

September 15, 1941: After some discussion with H.T. Komai and members of the staff, we have decided to undertake something of a public relations program to counter-act what the staff feels is a strong tide of unfavorable feeling against resident Japanese. The idea is to improve our Sunday edition and circulate it, gratis, among over 600 daily, weekly, metropolitan and suburban newspapers of California. The Sunday tabloid edition of The Rafu Shimpō now has 20 pages, 14 of which are printed in English. The idea is to eventually make it all English.

How to finance this added circulation? I've figured \$5000 yearly will do it, and give the English Section another leg on which to stand. It's my job to raise that \$5000. If we can secure 100 of our more prosperous business-men and farmer subscribers to each donate \$50, that will give us our \$5000. We talk to the old man. His first question: "How can you get 100 men to donate \$50 each?" We don't know yet, but we'll soon find out.

We describe the plan to him like this: "Most Issei and many Nisei business men, as well as farmers, are worried sick about the situation on the Pacific. The tide of community opinion has already had its bad effects in many areas--in Santa Maria Valley, in Imperial Valley, in Los Angeles. The competitors of many Japanese business firms are exploiting the international situation to the detriment of the Issei and Nisei businesses. It doesn't take much talking to convince these men that there is a positive need for some public relations to be done in their own communities. On top of that, most Issei and Nisei businesses could use accurate, up-to-date information on current legislation, proposals, and movements that will affect their business peculiarly because they happen to be Japanese. We have been taking Kiplinger's letter from Washington and paying \$18 a year for it just to keep ahead of pending business legislation, haven't we? And we take half a dozen other information services primarily for our business department and not for our publication? Well, if each of the 100 will donate \$50, we will credit each with sponsoring a year's subscription of the Sunday Rafu Shimpō to five publications in their area. A representative of our paper will make it a point to call in that area and on the editors of the newspapers on behalf of the local man who is paying for the subscription. The donor will receive a year's Legislative Reports service; we'll purchase some of the better services coming out of Washington for that purpose, in addition to keeping our own contacts."

H.T. thinks the idea is okay, but he is not too optimistic. "Times aren't too good

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now anyway.

First prospect to walk into our office today is Shigemi Aratani, proprietor of the Pacific Printing Company, 233 East First Street. He is one of the lesser Nisei business men of Little Tokio; his father still actually runs the shop, but Pacific does a fair volume of business. Shigemi is active in the J.A.C.L. locally. He thought the idea a good one and said: "Okay, it's good. I approve of it wholeheartedly. The J.A.C.L. could help you in getting information too. You can include us as a \$50 donor among the last ten you sign up."

Good start, we thought.

On September 9, we had written the following letter to Supervisor John Anson Ford:

THE RA FU SHIMPO
L.A. Japanese Daily News

"Supervisor John Anson Ford
Hall of Records
Los Angeles, California

September 9, 1941

"Dear Mr. Ford:

"Thank you kindly for keeping us informed of county government activities through your very interesting column, 'Straight from the Shoulder', as well as the regularly issued releases.

"From our own experience in receiving your communications, these past few years especially, we have learned the value of regular, sustained news releases. I am sure our readers have benefited immensely, as has our staff, in the knowledge and understanding of county government and its many problems. The result has been, I am sure, a more enlightened citizenry better equipped to meet our problems.

"Proceeding from this experience, we should like to apply similar methods in seeking a better understanding of our so-called 'Japanese' problems. We feel quite keenly; and there is much evidence to support this feeling, that today especially, there is ample likelihood of wide misunderstanding regarding the resident Japanese, both the parent group and the American-born.

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"We know they are American--from the heart. Their actions are proving it daily. We feel, however, there is a job to be done in letting our American neighbors, friends--the public at large--know this.

"For that reason, we are planning to send our Sunday edition, which carries fourteen pages of English, to as many community, suburban, and city newspapers as we can afford to do regularly for a full year.

"We have been doing this on a limited scale the past two years; and we were pleasantly surprised to see the amount of material reprinted from our paper. Our 'Nisei Creed' a pledge of loyalty and faith in America, has been reprinted a score of times, editorialized, praised; has even reached the Congressional Record.

"I should like to inquire of you if such a program carried on by us would be apt to incur any justifiable criticism at this time. I personally feel it is good, and, furthermore, necessary. But some persons, with characteristic Japanese reticence, feel 'we should not make ourselves conspicuous' at this time. Your views on this matter would be sincerely appreciated. I know how busy you are; and I hesitate to impose upon your time but would be grateful for a reply at your convenience.

With my very best wishes to Mrs. Ford,

I remain

Very cordially yours,

Togo Tanaka, English Editor

TT:gky"

Supervisor Ford's reply to the letter had been encouraging. On September 11, he had written:

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles
September 11, 1941

"Mr. Togo Tanaka
104 N. Los Angeles St.
Los Angeles, California

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"Dear Mr. Tanaka:

"I feel that every effort should be made to create an understanding of the true facts regarding our Japanese American citizens especially because I have found so many of them unusually diligent, intelligent and grateful for the American way of life.

"I am sure that distribution of your weekly edition would definitely help in creating a better understanding of these young Americans whose Oriental background creates some difficult problems. Whether regular mailing or intermittent mailing would be more acceptable is a matter you will have to judge.

Very sincerely,

(s i g n e d)
JOHN ANSON FORD

JAF:cf"

September 16, 1941: Went down to the Produce market with our Great Idea, notebook in hand today. Ran into Frank Kito, attorney, at the Wholesale Terminal Building, 784 South Central Avenue. He is sharp on the angles, was critical of the plan at first, saying: "Why don't you come right out and say you want a contribution?" That's a good idea with some people. He said it was an excellent plan, that we could sign him up; he added, however, that he believed that most Issei would be "kicking in fifty bucks on the strength of the prestige of The Rafu Shimpo."

Kito says the produce operators of the ~~Sven~~ Seventh Street terminal, that is the Japanese operators, are worried about the situation in the Pacific. "But they don't think war will come; they don't see how it can. They are sure it will all blow over."

Talked to H. K. Osawa, president of the H. K. Osawa & Company, 770 South Central Avenue. He is a shrewd Issei business man, in his late forties, it seems. He employs between 22 and 25 persons, does an annual gross business of about \$750,000; he finances a good number of farmers in Central California, in San Pedro and Gardena valley. He says he nets around \$35,000 a year clear, in addition to his own salary. He has an impressive office in the mezzanine of his market, with a bearskin rug; the office is made over with knotty pine, and he has good furniture. War? He has a very calm and detached way of looking at the "growling on the Pacific". He says: "America and Japan have been at peace nearly a whole century. Only two great powers that have not gone to war against each other. They had great tension in other years; always it was settled, always common sense. Do you know why? Because it's bad business to go to war against such good customers. No sense." Sure, he thought the idea we had about circulating the newspaper was an excellent one; he had only flattering words for The Rafu Shimpo English Section; he said he would call the Issei market operators together and sell all of them on the idea of supporting this project.

Next talked to Ken Shintani, president of the Oka Produce Company and the Garden Basket Inc., operators of both wholesale and retail fruit and vegetable firms, 1060 San Julian Street. He is a pleasant, amiable, keen young Issei. I guess his age to be late thirties or early forties; he speaks fair English, though he prefers to talk in Japanese. He was immediately receptive, said: "That is necessary work, and I am glad somebody is doing it." He felt it was necessary to make it clear, in talking with other prospective supporters that there was nothing of any "promotion" involved in it. We were introduced to him by Seiichi Nobe.

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sec'y Next went to see T. Ihara, an Issei who is ~~treasurer~~ of the Southwest Berry Exchange, 948 San Julian. He was, it seemed to me, quite eager that something of this nature be done. "Lots of men in the Market telling me lately they going to knock Japanese out of market when they get chance. Public opinion powerful thing." He volunteered to write out a check for \$50 immediately. We told him we were not going to collect any check until I had seen 100 persons and we were thus assured of the success of the project.

It apparently is not going to be too difficult to muster support, judging from the start. I ~~also~~ discussed the matter over with Seiichi Nobe with whom we have had some business relations. He is a smart real estate and insurance operator and knows business. He feels it a good thing and is on the list of supporters.

September 17, 1941: Continued to make the rounds of the wholesale markets today in enlisting support for the Legislative Report; that's what H.T. and the staff have decided we'd better call the project.

Attorney Frank Kito introduced me to Masao Yoshitsu, head of the United Distributing Company, 282 Wholesale Terminal Building, produce brokers and dealers. Yoshitsu is a stout, pleasant man, in his thirties. He has an office in the Terminal Building and a packing house at 780 Warehouse St. He speaks English without a trace of accent; I thought he was a Nisei. He tells me he is an Issei, by a few years. He is a graduate of Stanford University. He does not do a large volume of business and one guesses his income to be around \$5000 yearly, but that is only a guess. He is more concerned about the strained relations between the United States and Japan than most Issei in the market. He says: "Isn't there some way, Mr. Tanaka, that you know how fellows like me can get American citizenship? I don't want to be an enemy alien if we have a blow-off." He is intensely interested in the project; he says he is writing an article at the present time about the labor movement in California; he thinks some of the anti-labor forces in Southern California are detrimental "to human progress". He is strong on University contacts. He suggests that we send our newspaper to the University libraries, to churches all over the country; he suggests that we write to Dr. Payson J. Treat and a Dr. Strong of Stanford and get them to contribute articles; he says: "you should establish contacts with Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbure-of Stanford University."

Walked up two flights of stairs to the office of George Susumu Hasuike, president of the Three Star Produce Company, 932 Wall Street, next. Hasuike is regarded generally as the outstanding Issei Japanese business man in Southern California. His chain of retail stores, 43 of them, are reputed to gross over \$3,000,000 annually; in addition he has wholesale, general supply, frozen food, florist, and one super market in which he has interest in grocery, meat and all other departments. Hasuike is a youngish looking Issei, in his forties. His income must be considerable. He's not worried very much about the situation generally, he says, except the troubles he has with the union which obviously he does not like too well. He is none too enthusiastic about our plan, but this may be only in contrast to the reception we got from Yoshitsu just a few minutes previously. Hasuike is not the demonstrative kind anyway. He listens to us talk, nods his head, then asks: (in Japanese) "How much is it going to cost?" We tell him fifty bucks. He looks as if he thinks that's pretty cheap. The last time we came up here, we think, he got a lot of free publicity; he gave us a lug of freestone

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peaches. He probably won't today. He asks if the Kashu Mainichi (Japan-California Daily News) is going to do something of the same nature. We tell him we don't know. We ask him how his business is going. He says things are working along all right; yes, some of his managers have reported some unfavorable incidents here and there between the boys who work as clerks and their customers. "But nothing serious."

Our next stop is at the Model Potato Distributors, Inc., through introduction by Attorney Frank Kito. Harry Hideo Okada and George Nakatsuka are co-proprietors of Model Potato Distributors, 1101 San Julian Street. Neither is very talkative, so we let Kito handle them. They agreed to support the program, but if I can get 102 people, I would prefer to let them come in later when they felt they would be getting \$50 worth of services in return. They were too absorbed in a game of go-ishi going on in the corner of their office to give undivided attention to the discussion.

We had some receipts printed today. When we get out our 100 supporters, I am to go out and pass these papers in exchange for 100 checks totalling \$5000:

RAFU SHIMPO

No.

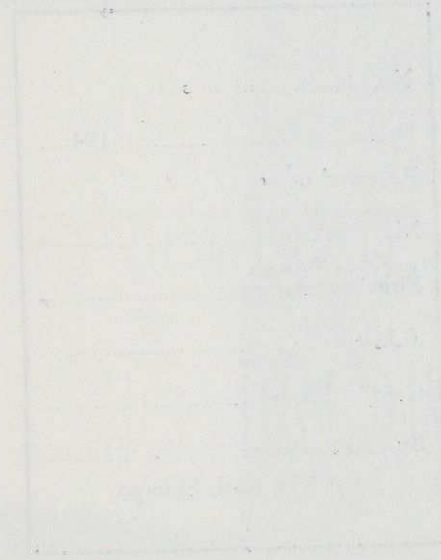
M the holder of this receipt is entitled to one year's service and subscription to the LEGISLATIVE REPORT, twice-monthly News-Letter of The Rafu Shimpō English Section, and to the equivalent of 5 years' subscription to the Sunday Rafu Shimpō.

RECEIVED, the sum of Fifty Dollars this day of, 194.....

H. T. KOMAI
EDITOR & PUBLISHER

TOGO TANAKA
ENGLISH EDITOR

© GOES 200



No. 200

No.

Date....., 194.....

Received of

M

Firm

Address

City

By

The Rafu Shimpo

September 19, 1941: Visited the Rikimaru Bros. produce market, 923 So. San Pedro Street today. Mataji and Isamu Rikimaru are brothers. They jointly operate a rather prosperous commission merchants house. As I went into the office, I ran into a very un-personable little guy swinging a golf club, as if he were practising. He is Isamu Rikimaru. The real boss of the place, I learn is the brother Mataji. Seiichi Nobe is along with me because he writes the insurance and merchants bonds for the Rikimarus. Mataji Rikimaru thinks it a good idea and agrees to become one of the supporters. He said that the "situation has never been as bad as it seems to be getting." War? Whenever I bring that question up, it seems I always get a look of disapproval. Of course not, there won't be any way, he says.

We heard today in a letter from State Senator Robert Walker Kenny; he approves of the idea. The recent exchange of correspondence with Kenny has been encouraging:

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE
Robert W. Kenny
Senator for Los Angeles County
September 2, 1941

"Mr. Togo Tanaka
Care of Rafu Shimpō
104 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, California

"Dear Mr. Tanaka:

"I inquired for you when Mrs. Kenny and I attended the Nisei Festival last Saturday evening, but they said you were not around at that time. I was sorry that I did not have the chance to thank you personally for the many courtesies you have extended to me in your columns.

"As you know, I am now running for Governor, and I would like to have a chance to talk with you in the near future.

"I am,

sincerely yours,

(signed)
ROBERT W. KENNY

RWK:gm"

We wrote a letter of acknowledgment immediately:

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THE RAFU SHIMPO
L.A. Japanese Daily News
104 N. Los Angeles St.

"State Senator Robert W. Kenny
State Building
Los Angeles, California

September 3, 1941

"Dear Senator Kenny:

"Thank you for your letter. Me. Eiji Tanabe, who was chairman of the Nisei Festival had informed me yesterday of yours and Mrs. Kenny's presence at the celebration Saturday night, and I am sorry to have missed seeing you.

"Your candidacy for Governor has been known to us for quite some time; as a matter of fact, members of our staff have been anticipating it, and we are glad to know that there is no uncertainty regarding it. I was recently made a member of the Democratic Luncheon Club of L.A., and word was passed on several candidates.

"I have enclosed a clipping from yesterday's Rafu Shimpō; if your secretary has another photo mat of yourself, please have her send it to us. We are making good use of the photo we have.

"Governor Olson was guest speaker before a dinner of the Central Japanese Association of America, held Sunday night at Hotel Hilton, Long Beach, for delegates to the Southern District Council Convention of the Japanese American Citizens League. You may be interested to know the reaction to his address.

"His Excellency, in the opinion of many, pulled a major tactical blunder. There are appropriate places and times for saying certain things effectively, they tell me. I think we can elaborate, if necessary, at a future meeting.

"My wife and I recently entertained a man who said he was coach at the old Harvard Military School on Western Avenue when you attended that institution. He is a very good friend of ours, although his position with the Associated Farmers in Imperial Valley puts his views slightly at variance with those of my own. You

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undoubtedly remember and know Hugh Osborne of El Centro? Knowing how busy you are, I hope you will forgive the length of this letter.

Very sincerely,

Togo Tanaka, English Editor

TT:gky"

The State Senator's reply:

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE
Robert W. Kenny
Senator for Los Angeles County
September 9, 1941

"Togo Tanaka, English Editor
The Rafu Shimpō
104 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, California

"Dear Mr. Tanaka:

"Thanks a lot for your letter of September 3.

"I am sending you another mat, but Mrs. Kenny does not approve of it, and thinks the one you have been using is much better. You can therefore promote domestic tranquility by continuing to use the old one whenever another news break develops.

"Hugh Osborne is a good friend of mine, too, although I also find myself in conflict with him on matters of political ideology.

"You have been more than kind to me in your paper and I want you to know how I appreciate it very much.

Sincerely yours,

(signed)
ROBERT W. KENNY

RWK:S
Enc."

Because we want to get as much sound opinion on the Legislative Report program, we wrote him again on September 16.

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THE RAFO SHIMPO
L.A. Japanese Daily News
104 N. Los Angeles St.

"Senator Robert W. Kenny
California State Building
Los Angeles, California

September 16, 1941

"Dear Senator Kenny:

"Thank you for your letter. The day it arrived, I had lunch with Hugh Osborne and a Mr. Wagener at the Hotel Hayward. Because Supervisor Osborne has considerable personal influence among American Japanese voters of Imperial Valley, I was curious to know his sentiments regarding the gubernatorial candidacy of Robert Walker Kenny. He holds a very deep respect for your capacities and for you personally; he recalled, ~~though~~ also, that he received his start early in his career through your Father.

"I later~~i~~ informed him that we were in contact with you. Mr. Osborne, I have found, is a most sincere and helpful person; and he has rendered invaluable service in guiding Americans of Japanese ancestry solve~~r~~ their problems, particularly in Southern California.

"We are presently embarked upon a campaign to place our Sunday edition in the hands of every newspaper in California each week. We feel that by so doing, we can secure a hearing and a possibly favorable presentation of news regarding the resident Japanese of this state--over two-thirds of whom are now native-born Americans.

"This is more or less a public relations program through the medium of our newspaper. Supervisor John Anson Ford of the 3d L.A. District, a former newspaperman, commended our plan and thought it would do much to further better understanding of our group as a whole.

"Could I ask your opinion on this matter? We have been sending copies of our Sunday edition to your Los Angeles office. In the meantime, please be assured of our wholehearted cooperation.

Very sincerely yours,

Togo Tanaka, English Editor

TT:gky"

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CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE
Robert W. Kenny
Senator for Los Angeles
County

September 18, 1941

"Mr. Togo Tanaka
The Rafu Shimpō
104 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, California

"Dear Mr. Tanaka:

"I was glad to get your good letter of September 16th. It is gratifying to know that you are mentioning my candidacy to your friends. It is also nice to hear that Supervisor Osborne feels friendly toward me. I will certainly call on him when I go to Imperial County.

"I think your idea of circulating your newspaper among the other publications in California is a very good one. We must all do all we can to break down the unfortunate prejudices that prevail at this time, and I wish you the very best of luck with your project, and assure you that I will do all I can to help your cause.

"I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you soon.

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

ROBERT W. KENNY

RWK:gm"

September 20, 1941: We have been getting favorable response from a number of California community newspapers on the National J.A.C.L. release about Private Tommy Kozaki, believed to be the first American soldier of Japanese ancestry, to die in uniform. He was killed in an accident. The 1942 National Convention of the Japanese American Citizens League is scheduled to be held in Oakland.

* * *

Kilsoo K. Haan has peppered us with two letters within a few days of each other in the last week, from Washington, D.C. He has new letterhead for his stationery now, topped by a motto: "To Help China Let's Help Korea Too!" over the usual "SINO-KOREAN PEOPLE'S LEAGUE 100 D Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. Lincoln 5187" His first letter is dated:

"Sept. 14, 1941

"Mr. Togo Tanaka
Editor, Rafu Shimpō
Los Angeles, Calif.

"My dear Editor Tanaka:

"To my surprise, on my return from the middle-western tour, I find much of Japanese-American propaganda against the so-called 'propagandist Kilsoo Haan' published in the Rafu Shimpō.

"I also noted the item 'J.A.C.L. to Expose Record of Haan's Activity in South' Sept. 5, 1941.

"While publishing Mr. Jose Masaoka's release, would you in fairness publish the enclosed comments of public and officials regarding my work? I believe what these leaders say may be sufficient for the time being, give your readers the other side of the Masaoka's 'release'.

"Official and Public Comments Regarding
Kilsoo K. Haan's Activities"

"Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, April 26, 1941:
"Your facts and predictions have indeed been borne out by the passage of time and I assure you that the information that you have given us has always been highly appreciated."

"Senator Guy M. Gillette, Member of Foreign Relations and Naval Committee, April 9 '39: 'Mr Haan was a valuable and helpful witness and it seemed to me and several of us that he was in possession of information and in control of certain channels of information that not only

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aided the Committee but would be of interest to the State Department.'

"Hon. Marshall E. Dimock, Administrative Assistant, U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Bureau, Sept. 5, 1940: 'I am sure that the efforts of you and your group on behalf of democracy are appreciated by everyone loyally attached to the principles of democratic government.'

"New York Times, April 15, 1941: 'If the State Department was surprised by the negotiations of the Soviet-Japanese pact, the Sino-Korean Peoples' League, which maintains offices in this city (Washington, D.C.) was not. It recalled today that in a letter to Secretary Hull on March 25 it said that such an agreement would be signed not later than April 29.'

"Mr. Willard Harper, National Defense Forum leader, Los Angeles, Calif. Feb. 24, 1941: 'Mr. Haan was a very effective speaker. He spoke frankly, yet kindly. Some of the interpretations which he made aroused strong opposition from certain members (Japanese and Japanese-Americans) but he answered the questions and arguments from the floor in a courteous and gentlemanly manner.'

"Miss Hazel Meyer, Secretary, University Dinner Club, Occidental College, Los Angeles, Dec. 8, 1940: 'The enthusiasm and interest engendered by your talk to us on last Monday evening has reverberated through the week. We do need to be aware and alert these days and you did help us to open our eyes and mind.'

"Believing you will publish these comments,
I am

Very sincerely yours,

Kilsoo K. Haan."

* * *

The foregoing letter from Haan was written in his own long hand, with the quotations pasted on the stationery, obviously taken from mimeographed releases issued from his office. His letter dated two days later was typewritten and in a far less cordial or friendly tone:

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black -white
silhouette
of
Capitol
D o m e

"To Help China Let's Help Korea Too!"

SINO-K O R E A N P E O P L E ' S LEAGUE
101 D Street, N.E. Lincoln 5187
Washington, D.C.

KILSOO K. HAAN
Washington
Representative

Sept. 16, 1941

Mr. Togo Tanaka
Editor, Rafu Shimpō, English Section
104 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, Calif. U.S.A.

My dear Editor Tanaka:

I demand your apology within 15 days for publishing an alleged word by word statement purported to have been made by me. This alleged statement appeared in the Rafu Shimpō in the English Section in the front page, Sept. 7, 1941, with a large caption: 'Jingoism', and under the word 'Jingoism' appeared the following paragraph:

"Jingoism"

"Right here in America you have a Japanese organization preaching Japanism. They must be stopped. The nisei, or second generation Japanese in America have Japanese schools here and they distribute literature and plans for conquest by the homeland. The children are taught Japanese philosophies and make plans for taking over American Pacific Ports when war breaks." - 'Kilsoo K. Haan'

Unless you publish this letter in full side by side with your apology in the same space on the front page of the English section of the Rafu Shimpō within the specified time I shall be forced to take legal steps.

Regarding the published statement may I say this:

Whoever made the statement, it was well spoken. Yes, he knew what he was talking about.

Do you remember Rev. Shimryu Omehara who was sent to America and Hawaii to inspect the Buddhist organizations and the Japanese language schools in the Japanese communities?

This man, a Japanese, an intelligent priest and a

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teacher, who knows the Japanese activities in Hawaii and America, frankly and truthfully said to a Japanese reporter: 'in his characteristic fiery tones;--'I felt while I was in America that the existence of Japanese schools and Buddhist organizations in the Japanese communities is grand, for they are the mother bodies for fostering the national conscience, Japan's civilization, and Japan's spirit.

'It appears that the Japanese are afraid of other people's reproach and in order not to become the target of their criticism they are camouflaging their activities.'

Translation by U.S. Army Intelligence Department

Trust you will comply with my demands as requested within 15 days, I am

Very sincerely yours,

(signed)

Kilsoo K. Haan."

* * *

Upon consultation with H.T. and with attorney Marcus Roberts, and following discussion with the staff, we decide to ignore Haan's letter of Sept. 16. However, I send him the following acknowledgment of his letter of Sept. 14:

"THE RAFU SHIMPO
Los Angeles Japanese Daily News
104 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, Calif.

Sept. 20, 1941

"Mr. Kilsoo K. Haan
Sino-Korean People's League
101 D Street Northeast
Washington, D.C.

"Dear Mr. Haan:

"I am in receipt of your letter of September 14 in which you furnished us with quotations from various persons regarding your work. As you request, I shall be glad to have them published in any effort to present a balanced picture of your activities.

"In any controversial issue, as we have mutually agreed in

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the past, there are invariably two sides. To present only one, to the exclusion of the other, is to arrive only at half truths. I feel definitely that you have a case and deserve the right to be heard in this matter.

"However, judging from numerous newspaper clippings which you have been good enough to send me, you are elaborately quoted in regard to West Coast "Japanese", including American citizens of Japanese extraction.

"I must chide you upon your neglect and failure to present both sides of the picture in your effort to furthrese these isolated exam@les which you are holding up to be the whole truth. We have gone into this before, and there is no note of personal feeling in my calling this to your attention. I respect every man's right to his opinion and am not seeking to change yours. I merely call attention to what I think you will agree is an oversight.

"It would be an oversight on my part to fail to do some justice to the quotations which you have sent to me.

"You are an energetic soul, Mr. Haan, and the cause which you are serving conscientiously, could probably find as few persons as tireless as you have show@ yourself to be.

"This somewhat lengthy letter of mine is in acknowledgment of the numerous communications, including many newspaper clippings, which you have so diligently sent to me, and to which I believe I have owed you several replies.

Very cordially,

Togo Tanaka, English Editor

TT:gky"

September 21, 1941: Had visit from Ken Matsumoto today and added his name to list of reporters of our news-letter project. He is jewelry display artist in fairly successful, for Nisei, business and National Vice-President of the Japanese American Citizens League. He was quite anxious to let us know about his trip to Chicago and would like some publicity about same. He said he wholeheartedly endorsed our project and urged me to "get in touch at once with Commander Ringle (Lieutenant-Commander Kenneth Ringle, U.S. Naval Intelligence).

Matsumoto says he had successful time in Chicago where he entered a jewelry display exhibit under the name "Ken Displays of California" at the National Retail Jewelers Convention at Sherman hotel from August 24 to 28. He says that of 250 exhibit booths taken over by the largest Wholesale Jewelry manufacturers of America, six are display concerns, of which his is one, the only display firm representing the west. He said he was the first nisei to participate in a national jewelers convention; reported that retail jewelery business men are looking forward to biggest Christmas rush in 20 years due to the defense boom.

September 22, 1941: Added Frank 'Mac' Tsuchiya to our supporters of the Legislative Report. He is one of the leading Nisei business men of Little Tokio, is 32, owns the Santa Monica Fish and Oyster Company which he purchased seven years ago, now employs 26 persons. His main office is at 400 East First street, but he has branches, including wholesale and retail outlets. He says he could use a good legislative service because he keeps up with new business regulations. He feels that the 100 subscribers to the report should be kept in constant contact with the newspaper, through annual meetings and the like.

September 25, 1941: New additions to the list of people whom I have contacted for support of our Legislative News letter program--

Kay Sugahara, Universal Foreign Service, 124 South San Pedro Street, Michigan 8417. He is a past president of the Los Angeles J.A.C.L. and has been active in real estate operations. He said he did not wish to become involved in any public affairs; he is concentrating on building a trust fund for his three children. He said he had something similar in mind in the way of an economic newsletter or report. He was agreeable to donating fifty dollars.

John Yasuo Maeno, attorney at law, 124 So. San Pedro Street, Mutual 5855. He has been a practising lawyer since 1932; age 32, married, two children; he is a graduate of U.S.C. law school. He said he felt there was need for a program of this kind, kept emphasizing the need for 'Nisei and Issei ought to join more in cooperation and utilize the services of Nisei professional men.' He volunteered to interest Hata and Mori, two of his clients who are successful operators of a produce market in Bellflower, as supporters also.

Fred Masaru Tayama, chairman of the Southern District J.A.C.L., was enthusiastic about it; he encouraged the program, suggested close collaboration with the Los Angeles Citizens League. He said he was about to launch a new business enterprise shortly and would call upon us for support. He is getting out of the restaurant business, leaving it in the hands of his two brothers, it seems.

Joseph Shinoda, head of the San Lorenzo Nursery Company, who was one of the original supporters and in whose office the idea was partly worked out.

Mitsuhiko Shimizu, Issei, proprietor of the Asahi Shoe Company, 211 East First Street, Vandike 6072, who has been active in the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and the Central Japanese Association; he is a leading merchant of Little Tokyo. He said he was all for it, felt it was an excellent idea. He has been in Los Angeles 27 years, married out here, formerly lived in Pasadena for five years where he taught Sunday school. He attended business college for two years in Los Angeles.

Hitoshi Fukui, Hawaiian born older Nisei, head of the Japanese Undertaking Company, 707 Turner Street, and owner of the Olympic Hotel. He is a charter member of the Perry Post American Legion No. 525. He stressed the need for our getting the support of other members of the Post.

Sam Ishihara, Nisei head of the Fujiya

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Seed Company, 1440 W. 166th Street, Moneta, California. Referred to us by Joseph Shinoda. He asked specifically that all the newspapers in the Gardena Valley area be covered in our mailing list. He said his business extended throughout Southern California and he felt the growing need for better understanding in our community relations with Caucasian people.

Joe G. Masaoka, 3028 Butler Avenue, West Los Angeles. Proprietor of a produce Market in Santa Monica and active in the Bay District and Southern District Japanese American Citizens League, he was interested at once in the project and volunteered support.

Robbin Kaneko, member of the Los Angeles Vegetable Exchange (one of the stockholders and employees), 788 So. Central Avenue, TUCKER4212; he is president of the Junior Produce Club of Los Angeles, 35, married, two children, lives at 1305 West 37th Street. He has been with his company for 11 years. He thinks it is a good idea, gave us several additional leads.

Dr. Tetsuya G. Ishimaru, optometrist, 112 No. San Pedro Street, VANDIKE 2689. He is a member of our editorial board. He urged that the fifty dollar amount be lowered to half and suggested I get 200 instead of 100 supporters. He agreed, however, to come through with 50 dollars if I could get 99 others to agree. He is 37, married, three children; has been an optometrist 14 years. He is chairman of the Y.M.C.A. board as well as Chairman of the Southern California Japanese Children's Home (Shonien). He is a graduate of the U. of California class of '26.

* * *

UNEXPECTED PROPOSITION came over telephone today.

A voice at the other end of the wire introduced himself as "Harry Maizlish, manager of Warner Brothers radio station KFWB" today. He wanted to know if the Japanese American Citizens League or some "Japanese organization in America" would be interested in "a nation-wide publicity stunt to gain sympathy, good will, and better understanding." Well, this is how, he said: "Your Japanese organization can sponsor a huge Hollywood film star show in the Hollywood Bowl for United China Relief."

Referred him to the local J.A.C.L. office and Fred Tayama, who called us back a few moments later. Maizlish, it develops, has a fair record of promotions: (1) Bundles for Britain show at the Hollywood Palladium on New Year's (2) Hollywood Bowl United Service Organizations show, of which he was general chairman (3) Greek Relief Show at Hollywood Grauman's Chinese theatre (4) Red Cross Show.

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I called Maizlish back the same afternoon, asked him how he happened to be proposing such a program. He said he had come into contact with "a Mr. Joseph Shinoda, vice-president of the National Florists' Telegraph Delivery at the recent National Convention, Biltmore hotel, Los Angeles and was impressed by the emphasis upon the Americanism of the Nisei made by Shinoda."

Maizlish then added that the idea of the J.A.C.L. 'sponsoring' United China Relief at the Hollywood Bowl occurred to him when he read the publicity interview in the Daily News of Mike Masaoka: 'Give us a Chinaman's Chance.'

As I presently understand, Maizlish and his Hollywood movie associates would make all the arrangements, publicity, do 'all the work', with the exception of disposing of several thousand tickets, which would be the J.A.C.L. responsibility, as I understand. I discuss this with several Issei who happen to be in our newspaper organization; their response is anything but enthusiastic. I communicate the offer to Saburo Kido of the National J.A.C.L. in San Francisco; Fred is doing the same.

* * *

MIKE MASAOKA has issued a report covering his early activities as National Secretary; the report goes to all J.A.C.L. chapter officers:

"OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
1623 Webster Street
San Francisco, California

"To all Officers:

"The following matter is strictly of a confidential nature insofar as the press is concerned, and yet, because of its vital importance to the improvement of this League, I am taking the liberty of advising that all chapters and district officers who receive this bulletin call special sessions of their cabinet or board and discuss every item in detail and notify me as to their reactions as soon as possible. This is most important, for this circular, with revisions subject to be introduced without notice, is intended, more or less, as an outline of the program of activity for this office. I honestly regret that necessity forces me to make this such a long and involved, disjointed letter, but there is no other alternative in view of the work to be done; so bear with me and examine each item minutely and critically.

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I am counting on every chapter and district to cooperate wholeheartedly and promptly with this office on all matters, and this is the first of such requests.

"Let us begin with a report of my activities this far. In the thirteen odd days which I spent in the Southern District Council, I gave some 28 odd speeches before both chapter and non-chapter groups, including Caucasian Americans; met with quite a number of officials and newspapermen; discussed the matter of policy with government and other influential agencies; attended a number of committee and other meetings sponsored by civic and service groups relative to the treatment of the Japanese during the present crisis; discussed a national publicity campaign with Togo Tanaka; revised the District Constitution; suggested various methods of increasing League membership, etc. Since returning to headquarters I have spent most of my time in making official calls with the national president, making a few speeches, outlining a national program, and in organizing this office for efficient work.

"From my observations thus far, I am able to reach the following conclusions, general though they may be:

"(1) the average Nisei is most indifferent to his position as a factor in community life;

"(2) the average nisei can be, more or less, aroused as to the dangers of his position providing that he is informed of them in a spectacular manner (what he will do about the situation is a moot question);

"(3) the average official, chapter as well as district, has an alarmingly inaccurate and distorted conception of the JACL, and its activities and aims; and

"(4) the JACL can fill a crying need for leadership in every locality providing that proper leadership in personnel can be found and an adequate program outlined for them.

"As far as the League itself is concerned, I have discussed that most members cannot appreciate the immensity or the necessity of the work of the National Body, for this work has never been graphically pictured to them. In addition, a more tangible tie-up between the local and national might be more desirable.

"Now, these are particularly trying times; and what we as Japanese Americans do today in this crisis will, in a large measure, determine the future welfare of the Japanese people in this country. We are definitely on the spot, and the position which we as individuals and as an organization occupy is one of responsibility and trust. No other factor in the Japanese community can do much on a constructive way for all of us save this organization. Our challenge today is

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to provide the needed leadership and guidance for a most befuddled and troubled people, most of whom cannot appreciate the dangers of their situation. Sacrifices of time and money, even greater than those required in the past, are necessary today. Let us hope that we can meet the challenge as did our parents and make history in the same glorious tradition as the founders of America. The fates willing, we can do no less.

"In the past, there have been many faults with the National, real or imaginary. There will continue to be many faults, but may I assure you that to the best of my ability, I shall do all in my power to eliminate as many of them as possible and to not introduce too many new and greater ones. After all, we are still in the experimental stage and we must all grope together toward greater efficiency and service. This office is a new one; the personnel is inexperienced. The times are most demanding. Please take all of these factors into consideration, and, with your help, I am sure we can make the JACL a greater organization. One thing is certain: the mere fact that a paid secretary has been hired does not mean that each chapter and individual will have less work to do; it actually means more work and more sacrifices, for we shall have more projects and objectives than ever before.

"Remember always that this office welcomes suggestions, criticisms and suggestions, no matter how simple or extreme they may seem, from all members and officers, for from these indications I shall be able to glean much information, inspiration and needed 'bawlings out'. Please feel free to write this office at any time on all problems or matters pertaining to the work of the League. If the subject matter is of a confidential nature, please make that notation and the request will be scrupulously followed.

"Now, without further ado, let us plunge into the work at hand.

"First, the Declaration of Policy. This Declaration was formulated in response to the request of such groups as the F.B.I., Dies Committee, and the Army and Naval Intelligence. You will note that it is rather long and involved, but it contains the essential points in our program. It is worded for publicity purposes.

"Second, my itinerary. I am scheduled to be in the Northern District California Council until the 31st of October, except for the 1st and 2nd of October, when I am scheduled to appear before the special President's Committee Investigating Discrimination in National Defense Industries, in Los Angeles and the 27th and 28th of September, when I am scheduled to represent the Japanese on the Racial and National Minority Problems in This Crisis panel of the Civil Rights Convention of the National Federation for Constitutional Rights which will be held in San Francisco. From the 1st

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to the 16th of November, I shall be in the Northwest District Council, and in the Intermountain District Council from the 17th to the 30th of that month, including participation in the Intermountain District Council Convention which is being held in Pocatello, Idaho, on the 21st and 22nd of the month. I shall spend December in the Southern District Council.

"In connection with the hearings before the special President's Committee, may I urge all chapters to send in immediately full and complete information concerning all Nisei who may have been discriminated against because of race. Please send me the complete names, addresses, qualifications, when applications were sent in, where and when and by whom and why they were rejected, etc. Without this specific information, general conclusions and suggestions will be useless. As this is the first time that any Japanese group has ever been invited to appear before a Congressional factfinding Committee, I am soliciting your speedy and complete cooperation on this matter. We must make a good showing in order that we may be invited to take part again.

"As far as the Civil Rights Convention is concerned, I am meeting with national authorities in the field of racial rights and equality. The contracts and findings which I hope to make should prove of material value to us in our work.

"Now, back to the itinerary. All chapters who desire my services for special events must notify this office immediately so that a day to day schedule may be made out. This itinerary will be made out on the basis of travel expediency, so that I will not have to appear at a meeting one night at one end of the District and the next night at the other end. We must be practical about the whole matter and so the sooner requests are sent in, the sooner we shall be able to announce our definite plans and commitments. All groups must remember, however, that all commitments are subject to change without notice should a grave national emergency arise which would necessitate my appearance elsewhere.

"An attempt will be made to visit all chapters or arrangements will be made for the chapters which are in the same locality to meet jointly. While I shall be very happy to speak before various Caucasian groups, I must insist upon the following: one informal meeting with the chapter officers at which time we can go over the entire chapter program of activities and organization and make suggestions as to improvements; one informal mass meeting of all Nisei in the region at which time I shall make a lengthy and detailed talk concerning the JACL and why they should belong; official calls on civic officials and newspapers so that contacts with these influential people may be made, etc.

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"For groups not officially associated with the JACL, I must state this policy in all fairness to those affiliated groups: official chapters will receive first choice; and all others will be given as much consideration as possible providing that the host group will meet all expenses. These non-chapter groups desiring the services of this office must also send in their requests. Here again, the rule of first come, first served shall be followed.

"Third, the questionnaire. You will note that much of the information requested has been asked for before, but due to the inadequate response received, it is necessary to request those conscientious chapters to answer these questions again, together with the others. Your response to this questionnaire in detail is vital to mapping out a complete program for the National, don't hold up the work of the whole group by your indifference or lackadaisicalness.

"The reason that we request the names of all newspapers, both Japanese and English, in your locality, is to try to give your chapter the more stories concerning the work of the League than ever before, and should a story concerning your group, or a member of your chapter, be released by the National headquarters, the possibility of a better spread is enhanced.

"The reason for asking for details concerning the one project which each chapter considers most outstanding is to make such information available to other chapters which might like to attempt a similar program. By obtaining the best programs of every chapter and adapting it to local conditions, it is conceivable that from this list submitted through this questionnaire, all chapters will be able to map out an outstanding program.

"In addition to the questions requested on the blank, I would appreciate it very much if every chapter would nominate one person whom they believe is best qualified by reason of ability, interest, and time to help the National. Please let me have his or her name and address, together with their present occupation, etc. Please send in this questionnaire immediately. No chapter will be eligible for any National contest until they have sent in their questionnaire.

"Fourth, the program for the coming year. This will be divided into ~~separate~~- separate bulletins, many of which are enclosed with this circular. The National Secretary has many projects and programs in mind which ought to materially increase the interest in the League but none of these can be successful without the cooperation of every chapter and officer. So, let's all work together for the good of all of the Japanese.

Fraternally
mike Masaoka "

Here is the mimeographed outline of the new organizational set-up of the National J.A.C.L. as prepared by Mike Masaoka and released by the San Francisco office:

"NATIONAL COMMITTEES, BUREAUS ETC

"In order to further the work of the League, the office of the National Secretary and Field Executive plans to establish 18 committees, bureaus, boards and departments with headquarters for each group to be located in this office unless otherwise noted. After the Secretary has completed his preliminary survey of all chapters, appointments to chairmanships and committees will be announced so that those appointed will have indicated either a desire to serve or a willingness to work. These appointees, for the most part, unless otherwise noted, will act in advisory capacities and the details of the committee work will be handled through this office. This will permit the committee members to devote their time to ways and means of doing the most effective work, and not be burdened with unnecessary office details. This should provide for a more efficient and progressive movement along national lines. In addition, outstanding Americans of other nationalities will also be asked to serve in advisory capacities, thereby giving each committee and bureau not only added prestige but also the benefit of exceptionally well-informed advice and counsel.

"To emphasize the value of actual membership in the JACL, the services of these national committees and bureaus, except those especially created to serve the community welfare such as the Legal and Public Health committees, will be limited as much as possible to bona-fide members only.

"1. LEGAL COMMITTEE. Composed of Nisei attorneys and other leading lawyers and judges. Purposes are to notify this office of any and all proposed or pending anti-Japanese or anti-racial legislation which come to their attention; to aid in defeating such bills; to help in eliminating discriminations against both resident alien Japanese and Japanese American citizens; to combat the spread of hysteria and prejudice against the Japanese caused by the present international situation; to advise as to objectional practices or programs which might be engaged in by Japanese clubs, societies, groups; etc.

"2. PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE. Composed of Nisei doctors, dentists, optometrists, nurses, etc., and leading public health officials and medical men. Purposes are to advise the Japanese community as to public health measures and requirements; to aid in curbing possible epidemics, plagues, and widespread diseases; to cooperate with

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other medical authorities in case of grave local or national emergencies, such as earthquakes, flood, storms, wars; etc.

"3. SCHOLARSHIP AND STUDENT LOAN COMMITTEE.

Composed of Nisei educators and those interested in promoting scholarship among the Nisei and Sansei and other educators and interested parties. Purposes are to study the possibilities of creating National JACL Scholarships for deserving students of Japanese ancestry for study at any college or university in the United States; to investigate the possibilities of establishing a loan fund for deserving students who desire to complete their course of study or to do research work; to recommend ways and means of improving the scholarship among Japanese students; to devise methods of special recognition for those Japanese who attain especially high honors in various schools; etc.

"4. BUREAU FOR VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE. Composed of Nisei leaders in the field and other leaders in this work. Purposes are to maintain contacts already made and to make new ones with local, state, and federal agencies and services; to aid in finding positions for qualified Nisei in their chosen fields; to establish a vocational guidance service which will specialize in serving the Japanese; to cooperate with all groups interested in the same goals of breaking down racial and other barriers in industry, clerical work, and other fields of employment, with especial reference to national defense industries; to urge greater participation in local, state, and federal civil services; etc.

"5. BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND STATISTICS.

Composed of leading Nisei and statisticians and those interested in this type of work. Purposes are to compile a bibliography of all works pertaining to the Japanese in America and their problems, with particular reference to the American citizens of Japanese ancestry, and to keep this bibliography up to date; to maintain files on discriminations against Japanese in such fields as housing, economic endeavors, etc., and to draw general conclusions and recommendations concerning each field; to conduct surveys on vital matters pertaining to the Japanese, both first and second generations, to summarize their finds, to make conclusions and recommendations concerning each surveyed field; etc.

"6. BUREAU OF PUBLIC RELATIONS.

Composed of leading Nisei and others interested in this work. Purposes are to suggest ways and means of improving public relations of the National, District, and local chapter and to the general public; to recommend special programs designed to take advantage of special events or unusual circumstances; to aid in fighting specific cases of racial discrimination

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by suggesting methods and techniques which have proven to be successful elsewhere in similar cases, or if the situation is new, to make suggestions as to what might be done, and to obtain the cooperative aid of other chapters and friends of the Japanese people to combat that particular bit of discrimination; etc.

"7. SPEAKERS BUREAU. Composed of leading Nisei and other speakers and leaders. Purposes are to develop a national program of having Nisei and other speakers who are friendly to our cause to appear before various civic, religious, and service clubs and groups in our behalf; to develop speakers among the Nisei; to integrate the work of the various chapter speaker bureaus; to supply them with material for the various types of speeches; etc.

"8. COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE. Composed of Nisei Reserve officers and other leaders, and local, state, and federal officials and civic leaders. Purposes are to coordinate the material and organizational facilities of the Japanese American Citizens League for national defense work; to cooperate with all local, state, and federal investigative and law enforcement agencies in the job of defending the Pacific coast from attack and in the prevention of undue and unlawful attacks against the resident Japanese and the Japanese American; to urge support and cooperation with such movements as the Home Guards, the Selective Service, the U.S.O., the Civilian Defense Committee, the National Defense Bonds Drive, special Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Corps Days; etc.

"9. OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PUBLICITY DIRECTOR. Togo Tanaka, Los Angeles, national director. Purposes are to obtain national newspaper, radio, magazine, newsreel, and college and university alumni publications coverage of important events and projects of the JAACL; to develop press and editorial relations with the above; to 'plant' favorable publicity concerning the Japanese with the above; to create friendly editorial and special columnal relations which will support the JAACL viewpoint and help in the fight against discrimination and un-American practices; etc. Japanese vernacular newspaper release directors: English section, E. Kirimura, San Francisco; Japanese section, S. Nomura, San Francisco. Purposes are to keep the Japanese American dailies and weeklies posted as to the activities of the National and to win editorial favor for the JAACL; etc.

"10. BOARD OF ATHLETIC CONTROL. Composed of leading Nisei athletes and sportsmen. Purposes are to first investigate the possibility of a national athletic program set up and sponsored by the JAACL and second to work out the details for such an organization if it is feasible; etc.

"11. FRATERNAL INSURANCE DEPARTMENT. Composed

of outstanding Nisei insurance men and others interested in this work and leading insurance men and specialists in the field. Purposes are to investigate the possibilities for life, health and accident, automotive, and other types of insurance for JACL members on a fraternal basis; to submit plans and ideas concerning this matter; etc.

"12. SPECIAL ACTIVITY ADVISORY BOARD. Composed of Nisei who have demonstrated leadership along organizational lines and other interested parties. Purposes are to investigate the possibilities of dividing the chapter membership into three activity divisions in order to accommodate the various age groups with their respective desires; to make recommendations relative to the division ages if idea has merit; to submit plans for activity for each group etc. Suggested age divisions and general activities are as follows: Senior Division, ages from thirty up, activity program patterned after luncheon, service, discussion, and/or fraternal organizations. Intermediate Division, ages from 21 to 30, activity program will be furthering the general JACL program and doing most of the work necessary with advice and counsel coming from the Senior Division. Junior Division for those from 18 to 21, special activities planned which would develop them as future JACL leaders and community builders, as classes in public speaking, etiquette, personality development, parliamentary procedure, social dancing, etc. A special Women's Division, divided into about the same three groups might also be helpful in winning and keeping interest in the JACL for all age groups.

"13. KIBEI ADVISORY BOARD. Composed of outstanding Kibei and Nisei leaders and others interested in Americanism. Purposes are to develop programs calculated to make the Kibei JACL and America conscious; to aid them in solving their problems and in adjusting to American standards; etc.

"14. BUREAU FOR CHAPTER ORGANIZATION. Composed of Nisei organizers and parliamentarians and advisers to organizational work. Purposes are to aid in solving the organizational difficulties of the various chapters caused by geographical and other conditions and to suggest methods of overcoming such difficulties; to help construct or reconstruct chapter constitutions and by-laws; to recommend ways and means of vitalizing chapter activities; etc.

"15. PACIFIC CITIZEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Composed of already appointed members of the JACL. Purposes are to formulate such a policy that this national organ will not only show a profit but also prove the desirability of having a national organ of this nature; to aid in the obtaining of advertisements and other necessary requisites of this monthly; to initiate plans for converting this paper into a monthly magazine not later than the next National Convention, which will be held in Oakland in 1943; etc.

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"16. NATIONAL DIRECTORY AND MANUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Composed of JACL officers who have expressed an interest in this project and other interested members. Purposes are to publish a directory containing the names and addresses of all JACL members as of December 31, 1941 a manual pertinent with information concerning the National and other vital items for all Japanese Americans; to obtain the necessary financial backing for this project; to devise ways of distribution, etc.

"17. JAPANESE AMERICAN SELECTIVE SERVICE MORALE BOARD. Composed of Nisei interested in this work and others who desire to aid in this cause. Purposes are to devise ways and means of maintaining a high morale among the Japanese American selectees in the various camps; to aid in the solving of their problems; to cooperate with army and other agencies interested in the same aims; etc.

"18. SPECIAL SERVICES BUREAU. Composed of Nisei and other 'trouble shooters' who will always be available to help in emergencies. Purposes are to serve as the emergency committee for the JACL to take care of all tasks which cannot be assigned to other committees, such as helping local chapters write suitable letters and articles for various purposes, suggest ideas for floats, recommend ways and means of raising funds; to assist in every way possible to cover up or make up for the mistakes of other committees; etc.

"19. N.B. Many of these committees and bureaus may have overlapping duties in certain fields but with the close cooperation and supervision, this ought to make for more and better ideas and services. Some of these groups may not be necessary but each seems to have responsible and worthwhile work to do and until their worthlessness is proved, let us try them out, so to speak. Finally, this outline of committees and other organizations which this office intends to set up together with the present national committees, ought to serve as a 'pretty fair' digest of the work which the National Secretary proposes to try his hand at. If any of the readers have any suggestions as to additional committees, etc., this office will be pleased to hear from them.

"The present national committees, together with their chairman, are as follows:

"Constitution--Henry Taketa
"Membership--Bill Ishida
"Historian--Teiko Ishida
"Rituals--Frank Ishii
"Endowment Fund Drive--Tom Yego
"Proportional Assessment and Representation
--Walter Tsukamoto
"National Pins--Kay Hirao

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Announcement of "National Contests" to be undertaken by the JACL is also made in the same release from San Francisco:

"NATIONAL CONTESTS"

"National Headquarters will sponsor four contests during the year with the winning chapters to receive their awards at the National Convention in Oakland. To qualify for these awards, all chapters must have met all National and District levies and requirements and must be in attendance at the Convention.

"1. The Presidents' Cup -- to be donated by the three past presidents, Yatabe, Sakamoto, and Taukamoto. To be given to the chapter which has made the most significant contribution to Americanism during the period beginning immediately and ending Labor Day, 1942.

"2. Outstanding Chapter Award--- to be given to the chapter which has proved to be most outstanding in activity and in all other matters during the period beginning immediately and ending Labor Day, 1942. Activity will be judged partly on the basis of scrapbooks submitted and other tangible evidence of work actually accomplished. Cooperation on all matters with the National and District officers, in addition to working with neighbor groups will also be important factors in determining the winner.

"3. Membership Drive Awards---Two cups will be given in this contest; one to the chapter which has the greatest percentage of the Nisei in the region eligible for membership enrolled in the League; and the other to the chapter with the greatest percentage increase in membership over 1940.

"4. National Headquarters Award---To be given to the individual JACL member, and not chapter, who has made the most constructive suggestion as to improving this League or its work or has submitted the best idea for a project which the League might undertake on a national scale during the period beginning immediately and ending Labor Day, 1942.

"If any chapter or district would like to contribute a cup for any contest which they feel might further the work of the League, they are urged to do so, providing that the contest receives the approval of the National Offices.

"Specific rules concerning the above contests will be sent out as soon as the various committee members and chairman have been appointed and have worked out the details.

"Begin work now to win one or more of these

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awards. The rules will be so made that all chapters, regardless of size and location, will have equal opportunities to win one of these worthwhile awards."

* * *

Circulated in the same release, to be used for chapter reference and for speakers representing the League is the following mimeographed copy of 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 heritages; 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 men, and because I have received innumerable benefits from her, I pledge myself to do honor to her at all times, to obey her laws; to support her constitution; 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

"Read before the United States Senate and printed in the Congressional Record, May 9, 1941/"

September 27, 1941: Now have 24 definitely pledged for our newspaper News Letter with many more prospects; at this rate should have the hundred before December. Yesterday talked to George Inagaki, general manager of the Kitagawa Nurseries, 4060 Centinela, Venice, California, Santa Monica 71369. He is 27, married, 2½ years; in present position 3½ yrs. His firm one of nation's largest nurseries specializing in a 'mystery' brand gardenia. He suggests that the newspaper also get a list of Caucasian sponsors; he wants to have his donation for the following three publications: (1) Culver City Star-News (2) Venice Vanguard (3) Santa Monica Outlook among the five to which his fifty dollars will entitle him.

Prepared the following release for 9/28/41 dateline, National J.A.C.L. release, for the English sections of Japanese newspapers:

"TO ALL COAST ENGLISH SECTIONS

Release: Sunday, September 28, 1941

Suggested use: Editorial or feature material

"FROM THE OFFICE OF TOGO TANAKA

NATIONAL PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

104 North Los Angeles Street, L.A. Calif.

* * * * *

N a t i o n a l J . A . C . L . r e p r e s e n t s
N i s e i i n t e r e s t s i n d e f e n s e j o b s

"Are the American-born Japanese getting
U.S. defense jobs?

"The answer is, YES.

"Are some Nisei applicants being rejected for
reasons solely due to their race?

"On the basis of reliable reports, the answer
is again, YES.

"Investigation thus shows plainly that no general observations on this question can safely be made without discussing specific cases.

"In Southern California, for instance, there are several Nisei young men employed in aircraft plants; one is in the engineering branch of the U.S. War Department.

"That these young men are of Japanese descent was certainly no asset in their getting the positions; they happened to be the best qualified, delivered the goods.

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"Some of them had to overcome the admitted initial handicap of their race, but the fact of their placement alone belies the frequently heard claims of 'complete and sweeping racial discrimination'.

"Nisei are not barred from all defense jobs.

"The fact does remain, however, that discrimination based on race does exist as a matter of policy in many large companies receiving government defense contracts.

"Applications of Nisei are not even accepted by personnel clerks because of 'company policy'.

"Take the case of one Los Angeles youth who, when told 'No Japs are hired', protested that he was an 'American.'

"He was told, he reported:

"You may be an American, but you look like a Jap to me.'

"Discrimination in many such cases is a challenge to the American loyalty as well as the American perseverance of the Nisei.

"Furthermore, study reveals that the barring of Americans of certain racial backgrounds, particularly in the case of the Japanese, is due in many instances simply to the former lack of any reliable information about these young men and women.

"That lack of information is now being met by the National Japanese American Citizens League in cases where the Nisei are concerned.

"A long-recognized need is finally being filled.

"Word from Mike Masaoka, National Secretary and Field Executive of the League, this week:

"'I understand that the special President's Committee Investigating Discrimination on National Defense Projects is to conduct public hearings in Los Angeles on the 1st and 2nd of October. I have just written the President of the United States requesting that I be permitted to appear before that Committee to present the factual matter concerning the Nisei.'

"After an initial survey of the American-born Japanese in Southern California, Masaoka concluded:

"'In relation to the number of Japanese in this

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country, the proportion of those securing jobs in National Defense industries is comparatively large.'

"To those still seeking positions, and who are equipped with proper training for specific jobs, he urged:

"'If we are turned down by one firm, and we feel it is because of our race, we ought nevertheless to keep trying. This extra determination is a responsibility of the Nisei in job-seeking. Persistence will mean a lot for the Nisei as a group. And once employed, the Nisei is at an advantage because it is true that where the average white person is expected to succeed, we are more or less expected to fail.'

"And the Nisei who have won their way into defense industry jobs today are earning unexpected success."

* * *

The following letter from Kido arrived today:

"JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
National Headquarters

September 25, 1941

"Mr. Togo Tanaka
104 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, California

"Dear Togo:

"Many thanks for your reports and letters. I am glad to hear that the first release has been received favorably. I am sure that as time progresses, there will be better understanding. The Declaration of Policy drafted by Mike may be another good story to be released.

"In case of releases to the English sections of the Japanese papers, I believe it may be better for ~~i~~ you to send the original draft to my office and send it out simultaneously to all papers. In this manner, we may be able to time the releases. Mike is certainly going at top speed and therefore unless we know what is going out, we may be piling too many at one time on to the English Sections.

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"Also, if the releases are worth while, then we would like to have them translated into Japanese and released to the Japanese sections.

"Up and down the coast, there seems to be a greater interest created through the appointment of Mike as National Secretary. I believe we should follow it up with the membership campaign as planned by him. He will be going to Los Angeles to attend the hearing on discriminatory practises. I wish you would check up on this matter immediately to see whether it has been continued for some other time or if it is going to be carried out as per announced schedule.

"With best wishes, I am

Most sincerely,

(signed)

Saburo Kido"

SK:fy

Also a letter and two mimeographed releases from Mike Masaoka, arrived today:

"JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
National Headquarters

September 24, 1941

"Mr. Togo Tanaka
104 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, California

"Dear Togo:

"Thanks very much for your last letters. I appreciate it very much. I plan to leave here on the night of the 29th so that I will arrive in Los Angeles on the 30th. This will permit me to go over the details of the Presidential Investigating Committee for the next day with you and Fred Tayama. ✓

"In this connection I wonder if you would check with your local authorities as to where and at what time these hearings are taking place. I would appreciate it very much if you would notify me by airmail as to the specific details of this hearing as you are able to obtain them in Los Angeles.

"Looking forward to meeting with you again, I remain,

Fraternally,
(signed) Mike
National Secretary and
Field Executive"

MM:fy

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The accompanying mimeographed headquarters release:

"NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
1623 WEBSTER STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 25

"Inaugurating a program of participation in events of nation-wide importance, the National JACL will be represented at the California Action Conference for Civil Rights meeting in San Francisco on Sept. 27 and 28.

"National Secretary Mike Masaoka has been invited to participate in the panel discussion on 'Rights of National and Racial Minorities'. He will present problems of both resident Japanese and American citizens of Japanese ancestry, both as a result of the emergency and in ordinary times, in one of the few prepared speeches to be presented at the conference.

"Masaoka, who has been gathering specific instances of discrimination against Japanese, will present them at the conference. His participation in the action conclave precedes his appearance as a representative of the JACL at the committee hearings of President Roosevelt on discriminations in defense industries on Oct. 1 and 2 in Los Angeles.

"The presence of a Japanese at both the Civil Rights Conference and the President's fact-finding meeting is believed to be the first evidences of Nisei awareness of the need for such action.

"The Civil Rights conference will open with a mass meeting on Sept. 27 at the Native Sons auditorium in San Francisco. At this time, Jerry O'SConnell, former Congressman from Montana, and State Senator Robert Kenny will speak.

"The panel discussions will take place from 10 a.m. on Sept. 28 at the Furniture Mart, 1355 Market Street.

"Japanese are invited to attend, both as guests of the JACL and the conference committee.

"The action meetings are to be conducted as open forums with all delegates taking part in the discussions. Panel members will lead and develop discussions from the floor with a view to arriving at definite recommendations for action.

"Other topics scheduled for discussion are: 'Four

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Freedoms--Speech, Press, Assembly, Worship"; "Labor's Rights", and 'Rights of Franchise'. Sen. Robert Kenny will be the panel chairman for the discussion on franchise rights.

"The general action session is scheduled from 1:30 p.m. at which time the various panel reports will be given and proposals for action presented.

"Masaoka requested more instances in which Japanese have been discriminated in order that he might bring a clearer picture to both meetings. These communications will be treated confidentially and may be addressed to him at 1623 Webster Street, San Francisco. As Masaoka leaves for Los Angeles on Monday evening, communications must be addressed to San Francisco before that date. Thereafter, until the committee hearings are over, he may be reached either at the Miyako Hotel or the JACL chapter in Los Angeles."

* * *

The other mimeographed release is captioned:

"A DECLARATION OF POLICY
BY THE
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

"In these critical days when the policies of many organizations representing various nationality groups may be viewed with suspicion and even alarm, by certain individuals who are not intimately acquainted with the aims, ideals, and leadership of such associations, it becomes necessary and proper, in the public interest, that such fraternal and educational orders as the Japanese American Citizens League do unequivocally and sincerely announce their policies and objectives;

"Now, therefore, in order to clear up any misconceptions, misunderstandings and misapprehensions concerning the functions and activities of this body, the National Board of the Japanese American Citizens League issues the following statement and declaration of policy:

"We, the members of the National Board of the Japanese American Citizens League of the United States of America, believe that the policies which govern this organization and our activities as their official representatives are fourfold in nature and are best illustrated with an explanation of the alphabetical sequence of the letters J-A-C-L.

"'J' stands for Justice. We believe that all peoples, regardless of race, color, or creed are entitled to enjoy those principles of 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness' which are presumed to be the

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birthright of every individual; to the fair and equal treatment of all, socially, legislatively, judicially, and economically; to the rights, privileges, and obligations of citizenship. To this end, this organization is dedicated.

"A' stands for Americanism. We believe that in order to prove ourselves worthy of the Justice which we seek, we must prove ourselves to be, first of all, good Americans in thought, in words, in deeds. We believe that we must personify the 'Japanese American Creed'; that we must acquaint ourselves with those traditions, ideals, and institutions which made and kept this nation the foremost in the world. We believe that we must live for America--and, if need be, to die for America. To this end, this organization is consecrated.

"C' stands for Citizenship. We believe that we must be exemplary citizens in addition to being good Americans, for, as in the case of our parents, one may be a good American and yet be denied the privilege of citizenship. We believe that we must accept and even seek out opportunities in which to serve our country and to assume the obligations and duties as well as the rights and privileges of citizenship. To this end, this organization is committed.

"L' stands for Leadership. We believe that the Japanese American Citizens League, as the only national organization established to serve the American citizens of Japanese ancestry, is in a position to actively lead the Japanese people residing in the United States. We believe that we have the inspired leadership and membership necessary to carry into living effect the principles of Justice, Americanism, and Citizenship for which our League was founded. We offer cooperation and support to all groups and individuals sincerely and legitimately interested in these same aims, but we propose to retain our independent and separate status as the Japanese American Citizens League. To this end, this organization is pledged.

"Summed up briefly, the Japanese American Citizens League is devoted to those tasks which are calculated to win for ourselves and our posterity the status outlined by our two national slogans: 'For Better Americans in a Greater America' and 'Security through Unity'."

* * *