilities of committees, the needless calling upon a few faithful and hard-working members for most of the work and in a great many projects a lack of planning and amateurishness for which I take the greater share of the blame and criticism. Nevertheless, I feel with that instinctive sureness which only comes to those who have lived close to a project, that the Chapter is "on the way."

There comes to me the hope that through the individual efforts of the members, as well as through the Chapter, that we may slowly, if necessary, lay down on our own conscious initiative those golden planks of integration over which we may tread boldly out into the great American community.

For us to recede from the dynamics of modern living is to condemn ourselves to the lives which we lived before the war--- that of living on small individual islands within ourselves with no outlet to the mainland. We must take the first step out from these islands, whatever our personal trepidations, for by figuratively throwing out our golden planks of integration, there awaits the American community ready to hear our problems, to assist us to attain our full rights and to invite us to participate with them as Americans toward a richer future.

## Public Opinion

### Chapter Needs Discussed

To the Editor:

There is every reason for the Los Angeles Chapter of the JAACL being the most vital and influential of the Citizen's League locals in the United States. Los Angeles is once again the center of Japanese population in the nation. We have a large influx of Japanese from both rural and urban sections of other parts of the country that already are supplying us with fresh viewpoints and human resources of talent and energy. The executive cabinet and a small but appreciable number of our membership bring to the reactivated Chapter youthfulness, and a combination of aggressive and progressive attitude.

The needs and opportunities for community service are greater than ever before, and now there are new conditions that deserve a popularly supported organization truly representative of the Japanese. With the Nisei having come of age since Pearl Harbor and the Issei looking more and more to their children for both moral and financial support, it is imperative that the Nisei organize on a community wide scale for activities of mutual benefit.

There is a great reservoir of good will among the American people toward Japanese Americans won by their wartime record of patriotism. This should be capitalized upon. Because of broadening experiences in the army and in resettlement in the Middle West and East, and encouraged by the attempt of the American government to correct the mistakes of evacuation, Japanese Americans are coming to take a new perspective upon their citizenship responsibilities. This perspective requires direction. The JAACL--with its membership inclusive of race, sex and age (unlike no other organization among the Japanese), is especially charged with giving leadership to assimilative processes currently operating.

Our program emphasis in LA Chapter is not to be so much on membership and money as formerly but on projects of a practical nature. Some of the project possibilities currently being studied for early inauguration are: A luncheon club for the First Street area; vocational guidance conferences; advisory service to vets; and the forming of a junior JAACL.

Fred Fertig, Los Angeles.

Los Angeles

**VANGUARD**

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## Socially Speaking

### OH HAPPY COLLEGE DAYS!

With the opening of the fall term only a few weeks off, campus clubs will be gathering their forces for a whirl of activities. Out on the UCLA campus the Bruin club will be headed by President Tosh Nakahiro of Pasadena. Membership in the club is open to all races.

Sandie Saito is the president of the Chi Alpha Delta Sorority. The Chis are holding two Rush Teas during the summer and will have chosen their pledges by the time the semester begins.

Out on the SC campus, the Japanese Trojan Club will be headed by Bob Hayamizu. He will be guided by ex-prexy Kenny Uyesugi, who has been appointed instructor in Japanese language by the university.

### WEDDING BELLS

Surprise wedding of the month was that of Fumi Kato to Dr. Hiraku Ishida. The ceremony was a quiet family wedding at the home of the bride's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Shokichi Kato on August 10. The bride was attended by her sister, Teiko, and the groom's best man was his brother, Dr. Itaru Ishida, dentist of San Francisco. Dr. H. Ishida, a former resident of Menlo Park, received his M.D. from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. He recently opened his office in this city.

### AT THE HOLLYWOOD BOWL

Enjoying the cool evening breeze and the Terpsichorean art of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo were many parties: Mr. and Mrs. George Shinno and their guests, Florence and Margaret Suzuki who were visiting from Cleveland and New York respectively; Mrs. Louis Kitagawa, Mary Wakamatsu, Anne Sakauye and Ruth Tanaka, visitors from Denver; Mr. and Mrs. Miki Miyamoto and their guest (myself); Frank Chuman escorting Sue Takimoto and his sister, Yemi, who flew here for a month's vacation from Washington, D. C.; Harry Honda and a slim young damsel.

### OUT OF TOWN VISITORS

Our fair City of the Angels has had many visitors during the summer: Betty Hachisuka from Milwaukee; Mrs. Sam Seno and three children from Seabrook Farms, New Jersey; Joyce Matsuda from Denver; Dr. and Mrs. Tom Abe and their two children; Joe Tanimoto, Mrs. Evelyn Seto and son, Russell from Chicago; Jane Akimoto, Salt Lake City; Dr. and Mrs. T. Hiratsuka, Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. R. Momii, Cleveland; Mr. and Mrs. Chick Matsui and daughter, Dale, from Oakland; Dr. and Mrs. George Shinoda from Davenport, Iowa.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Plans for Nationwide Talent Contest Made

Plans for a nationwide amateur talent contest to select performers who will tour the Territory of Hawaii are being made, according to Fred Matsuo, director-producer of the "Takarazuka" troupe from Hawaii which recently completed a three-week state wide showing.

The return tour of the Islands is being planned as a reciprocation for the goodwill tour made by the 11 entertainers from Hawaii.

Jim Itagaki will be in charge of the talent hunt in Los Angeles.

## Institute Summer Canteen Will Close

Under the sponsorship of the International Institute, the Teen-Age Canteen will hold its final social evening on September 12.

The Canteen was organized July 3, offering sports, games, dancing and other recreation to the youths ranging from 13 to 19 years.

This project has been under the leadership of teenagers Dorothy Takeyama, chairman; Kay Yoshida, secretary; Mary Tateoka, treasurer and Mush Miyatake, representative.

A booklet on the Canteen is being prepared.

## Chi Alpha Delta Alumni Offer Woman's Scholarship

The Chi Alpha Delta alumni of the University of California at Los Angeles is offering a scholarship consisting of tuition fees and a sum for books for the fall semester, which is available to all new women entrants and transfers.

Applications should be sent to Kay Kumai, 3947 Hammel St., Los Angeles 33.

## Methodists Hold Confab

The 16th Annual Conference of the Pacific Coast Japanese Free Methodist churches was held July 25 to August 3 at the Pacific Bible College at Azusa, Calif.

The main speakers were Dr. C.P. Haggard, president of the Pacific Bible College, and Dr. C. Dorr Demaray, President of the Los Angeles Pacific College.

Nisei participants in the 10-day program were: Rev. William Kobayashi, Rev. John Miyabe, Mrs. Haru Tanita, George Takaya, Makoto Sagawa, Bette Sakai, Mrs. Yaye Sagawa, Paul Ichino, Rev. Hide Aoki and Roy Takaya.

## SUMMER PROGRAM HELD

The Colleens Girls' Club, composed of women in their late teens and early twenties, conducted an informal summer program.

Miyo Ishigami is president.

## You Should Know....

By Jean Emory



SUE TAKIMOTO

Two years work on the Colorado "Times" in Denver gave Sue Takimoto her good experience in newspaper work which is one of the reasons the Los Angeles VANGUARD is coming to be a successful paper.

Sue is one of our youngest members and an able one. Besides her work on the "Times" she was employed by the Central City Opera House Association in that city rising from a clerk-typist to the Executive Manager.

Because she is interested in all religions in relation to social problems and group work, she is majoring in the-

ology at the University of California at Los Angeles night classes.

Social work and singing are her main interests. Sue has a beautiful soprano voice. She started her singing career at the age of seven, in Seattle, Washington, where she was born. There she was guest artist on many recitals and sang at the annual governor's banquet in Seattle.

She did a great deal of entertaining in the Minidoka Relocation Center in Idaho, which she says was strictly amateur. But having heard her sing, I'm sure it was more than that. At that time she won first place in the Idaho state contest for high school students.

She is being sponsored in a benefit concert to be given in St. Mary's auditorium on September 19 by the Camilles Club, a girls' organization of which she is a member. Along with all these activities, she manages to find time to direct the 30 voice Young Buddhists' choir.

This young lady has quite a future in store for her and I'm sure great things will come of her vocal career. However, someone should teach her to use chopsticks --she hasn't learned yet.

## ISSEI ORGANIZE SUPPORTERS' GROUP

The Koenkai, an issei supporter's group of the local JACL Chapter, was recently organized.

The organization's purpose is to support the JACL projects to support

As a result of the first

membership appeal, 60 joined, according to Eiji Tanabe regional JACL representative.

To launch their fund-raising program, a Japanese movie was shown by the group recently which netted approximately \$300, it was reported.

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# Spot Sports

By Jack Kunitomi

While the Nisei athletes of Hawaii have been earning the plaudits of fans, Nisei and otherwise, in practically all athletic endeavors, the local or the mainland "kotonks" have been relegated to the back seat with very few names crowding the headlines.

Of more than casual interest to local sport fans will be the professional football debut of Wallace Yonamine, now training with the San Francisco 49'ers, an entrant in the All-America Conference.

Yonamine has established his reputation and ability, cavorting with the Leilehua Alums last year, which barnstormed the western states, playing Portland University, San Jose State and Fresno State.

We first heard of and saw Yonamine when he played with the Hawaiian All-Star against the 11th Airborne in the Pacific Army Olympics held several years ago in Tokyo, and though the Airborne eleven copped the title, Yonamine's actions on the muddy gridiron of the Meiji Stadium left favorable impressions on the fans assembled there.

All of the above dissertation naturally keeps one guessing. How come the Nisei on the mainland aren't making headlines like their "cousins" from Hawaii?

Could it be that the mainland lads, under an inferiority complex created through years of discrimination and prejudice, are not able to put forth their best efforts or are we just athletically inferior?

Another deterring factor was the tragic evacuation which cut short social, athletic and other phases of the Nisei life. The lack of proper tutelage in the relocation center physical education program probably snafued many a promising sport career. Time will tell as the coming of fall and the start of school may bring out the athlete of the year.

## LOOPS' BATTING AVERAGES REVEALED

Yosh Oshiki, Bucs, and Jack Kunitomi, Hollywood, were announced as batting champs of their respective leagues, the Red and Blue.

The following are batting averages of the top eight macemen in each league who have participated in 10 or more games.

BLUE LEAGUE				RED LEAGUE			
	AB	H	Pct.		AB	H	Pct.
Yosh Oshiki, B	43	20	.472	Jack Kunitomi, H	27	14	.518
Sat Mitsui, S	37	17	.459	Hank Nakano, S	30	14	.466
Shig Goto, B	35	15	.429	T. Yamaguchi, T	30	13	.433
Nob Kawano, I	34	14	.412	Yoi Nomura, H	31	13	.419
Harry Oka, B	44	18	.409	Mits Ishibashi, R	17	7	.412
Tosh Asano, B	42	15	.357	G. Maruyama, P	31	12	.387
Hank Yoshitake, M	30	10	.333	Nick Nakano, S	36	13	.361
Tosh Watanabe, B	12	4	.333	Ray Nimura, L	39	14	.359

Legend: B, Bucs; S, Sugar Bowl; I, Indians; M, Mercurries.  
Legend: H, Hollywood; S, Senshin; T, Twin Cleaners; R, Rams; P, Pasadena; L, Long Beach.

## All American to Feature JAACL Meet

Tay Brown, former All-American gridder from the University of Southern California, will be the mainspeaker at the monthly JAACL meeting

to be held on October 9 at Koyasan Buddhist Temple.

Brown, presently head football coach at Compton City College, cavorted for the Trojans in the early 1930's under the late Howard Jones.

He will feature a "Sports Rally" which will include movies of the 1946 World Series and various championship football games.

## California Hunting Regulations Given For All Districts

Local hunters were given the "go" signal with the announcement of the regulations governing the 1947 season.

The following regulations govern deer hunting in the Sierra area: September 16 to October 15, inclusive; one-buck deer limit, two points or more on the antlers, except in District 1 3/4, where 3-point bucks only may be taken.

On quail, the following rules prevail: November 21 to November 30, inclusive; two male birds per day, two in possession, 10 per season. Shooting hours from 8 a.m. until one-half hour after sunset.

Hunting of tree squirrels are under these regulations: District 1 only is open: November 21 to December 31, inclusive; two per day, two in possession, 12 per season.

Bear hunting is governed as follows: November 15 to December 31, inclusive, one per day, one in possession; two per season (no trapping allowed).

MORE ON HUNTING NEXT ISSUE.

## Local All-Stars Nip Santa Barbara Nine

In two close but loosely-played tussles, the local All-Stars eked out one-run victories over the visiting Santa Barbara nine during the Labor Day weekend, 3 to 2 and 6 to 5.

Pee-wee Tsuda pitched the first victory and relieved in the second tilt.

## Women's Athletic Group Sets Starting Date For Volleyball Play

Electing Yoshiko Hata as temporary chairwoman, the newly-organized Women's Athletic Association set a tentative date for the volleyball season to begin in the latter part of the month.

To assist Miss Hata on the cabinet the following were elected: Mary Higurashi, vice president; Sumi Nakanishi, secretary; Betty Kawana, treasurer; Grace Masuda, publicity; and Mas Kato, historian.

Clubs represented were the 7M's, Mam'selles, Debutantes, Ebonaires, Novettes and Kun Wha, a Korean nisei club.

Lily Otera was elected basketball commissioner.

Advisors of the WAA are Hoshiko Kusudo, Merijane Yokoe and Masa Kunitomi.

## Local Keglers Shine In Open Tournament; Lead in All Events

The Los Angeles Open Bowling Tournament under the auspices of the Nisei Bowling Association was termed a huge success as the local keggers paced the way in all events.

The Sawtelle Garage copped the team event to prove their major victories were no fluke.

The other winners and the events were Mas Fujii, women's singles; Chiyo Tashima and George Takeuchi, mixed doubles; Miss Tashima and Tosh Sato, women's doubles; Kaz Meifu, men's "B" singles; Nob Ishizawa, men's "A" singles; Buster Komatsu and Kiyo Yamato, men's doubles; Nob Ishizawa, all events.

In the summer league, the Nisei Reds and Free Lancers Reserves are battling it out neck and neck for the lead in the Sunset League while the Vogue Bowl has clinched the Owl League.



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### Radio Program Writer-Director Says Nisei Should Associate More with Other Groups

By Alice Sumida

Interested in the matter of integration is likable, dynamic Dempster Dirks of the Federation of Coordinating Councils, Los Angeles County, who with a colleague writes and directs the radio series "These Are Your Neighbors."

Dirks' best friend was Mits, a Nisei who was killed overseas in World War II.

Dirks believes Americans of Japanese ancestry cannot lift themselves up by their boot-straps by keeping others out. "'Hakujin,' 'Nihonjin' and others have to work together," he said. He maintains that when one group shuts itself off and thinks about its own problems, other groups then lose touch with it and suspicion inevitably arises. Ignorance, Dirks pointed out, is a great danger.

He favors having the Nisei lose themselves in the community. He urged a program of education to show that people of Japanese extraction have similar interests, temperament and hopes as persons of other races.

### Material Sought by Sponsors of Program

Interesting persons are being sought to appear on the radio program "These Are Your Neighbors," according to its sponsor, the Los Angeles County Committee on Human Relations.

Among the personalities who have been or will be interviewed are: James Wong Howe, Hollywood cameraman; Andy Russell, crooner; Spade Cooley and Desi Arnaz, orchestra leaders; Paul Williams, architectural designer; and Philip Ahn, motion picture actor.

Suggestions and comments should be addressed to "These Are Your Neighbors," KRKD, 541 South Spring Street, Los Angeles 13, Calif.

The Nisei, Dirks feels, must not think of themselves as superior and expect to be treated as a special group, but must have a feeling that they must associate, must stop thinking and worrying of themselves only and must think of others too. "If you can't get along with other minorities," he asks, "how can you get along with Caucasians?" "There are the good and the trash in every race. One does not have to associate necessarily with the trash," he continued. He asserts that one's cultural equal can be found in any racial group.

Dirks is convinced that individual attempts should be made to "sell," and that if the door were then shut in the Nisei's face, there would be justification in being and doing things by themselves. "But the Nisei have not tried," he reiterated. "You haven't tried as yet to adjust and integrate yourselves in the community!"

Not scholastic work but getting along with people, in the opinion of Dirks, is



Discussing a script for the radio program "These Are Your Neighbors" are from left to right: John Kimura, Roosevelt High School student of this city who aspires to be a crooner; Eiji Tanabe, regional JAOL representative; Dempster Dirks, conductor of the program; and Andy Russell, alumnus of Roosevelt High who has won national fame as a crooner.

--PHOTO COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

important. "You have to show that the label, in this case the Japanese face, lies otherwise," he said.

He alleged there is too much concern about the old folks, a leaning back too much that way, which shows that our life is like theirs. He contends that life will be difficult for the Nisei if they try to shape themselves like their parents, for the latter were brought up in different circumstances.

He advises getting to know others, getting outside influences and effecting a breaking away, becoming individual, having one's own ideas and pleasing friends more than parents if need be.

Dirks thinks the majority of the Nisei should try a (Continued on Page 8)

### ERROR MADE IN AD

In an advertisement in the August issue, Masao R. Mizokami was erroneously represented as the general agent for the Lincoln Life Insurance Company instead of the Franklin Life Insurance Company.

We apologize to the two firms and Mr. Mizokami for our error.

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COMBAT VETERAN QUAKES

Nazis Panty-Waists Compared to P-Car Riding Horde

Five evenings a week I wage my battles for survival. Minutes after leaving the protective walls of Woodbury College, I am a combatant in the desperate "Battle of the Pico Car."

This engagement combines the gruesomeness and horrors of all the historic clashes of World War II. I know how the men felt when they waded ashore at Normandy and were faced with concrete fortifications. Try gaining a foothold in the bristling, well-defended car! I know how the G.I.'s felt at Anzio when it appeared as if they would be thrown back into the Mediterranean Sea by Hitler's automatons. How often I have gained the entrance and tenaciously struggled to keep from being "dumped" back into the swirling sea they call Broadway! The Battle of the Bulge? Humph! I've often been squeezed between two "buxom bulges."

When the outer defenses have been penetrated, I am on the main battlefield. Here the real danger begins. In this hostile territory, I must be vigilant; for the possibility of being "wounded in action" is ever imminent. I must guard against barrages on my toes by destructive size-twelve projectiles. I must be wary of bayonet-like thrusts in the ribs. I must keep from being gouged by frantic gladiators who wildly grasp for any object when this moving battlefield suddenly lurches. I must dodge lumbering, well-padded female "tanks" as they charge fanatically to capture the most coveted prize, an empty seat.

As I make strategic maneuvers to keep out of harm's way, I wonder how long my luck can last. All around me I hear the wails and groans of less fortunate individuals. There is a cry of pain from a man who just had his favorite corn abused. There is an eloquent outburst of descriptive adjectives from a young battling

female who has had her camouflaged headgear unceremoniously tilted to an even zanier angle. There is a tortuous scream from a pathetic human caught in the doors, a foolish one who insisted on entering the battleground. With all this "destruction" in evidence, I try to make myself as small as possible.

As the mobile field of action moves on, its packed confines become more unbearable. The occupants perspire freely, and a dank, sticky stuffiness pervades the "torture chamber." The odor of perspiration, mingling with the cheap "essence of stinkweed" perfumes worn by some indiscriminate persons, is nauseating. I force myself to think of pleasanter things.

It is at this stage that my mind often wanders back to the time spent trudging up and down the Apennines in Italy and the miserable days in the dark Vosges Forests in France. "Surely," I repeatedly told myself then, "nothing can be as arduous or nerve-wracking as this. Oh for the wonderful life of a civilian!"

Now, however, on days when the Pico Car is especially well-filled, I am tempted to retract my thoughts made

while munching "K-Ration" biscuits. I begin to sort out the bright spots of my soldiering days. As for scenery, I had the picturesque snow-topped mountains and the verdant pine forests as compensations for discomforts. Now, I must look at monotonous rows of smog-painted buildings. When conditions are such that sight of the outside is obstructed, I must resort to studying the cards over and over--the soaring cow who went to a flying school, the mortuary advertisement implying that it doesn't cost much to die now...

It is, however, the belligerent attitude of the people which is most depressing. What insidious elements suddenly transform otherwise polite and peaceful people into rude, churlish and diabolical savages? Can it be some suppressed instinct which runs rampant that causes these passengers to curl up their upper lips and snap and snarl like dogs protecting their food? When these enigmatic questions are answered and a cure is found, the Pershing Square pigeons can triumphantly carry olive branches, signifying the end of the "Battle of the Pico Car." --RI



(Editorial Note: Material for this column is assembled by Joe Noda, chairman of the local JACL Veterans Committee. As a leader in veterans' organization activities, Noda is in close contact with latest developments.

Questions on ex-service-men's problems should be addressed to Noda in care of the VANGUARD. Whenever possible, the answers will appear in this column.)

GI BILL DATE SET

Through action by President Truman, July 25, 1947, was set as the termination date for GI Bill of Rights benefits. This means that only those veterans who were in service prior to this date are eligible for benefits, according to Clarence Adamy, National AMVETS Service Director.

LEAVE PAY DEADLINE EXTENDED

Deadline for filing terminal leave pay applications has been extended from September 1, 1947, to September 1, 1948.

FUNERAL OFFER MADE

Maytor H. McKinley, president of Utter-McKinley Mortuaries, offers a complete \$250 funeral for any deceased veteran without cost. Said McKinley: "We will collect the \$150 allowance from the government. The \$100 difference is being contributed by our firm for two reasons. First, we believe it will build valuable good will for our institution. Second, we feel that this is our obligation as professional people to those who served us during the past wars."

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Veterans who are in need of housing are advised to contact Veterans Advisory Committee Housing Authority, City of Los Angeles, P.O. Box 2316, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles 54, Calif.

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MORE ON

Socially Speaking

(Continued from Page 3)

ANGEL CHATTER

Mrs. Ty Chuman has received her permit to join her husband, George, in Japan in September...A bridal shower was held in honor of Yuri Kawakami at the home of June Suzuki on Sunday, August 17. JACL-ers from "hot" Imperial Valley; George Umezawa, Harvey Tanaka, Akira Hasegawa, Lily and Frank Kumagai and Harry Minami should find the L.A. summer weather very tepid....Husband Fred has just returned from a month's business trip covering Denver, Chicago and the Hawaiian Islands. His permit from SCAP has come through so he may soon be leaving for Tokyo... The second annual Bruin alumni reunion will be held on November 1 after the UCLA homecoming game with Cal-Berkeley...The Tosh Iharas are expecting a second blessed event very soon....The Vicar of St. Mary's, Rev. J.H.M. Yamazaki, has returned from a four weeks' training at the Chaplain's School at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. --MO

Utsunomiya Named to National Nominations Committee by Okada

Ken Utsunomiya, 1st vice President of the local JACL Chapter, was appointed to the nominations committee to name national officer candidates by National President Hito Okada recently.

Utsunomiya was selected along with 15 other members chosen from chapters scattered throughout the United States.

The committee will name two candidates for each office. The election will be held in 1948 and will mark the first time that officers will be elected by popular ballot conducted through the mail.

MORE ON

Beneficial Bills

(Continued from Page 1)

exception to immigration from Japan and certain other "barred zone" countries.

Passing the house but stopped by the Senate until the next session were the five main pieces of legislation; namely, the Stay of Deportation Bill; Evacuation Claims Bill; and the three naturalization bills, one for parents of dead soldiers and Purple Heart winners, and the other two for all persons legally in the United States. The latter two are identical in wording, according to Masaoka.

Of these, the Evacuation Claims Bill and the naturalization bill for parents of dead and wounded soldiers were passed unanimously by the House.

MORE ON

Combat Team Queens from Hawaii

(Continued from Page 1)

with the Agricultural Extension Service, and Miss Jikaku operates a beauty salon with her older sister.

Although both girls consider themselves modern and enjoy dancing, parties and "most forms" of social life, neither drink or smoke. They were emphatic in their belief that women do not have to do so in order to "get along" socially.

From what they have seen of the local Nisei, the girls thought they were much like their counterpart in Hawaii. However, unaffected Miss Udo thought the Southland Nisei "have a little different air; they seem to hold back."

Although they have been treated well everywhere, they have been aware of the curious glances consistently directed their way. Both condemned the discrimination of persons of Japanese ancestry and cited the "first class" citizenship they enjoy in Hawaii. "There are no restrictive covenants there and we can live wherever we desire," they explained.

During their month's stay here, the beautiful damsels will have led a busy life of activities. "Los Angeles is so big and there is so much excitement," said Miss Jikaku.

ku. "I like this sort of life for a change, but give me peaceful and quiet Hawaii for everyday living," she added.

The majority of the 442nd beauties' program of activities is being arranged by Henry Ohye, local JACL Chapter public relations committee head. They have toured two movie studios; met Mayor Fletcher Bowron and local press representatives; seen the Southland from the air; visited Santa Catalina Island and other resorts; eyed stage shows; "done" famous night clubs and eaten at the leading restaurants; and attended various meetings, dinners and dances as guests of honor, including a dinner-dance given by the Nisei Veterans Association.

My "buddahead" buddies of the Combat Team chose well. As Matsuo says, "They are well supplied." I have a better word.

They performed their jobs as representatives of Hawaiian pulchritude and as emissaries of good will well. I still see winsome Queen Janes and captivating Queen Blanche's faces before me. The tunes, "Sweet Leilani, Heavenly Flower" and "Hawaii Calls," keep running through my mind. --RI

MORE ON

Radio Program Conductor's Views

(Continued from Page 6)

new program. For example, in place of being concerned with what our political affiliations should be, the JACL should have as one of its policies a program--a bunch of mottoes. One of these might easily be, "Kids, get your homework done, but keep your noses out of the books," since friends are made--not by having gotten an "A" grade--but by having associated with others and having joked with them in places like the barber shop or malt shop.

During wartime, the phrase "So sorry please" was often heard to typify the Japanese way of covering up true feelings. "Americans express themselves so that the next person knows what they're thinking; aren't we American?" Dirks asks. "Then let's do it!"

On his radio program Dirks does not interview racial stereotypes such as a Chinese laundryman or an Italian fruit peddler would be. He chooses people who do not make a living peculiar to their racial background. He features someone who for work or as a hobby, does something interesting and unusual.

During the present series on which about 30 persons have appeared, six Nisei have been interviewed. The first of these was Koichi Inouye,

active member of the local JACL chapter, who is in the advertising field.

There is a scheme to the program, but the audience is not told what it is. Race is not mentioned in the main portion of the program, and the audience is just given an opportunity to know those interviewed as outstanding people. At the end of the show, the listeners are told the ancestral descent.

"The Nisei as Americans must sell themselves--everything is propaganda," he said. He does not think of himself as an outsider, and resents being called one. JACL-member Dirks wants to be one concerned in what is going on in the community. "I'm not a big white brother or adviser," he said. "I'm simply taking Mits' place."

Committee on Racial Equality Wins Fight For Tea Room Service

An inter-racial group of more than 100 were on hand August 16 to see Negroes served in the tea room of a local department store, reversing a long-standing policy of no service for Negroes, according to Mamuel D. Talley, chairman of the Committee on Racial Equality.

The action climaxed a two-month campaign sponsored by this organization to end discrimination in the tea room.

"Several attempts had been made to settle the matter with the management through conciliation, but nothing came of it," said Talley.

This was the 4th in a series of projects in which participants entered in groups and waited for service. The non-Negroes refused to be served until Negroes were accorded equal service.

Members of several minority groups including Nisei participated.

Legislative Confab Attended by Nisei

Los Angeles Nisei were among the 1400 delegates at the California Legislative Conference held August 23-24 at Rodger Young Auditorium.

A planning committee chaired by Kiyoo Fukuda met at the JACL office to schedule representatives to the three panels immediately affecting the Nisei.

The conference voted to support the passage of the Naturalization Bill, Evacuation Claims Bill and Alien Land Law.

The Nisei delegates plan to meet this month to discuss further participation.

More on

Secretary Fertig

(Continued from Page 1)

and-a-half years. During the war years, Fertig did sociological research work for the American Civil Liberties Union, working on all cases pertaining to persons of Japanese ancestry as well as handling problems for people of other races.

In addition, for the past four years he was contributing editor of the "New Pacific" magazine of Honolulu.

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# REPORTER

Vol. 1; No. 11.

Salt Lake City, Utah, November, 1945.

National Headquarters

## UNSOLVED PROBLEMS OF JAPANESE AMERICANS LISTED FOR NEW YORK CONFERENCE

When the first announcement came about the New York conference sponsored by the National Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans, national headquarters figured on sending either Joe Masaoka or National President Saburo Kido. But Joe had the big job of helping the resettlers in Northern California. And the financial campaign to raise funds was on. There was only \$4,000 in the national treasury which would cover only about two and a half months of overhead expenses. In view of this dire strait of the treasury, it was decided that the Eastern Representative Peter Aoki be asked to represent the organization.

Others can make decisions on the problems of the Japanese Americans but the JACL members will be the ones who must carry the burden of raising funds for the organization. JACL can participate in realizing the aims to elevate the conditions of all Japanese Americans only if it can continue to function. It was most unfortunate that there was not sufficient funds to make one and all feel secure in sending delegates from headquarters.

However, JACL submitted its report and listed the various problems which remain as obstacles.

Also "The Case for the Nisei," "They Work For Victory," and other materials were sent to the conference. Some arrived in time and others did not.

JACL will join with other organizations in the recommendations of the conference to be sent to President Truman.

## A NATIONAL PROGRAM OF RECONVERSION AND REHABILITATION FOR JAPANESE AMERICANS

### 1. RE-AFFIRMATION OF FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066:

A continuing federal agency is needed to administer terminal problems resulting from people displaced by federal decision. Among considerations are:

- No evictions from present public housing until other dwellings are made available.
  - Family housing at public housing projects for returnees, now living in emergency hostels or cramped with friends, on the basis of their being distressed war dislocatees.
  - An assistance fund to provide for aged persons who cannot qualify for categorical aid in their respective states because of alien status, and for other evacuees incapable of self-support.
- Individual processing, re-training and placement for those finding adjustment to self-support difficult.
- Future releases of factual information to counteract the stigma and discriminations engendered against the entire population of American citizens and residents of Japanese descent by the operation of Executive Order No. 9066.
  - Reestablishment assistance for potentially self-sustaining returnees.
  - Amelioration of hardship cases: FOR INSTANCE, Oct. 30, 1945: REPORT OF SCOTTY H. TSUCHIYA, REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE JACL

Los Angeles, Calif.

"In the case of Mr. Watanabe, 86 years old, and Mrs. Watanabe, 84 years old, blind, deaf and body half paralyzed, Mr. Watanabe begged that his wife not be put in the hospital because she cannot speak the English language. He is fearful, should they be separated now, his wife's condition would only grow worse and she would pass away within a short time from loneliness. (Watanabe not being a hospital case would not be able to stay with his wife).

"Mr. Watanabe's one and only wish is for a small place where the bedroom, latrine and bathroom are under one roof.

"He told us, he does not wish to go to the Trailer camp because going there...

...the latrine and bath house is outside and community shared. There he would not be allowed to carry his wife into the Men's latrine and bath house, nor would he be allowed in the Women's section. He said that, at least, at Lomita being among Japanese people and their knowing his problem, he can go in and out of the Men and Women's section without uneasiness.

"Also, there are three very narrow steps at the only entrance of the Trailer. The door is narrow, which would make it very difficult and dangerous for Mr. Watanabe to carry his wife through the door and attempt the narrow steps. The latrine and bath house also have steps as the Trailers are all elevated off the ground.

"Mrs. Fujii, 64 years old. Arthritis has deformed the fingers of both her hands as well as toes and feet. She has no power of moving and cannot put her shoes on herself or dress herself. Mr. Fujii has to go with her to the latrine, help her remove the crutches from under her arm and has to seat her on the toilet and then has to help her get up. They refused the trailer on the same basis as Mr. Watanabe.

Mr. Fujii said his wife could not pass through the narrow door of the Trailer

on crutches and by no means can she descend or ascend the narrow steps on crutches; she has a difficult enough time to walk on level ground. . . .

"The rainy weather is here now and we are having two days of it. We had a call from the Air Strip in Lomita this morning in regards to the unsanitary condition everyone is confronted with there. There are only three latrine units to serve the 600 in the Lomita Air Strip. There are 6 toilets and 6 laundry tubs to one unit. No disinfectants are provided for the latrines. The laundry tubs are used by the people to wash clothes, wash dishes, baby bottles, baby chambers, bathe babies, etc., as no other facilities are provided for this need. Three latrine units are not adequate to serve 600 people and they wanted us to do something about it."

### REPORT OF JOE GRANT MASAOKA, REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, JACL, San Francisco, California, November 2, 1945.

"Aged, incapacitated, unemployable and indigent returnees receiving county welfare find their \$33.85 (female) and \$31.85 (male) dependency allowances insufficient to cover their monthly expenses of \$43 for board and rent. The same deficiency plagues indigent hostel residents. Private cooking is prohibited in both project and hostel. QUESTION: How can these monthly shortages be made up?"

"Freight shipments 3,000 miles away are made cost-free but deliveries within a 25 mile radius are chargeable to the evacuee. This drayage of property within a 25 mile area of rail head or warehouse is assumed by the WRA only if a pauper's oath is signed.

"WRA warehouses are scheduled to close around April 1, 1946. Evacuee property must be accepted before this date, although it is expected many evacuees will still have to be living in cramped quarters where storage space is impossible.

"Big family fathers of 8, 9 10 and 11 find themselves faced with a daily food bill of \$1 per head while in the housing projects or hostels. As farmers they made ends meet, but as wage earners and common laborers, how can their paychecks cover enough for food, rent, clothing and the numerous incidentals?"

### 2. SUPREME COURT CONSTITUTIONALITY OF LAND SEIZURES UNDER ALIEN LAND LAW TO BE TESTED.

- It is based upon race discrimination. Japanese Americans are the only group appreciably affected.
  - Denies the equal protection of laws (14th Amendment) to Japanese Americans, since it is Nisei lands which are under escheat proceedings, made possible by the California Alien Land Law.
  - It imputes unfair presumptions of bad faith in the acquirement of real estate.
  - Establishment of a statute of limitations is called for.
- ### 3. SEEK UNBIASED ISSUANCES OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSES.
- Constitutional rights of citizens and foreign born, who are legally restricted from gaining naturalization, should be upheld.
  - Denials due to national origin

(Continued on page 2)

## Navy Ban Lifted to Permit Nisei Enlistment

The Reporter carried the detailed arguments of the JACL which presented its views to the Navy Department leaders when Joe Grant Masaoka visited Washington, D. C. last April. Ever since, the American Civil Liberties Union in New York City has been following up the matter. And lately, the American Veterans Committee and the Veterans of Foreign Wars in New York City were interested in this question.

The climax to the whole campaign came when Admiral of the Fleet Chester W. Nimitz was informed of the desires of Japanese Americans to be admitted into the Navy through a letter written by Joe Masaoka of the San Francisco office. When he was consulted by Secretary of Navy Forestal, Admiral Nimitz did not express any opposition.

A wire came from New York office one afternoon, asking permission to release the Nimitz letter. The OK answer was flashed back. The next morning, the newspapers carried the story with the Washington, D. C. headline of the Associated Press or the United Press. And the next day, there was a small news about the Navy having opened its doors to the Nisei. Without the Nimitz letter and the subsequent publicity, this news may not have received much notice.

This is one of the important achievements of the JACL because it removes the last barrier which may be construed as questioning the loyalty of the Nisei. Many Nisei may want to be in the merchant marine or make their career as a sailor in the future. Now anyone who desires to do so will find the gates open. If any question of discrimination after entering the services should arise, that will be another problem.

The national sponsors did effective work in supporting national headquarters. Many of them wrote letters to the Navy Department.

## Hawaiian Appeal Bringing Encouraging Returns

About once a week, the mailman comes in with a batch of envelopes for which national headquarters pays the postage. When they are postmarked from Hawaii, it creates a great deal of interest because the total is being added up every week. In the last report, we stated that the amount received to date was \$427.

Since that date, three bundles of letters have been received. The first amounted to \$374.00; the second \$479.00; and the third \$537.00, making a total of \$1390.00.

The total amount received as of November 16 is \$1817.00.

## The Best Xmas Edition Of the Pacific Citizen To Come Off the Press

Everyone who has a copy of the forthcoming Xmas issue of the Pacific Citizen is going to keep it as a souvenir. We are almost sure of this fact because it is going to contain many feature articles which will be worth reading and keeping.

Among the numerous writers will be Mr. Dillon S. Myer of the War Relocation Authority; Mr. Roger N. Baldwin, national director of the American Civil Liberties Union; Mr. A. L. Wirin of the Southern California branch of the ACLU; Professor Elmer Smith of the University of Utah and former community analyst of the Minidoka relocation center; Mr. Tooru Matsumoto; and many others who are intimately associated with the Japanese problem.

There will be sketches of relocation center life and numerous cuts to review the past.

Extra copies will be printed. But since they are not going to be too many, those desiring to send to friends should place their orders immediately.

## JACL Members Named on Boy Scout Committee

Several prominent JACLers have been appointed as committeemen of the newly organized Boy Scout troop under Min Yasui. Those named are Dr. Takashi Mayeda, chairman, Yutaka Terasaki, George Kamayatsu, and Dr. Thomas Kobayashi, Assistant scoutmasters are Dr. Yosh Ito and Toshio Ando.

The troop is being co-sponsored by the Denver chapter and the Nisei church.

## Citizenship for Issei Is the Fair Thing

One of the unsolved problems is the matter of granting citizenship to the Issei. Instead of passing special laws for Filipinos, Hindus, and Koreans and eventually for the Japanese, we hope to see a general amendment which will strike the words "ineligible to citizenship" from all Orientals or eliminate restrictions to anyone on account of his place of birth or origin or race.

As Allies of this country, the people of the Asiatic countries deserve equal treatment. But those Issei who have lived in this country, or sent their sons and daughters into the Army; or those who worked in secret military work; or in important war work or in other lines of war effort deserve to have recognition far more than the Allies.

These are the Isseis who have made their choice. In some respects, they are men without a country. They could have been charged with treason if Japan had won the war because they had aided the enemy country.

Surely America could not raise any argument, such as they are unassimilable and so forth. Such trivial objections fade when the supreme test of loyalty was met and the choice was made.

## Greetings for Xmas!

The deadline is fast approaching for the Xmas edition. Truly this is the first year since December 7, 1941, that we can exclaim, "Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year," and mean it. Friends will be looking for friends because the dispersal from the relocation centers and the movements back to the West Coast have made many lose track of each other.

The Pacific Citizen will be the best medium to let your friends know where you are located today.

## Convention Fever Mounting On to Denver!

The good old JACL spirit is mounting these days. Once again, members are talking about the reunion at Denver, Colorado, next March 21 to 24.

Major Walter Tsukamoto who handles all the wills and other legal problems of the military intelligence school graduates from Ft. Snelling, Minnesota is amongst the first to state that he will be ready to answer the roll call. Only the Army can stop him. As a national board member which position he holds as a past national president, he will be a most welcome delegate.

Ken Matsumoto, who is our national vice president, is residing at Cincinnati, Ohio. He should bring a delegation along with him.

James Sakamoto of Seattle; Dr. T. Yatabe from Chicago; Fred Tayama from Stillwater, Oklahoma; Tom Shimasaki from Tooele, Utah; Tom Iseri from Ontario, Oregon and Mamoru Wakasugi from Weiser, Idaho will be the national board members who will be traveling to Denver, Colorado if they find their job will not inconvenience them too greatly.

Intermountain visitors to national headquarters claim that every chapter will have a strong representation. We hope this first post-war convention will find the JACL once more off to a start with a bang!

It has been a hard row for JACL members in the assembly and relocation centers and all during the war period. Now we can once again be the "jolly good fellows" that all JACLers are supposed to be.

Lets get on board the convention special and meet at Denver, the mile high city.

## Flash! Mike Masaoka Returning

Sgt. Mike Masaoka, our national secretary on leave, will be returning to the mainland. We hope he will be reunited with his wife, Etsu, who has been living in Evanston, Illinois, since he went overseas with the 442nd, by the time this Reporter is out.

The last batch of letters which were sent to him by his numerous friends were returned to national headquarters. They were forwarded to him in care of his wife.

We hope Mike will have a good rest and rejoin the national headquarters staff once again. JACL certainly has missed him during the past two years and a half.

## JACL REPORTER

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## The President's Corner

A short visit to Denver, Colorado to confer with the chapter officials pertaining to the 1946 national convention was encouraging. The new officers' election will be held early in December. And as soon as the results are known, the preparations will be underway in earnest.

In the years gone by, the host chapter had two years to think and plan about the national convention. Such will not be the case for the first post-war gathering. And most of the chapters belong to the Intermountain and Rocky Mountain area. It is fortunate that Denver has become the host city since it is the most centrally located. I doubt if many of the booster delegates could come if any other city had been chosen at this stage when conditions are still unsettled for all Japanese Americans.

The Intermountain District Council most likely will be sending the largest delegation since it has the largest number of chapters. And the time has been set so as to be most convenient for the rural chapters who are the mainstay of the national organization at the present time.

The Denver chapter officers raised the question about the time set, that is, March 21 to 24 inclusive, being a little too early. But some of the Intermountain district chapters believe that this is even a little late for spring ploughing and planting may start if the season is early for them.

The number of delegates who will register should be at least 200 according to the estimate of the Denver chapter officials; divided into 100 official and booster delegates from affiliated chapters, and 100 from Denver and its outlying districts. This would seem to be a very conservative figure.

For the first postwar national convention, this should be a very good response. The Seattle gathering in 1930 at which time the national JACL was formally launched had a total registration of 111 delegates. There were only seven from California and seven chapters in all. Today, despite the effects of the evacuation, 23 chapters are part of the national body with more expected to come into existence by the time the national convention is called to order.

As far as the official delegates are concerned, I am afraid they are going to be in for rough sessions. There will be many ideas advanced to revamp the national body. The changes to the Constitution and By-Laws will be taking up considerable time. I am afraid the official delegates must come prepared to do serious work while the convention is on. In the meanwhile, the chapters should hold meetings to discuss ways and means of improving the organizational set-up if they believe such are necessary.

Some of the matters which should be studied seem to be:

a. Active members. The national headquarters is receiving 50c for the annual membership card which entitles

the member to the Reporter. The 50c was set as an experimental figure. During the past several months, the cost of printing and other costs have revealed the fact that at least \$1.00 a year should be assessed. If the annual membership fee is doubled, the time may come when a special editor may be retained on a part time basis to take care of the Reporter and the press releases of national headquarters. Of course, the question which arises first is as to whether the publication is a mere duplication of the Pacific Citizen or whether it is serving a special function for the members.

b. Associated Members. The present annual due \$3.50; \$2.00 of which is applied for the annual subscription to the Pacific Citizen. With the \$.50 for the Reporter, there is only \$1.00 left for the use of national headquarters. And with the various matters sent to the members, there is hardly any sum left to carry on the educational program of the national. Obviously, the time has been reached when the JACL members should contribute more to help the cause. A raise to \$5.00 per annum should not be too great a sum since those who are non-members must pay \$3.00 for the Pacific Citizen alone.

c. Issei Members. There is some criticism of the JACL because we have not let down the bars for the admission of Issei. The Constitution and By-Laws would permit them to become supporting members because this classification does not require citizenship. Even amongst the Issei themselves, there is a strong divided opinion. However, a large majority seem to think that it would be best to permit the JACL to continue to function as a citizens' organization. From the standpoint of membership, to admit every one would be one of the means of boosting the active and associated membership roll. Now that war with Japan has come to an end, it may be an appropriate time to consider this subject.

d. Voting Rights. The present Constitution and By-Laws has no provision for the voting rights of associated members. It has been suggested that as far as national elective officers are concerned, that ballots be sent to all members prior to the national convention and the results announced at the time of the gathering. This would seem to be one way of giving the general membership the opportunity to have a voice in the organization.

Business matters would be handled by the chapters whose voice may be heard through the official delegates or through chapter meetings.

As far as chapter votes were concerned, it seems to be a settled issue that proportionate representation will be the procedure. This would seem to be the fair way with some proviso made to prevent a few large chapters from dominating the organization.

e. Site for National Headquarters. Although the present national headquarters' staff members are in favor of retaining the present location for at least two years more in order that the shift of population may be better gauged, the delegates will have to decide this question.

f. Pay Scale of Staff Members. At the present time, the highest pay is \$175 a month with some on the West Coast permitted \$25 additional for expenses. This is inadequate as an inducement for the calibre of leaders the JACL expects for its regional representatives. During the war time, some sacrifice could be expected. But henceforth, a higher scale must be set in order that anyone with high qualifications may be attracted to the work that the organization requires.

g. A Shake-Up of Entire JACL Set-Up. Regional offices have been established in the major regions to cover the Japanese problems in this country. To maintain these offices will necessitate a budget of about \$50,000. Can we continue on this type of set-up or do we have to begin curtailing? During the past year we have been asking the regional offices to become self-supporting with the aid of the chapters located within their jurisdiction. As a result, the Denver office is self-supporting. The Chicago office with the aid of the Chicago chapter is fast moving towards this goal. The San Francisco office has the Rosenberg grant for one year. The upkeep of national headquarters could be maintained by the Intermountain area. Los Angeles and Seattle have possibilities. One solution may be to have the chapters maintain these regional offices. The only fear with these autonomous offices is the danger of lack of coordination in policy and activity.

h. The Pacific Citizen. During the past year, the official organ has been able to make both ends meet. But it has been understaffed with Larry and Guyo Tajiri editing the weekly. If one or two more are added, it will mean that there will be a loss. The special Xmas edition will help; but this is not a business like method of operation.

The dispersal of Japanese to the various parts of this country is going to produce many interesting results. The lack of Japanese types was the draw-

## Unsolved Problems

(Continued from page 1)

place an undue hardship on dependents who are American citizens.

4. RACE RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS STUNT AMERICANIZATION IDEALS.

a) Legal housing segregations are in an unlawful combination in restraint of American documentary principles.

b) Minority members are kept from attaining homes in keeping with aspirations and personal standards.

5. RE-DETERMINATION OF EVACUATION CONSTITUTIONALITY BY SUPREME COURT.

a) Free men are faced with an unprecedented power, placed in the hands of the military, which can be wielded in a threatening fashion against the civil liberties of other groups.

b) Now freed from the constraint of military urgency, the Supreme Court ought to be given the opportunity to reverse its "legalization of racism," particularly in view of the war record of Japanese Americans.

6. COMPENSATION FOR LOSSES SUFFERED BY REASON OF EVACUATION.

a) Disproportionate financial damages, as compared to other civilian war losses, were inflicted upon evacuees by Executive Order No. 9066. Subsequent confinement to centers stopped their further earning power.

b) A bi-partisan congressional committee to study losses occasioned by Executive Order 9066 would be advisable in view of the needy situation of many evacuees.

c) Congressional passage of a special act would enable restitution and indemnification in the Court of Claims.

d) The carrying out of Executive Order No. 9066 was a positive order directed against members of one race, penalizing them solely on the basis of ancestral origin. Expropriation and common thievery of their properties resulted.

7. DISCRIMINATORY CASUALTY INSURANCE RATES SHOULD BE ABOLISHED.

a) Alleged higher risks should be disproved through hearings held by legislative Interim Committees and the state Insurance Commissioner.

b) Japanese Americans pay premium surcharges from 50 per cent to 300 per cent, or are faced with refusals.

8. NISEI ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION DESIRABLE.

a) Possible barriers to full enjoyment of the GI Bill of Rights and Benefits by Nisei soldiers can be cleared more readily by a Japanese American administrative officer.

b) Problems of Nisei GI's are further complicated by the dislocation of their families by evacuation.

9. WORKMEN'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SHOULD BE SOUGHT.

a) Workers unemployed by the circumstance of the Pacific war received unemployment compensation until they were placed in relocation centers when payments ceased. The interrupted benefits should be continued for the period set by law.

10. RE-INSTALEMENT OF NISEI CIVIL SERVICE WORKERS SHOULD BE FACILITATED.

11. NON-RECOGNITION OF CABLE ACT SHOULD BE REVERSED.

a) Federal legislation permitting Nisei women married to Issei to retain their citizenship has been overruled by a district court on the basis of alleged dual citizenship.

12. NAVY ENLISTMENT PROHIBITION TO NISEI SHOULD BE RETRACTED.

13. FEDERAL, STATE, MUNICIPAL

back for new ventures. But with the end of hostilities, there is talk of papers being published in New York City, Chicago, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. This means that the Pacific Citizen is going to face competition even though it has no intention of being dragged into such a predicament.

The increased advertisements being received today decrease the space for articles. To be of service to the readers and to the cause of Japanese Americans in this country, there is a definite need for an increase in the number of pages. This would mean that there may have to be further increase in the subscription price for the advertisements may not cover the increased costs.

The Pacific Citizen should be increased to 12 pages. The main obstacle is the cost which must be absorbed somehow. If the circulation could be boosted to 13,000 to 15,000, the problem may be solved.

FEPC SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED.

\* \* \*

FOR AMERICAN RESIDENTS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

1. CITIZENSHIP THRU NATURALIZATION FOR ISSEI SHOULD BE SECURED.

a) With an act establishing Chinese eligibility to citizenship and Filipino and East Indians enabling act pending, American residents of Japanese descent should be considered under an "accepting" legislative bill for naturalization.

2. DEPORTATION OF ALIENS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

a) Japanese nationals who are detained should have their deportation reviewed under judicial proceedings where legal evidence, rather than supposition and allegation, can control the determination. Many such aliens have sons in the United States Army.

b) International merchants who are Japanese aliens engaged in trade with Japan become subject to deportation orders. Deprivation of the family head and support works an especial hardship upon dependents who are American citizens.

3. REPARATIONS COMMISSION SEIZURES OF PROPERTY SHOULD BE LEGALLY DETERMINED.

a) Issei, inadmissible to citizenship, have had their properties subject to the jurisdiction of Federal Reserve Blocked Accounts and the Alien Property Custodian. As long time residents of their adopted country, any confiscation of their properties by the Allied Reparations Commission should be on the basis of their essential allegiance, as determined by judicial procedure. Not only the Issei but his children and dependents who are American citizens are affected. The sanctity of any impairment to American citizenship must be examined closely.

4. FISH AND GAME CODE ISSEI RESTRICTIONS ARE DISCRIMINATORY.

a) The California state legislature revised its state fish and game codes to prohibit aliens of Japanese descent from engaging in commercial or sport fishing.

5. REVOCATION OF CONTRABAND PROHIBITIONS ARE TIMELY.

a) Refusing release of radios, flashlights, knives, bows and arrows, swords and cameras to Issei seems illogical when Nisei can have and operate such articles in the same home as their Issei parents. War-time security measures become senseless when they are needlessly prolonged.

6. REMOVAL OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS JUSTIFIABLE BY CESSATION OF WAR.

a) Confining aliens of Japanese descent on a mass basis, even though individually their sons may have set a brilliant war record, is no longer justifiable. Issei are still permitted to move about only within a five mile radius of their home.

## Colonel Singles Speaks To Denver JACL

"The Army is proud and you should be proud of the Japanese American boys who have fought in the war," declared Colonel Gordon C. Singles, commander of the 100th Infantry Battalion, at a JACL meeting held October 25 at the Y auditorium. Two hundred interested listeners heard the handsome colonel review the formation of the Nisei battalion and the part they played in the battles in Europe.

Colonel Singles first met the 100th at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He joined them later at Anzio and fought with them up the Italian boot, through France and into the Vosges mountains. After a brief rest at the Rivera, Colonel Singles was given command of the 397th infantry regiment of the 100th division which he led into inside Germany.

Minoru Yasui, first vice-president of the Denver chapter, presided over the meeting. He introduced members of his Boy Scout troop who served as a color guard. Taki Domoto, Jr., president, announced the Christmas ball and the national convention which is to be held next year in Denver. Miss Susie Takimoto rendered two vocal solos accompanied by Eiko Watanabe.

Following the meeting there was dancing and refreshments.

## Few Copies Remaining of "They Work For Victory"

There will be a few more copies of "They Work For Victory" available. No extra editions will be printed. Therefore, when the present supply is gone, it will be the end. The cost is too prohibitive for new types and composition. Those who want to make use of these remaining copies should place their orders immediately.



# REPORTER

## Congratulations!

An innocent looking envelope arrived from St. Paul, Minnesota. From the handwriting, the sender was known. But the contents made the national headquarters buzz with excitement.

The surprise news was the announcement of the engagement of our staunch standby, the young lady who pioneered the fund drives amongst our Caucasian friends in the East last year and took charge of our San Francisco office from January of this year as soon as the ban to the West Coast was lifted by the Western Defense Command.

Our congratulations and best wishes to Miss Teiko Ishida and ex-Sergeant Kuroiwa. We understand the wedding plans call for the ceremonies to take place in Utah. We shall be looking forward to the happy day.

We know all JACLers will want to extend their congratulations to Teiko who left San Francisco with Larry and Guyo Tajiri to set up national headquarters and start the Pacific Citizen in Salt Lake City. Without Teiko's great sacrifice, we doubt if the trying days of 1942 could have been successfully weathered.

## Wedding Bells for Office Member

October 28 was a big day for the office members for everyone was down at Ogden, Utah, to witness the wedding of Kimi Toyota to Hideo Iwamoto. The engagement had been formally announced about a year and a half ago, soon after Kimi joined the national headquarters staff.

The young couple are making their home in Salt Lake City where the bridegroom is occupied with his profession as an optician. We are glad that the bride is back with us for we certainly need experienced help to catch up with the accumulated work, what with the financial drives, Pacific Citizen Xmas edition and other reports and pamphlets coming out one after another.

## Denverites' Doings

When Amache relocation center closed last month, most of its inhabitants chose to go back to the West Coast. The papers state that more than 2,000 Japanese relocatees in Colorado have left to return to the West Coast since the restrictions have been removed. In 1944 Colorado had more than 7,000 persons of Japanese ancestry registered, of whom more than 2,300 lived in Denver. Almost every week people are leaving for their former homes.

Regina and Mitsu Miyata have sold their home and are returning to San Jose, California. Rev. Royden Susu-Mago has returned to Los Angeles to take over the pastorate of an inter-racial church there. Lois and Albert Morimoto are packing their bags preparatory to leaving for the coast. They will be joined shortly by Eichi and May Sakaguchi.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ohashi drove to San Francisco early this month on business.

Charles and Yuki Kamayatsu spent an enjoyable week's vacation at Estes park, a nearby mountain resort.

It was wedding bells for Barbara Iwamoto and Steve Mayeda on Wednesday, October 31. They were married at a quiet ceremony at Trinity Methodist church.

Sus Hada came into town for an emergency furlough. His father was critically ill at St. Luke's hospital but is now well on the road to recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Yutaka had a houseful of guests at their housewarming. They bought a new home about a month ago.

Condolences are being extended Alice Amano and her brothers whose father passed away on October 13. He was a Denver pioneer having lived here forty years.

Heartfelt sympathies are also extended to Mrs. Helen Yuge. Her mother died recently after a protracted illness.

Mr. Kido visited Denver to discuss the forthcoming national convention with the Denver chapter cabinet. Plans are being formulated and local committees will be named shortly.

## Elect Officers During December

All chapters are urged to complete their election of officers by January 1, 1946. And the names and addresses of the officers should be sent in to national headquarters as soon as possible.

## Denver JACL Announces Christmas Ball

To highlight the Christmas holidays with memorable events, the Denver chapter has announced it will sponsor a Christmas ball on Wednesday, December 26 at the Silver Glade ballroom of the Cosmopolitan hotel. Happy Logan's orchestra will furnish the music.

The holiday dance is expected to draw more people than the record crowd of four hundred who attended the chapter's inaugural ball last June. Pete Furuta, talented songbird, has been appointed master of ceremonies. An intermission floor show is being planned.

Price of tickets will be announced in the near future. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the ball.

## U. S. Will Not Seize Property of Resident Japanese

Ever since the Christian Science Monitor came out with the story about the seizure of property of Japanese aliens in this country, it has been a matter of grave concern for all Nisei and Issei. If the parents should lose everything, then many who are going to school will have to abandon their education. And the Issei would be left penniless and therefore forced to go on relief. Complications of various sorts were bound to arise.

Because of the gravity of the problem, national headquarters immediately wired to President Truman at the White House for clarification. Also letters were written to various friends to ascertain whether Mr. Edwin Pauley, the American chief on the Allied Reparations Committee, had really made such a statement.

The answer has finally arrived. According to his letter to Mr. Daniel Marshall of the Catholic Inter-Racial Council, the following was contained:

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Marshall:

With reference to your letter of October 18, the source of the statement which you quote may have been a misunderstanding of what I said at a press conference in Los Angeles in September.

At that press conference, to the best of my recollection, I stated that whatever might be recovered by the United States through reparations would be most insignificant compared to the cost of the war to us; and illustrated this by pointing out the comparatively small amount of Japanese property which has been seized by the Alien Property Custodian in this country. In making reference to the property held by the Alien Property Custodian, I pointed out that this included items ranging from large business houses down to such property as the Japanese corner grocery store.

I am sure you are already familiar with the type of cases in which Japanese property has been seized by the Alien Property Custodian. It is not my function or intention to attempt to enlarge on the scope of cases in which the Alien Property Custodian determines it desirable to vest Japanese property.

I am as appreciative as you are of the valiant job done in this war by American soldiers of Japanese ancestry.

With kindest regards, I am

Most sincerely,  
/s/ Edwin W. Pauley

## The Case FOR THE NISEI



Brief of  
The Japanese American Citizens League

On Sale at JACL offices: \$1 per copy.

## A Month In Review Of Denver Office

October 15-22

An Issei came to our office asking us to help him secure a new alien registration card which he had lost in moving to Denver. Went with him to the immigration office to interpret for him. The card was secured for him.

About six of us JACL members attended Dr. Alpenfel's lecture at Morey Junior high school. All of us were deeply impressed with her talk.

Colonel Singles had expressed a desire to visit boys from the 100th infantry at Fitzsimmons General hospital. Contact was made with the public relations officer there who furnished us with names of Nisei boys who were patients. Arranged with the WRA photographer to take pictures of the visit. We will go out next Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Kobayashi volunteered to drive me out to the hospital so that we could see some of the boys who would be paid a visit by the colonel. We saw several of them and had a short visit with each.

Notices for this Thursday's JACL meeting were sent out. Colonel Singles is scheduled to speak. After his talk there will be a social period. The Young People's Society which holds regular Thursday night dances has been invited to join us so that we might use the phonograph together. Cider and donuts will be served. Notices to this effect were sent to the papers. Before the meeting there will be a dinner in the Y dining room with Colonel and Mrs. Singles, the cabinet members and boys from Fitzsimmons.

October 22-29

Hikaru Iwasaki, WRA photographer, went out to Fitzsimmons General hospital with me to take pictures of the 100th boys convalescing there. Colonel Singles was waiting for us. Took down the history of the six boys whom we were able to meet. Everyone of them wore many decorations. An entire afternoon was spent in visiting the boys.

The Denver Unity Council called an executive committee meeting. Most of the time was taken up with reports of new officers. Councilman James Fresques attended and explained how liquor licenses are issued in the city. Since the business for the evening was not completed, the chairman called for another meeting later in the week.

The WRA phoned and asked for captions for the photos which were taken earlier in the week. A set of the photos were mailed to the Pacific Citizen.

Sixteen of us had dinner together at the Y before the JACL meeting. We had driven out to the hospital to pick up some of the boys. About 200 people attended our meeting. A report of that meeting is given elsewhere in this issue.

We are taking part in the Victory Loan. Football tickets will be given early purchasers for a game to be played November 25.

October 29 — November 5

There has been quite a bit of enthusiasm here in regard to the national JACL convention.

Dean Roberts called a Denver Unity Council meeting on Tuesday in his study. Most of the discussion was centered on the raising of funds. The Unity Council is now compiling information on minority veterans. If Nisei veterans have complaints to make regarding treatment received at the hands of veterans' organizations, this office would appreciate hearing from them.

Taki Domoto called a cabinet meeting to draw up a slate of officers for next year and also to discuss the convention. The ballots will go out in the mails the first week of December and officers will be announced at the Christmas ball on December 26. We are also considering calling together delegates from various Colorado chapters for a meeting. We are interested in securing their support for the convention next year.

The Christmas ball will be held the day after Christmas. Early next year the chapter will sponsor a rally dance.

This coming week we plan to devote our energies to the Christmas issue of the Pacific Citizen and secure ads.

November 5 to 12

Most of the week was spent in answering mail and filing correspondence. Taki Domoto has been working on the P. C. ads. We typed up a file of those which appeared in last year's issue. We are asking some of our cabinet officers to help in this work.

The WRA office phoned and asked for information on Colonel Singles. We told them what we knew.

Some local clergymen were concerned about Ben Kuroki not wanting to see Denver again because of an insulting remark made against him.

We have two secretarial job offers but have not found girls to take them. So many have gone into civil service and are used to good salaries.

## Observations of California

By SABURO KIDO

My visit to Los Angeles and San Francisco commencing from October 10 was depressing in many respects. The most important thing of course is the realization that the closing of the relocation centers may be progressing on schedule but the problem is merely being shifted to the "free zone" which may complicate the outlook for all persons of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast. The problem of housing and employment for many is going hand in hand with that of the serious question of relief. Prior to the evacuation, the Japanese people were proud of being off relief rolls even during the depths of the last depression. Every family member and friend helped each other which resulted in the silly charges that the Japanese government may have been financing them and so forth. Today, there is the feeling of futility in trying to conceal the need for public relief. And since the situation was created through the government's action, no one feels the stigma of receiving aid. This is a great change.

L'IL TOKYO AGAIN

Los Angeles is going to have its L'il Tokyo again. It was reported that already there were 21 eating places open or being prepared for business. Some were doing landslide business while others were barely making ends meet. This knocked the idea that I had about anyone being able to make money when he opens an eating place these days. There must be a good cook or some attraction to bring in the customers. It was good to see white, colored and Japanese eating at one place. Of course this did not apply to the cafes or restaurants serving strictly Japanese food. Al Wirin, JACL's special counsel and ACLU's attorney for the Southern branch, hounded me to feed him sukiyaki. Evidently he was impressed with my cooking when he was in Salt Lake City recently. But there was no sukiyaki house or a private family whose kitchen we could borrow for the evening. Scotty and his wife, Setsu, had not found a place of their own as yet.

The old Miyako Hotel on the corner of East First and South San Pedro is going to be back in Japanese hands from November 1. I stopped at this place which was still under Negro management. I nearly had to sleep in the park the second night. I had not checked out so I thought my room would be reserved for me. Imagine my surprise and consternation when the room clerk told me at 10:30 p. m. that I had been checked out since I had not paid my next day's rent. I was lucky to have a room without a bath because I noticed that there was no vacancy after that until my departure.

The old Shokin building is known as the Vimcar building. It had been closed during the duration of the war and has been opened only recently. The trouble with this place is that the rent is high, \$75 a room. However, doctors and dentists are taking up the space because the building is centrally located. JACL's office is located here. We are getting a special rate for four months after which we shall have to decide whether to continue the office in Los Angeles or close up. Everything depends upon the service we can render, the need for such an office, and the finances of national headquarters.

PERMANENT RESIDENTS

An interesting observation I heard while talking about the returning Japanese was that the Issei will make a fast comeback because they have made up their mind to be a part of America and will no longer think of going back or sending their money to Japan. If this should be true, it will help to lay a firmer foundation than before the evacuation. We hope this statement is true.

The biggest question of course is housing. The defense housing projects and the army barracks which have been coming into the hands of the WRA are the life-savers. But they have their inconveniences and shortcomings. They may be a little better than the center barracks. Sooner or later, family people will have to have a little more privacy if they desire to give proper training to the growing children.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

On Monday, October 15, I went to the Superior Court of Los Angeles County in the City Hall where Al Wirin of the ACLU and Dan Marshall of the Catholic Inter-Racial Council were representing Dr. Ken Sugino, a serviceman's father, and an optometrist, in his suit to compel the State Board of Equalization to issue him a sales tax permit. When the judge came on the bench, it was a most interesting event I have witnessed in a long time. It made me wonder if I were in California or not. The judge proceeded to roast Mr. Bonelli for calling his honor names about three years ago when the State Board of Equalization member was trying to disqualify every judge in Los Angeles County for his trial. When the attorney general's office presented a letter from the Board that not only Dr. Sugino's license

(Continued on page 4)

## Observations of California

(Continued from page 3)

but fifteen other Japanese had been cleared and that in the future, all Japanese applicants will be treated on the same basis as any other applicant, the case had to be dismissed. But the fact that those letters became official record was a complete victory for the two attorneys who were trying hard to get something more than just the license for Dr. Suginio.

Mr. Bonelli had been advised that his stand was illegal. But he defied the opinion of the Attorney General's office and was even going to try to circumvent any court orders by stalling. However, when he was sued and the attorney general told him to get his own attorney at his own cost, it must have hit him in the spot which he most dreads. Anyone who has such discriminatory treatment in the future may bear in mind the fact that he may have a civil damage suit against such state officials, especially on those like Mr. Bonelli who intentionally flaunt the law to vent their prejudice.

I spent almost one whole afternoon with Mr. Al Wirin, discussing the various legal problems facing the returnees. The case of paramount importance is of course the Fred Oyama escheat case in San Diego. Mr. Wirin said that he was going to take it to the State Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court if necessary.

### TEST CASE

There is no doubt that the Oyama case is a good test case because the facts are good. Mr. K. Oyama had purchased real property for his son Fred about ten years ago. He retained an attorney and obtained letters of guardianship over his son's estate. This is as far as he went. Evidently, he managed the property without filing any report as guardian subsequently. Now the state claims that the property was purchased by the father as a subterfuge and that therefore there was a violation of the California Alien Land Law.

The JAACL feels that this is the fundamental question which should be reaffirmed by the California Supreme Court. In the Yano guardianship and Fujita escheat cases, the principles that the father who is an alien ineligible for citizenship can make a bona fide gift of money to his citizen children to purchase real property and that the said father can become a guardian over the property were determined. The court in the Yano case further stated that even if the father bought the property to evade the Alien Land Law, once the property was conveyed to the minor child, the father had no interest in the said property.

If the two decisions propound the law, then in the Fred Oyama case, what the father did or did not do after the property became Fred's should be of no effect on the title. Winning the Oyama case on this point would be most valuable in clearing the cloud over many of the cases against which escheat proceedings have been taken.

Mr. Wirin is most anxious to have the validity of the Alien Land Law itself tested. If this could be done, it would be wonderful because the present United States Supreme Court justices may take an entirely different attitude than the judges of over 20 years ago.

Another point which is being raised is the application of the statute of limitations. And the unfair presumption that if consideration is paid by an alien ineligible for citizenship, there is the intent to evade the Alien Land Law will be tested.

The desire of the ACLU to test the authority and the power of the Federal Government to deport enemy aliens was revealed.

### VETERAN'S VIEWPOINT

On my way home, when I stopped at the JAACL hostel in Sacramento, I met Chaplain Yamada of the 442nd and about twelve other Hawaiian Nisei who had served overseas with the combat team and the Merrill's Marauders and one Caucasian. I asked them what the soldiers thought about the Tule Lake repatriates. They frankly stated that at least 90 per cent of the Nisei soldiers would be violently against them. The normal reaction of the volunteers may be as stated. But among the 5500, there must be many who may have been coerced. And how about those who are not 21 among the girls and below 18 among the boys? JAACL will not participate in any test case in the initial stages but will watch the developments. We would like to see justice done by having a fair treatment of the individual cases. As far as we know, the Justice Department has been very considerate.

The California legislature finally passed a fishing law which denies licenses to aliens ineligible to citizenship. This means that the Issei cannot go out fishing. Mr. Wirin is conferring with the representatives of the fisherman's association on the question of testing the constitutionality of this new law. JAACL has promised its support and cooperation.

While at the San Francisco office, a

man came in and informed us that there is a law which denies surveyor's license to an alien ineligible to citizenship.

All in all, there are many test cases which must be instituted if the rights of the Issei are to be clarified. This will require money.

### LEGAL RIGHTS DEFENSE

In view of the many problems, the movement sponsored by the San Francisco JAACL office assumes special importance. It is the project to raise around \$100,000 for legal defense fund. I personally felt that the committee was overly optimistic, but many seemed confident of success.

I remained over till the evening of the 22nd to attend the weekly committee meeting. I advanced the plan that if assurance can be given that all cases involving the legal rights of persons of Japanese ancestry can be handled by one law firm in Southern California and another in Northern California, it may be one way of saving a great deal of attorney's fees. In this connection, I thought the minimum amount to be raised would be \$50,000. If the plan were to be used in the fund drive, I asked that in the event that the minimum amount could not be raised, the money would be refunded since we would not be able to live up to our promise. The committee is considering the matter and may revise their approach by not making specific commitments as to how much will be done.

As far as the San Francisco residents are concerned, I believe they are fortunate in having pioneers like Mr. K. Togasaki and Mr. M. Tsukamoto back. Also Mr. K. Ikeda of Sacramento and Mr. Koda of Dos Palos are active newcomers.

### RACE RIOTS

The racial problem of the West Coast was summed up for me by Mr. Carey McWilliams when I dropped in to see him in Los Angeles. He was all wrapped up in the Gerad L. K. Smith matter. McWilliams thought race riots may be possible within the next eight to twelve months. The most likely spots were (1) Portland where there has been a large influx of Negroes; (2) the East Bay of San Francisco area; and (3) the Los Angeles region with either the Mexicans or the Negroes involved.

When I mentioned this fact to Mr. Lawrence Hewes of the American Council on Race Relations, he said that conditions were improving. Both Hewes and McWilliams believed that the race baiters were definitely beaten as far as the Japanese question was concerned. They expected sporadic outbursts here and there, but that the public was now accepting the return of the evacuees. The big test was when the first special trains began arriving in California. When no trouble brewed on a mass scale, it was the proof that the public was not going to make any last ditch opposition.

In this connection, there is a friend in San Francisco who has been taking a private poll of public opinion before every election time. Early this year when I saw him, he told me that the public was strongly against the return of even the loyal Japanese Americans. And on this trip, he informed me that he was again taking his poll and had listed the question pertaining to the Japanese Americans. He was pleased to note that at least a large majority were now in favor of the return.

The thing that I have noticed on this trip is the fact that most of the evacuees who have returned to California are the Isseis. Hardly any of our former young leaders are back as yet. This makes the task of the Issei more difficult as far as adjustment with the general public is concerned.

### CENTER COMPLEX

Even if the leaders should return, unless some of the people from the relocation centers change their attitude, it is going to discourage any civic mindedness. The case at Hunter's Point will serve as an example. Because the Japanese who have returned from Topaz had to either take over the cafeteria or go to town to eat, they assessed \$5 a person, including women and children, to raise the working capital of \$1000. It was hard work, but things were getting in shape. Then the second contingent came in from Topaz. Immediately rumors began to circulate that the first group was trying to make money from those who came in later. The manager of the cooperative cafeteria was ready to quit because he claimed that there was nothing but grief and no appreciation.

Another instance we heard was about a man who was helping a local hostel. The rumor around town was that he was making at least \$150 a month. When the person who owns the building which was being used as a hostel spoke to me, he indignantly denied that the man in question was making any profit.

The leaders who have had unfortunate experiences in the relocation centers are reluctant about carrying on civic work for the general welfare. It seems that everyone had to do something while they were in the camps whether they liked

it or not. There was no escape from the pressure of the block or the camp as a whole. But now that they are in the normal stream of community life, everyone is supporting himself and can stay away from gatherings if he so desires. Since he is busy making his own living, there is little time left to worry about others. And even if there is time, knowing that leadership is an unthankful job amongst the Japanese people, he is most reluctant in showing his face.

The three years of center life has developed a peculiar complex amongst the residents. Everyone who tries to serve the community is suspected of having some selfish motive. No one believes that there are people who want to help others through their love of mankind.

One Issei stated that "back-biting," jealousy of anyone who is making progress, the weakness of not giving credit where credit is due constitute the shortcomings of the Japanese in this country. We agree with him for we know from experience. The Nisei have inherited this bad trait to a certain extent. This is the reason why it is doubtful if there will be any strong unified group outside of the JAACL and religious bodies.

### JOBS

The employment situation is not too promising for the men of the white collar job class. The women seem to find jobs plentiful. No longer is a Nisei girl satisfied with a \$125 secretarial job. The pay scale is much higher. We are happy that the Nisei girls have a high regard for themselves. We hope they have the qualifications so that the reputation of the Nisei workers will become excellent. Such a thing could mean more jobs for all persons of Japanese ancestry.

So far price scales have been maintained. This is true with gardeners. And as far as houseworkers are concerned, the Japanese know their way more or less. Mrs. Leslie Ganyard of the Rosenberg Foundation was particularly concerned about this problem because she thought any price-cutting by a Japanese would have a disastrous effect on public relations.

### PETALUMA

The trip that Joe Masaoka and I took to the Petaluma district was very educational. We saw the poultry ranches without hens. Upon inquiry we learned that because of the high prices of fryers in the black market, chicken ranchers had gone into the raising of fryers rather than egg laying hens. This may explain the reason for the San Franciscans running short of eggs.

Because of the high cost of chicks and feed, it has not been easy for the evacuee poultry ranches to get back on their feet. The chicken coops have been left in a bad condition. Evidently the tenants were not interested in cleaning the place but making the most money during the shortest period. With the break of the "black market" operations after V-J day, prices of pullets and chicks have dropped so when next spring rolls around, the poultry ranch may be ready for operation.

### S. F. JAPANESE TOWN

Because of the housing shortage in San Francisco, there are more people living in Berkeley than before the war. In order to obtain living quarters, many are going into domestic work. For those without children, this may be the best money making job which will eliminate the worry of the high cost of living. For young couples it may give them a chance to save up capital for business ventures later on. At the present time, for anyone who wants to start anything, the cost is prohibitive unless the person has a large capital.

San Francisco's Japanese town will not come back for a long time if ever. It is a "slum area." And since it has been a semi-residential district instead of a business section like the Pil Tokyo of Los Angeles, to get back into the same quarters is going to be difficult. Grant Avenue is fully occupied by Chinese. And the landlords have been boycotting Japanese. The V-J day may have changed their attitude. When trade relations with Japan is established again, there may be further opportunities for importers and exporters; but no one knows what the future is in this field.

### NEGRO-JAPANESE

The Negro-Japanese relationship in Los Angeles and elsewhere must be guarded carefully. Unfortunately, Japanese, Negroes and Mexicans are placed in the same district because of residential restrictions. For this reason, there is bound to be some resentment against the returning Japanese property owners by those who are displaced. In Los Angeles, it is reported that a Japanese purchased a hotel's lease and served notice on all the Negro tenants. Friends intervened and advised that the change be made gradually instead of abruptly. Even if there is a right to take action, it is important that tact be applied.

The Negroes on the whole are sympathetic towards the Japanese. They understand that the district they are occupying belonged to the evacuees. Such being the case, they are saying that the returnees are entitled to the place. Most likely the former Japanese districts will

be shared by the Japanese and the Negroes because many Negroes have either purchased property or made investments.

### SHIFT IN POPULATION

The Japanese population centers on the West Coast are shifting. This may be only temporary. Only about half of the pre-evacuation population is returning after the closing of the relocation centers. Los Angeles is fast reaching its former number. San Jose and the Fresno area have reached or will exceed the pre-war number. Berkeley falls into the same class. Sacramento will be filled with the Tule Lake people most likely. Cities like Salinas, Watsonville, San Francisco, and Stockton have not regained their former number. And the chances are they may not for many years to come.

### NEWSPAPER

While in Los Angeles and San Francisco, there was talk about the Rafu Shimpo and the Japanese American News being started. The people seem to feel that the Utah Nippo or the Rocky Shimpo or the Colorado Times took too long a time to arrive. Furthermore, for those who want to have news inserted, unless they can plan at least one to two weeks ahead, it is difficult to let the people know through the news columns. The cry for a local paper may become stronger as more people resettle on the West Coast.

The same reason may be the basis for the talk about starting a Japanese newspaper in New York City and Chicago. From my experience of the past, I know that some people are going to lose money if they do not know how expensive it is to start a newspaper. I remember the saying, "It is hard to start a newspaper; but once it is started, it is the hardest thing to die off." And yet, the time may come when there may be only small newspapers serving their local community.

### RELIEF

What is to be done about the relief cases? Those who are able to receive aid from the counties need not worry. But there are going to be many who will not be over 65 and who may not qualify for the ordinary relief. Who is going to take care of them? The hostels or housing projects will not be able to carry the load.

Another problem is that of juvenile delinquency. Some of the hostels are having problems of petty theft, the same type of stealing which was like an epidemic in the assembly and relocation centers in the initial stages. The evil influences of the centers are creeping up. Many of the parents have lost the respect of their children and cannot exercise any authority over them because the children claim that the parents did not feed them. It was the government who took care of them. And this is the point which every parent must be careful of when he seeks relief from the government. This may be the easiest way out temporarily. In the long run, it may be disastrous to the family unity and the ruination of the future of the children whose outlook on life may become warped.

### WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

Everywhere the returnees are groping around to bring themselves back to normal thinking. The WRA will be closing its office gradually after the first of the year 1946. At the most, it can continue until July 1, of next year. Who is to take its place? The anti-Japanese feeling will not completely subside by that time.

Thinking Issei are already pondering about this problem. The time is coming when the greater part of the burden must be shouldered by the Japanese themselves. For those of us who have been working through the JAACL, it seems as if the day has come when more and more people are going to look towards the league for guidance and leadership. This is the organization through which the community leaders amongst the Nisei can be trained. It has been able to survive the ordeals of the war even when the Japanese people were rabidly against it.

Koenkais are being organized in various parts of the country. I am hoping that more communities will rally to the support of the league and help us re-activate chapters before trouble comes to awaken the community from its slumber.

## Pacific Citizen Xmas Edition

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