

YATSUSHIRO'S DAILY REPORTS FROM CHICAGO

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#1  
Minutes of the Meeting  
of the  
CHICAGO JAPANESE AMERICAN COUNCIL

John de Young and I attended the meeting of the Chicago Japanese American Council, which was held tonight at the Catholic Youth Organization center, 1110 North La Salle Street. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 8:00 o'clock, and when we arrived a few minutes after eight the meeting was had just begun. John was introduced by Mr. Corky T. Kawasaki, and after making a brief speech John introduced me in turn. The presiding officer for the major portion of the meeting was Mr. Tom Masuda, until a formal election of officers was conducted ~~was~~ during the latter part of the meeting and Mr. Corky T. Kawasaki, newly election vice-chairman, in the absence of the newly elected chairman Noboru Honda, took over the chair.

In all there were seventeen people present at the meeting. Some were official representatives of their respective Japanese American organizations, while some were unofficial representatives or just interested in the Council. Among those present I remember the following names (I'll try to get the complete list from Brother Theophane Walsh of the CYO):

- Masuda*  
Mr. Thomas Masuo, chairman protem of the first half of the meeting; not representing any organization; elected by the Council in the course of the meeting to be "delegate-at-large"; lawyer by profession.
- Brother Theophane Walsh: With the Chicago CYO Nisei Center; very active in Nisei activities; one of the strong leaders of this Council; elected to serve as "secretary" of the newly formed Council.
- Mr. Corky T. Kawasaki: newly elected Vice-chairman of the Council; presided over the last half of the meeting; head of the Resettlers' Committee; an Issei of about 50 or 55 years of age; a very aggressive leader.
- Mrs. Nishi: With the American Council of Race Relations; a Nisei of about 27 years of age, very attractive and intelligent; very articulate and commands considerable influence.
- Mr. Mukoyama: an Issei of about 45 years of age; speaks English quite well as well as Japanese; extremely articulate throughout the meeting, raising numerous objections to various proposals; represented 2 or 3 organizations including the JAAC Koenkai, or mutual aid group. He has considerable influence, although he very often

CJAC meeting (continued)

expressed an opinion not quite in harmony with the majority he almost always succeeded in having his wish adopted by the entire group; a permanent resident of Chicago from pre-war time; heard he is an owner and operator of an oriental goods store; heard he is a Buddhist.

Mr. Dixie Ishida: a nisei of about 35 years old; regular resident of Chicago; very pleasing personality; a smooth talker commanding considerable influence; with the S & W firm here.

Dr. Tom T. Watanabe (M.D.); acting secretary for the first half of the meeting; diagnostic roentgenology, x-ray and radium therapy; a nisei of about 35 or 40 years of age; evacuee from the West Coast; rather quiet and pleasing individual.

By official count there were 10 organizations officially represented by their delegates, and 4 organizations which are definitely interested in the formation of the Council were not officially represented, although some of the delegates present acted as unofficial delegates for them. Roughly the following organizations comprise the total charter members of the Council: (a check of the exact names will be made with Bro.Theophane)

JACL  
JACL Koenkai (Mutual Aid-?)  
First Baptist Church  
Chicago Buddhist Church  
Mid-West Buddhist Assn.  
Nisei Fellowship  
CYO Nisei Center (Bro.Theophane Walsh)  
Chicago Resettlers Committee (Mr. Corky Kawasaki)  
Moddy Bible Institute  
Church of Christ  
Japanese Women's Club  
Methodist Church (Armitage-?)  
Medical group (Dr. Abe, delegate)  
(one group missing from this list)

The first item on the agenda was the discussion and the final ratification of the proposed constitution of the Council. (Copy is attached herewith) As stipulated in Article II, "Policies and Purposes", the main function of the Council will be to serve as a coordinating body or a clearing house for the various issei and nisei organizations in the city, which amounts to at least 14, so that there will be the least amount of conflict among and between the organizations with respect to the sponsoring of activities.

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Copies of the proposed constitution were passed out to all persons present. Except ~~for~~ <sup>on</sup> three ~~shaggyxixix~~ points the delegates present were in complete agreement and accepted the constitution without discussion. Of the three points that required discussion, the first was Article II Sec. 2, changing the wording "the Japanese Community" to "people of Japanese descent". The group accepted this change ~~was~~ proposed by Mrs. Nishi without much discussion. Mrs. Nishi further proposed that Article IV, Sec. 7, which required the unanimous vote of all member organizations before any major project can be undertaken, be so changed that only a majority or a  $\frac{2}{3}$  two-thirds majority, or a three-fourths majority ~~was~~ be required. She argued that if all but one member organizations were strongly in favor of sponsoring a major project, it would be unfair to the majority membership to have to abandon this project just because one or two organizations objected. Mr. Mukoyama expressed in equally strong terms ~~that~~ his objections to the change proposed by Mrs. Nishi. He said in effect: "We must always go back to beginning when this Council was being discussed. We agreed then that there must be complete cooperation among all the organizations. I think it is very important to remember that this Council will survive only if this cooperation continues. I think we ought to leave the wording unchanged." Mr. Ishida came to a mild defense of Mrs. Nishi by stating that there may come a time when it will be impossible for the Council to reach unanimous agreement concerning a major project. For instance, he said, the Seventh Day Adventist will never be able to participate in any outside activity on Fridays or Saturdays. After much bickering back and forth, Mr. Ishida came forth with a compromise view that there be no changes be made now and that if in the future there arise any problem

over this particular/ issue the Council make the necessary amendments at that time. The members present agreed to this.

The last item which took considerable time and over which the members including the chairman ~~protem~~ became more and more confused was that pertaining to Sections 3 and 4 of Article III. An unofficial delegate of the JAOL ( ) stated that <sup>the</sup> alternate delegate from each member organization should not be a particular individual named by his respective organization to serve as an alternate over the specified period of time. He suggested that it should be the right of the organization or its officers to name any one member to serve as an alternate delegate ~~at~~ at Council meetings in the event ~~tha~~ the official delegate is unable to attend. He explained in the case of the JAOL/ <sup>often</sup> the official delegate and his ~~kk~~ alternate both may not be able to attend a/ <sup>particular</sup> meeting, <sup>in such event</sup> and that/ it has been the practice of the JAOL to name any other member to officially represent them at the meetings. He used/ the term "floating alternates", meaning that there are a number of alternates one of whom will represent JAOL at official meetings in the event the official delegate cannot attend. There was some objection to this from Brother Theophane, Mrs. Nishi, and others. They said that this would weaken the Council in various ways, one of which is that if different delegates from a particular organization ~~were~~ attended the meetings at different times there will not be a continuity of thought among the Council members. They argued that it would result in a dangerous practice of organizations naming just any body to represent them at the regular meetings. They pointed out that at this very meeting such a practice was in evidence with Mr. Mukoyama representing about 3 organizations and Mr. ~~Mxxxx~~ Corky Kawasaki about a like number of organizations.

This comment brought on some laughter, as earlier in the meeting Mr. Mukoyama and Mr. Kawasaki expressed some difficulty in naming the various organizations they represented at the various votings that were held. Mr. Mukoyama, however, indicated that he was in favor of a "floating alternate" idea, but he stated that no one member present at the regular meetings can have more than one vote, even though he may represent more than one organization. After much sparring around Mr. Mukoyama's plan was finally adopted. Mr. Masuda, presiding officer, attempted to word the proposed change but he became so confused over the various ramifications of Mr. Mukoyama's plan that he instructed the body and the secretary that he would have to make the exact wording of this change some time later. Mr. Mukoyama laughingly stated, in answer to Mr. Masuda's request for clarification of the motion; kkkk "You're the lawyer, I'm not a lawyer. You should be able to offer the proper wordings." Mr. Masuda, slightly irritated by this remark, shot back, "Yea, but, I can't read your mind." Although there was agreement on the Mukoyama plan, it is felt that the members present were all rather confused and vague about how it would actually work out.

A motion accepting the proposed Constitution with the various suggested changes was unanimously carried.

The election of officers of the newly formed Council was then in order. For the post of the ~~Chairman~~ Chairman the following people were nominated: Mr. Noboru Honda (not present), Togo Tanaka, Mr. Yoshinari (he declined), Rev. J. Morikawa, and Mr. Tom Masuda (he declined). Mr. Honda was elected in a secret ballot voting. For Vice-Chairmanship, Rev. Koga and Mr. Corky Kawasaki were nominated. Mrs. Nishi, who nominated Kawasaki inquired of the chair if campaign speeches were in order. The Chair ruled that a one-minute campaign speech would be allowed for each nomination.

Thereupon Mrs. Nishi strongly advocated the election of Mr. Corky Kawasaki explaining that "it would be an extremely good gesture if we selected for one of the two top offices some one like Mr. Kawasaki who has excellent Japanese and English command of/as well as understanding of both the Issei and Nisei." Mr. Kawasaki was elected as Vice-Chairman.

For secretary, Brother Theophane Walsh and Mrs. Nishi were nominated. Mrs. Nishi strongly wished to decline, but Mr. Ishida and Mr. Masuda were equally strong that she should not decline. The Chair finally ruled that her reasons for declining, which was pressure of other activities, was not sufficient. In the secret balloting Brother Theophane was elected.

For the post of Treasurer, the following were nominated Mr. T. Mukoyama, Rev. Kubose, Dr. Tom Abe. Mr. Mukoyama was elected. Rev. Kubose jokingly commented during the voting that ministers knew how to spend money but didn't know how to keep money. At this point Mr. Masuda turned over the meeting to Mr. Corky Kawasaki, new V-C. On the suggestion of Mr. Mukoyama, Mr. Tom Masuda was elected

unanimously ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ as "delegate-at-large". On the motion of Brother Theophane ~~xxxxxxxx~~ standing vote of appreciation was extended to Mr. Masuda for all his efforts in the past and during the meeting.

(At this point also Brother Theophane began taking the minutes of the meeting, relieving Dr. Watanabe of the task.)

Also elected to the post of "delegate-at-large" was Mr. Ryoichi Fujii, editor of the Chicago Shimpō. He was not present but ~~was~~ the associate editor, Mr. Joe Koide, was.

Mr. Kawasaki, new acting chairman, immediately presented various unfinished and new business. First the matter of the permanent address for the Council. The GYO center, at 1110 North La Salle, Chicago, was designated as the address to appear on all official letterhead. In the matter of official letterhead, it was agreed that the names and addresses

of all the officers, (the phone numbers as well) should appear also.

Another matter was a report from the Council's Committee on Economic Loss Survey. Brother Theophane made the report and handed out mimeographed copies of it to all those present. (See attached sheet) Bro. Theophane stated that the committee had met with Miss Mary Sabusawa of The American Council of Race Relations. The latter organization is interested in conducting an economic loss survey among all evacuees in the Chicago Chicago area, and desires the aid of the Chicago Japanese American Council. Mrs. Nishi, ~~xxxxxxx~~ also of the Am. Council of Race Relations, explained that such a survey would aid in the passage of the Claims Commission bill now under consideration in Congress. Mr. Ishida and others all ~~xx~~ pointed out the usefulness of such a survey. Mr. Masuda suggested that committee be appointed at this time, so that they can go ahead with the survey. Mrs. Nishi pointed out the urgency of the survey, that it would be more beneficial to all concerned if it were conducted immediately. There some discussion as to the possibility of ~~xxxx~~ having the ~~xxxx~~ Claims bill pass Congress before the end of this week at which time Congress is slated to adjourn. In any event it was felt that it should be all completed by the beginning of the next congressional session. A committee composed of Brother Theophane, Mr. Kawasaki, and Mr. Honda was selected and they were given the power to proceed with the survey and to appoint as many other committee members as necessary/ Mrs. Nishi declined to serve on this committee on the plea that she is already professionally engaged by the American Council of Race Relations which is sponsoring this survey.

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Mrs. Nishi pointed out that the Mayor's Commission on Human Relations (which was formerly the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations) desires to have representation from the various Japanese organizations. It was agreed that as many representatives as may be necessary should be appointed ~~xxxx~~ or elected to serve on this Commission. Mr. Honda and Rev. Kubose were elected to look into this matter and appoint other members as may be necessary.

*(Rev. Koga)*  
Someone informed the Council that on August 11th, Sunday, there is to be held a memorial service for a nisei soldier who was killed recently while serving with the occupation ~~sk~~ forces in Japan. This man (probably representing the Buddhist group, I'm not sure) further informed that this family requested that a representative from the Council be present to express a few words of condolence in behalf of the Council. Mr. Kawasaki was immediately ~~sk~~ nominated and unanimously elected. At this point Mr. Mukoyama objected to the manner in which Mr. Kawasaki had conducted the voting, as the latter had only asked those in favor of the selection of Kawasaki to raise their hand and neglected to ~~sk~~ ask for a show of hands of those opposing the selection. Mr. Kawasaki was rather annoyed ~~sk~~ by this remark and immediately proceeded to conduct the whole voting over again. When he asked for discussion first, Dr. Abe (probably) raised the point of having this occasion setting a precedent for all funeral services held in Chicago for slain nisei soldiers. Mr. Mukoyama immediately exclaimed: "That's what I ~~sk~~ wanted to have brought up. I don't have any personal objections to the memorial service, but I think if we sent an official delegate to the service this time, we will have to be careful to attend all future memorial services for nisei soldiers." In effect Mukoyama was against the setting of a precedent. The man

who originally made a request for a representative from the Council retorted that he felt "this was a good precedent". Mr. Masuda came to his defense and also stated that "this was a good precedent", and that if any Japanese family should make a formal request, such as this family had, for a representative from the Council to be present at any funeral services for slain nisei soldiers, the Council ought to comply willingly. He stated the Council did not have to be on the alert for all services conducted and to be present at them, but that only in cases where formal request is made to the Council should the Council comply. This feeling was generally shared by most of the members and Kawasaki was again elected to represent the Council at the memorial services on August 11th.

October 14, Monday night, was suggested as the next Council meeting date. Everyone, except Mukoyama, agreed to it. Mukoyama insisted that Monday, which had been agreed upon previously as the most convenient night to meet, was out as far as his organization and few others were concerned. Therefore, the date was set for October 15, Tuesday night,

Meeting was adjourned at about 10:45 p.m.

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Impressions:

It appears that this organization is very well organized and a product of much discussion and spontaneous desire among the members. It appears that there is a definite need for such an organization, as it will facilitate the various adjustment problems, economical and social, that issei and nisei are experiencing. The coordination of the activities of the various groups itself will be of great value to the Japanese population in general.

There are a number of excellent leaders among the group, and there is a mutual feeling of cooperation among all. I predict the Council will be a strong and influential organization in Chicago for some time to come.

# 2

VISIT WITH TWO YOUNG, SINGLE NISEI GIRLS

Names: Miss Keiko Kamiyama

Miss Marion Nakatsuka (?)

Address: 477 Deming Place, Chicago; telephone: LINcoln 9570

Date: July 30, 1946; 9 to 11 p.m.

*Anne Koyama*

and I visited her cousin, Keiko  
Anne Koyama, sister-in-law of mine, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

~~xxxxxxxx~~Kamiyama at the latter's apartment. This was purely a social  
visit, so little effort was made to conduct any systematic interview.  
Inasmuch as I expect to see Keiko again soon ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ a more  
thorough case study will be made in the future.

I met Anne for the first time since coming to Chicago, so this  
visit was purely a relatives get-together. However, some rough notes  
can be made at this time about the girls.

Anne K.

Anne is a twin sister of my wife and is 21 years of age. She has been  
in Chicago for the past three years, and just recently completed her  
nursing training at Walther Memorial Hospital. The hospital is located  
at 1044 N. Spaulding, Chicago. She lives at the nurses home where the  
phone is Spaulding 10150.

Her parents are now in Los Angeles where they have a home that they  
owned from pre-war days. Both of her parents were employed as cooks at  
the Gow School in So. Wales, NY., which is about 18 miles from Buffalo.,  
for about year up until a month ago when they left for Los Angeles. Before  
that they were in the Rohwer relocation camp for close to 3 years. Her  
parents and family operated their own clothes cleaning and laundry  
establishment in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles. Her two brothers,  
ages 29 and 26, are both pharmacists. One is a soldier stationed in  
Tacoma, Washington, where he lives with his wife and a month old daughter.  
The younger brother recently got married and resides in St. Louis, Mo.

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The parents are desirous that all the members of the family return to Los Angeles where the two boys could practice pharmacy and where the father is interested in establishing some kind of a recreation-amusement center.

Anne is an active, intelligent, and pleasing individual. She likes dancing and attends most of the nisei dances when they are staged. Because of her schooling and hospital work and because she lives at the hospital which is some 45 minute ride from the downtown section of the city, she is not very acquainted with the various nisei organizations within the city. There are ~~an~~ a number of other nisei nurses and student-nurses at the hospital and here sphere of social activity is confined to this group, including some "hakujin" ~~nurses~~ nurses, and a few other niseis in town. She doesn't belong to any nisei organization in the city, and apparently doesn't feel a strong need for it. She and her boy-friend, who is an ex-GI, spend their times together going golfing on weekends, going to dances at the Aragon (popular public dance hall), going to movies occasionally as well as taking in concerts, etc.

Anne isn't sure where she'll continue her nursing career. She is qualified to <sup>continue to</sup> work at the Walther Memorial Hospital~~s~~ where she has been for the past 3 years. Marriage~~d~~ may interrupt her nursing career. Then she might join her parents in Los Angeles, after she takes her state board examination.

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Keiko K:

Keiko is about 21 years old and the eldest of ~~of~~ a family of four girls. Her parents and family members ~~w~~ lived in Rohwer until the end of 1945 when they left camp to return to their former home in Fresno, Calif. All, but Keiko is back in Fresno now. Her father is a photographer and before the war was well established and well known in Fresno. He won an international photo contest some time before the war. He has resumed his business and apparently expects to remain in Fresno.

Keiko left camp about a year and a half ago and went to Elgin where she attended the Elgin Watch school to learn the trade. She completed her training period about a half year ago, and since then has been employed by a big watch firm here in the city.

She has had only high school education aside from his training at the Elgin watch school. Her job is specifically repairing watches.

Her friends are caucasians and niseis. Her main social activity is visiting with friends and going to movies and concerts. She attends very little of the nisei functions in the city, and not liking dancing she rarely goes to any of the nisei dances which are held frequently.

She is not a social recluse, but she prefers the more quiet leisure time activities, and therefore doesn't belong to any of the nisei or other organizations.

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VISIT WITH YOUNG NISEI COUPLE

Visited the home of a young nisei couple tonight, and spent from 9 to 10 p.m. talking with them. They are friends of Miss Ann Kiyama who had kindly consented to introduce me to them.

Mr. and Mrs. Kiyoshi Minami (wife's name is Kimi) live at 1310 W. Adams (telephone: Monroe 7975). They have a 6 month old daughter. Mrs. M was busy cleaning the house and doing some ironing, so the conversation was mostly with Mr. M. They live in a goodsize one-bedroom apartment, which is rather old but nicely kept. Besides the three in this immediate family, Mr. M's younger brother also lives here. He is probably about 18 yrs old and just finished high school.

Mr. M was unaware that an interview was being conducted, and so he spoke rather freely and easily.

Mr. M. is a man of about 29 years of age, the wife being about 27 years. Prior to evacuation he lived with his parents and family in Torrance, which is a small town near Los Angeles city, California. ~~His~~ They operated a farm on which he worked. The wife hails from about the same neighborhood. He is a kibei, having spent about 5 years in Japan, between 1934 and 1939. However, there is little in his speech that indicates he is a kibei and I little suspected he was one. (Anne, who introduced me and accompanied me to the M's home, later informed that Mr. M. is definitely kibei-ish in many other ways. For example, he wants his wife to wait on him. He wants his dinner exactly on time when he returns home from work about 4:30 p.m. and would get furious if his wife didn't have dinner ready then. While eating if his wife didn't/offer to refill his bowl ~~with~~ with rice/just when it became empty he would be greatly annoyed. Anne further informed that he refuses to do anything around the house, believing that ~~that~~ housework

(Nisei Couple)

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was the sole responsibility of the housewife. He never helped in dish washing. Anne remarked: "We used to feel sorry for Kim (Mrs. M) whenever we visited them, as Max Ki (Mr. M) used to treat her so ~~xxxx~~ mean. I wouldn't stand for such treatment." )

On the whole Mr. M has a<sup>t</sup> rather pleasing personality, is rather good looking.

He and his family (parents and brothers-sisters) first evacuated to Santa Anita Assembly Center, where they stayed until about October when they relocated to Jerome relocation center in Arkansas. They again relocated to Rohwer and stayed here for a few months, before they resettled in Chicago. Mr. M left Jerome in January 1944 and came to Chicago where he has been ever since. His family (parents, etc) remained in camp.

In Chicago he first worked as shipping clerk at a large shipping firm for about 4 or five months. Then he decided to go into auto mechanics, and applied for a job at the Yellow Cab where his brother-in-law (sister's husband) was already employed. (Brother-in-law is Tad Kawachi who lives downstairs in the same apartment house as the M's) He said he had no experience whatsoever in the field of auto mechanic, but was anxious to learn. He said, at that time there was such a big demand for auto mechanics that Yellow Cab hired anyone who applied for a job. He said the niseis who had been working for Yellow Cab before he did, apparently had established a good reputation and therefore the company ~~was~~ was anxious to hire nisei, practically any nisei. He worked as an apprentice, earning about \$40. a week, for about 2 weeks, and then was declared a full-fledged mechanic earning about \$100 a week. He said all work is piece-meal, and therefore one's earnings depend entirely on the amount of work performed. During the war most of the fellows worked hard and long hours, and therefore

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they made huge earnings (referring to the nisei workers). He proudly boasted that one of the younger nisei workers, who was single and about 21 yrs., earned about \$5000 ~~xxxx~~ in the year 1944. He further stated that this young nisei was sent to New York for a while where the Yellow Cab Co. paid for most of his living expenses, as there was an acute demand for mechanics in New York. M. himself admitted earning over \$100 per week during the war period. "Now," he says, "We're taking it easy and average about \$65. per week." "We go to work when we feel like and layoff when we feel like. Our hours are supposed to be 8 to 4, but we usually report in about 8:30 a.m. The foreman naturally gets mad, but he can't do very much about it."

Asked about the employers' attitude toward nisei workers, he had high praises for them, saying they have been very ~~xxxx~~ nice to the nisei and have treated the latter very fairly.

He stated there are now about 10 nisei workers and about 5 caucasian workers in the unit that he is working. These ten niseis are relatively young, between 21 and 30.

Concerning discrimination, he stated the first group of nisei that applied for work with the Yellow Cab claimed themselves to be Hawaiians, fearful that they might be turned down by the company if they stated they were Japanese-Americans. Later it was learned that there was no need to conceal their true identity, as the company officials welcomed the services of the nisei and many more were hired.

#### Present Job Situation:

Mr. M. seem to like his present job. ~~xxx~~ He likes his employer and his fellow workers. His job is relatively easy, and as he says "We don't have to work very hard if don't want to". "It all depends on whether we want to earn more money or not". He stated the job gives him an opportunity to work on his own car, which is a 1938 DeSoto which he bought for \$630.

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in April of this year. He walks to work as his workplace is located only about 3 blocks from his home.

Future Job Prospects:

Asked whether he continued to work as a mechanic for very long, he answered in the negative stating that he wanted to leave for Los Angeles before too long where he wants to open up some kind of business. He stated his family ~~ix~~ (that is father, mother, and a married sister) are now in Los Angeles, and he wanted to be near them. ~~ix~~ He stated that his father, who was a farmer before, now is old and can't do very much work, therefore he feels it is his responsibility to look after them. Asked when he plans to leave for Los Angeles, he stated it depended on how soon they can ~~find~~ buy a house there.

Apparently Mr. M. is still very uncertain as to what his future will be like in the way of occupation. He indicates an interest in the business field, but he is not certain what kind of business.

Education and Vocational Training:

When asked what high school he attended in Los Angeles, he quickly and rather proudly stated that he graduated from University of California at Los Angeles. He majored in business and accounting with a hope of entering the import and export field.

He visited Japan and studied there for about a five-year period. Although his English is excellent and with very little trace of Japanese accent, he occasionally expressed himself in simple Japanese.

He appears to be ~~xxxx~~ rather intelligent with an alert mind. This is probably verified by the fact that he spent only two weeks as an <sup>auto</sup> apprentice/mechanic before he was declared a full fledged mechanic. <sup>or experience</sup> Previously he had had no training/whatsoever in this field.

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He said he graduated from U.C.L.A. just before evacuation, therefore he can be classed as a student and part-time farmer (on his family's farm) before being evacuated. When he left camp in January 1944, he stated he didn't know what kind of job he wanted, and therefore he accepted a job as a shipping clerk. This is probably because of his interest in the export and import field. However, this job didn't pay well, and consequently he branched off into auto mechanics when he learned from his brother-in-law (Tad Kawachi) who was already working as an auto mechanic that this field paid lucrative wages. He seem to indicate a strong desire to enter the business field for which he received his academic training. There is also an indication that he ~~wants~~ wants to establish a business of his own.

Family Organization:

Aside from his immediate family (wife and daughter), he feels now that his father and mother are old and not able to work it is his responsibility to look after them. This is ~~largely~~ largely the reason <sup>why</sup> he wants to return to the West Coast. He is the eldest son, and although he didn't say so there is a strong trace of the Japanese cultural trait pertaining to parents-eldest son relationship. The tie between him and his parents seems very strong as contrasted to his tie with his wife's parents. His parents visited him here in Chicago when they left Bohrer relocation center in October 1945, but they soon left for Los Angeles where they are living with his married sister. His statement, "I sent them (parents) out there (Los Angeles)," seem to confirm the fact that he has assume command as family head.

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Social Relations:

When asked what he did in the way of recreation and leisure-time activity, he stated that most his time is spent with his small circle of Nisei friends, visiting each other. There are several niseis in the apartment house he resides, and his brother-in-law (Kawachi) who lives downstairs is one of his intimate ~~xxxx~~ friends. Other friends live in various parts of the city. Most of his close friends here in the city are his fellow workers at the Yellow Cab Company. Since he and his ~~xxxx~~ friends have cars visiting is not difficult.

From frequent remarks he made, he likes to play poker and gamble a good deal. In general he seems to like to get together with his buddies, but not so much with the opposite sex.

Often he goes to a friend's home (who has a garage) and together they do odd repair work on their respective cars.

It is apparent that he very seldom goes to any of the big nisei functions, as dances and parties.

When asked whether he belonged to any organization, he stated he belonged to the Buddhist church of which Rev. Kono is head. The church has services on Sunday morning in the near north side. He stated that when his parents were here in October 1945 he went to church very frequently taking them along, but lately he and his wife has been rather negligent. (Anne, who accompanied me, later told me that Mrs. M is very religious, and that he isn't.)

Pressed further about the various Buddhist churches here, he was not able to ~~xxxx~~ name the specific groups or too much information on them. He stated Rev. Kono, who was in Jerome and Rohwer, first came here and established the first Buddhist church group. Rev. Kubose came later and

formed another Buddhist Church group in far south side. Asked whether he thought there was any friction between the various sects, he stated he didn't think so. He stated, however, the <sup>two</sup> ~~xxxxxx~~ ministers wanted to establish their own church. The membership ~~is~~ at his church (Rev. Kono's) is about 500 he thinks. There is a large attendance at the Sunday morning services.

With regard to Rev. Kono he chuckled as he confided that he and Rev. Kono and few others used to play poker and gamble a lot. He stated the Rev. is young, probably around 30 or little over, and had come directly from Japan as a priest.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### GENERAL IMPRESSIONS:

Mr. M. is probably not a socially well-integrated individual in the sense that he is civic-minded or a participant in major community activities, but he has a small circle of friends ~~xxxx~~ among whom he seems to be rather happy. He doesn't belong to any organization, aside from the Buddhist Church which he attends only occasionally now. He doesn't seem to feel a strong need to belong to many formal organizations.

As ~~a~~ an individual he seems to possess an integrated personality. His immediate family ~~is~~ (wife and daughter) seems to be getting along very satisfactorily and ~~is~~ didn't seem to be having any major problems.

Although the Ms seem to be happy in Chicago, it is certain that they will leave for Los Angeles before too long where Mr. M. expects to join <sup>and</sup> his family/~~is~~ establish a business of his own.

Following our visit, Anne confided to me that the Ms were "screwballs". Asked what she meant by that, she ~~xxxxxxx~~ quickly dodged the issue by adding that, "but they have a good heart". Anne had received a graduation gift from them this evening, as she had just recently completed her schooling in nursing.

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#4

Interview with: Joseph Komaki, Co-head  
KALIFORNIAN ENTERPRISE

(See John deYoung's more detailed report)

Interview, mixed in with a luncheon, was conducted with Joseph Komaki at the Lawson YMCA between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. John deYoung was also present. Joe, together with Tom Okabe, is the co-head of the "Kalifornian Enterprise", Nisei-Issai which is strictly a business outfit engaged in promoting various activities, such as dances, judo tournaments, printing advertising leaflets, and currently the "The Japanese American YearBook, 1946", almost similar to a telephone directory. Joe and Tom are the only two staff members. As Joe says, "This is strictly a business proposition." He claims he has close to 20,000 names of Japanese in Chicago, and that the directory will go to the press for printing in a few weeks.

Joe and Tom together practically made a house to house canvass through the mail, telephone, and personal contacts. He is probably right in stating that this directory will be the most up-to-date and most complete thing ever compiled. He admits very frankly that the directory will not be all complete or that it will be accurate to the last name. By the time the book comes off the press, there will be some changes in address. He stated this won't be too bad as one can always locate an individual who has moved by checking at his old address. He claims that at least 90% of the business addresses will be accurate for some time, while about 75% of the individual name listing will be accurate.

Personality & Background:

Joe is a nisei of about 30 years of age; is married and has a child. He appears rather intelligent and seems to possess a keen and alert mind. He is very aggressive and enterprising. He has a rather pleasing appearance and is very friendly and cooperative. Beginning from 1938 he and Tom entered the promotional business in Los Angeles. They then called themselves the

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"King Pins". Mostly they promoted dances for nisei in Los Angeles. He related that as this was purely a business venture for ~~Max~~ Tom and him, it wasn't long before ~~that~~ they dances they conducted began to conflict with the dances staged by the various other nisei organizations, JAOL in particular. He further related how the nisei organizations (referring to JAOL) held meetings to inform the nisei not to attend the dances sponsored by the "King Pins" when they conflicted with their own organization's. Tom went on: "Well, we decided to put this to a test, so we staged a huge dance at a rather swanky ballroom with a good orchestra playing and the appearance of the Hawaiian champion swimming team as an added attraction. Well, as far as we were concerned, the dance was a flop." After about a year of promoting dances in L.A., he went to San Francisco where he worked for the "Nishibe", Japanese newspaper, ~~xx~~ in the business management section. Here he worked for about two years until the war broke out. He and Tom evaded the evacuation by leaving the West Coast early and settled in Denver. In Denver they immediately ~~xx~~ reentered the promotional field, sponsoring nisei dances regularly. They operated under the guise of "Kalifornian Enterprise" for two years ~~xxxxxx~~ and a half. He stated his stay in Denver was a success. He proudly related that the first dances were staged in "barns", but toward the end they were staging dances at the exclusive "Cosmopolitan Hotel".

They then came to Chicago where they continued in the promotional field. They have sponsored a number of nisei dances, some at very exclusive places as the Stevens Hotel, which he claims to have been very successful. Since January of this year, he and Tom has been working on this yearbook or Japanese directory, and he expects that by the end of this year all the business affairs connected with this project ought to be completed.

He has been in Chicago for about two years now, and already he is thinking of going to New York city where he probably will resume his promotional business. He confided, "I'm the type that can't stay put in one place too

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long. Since I'm this far East, I want to go to New York and see what business prospects there are there. I like to travel about a great deal."

~~XXXXXX~~

General Impressions:

The Kalifornian Enterprise is strictly a money making organization. As Joe put it, "Business is business, and we're out to make money". But Joe states that the various activities he has sponsored, as dances, publishing Japanese directories, etc, has been of some good in assisting the nisei and issei adjust themselves in the new community after leaving the centers. He proudly admitted that he broke down the discrimination existing at the various exclusive hotels in Denver, Colorado (as the Cosmopolitan Hotel).by sponsoring dances there.

It some ways it is amazing to know that two young nisei have chosen the promotional business and have been rather successfully at it. Joe admits that their work is a gamble each time they stage any dance or any project, and that they don't until that ~~xxxx~~ day of the event whether it was successful or not. Some times they lost considerable money, and other times they reaped sizable profits. If the yearbook does come off the press and does contain 20,000 names as Joe claims, no one can underestimate the ability and industry of the two men. Aside from the money that the two men will make, the directory will serve as a useful instrument among the Japanese population and to the various private and public agencies interested in the welfare of the Japanese in Chicago.

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Japanese areas of concentration:

Probably the most useful contribution to our study made by Joe was the information on where the Japanese are concentrated in the city, and roughly the number in each concentration. Using a city transportation map he shaded the areas of concentration. His knowledge of the various concentrations must be considered rather accurate inasmuch as his main job in the past six months has been that of locating the names and addresses of Japanese living in the city for insertion in his directory.

He estimated that the near north side area had about 15,000 Japanese residents in all. This area roughly covers from Grand avenue to Diversey (from south to north) and Sheridan to the lake (from west to east). His estimate is probably high, but the fact that this area is the <sup>most</sup>/heavily concentrated area is probably correct.

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T. Yatsushiro

Visit at the CHICAGO SHIMPO (Interview with Joe Koide, Ass. Editor)

Address: 1325 E. 47th Street (in rear) (rear of 4714 E. Kenwood)  
telephone: Kenwood 6136

Visited the Chicago Shimpo in the south side today and spent most of the time talking with Joe Koide, associate editor, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The visit included a luncheon date with Joe and a visit to a few Japanese homes and business places where I was introduced to a number of issei and nisei. Only the names of Shotaro Hikida and Rev. Kubose are important for inclusion in this report. ~~Met~~ Met also the editor of the paper, namely, Mr. Bob Ryoichi Fujii. Since he appeared rather busy little time was spent talking to him.

Short sketch of the Chicago Shimpo (Japanese language paper)

The Chicago Shimpo is an 8 page tabloid exclusively Japanese language newspaper which is published weekly, every Thursday. The founder of the paper is Bob Fujii, who incorporated the paper in November 1945. Prior to this date Fujii had been publishing ~~xx~~ a mimeographed news-letter in Japanese for about 2 years, having a circulation of about 200 people, mostly from Heart Mt., Wyoming, relocation center. Because much is known about Fujii already, nothing more will be stated about him in this report.

The ~~xx~~ paper now enjoys a circulation of about 3,000, according to Joe K. Over ~~half~~ half of this number are Chicago subscribers, and the rest scattered about the country, mainly Los Angeles and New York.

I noticed there were about 6 employees in all. The workshop is a former garage which probably stored about 4 cars. It has been repainted white and the room has been roughly partitioned ~~into~~ to allow for an office, typesetting room, etc. The paper has ~~no~~ publishing equipment and therefore it hires the services of a caucasian publishing firm. Saturday is the deadline to have everything in readiness for printing. They do have the

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their own Japanese types. Eventually, Joemx confided, they hope to own their own printing press.

Jose stated that when the paper first came out in November 1945, many people thought it would go out of business after 3 or 4 issues. He proudly stated that on the contrary the paper has increased its circulation and has become more firmly established.

Short sketch of Joe K.

Joe was formerly in Los Angeles working as a free lance Japanese-English translator. He confessed that he "didn't make much money in this". When evacuation came he went to Heart Mt. center (Wyoming), first going to Santa Anita Assembly Center. In Santa Anita and at Heart Mt. he and Fujii and a few others got behind the movement to conduct classes in "Democracy" for the issei. U. S. History, geography, democratic principles, etc. were taught in Japanese. In 1943 he left Heart Mt. and came to Chicago where he worked in a war plant and was quite satisfied. He complained that soon after he was continually investigated by the government, and he almost lost his job. The OSS tried to employ him, but it couldn't get him cleared by the authorities. In September 1945 he went to Japan as a "research analyst" with the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey (Morale Division). He returned in January 1946, and since then he has been on the staff of the Chicago Shimpo.

Joe is married and his wife and 3 or 4 year old son live with him. He is probably an issei (will check on this) who has spent most of his life and had most of his education in Japan. However, he is very fluent in English. He is probably about 36 years old. He is very aggressive, intelligent, and likes to be in the limelight of things. While in Japan with the Bombing Survey he confided that the Director of the Morale Division accused him of being the leader of a strike movement among the nisei members (mostly former OSS

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employees) of the Morale Division. At least this much is known by this analyst that ~~he~~ Joe appeared to be the spokesman for a certain group ~~of~~ among the nisei staff members especially in regard to grievances. Modesty is not one of his virtues. Therefore, there is a tendency on his part to exaggerate facts or to impress people that he knows the answer to every ~~such~~ question. However, because Joe definitely possesses a keen analytical mind, everything he has to say cannot be ignored.

He boasted ~~that~~ "we (referring to the Chicago Shimpo and the 14 existing Japanese organizations) were responsible for the successful testimonial dinner held in honor of the Nisei soldiers! This dinner was held in May 1946 at the exclusive Stevens Hotel. The dinner cost \$5. per plate, and there were over a thousand people in attendance including several hundred Nisei soldiers. He declared financially and otherwise the dinner was a huge success, with a \$700 profit.

Attitude toward Japanese organizations:

Joe was very critical of ~~the~~ JAOL organizations in some cities. He pointed out New York in particular. "There," he stated, "the JAOL wanted to sponsor the Dillon Myer testimonial dinner all by themselves. They refused to cooperate with other Japanese organizations that were interested in co-sponsoring the affair!" Asked about the Chicago chapter he stated: "Here the JAOL is all right. Noboru Honda is a good man. He is well liked by the issei as well as by the nisei! (Honda was recently elected chairman of the Chicago Japanese American Council; refer to notes).

Joe very proudly stated that the Chicago Japanese American Council which was formally established just a few days ago, was the direct result of ~~marking~~ ~~together~~ the various Japanese organizations in Chicago working together cooperatively in sponsoring the testimonial dinner for Nisei GIs.

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(Analyst's note: From Joe's remarks and from other observations, it is very apparent that in the formation of any over-all Japanese organization the influence of the Issei is still very strong and the nisei in general~~ly~~ apparently are making efforts to work together with the issei.)

Joe informed that a sumo tournament is being held on Sunday, August 4th. When asked who is sponsoring the affair Joe was very vague, indicating his paper is one of the sponsoring organizations. He said there is a group of sumo enthusiasts who is expected to stage other tournaments if this one proves successful.

Job prospects for issei and nisei in Chicago:

As far as business and jobs are concerned, Joe strongly stated that Chicago offers the best prospects for both issei and nisei. He compared this city with Los Angeles where a number of Japanese have returned and are returning to menial jobs as gardeners, farm labor, etc. Here in Chicago he stated that there is less discrimination and better prospects of going into private business.

Asked about what ~~thxxxxxx~~ kind of jobs and businesses the Issei are going into, he said they were going into all fields of occupation. He took out an issue of the Chicago Shimpo and hurriedly pointed out the various advertisements which indicated that the issei as well as the nisei were going into professional occupations, into private businesses as owners of apartment and rooming houses, restaurants, grocery stores, etc.

He said "This is the best place for all issei and nisei".

Budhist Church:

Asked about the Buddhist churches in general, he stated very confidentially that there is a split between the Zen-shu and the Shin-shu sects. Rev. Kubose is the leader of one sect (probably the Shin-shu) and has his own church in the far south side; while Rev. Kono is the leader of the other and has his own church in the near north side. There is another Buddhist church, but Joe didn't know too much about this.

Contacts to be followed up:

Joe introduced me a number of issei and nisei, and among them the following may be important: Mr. Shotaro Hikida, issei, who runs a grocery store in the south side; Rev. Kubose, Buddhist priest; and a representative of the Rocky Shampo, Denver/ Japanese newspaper. Bob Fujii, editor of the Chicago Shampo is also a very important person.

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# 4 Aug 46 (Sunday)  
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#6

FAMILY CASE STUDIES

Visit with the Kagiwara family:

The Ks just bought a house, which is a duplex, together with another Japanese family (name?). They live at 1142 W. Cornelia, up in the north side. (Telephone: GRaceland 7643) The caucasian family tenants who have been living in the apartment upstairs haven't moved out yet, so the Ks and the other family double up in the first floor. The house itself is quite large, having 3 bedrooms (on one floor), and is not too old of a building. I believe the building was made of stone and concrete, or possibly brick.

The K. family consists of the following:

Father: about 58 years old; works at the Edgewater Beach Hotel.(?)  
Mother: about 54 years old; works at the Edgewater Beach Hotel.(?)  
Son: Fred, about 29 years; single; work ?  
son: Frank, about 27 years; ex-GI recently discharged; attending school of optometry here in Chicago, has two more years to go.  
Daughter: about 25 years; married recently and living with husband in St. Louis, Mo.

Plans re staying in Chicago:

Inasmuch as the Ks have just bought a fairly expansive house together with another family, it is very likely that they will continue to remain for some years to come.

(NOTE: No attempt was made to interview the family as the visit was purely social, but this family could be referred to as a case study.)

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# 7

### SUMO TOURNAMENT

A sumo tournament was staged in the backyard of a Japanese-owned (or leased) rooming-apartment house at 3949 Lake Park Avenue, which is in the south side. With about 500 people in attendance, 50 ~~wrestlers~~ wrestlers, and 300 separate prizes given away, the tournament, first of its kind sponsored here in Chicago since or even before the war, was rather successful in various ways.

The tournament was scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. but when I appeared on the scene at 2:00 p.m. the formal ceremonies opening the tournament were just commencing. Numerous speeches were made by various individuals, and this took up considerable time. Then the wrestlers took up some time in practice matches before engaging in real competition.

#### Sponsors:

I made numerous inquiries, but no one could tell me with certainty the organizations or individuals sponsoring the affair. Joe Koide, Ass. editor of Chicago Shimpo, informed that his paper initiated the idea and continued to give it publicity over a period of time, while an informal group of sumo enthusiasts actually did much of the work. One of the prominent officials, who was dressed in traditional sumo attire, is a Mr. Hidaka (check name with Joe Koide) who operates three/cleaning establishments here in Chicago. ~~xxxx~~ An interview with him should be arranged.

#### Wrestlers:

There were about 50 wrestlers in all representing all nisei, ranging in age from 7 to 35 years. I don't believe the wrestlers represented any specific organizations, although once or twice I heard over the loudspeaker that the winner for an event represented a so-and-so club. I learned that all the wrestlers had been practicing very hard for the past two weeks. A nisei named "Nishizu" was probably the best wrestler in the group.

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Prizes:

There were 300 separate prizes (so I was told) including envelopes containing money, rice in 50 and 100 lb. lots, shoyu in bottles, and various other foodstuff. The prizes were all donations of various Japanese (issei) individuals and firms. This is the customary procedure of financing the prizes given away.

Audience:

At about 2 p.m. there were about 300 people but by 6 p.m. there were about 500 people witnessing the tournament. Issei and nisei, young and old, men, women and children, as well as about 20 or 25 caucasians were present. About two-thirds of those present represented the Issei, most of whom were men folks. The balance represented the nisei who enjoyed the wrestling as much as the issei did.

During the practice matches in the beginning, the nisei wrestlers gave a rather poor performance by laughing and not exerting themselves. (about 55 years)  
This caused two issei men/standing nearby to make this statement: "Now, in Japan they would not tolerate such wrestling. They are not only more serious, but they are much much better. These guys can hardly be compared with the wrestlers in Japan." This comment left a deep impression on me in that the issei (older ones), no matter how long they have been away from Japan and resided in Japan, still have in their thinking the "good old days in Japan", and how much better things were then as compared to now. I don't believe this is unique of the Japanese immigrants alone, but that it is true of many other immigrant groups.

As the wrestlers got warmed up and the matches got more exciting, the issei crowd as well as others really enjoyed themselves. Watching the expressions on the faces of the issei (men especially) and the frequent cheering for one

wrestler or the other, one could almost imagine one was in Japan witnessing a big sumo tournament. Probably many of the male issei audience were thinking of the good old days in Japan when he was younger and used to participate in sumo tournaments. I heard this interesting conversation between two elderly issei men:

- Ono: (59 years, fairly big for Japanese) "How old are you, Yama?"  
Yama: (man of 57 years, plump and not over 5 feet) "I'm 57 years old"  
Ono: "Why don't you get in there and wrestle?"  
Yama: "Now, if I were only five years younger, I would get in the nude like the youngsters out there, and take on any one" (laughingly)  
Ono: "You know, I'm two years older than you, but I bet I can take you or any one on" (Heartily laugh)

Fulfilling need for Issei entertainment:

Joe Koide who was busily running from one place to another as an official, stopped long enough to make this statement: "I want you to know that there is a strong need for some kind of Issei entertainment. This sumo tournament which is the first of its kind staged so far, definitely meets this need. We hope that more sumo tournaments will be held. The Issei must have some form of entertainment and recreational outlet."

Joe is probably right about the need for Issei entertainment. So far there has been no "shibai" (stage plays) or Japanese movies conducted regularly in Chicago. Joe stated that up to now the only kinds of entertainment and recreation for Issei are: playing Japanese cards, Japanese checkers ("go"), and group singing of classical Japanese ballads.

Sumo as a sport is probably more popular among the Buddhist following than among the Christian. I noticed a number of Buddhist adherents serving as high officials, etc.,--Rev. Kubose being one of them.

Probably more important than the sumo sport itself is the fact that such an event permits family groups to get together and for friends to meet their friends.

RELIGION or SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS  
First Baptist Church  
Interview with Rev. Jitsuo Morikawa  
935 E. 50th Street (church)

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T. Yatsushiro

#8

Interview was conducted with Rev. Morikawa this afternoon between 2:30 and 4:30 at his church. Inasmuch as ~~this~~ Rev. Morikawa is an old friend of mine and this was the first time I had seen him in several years, the interview was conducted on ~~xx~~ a very informal level. Much time was spent in swapping our past experiences. Only the pertinent portion of the interview will be recorded.

First Baptist Church:

Since about three years ago when Rev. Morikawa left Boston center to come to Chicago he has been associate pastor of this church. Rev. Titus was the pastor at first, but Rev. Steiger took over. Rev. M. informed that this church was the second oldest church in Chicago. There are roughly about 400 to 500 members but Rev. M. confessed that the attendance on Sundays was far short of that figure. There are over 60 nisei members <sup>in</sup> of the church and most these are the unmarried young ones. Rev. M. stated that the Sunday attendance is about half caucasians and half niseis. He proudly stated that the caucasian membership of the church has received the nisei membership with opened arms, and the relationship is completely satisfactory. His nisei membership is drawn ~~from~~ mostly from those living in the south side, but there are a few who come from the far north side.

Attitude toward resettlement in Chicago:

Rev. M. was thoroughly convinced that nisei, as well as Issei, ought not to return to the West Coast for their own good but that they should remain out here in the East. He stated:

"I was back in Los Angeles only a few weeks ago on a vacation visit. People were living in trailers or anything they could find. Housing is terrible. Then after getting back to the West Coast, what do the nisei and issei do. They get right back into the narrow restricted life that prevailed before the war. The West Coast is no place for ambitious nisei who want to keep on advancing. Why out here the opportunities are unlimited. Just take my own case for instance.

"Why if I were serving as minister out in Los Angeles ~~where~~ where I was before the war, my sphere of contact ~~would~~ would be only the nisei and some caucasian ministers and friends. If I was ever asked by the city council or the mayor to serve on some special religious committee, that would be a tremendous honor. Ever since I've been out here I have been asked by various schools and organizations to speak to their group. I've had so many requests I have had to turn down a number of them each time.

In one sense evacuation was a wonderful thing. It tore up the little "world" that the Japanese were living in out on the West Coast. Take me for example. My world was just the narrow restricted life that I lead. I was ignorant of things outside the West Coast. It took the evacuation to shake us to the realization that America is much more than the West Coast, that there/boundless opportunities if one only looked about the country. In some instances evacuation has been too one-sided in offering opportunities much more than the evacuees deserved or ~~were~~ were capable of handling." "I feel my soul is free out here in the East."

Attitude toward the Japanese organizations:

Rev. M. was very pleased with the JAOL organization here in Chicago and the newly established Chicago Japanese American Council. He felt there was a definite need for a national organization to which all nisei and issei ~~and~~ organizations throughout the country ~~in~~ could be affiliated. He was very sensitive about the national JAOL organization. He indicated that he was never satisfied with the way JAOL was operated on the West Coast prior to the war. His objection then and now is that the organization is studded with too many politically ambitious individuals who believe that JAOL is the only existent national organization and it must continue to remain so. He explained that here in Chicago the JAOL chapter is very well liked by other organizations because it has shown a willingness to cooperate with ~~the~~ others on an equal plane, and as a matter of fact in staging the Nisei GI testimonial dinner earlier this year, the JAOL chapter here was very active but took very little credit for it, giving much of the credit to the other cooperating organizations. Rev. M. felt that the JAOL objectives were excellent, but that the national organization should be a loose federation

of all the various issei and nisei organizations throughout the country. He felt there was a definite need for such a federation, especially with respect to keeping in touch with and giving appropriate counsel on legislation before the Congress affecting the welfare of the issei and the nisei. He pointed out the naturalization and immigration law ~~is~~ under consideration in Congress, as well as the Evacuee Claims bill.

#### Role of the Issei and Nisei

When questioned about it, Rev. M. ~~did~~ felt that the nisei are ~~now~~ taking over the main family responsibilities and that the issei are more or less willingly relieving themselves of these responsibilities. He admitted that the issei still have the money and therefore had a great deal of influence in a financial way. He thought most of the Japanese businesses were financed by the issei, although it may be operated by the nisei.

He didn't feel that there was any strong feeling among the issei, as it existed prior to the war and in the relocation camps, to dominate the nisei but that there was a feeling of letting the nisei "carry the ball" from now on.

#### Permanency of residence in Chicago

When asked whether most of the Japanese residents now in Chicago would continue to remain here indefinitely, Rev. M. replied that it was difficult to make any prediction on that as yet. He felt most of the evacuees here are still in "a state of flux", that is "there is a feeling of unsettleness" especially among the nisei.

RELIGION  
First Baptist Church  
Interview with Rev. Morikawa

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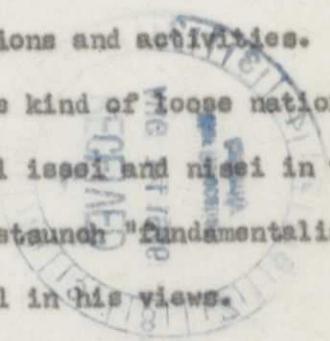
Rev. Morikawa related:

"The other day I was talking with Mr. George Kita, a young lawyer from Peston. You probably know him. We were seriously thinking about conducting a 'Stay in Chicago' campaign among the Japanese evacuees. You know this matter of resettlement or the question of returning to the West Coast is no joke. Many of the evacuees don't look upon it seriously enough and hastily decide that Chicago is dirty and the climate is hot so returning to the West Coast is the best thing. I wonder if these evacuees who want to return to California really understand the kind of problems they will have to face on the West Coast.

"I suppose an educational campaign on the question of remaining here or returning to the West Coast would be good. Occasional meetings among evacuees to discuss this very question would be helpful.

General Impressions:

Rev. Morikawa is a nisei ~~mfxx~~ in his early thirties. In Los Angeles and in Peston center he was a rather popular Baptist minister. Here in Chicago he has made quite an impression on the caucasian members of his church and he is in demand as a speaker by various school and civic organization. By his own action he has demonstrated his belief that nisei should integrate themselves into caucasian ~~gxkups~~ organizations and activities. However, he believes there is a need to maintain some kind of loose national organization which will look after the welfare of all issei and nisei in the U.S. An informant stated that formerly Rev. M. was <sup>a</sup> staunch "fundamentalist" Baptist, but that now he has become much more liberal in his views.



GENERAL  
Visit with Bob Okazaki and other Nisei

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7 Aug 46  
T. Yatsushiro

#9

LOG:

Visited with Bob Okazaki ~~and~~<sup>at</sup> his apartment about 4:00 o'clock this p.m. We chatted for about 2 hours and then had dinner together at a Japanese restaurant around the corner from his place. Following dinner he volunteered to assist me in locating the addresses of some nisei friends. We first visited Eunice Mohri who lives far in the south side. After spending about an hour with her, we all walked several blocks to visit a young nisei couple by the name of Shig Hashimoto. We visited until midnight, before we left. By the time Bob and I returned to our homes in the near north side, it was about 2:00 a.m.

Only the pertinent facts about the nisei visited and pertinent statements made by them will be recorded.

1. BOB OKAZAKI

Bob is an unmarried issei of about ~~42x~~ 42 years of age. Although legally he is an issei by virtue of his birth in Japan, he appears to be a nisei by every other standard. Bob himself admits, that "I am much more Americanized than most of the nisei", which is quite true if one comes to know Bob. Bob is extremely intelligent and possesses a keen alert mind. He is a college graduate and displays an interest and knowledge of sociology and psychology. He is very articulate and his command of the English is flawless. Bob is a born actor and a conversationalist, and his presence always enlivens a party. He is very versatile. Prior to the war ~~he~~ his major profession was acting in minor movie roles, usually portraying the oriental villain. He has an actor's rating of "B-1" according to him. In Chicago during the past 3 years, he has acted in two minor roles for government propaganda movies. One of the movie was concerned with stimulating the rubber industry in U.S. to produce more by showing how Japan can conquered the main rubber producing countries.

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1. BOB OKAZAKI (continued)

Besides being a movie actor and entertainer, Bob ~~is~~ has leadership qualities. He is proud of the fact that 5 years ago he assisted Rev. Morikawa in establishing a church where nisei could attend. At church he is a very strong and active leader. In Poston, Arizona where he was relocated to from Los Angeles, he was a councilman and a leader in other ways.

In general Bob has a flair for excitement and travel, and consequently he is rather unsettled at present. He had been working for an Italian night club in the city, as a kitchen supervisor or something, but he is taking a vacation from this job at present to "escape the summer heat". At present he is working temporarily as a clerk-typist at some firm. Actually since May, 1946 he has been doing very little in the way of work, and has been travelling about the Eastern states. He is deeply interested in going into the advertising business. Asked exactly what this covered, he stated that it included wording and phrasing of advertisements and laying the ad out before sending it to the magazine or newspaper for publication.

(There ~~is~~ much more <sup>that</sup> can be written about Bob, but the following will cover his attitudes <sup>and</sup> on various subjects.)

Juvenile Delinquency:

Bob was extremely concerned about the trend among the Japanese population here toward juvenile delinquency. He stated that prior to the war on the West Coast the Japanese residents enjoyed the reputation of having the lowest crime rate. He said this was so because there were "primary controls" in operation. By "primary controls" he meant the family, neighbors, friends, the church, the school, etc. He said here in Chicago families are ~~living~~ living in hotels and apartments and often members of the same family live in separate rooms or in separate hotels and there is very little control exercised over the children by the parents. Children go in and out of the

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rooms or apartments without the parents knowing when they leave or where they spend their time. He related:

"Many of the young nisei girls are prostitutes. If you ever see a nisei girl in a bar, you can bet your life that she is in business. Some nisei girls are going out with Negroes and some with caucasians. Mrs. Setsuko Nishi told me that there were 18 Negro-Japanese marriages in Chicago so far. Personally I don't approve of Negro-Japanese marriages, for there bound to be problems arising. Now, can you explain this. Nisei girls may be married to Negro fellas, but no nisei fella is married to a Negro girl. That's rather strange.

"Number of the nisei fellas are marrying 'hakujin' women. Most of these marriages begin with a meeting at a bar. Of course, these 'hakujin' women are of the lower class, as the 'pollacks', etc. One of the fellas living in this house, a nisei, is married to a hakujin. He met this blonde in the bar "Playtime" where he works. (This couple passed through the lobby as we were talking).

#### Japanese concentrations:

Bob confirmed the fact that the near north side is probably the heaviest concentration of Japanese residents. He speaks rather disparagingly of this near north side area in that it is known for its notoriety. He says, "if you want to talk to another nisei, just stand on one of the corners at Division and Clark Streets, and you're bound to run in some nisei before long." He confessed "This is what I often do, when I have nothing else to do." He stated that the best district was the far south side where the better class of Japanese lived.

With regard to the question why Japanese concentrated in the near north side, Bob went into a long discussion and explained his theory. Referring to a lecture by the sociologist Bogardus at Washington University, Bob stated he believed the beginning of the concentration was the establishment first of Japanese groceries and eating places. He said fondness for the same kind of food brings people who have been reared similarly and therefore speak the same language together. Once the source of food is located then the people

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Japanese concentrations (continued):

begin congregating around it.

With regard to the ownership and operation of hotels and apartment houses by Japanese, Bob relating the following to be the usual pattern. First most of the hotels and apartment houses bought <sup>of leased</sup> by the Japanese were old dilapidated bug-infested places. Many of the Japanese bought the lease or ownership of these places for relatively low prices. First a few male members of a family purchasing the hotel would find living quarters elsewhere and would visit the hotel daily making surveys of repairs as necessary and actually begin cleaning up one floor. Then they would move in and call the rest of the family from the relocation center or elsewhere and gradually they would begin renovating the rest of the hotel rooms and begin renting them out.

The apartment house Bob is living in is called "La Salle Mansion" and is operated by a Japanese family on lease basis. It is probably one of the biggest apartment house, having ~~about~~ <sup>OVER</sup> 150 tenants of whom 85% are Japanese. It is located at 1039 North La Salle Street. Operators of the place is the Kaneko family.

Question of returning to California:

Bob is not sure himself ~~whether~~ whether he will return or remain in Chicago. He said <sup>of</sup> the evacuees of wanting to go back to California. ~~He~~  
~~relates~~ ~~the~~ ~~following~~

"You know human nature is strange. One likes to return to the place where one was born and reared. Take the animal for instance. It's strange but the Alaskan salmon all return to Alaska after many months of absence from Alaskan waters. They even swim upstream to return. Take the swallows of Capistrano (in California). They always return every year on exactly the same day. So you can't blame the evacuees for wanting to return to California where they lived most of their lives. The issei who were born in Japan all want to return to Japan to spend their last remaining years, even though they may lived in U.S. for many years. Take me, for example, somehow I would like to visit Japan again."

FAMILY VISIT

Visit with Yamaguchi family

4329 861 E. Oakwood Blvd (tel. ATLantic 1820)  
moving soon to: 4329 So. Lake Park Avenue

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#10

Visit was made at the home of the Yamaguchi family this evening from about 7:30 o'clock. Everyone was home. Shortly after arriving there a young nisei GI and his brother made a surprise visit on the family and monopolized the whole evening's conversation that any systematic interview of the Y. family was impossible. This family would be a good ~~family~~ case study as Dr. Leighton has much background material on it. Only some pertinent facts about this family will be recorded at this time.

Family Set-up:

Father: 57 years; issei; formerly farmer in Brawley; works at Stevens Hotel.  
Mother: 53 years; issei; works at a radio shop which makes radio parts.  
Daughter: Lerie; about 29 yrs; works / as seamstress ?  
Son: George; abt. 27 yrs; discharged recently from army; now in Kyoto, Japan working as a civilian translator-interpreter.  
Son: Ken; abt. 25 yrs; just discharged from army; works as paint sprayer; will be working in Japan as interpreter shortly; contemplating marriage before overseas assignment.  
Son: Eddie; just discharged from army; working temporarily; interested in enrolling at some university, preferably west coast.

Residence:

The Ys, with the exception of George who is in Japan now, all live together on the third floor of an old apartment house. The house is located in the thick of the Negro belt in the south side. They are leaving this house shortly and are moving into a house which they are purchasing. (check this). They/~~informed~~<sup>informed</sup> that a colony of Japanese evacuees have taken up residence in the district they're in now, especially along Ellis Avenue. (This ought to be a district for study, if there is a huge large concentration.)

FAMILY

Visit with Yamaguchi's family

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Permanency of residence:

None of the family members were sure what the future held for them on the question of remaining here in Chicago or returning to the West Coast. The family will remain here for at least year more at the end of which time the eldest ~~son~~ son is expected to return from Japan and the family will decide what course they should take. The fact that they are purchasing home into which they expect to move shortly seem to indicate that they will probably remain here for a few years. If they are here a few years, the chances of they remaining here permanently are greater. It is recalled in an interview with Rev. Morikawa he stated that if any family remained here for 3 or 4 years it is very likely that it will continue to remain here.

Economic security:

At present the Ys are getting along very satisfactorily as far as their economic security is concerned. All six members of the family are employed and their total earnings must amount to over a thousand dollars a month. George, eldest son who is in Japan now, earns a gross of about \$550. per month. It is their future that the Ys are mostly concerned about.

When father Y was asked why he didn't go into some business here in Chicago, son Ken stated that all his dad knew was farming. When it was pointed out that many farmers were going into other occupations since evacuation, the discussion led to ~~the~~ business prospects. Father Y stated that there is a *issei* family that lives nearby that operates a bean cake factory ("tofu ya") ~~that~~ and that they grossed at least \$30.00 per day. Father Y was deeply impressed by such a business prospect.

Father Y stated that the ideal way of establishing business is first to lease or purchase an apartment house or a rooming house, and to rent out the top floor rooms and apartments and to use the first floor ~~for~~ as a

FAMILY  
Visit with Yamaguchi family

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Economic security (continued):

business shop <sup>for</sup> ~~an~~ operating a grocery store, etc.

(NOTE: The leasing or purchasing of rooming and apartment houses seem to be a very popular resettlement pattern here in Chicago. It is very logical and sensible in that it solves the housing problem for the family doing the leasing or purchasing. It seems that the lease in many cases is not very expensive since the house is usually fairly old.)

The Ys have no property to go back to ~~an~~ the West Coast. They lived in Brawley in southern California.

It seems a strong likelihood that if the Ys remain here for a few years their economic security will become tied to Chicago that this will negate any other consideration in their desire to return to California.

VISIT WITH 4 NISEI GIRLS

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# H

Visited Eunice Mohri at her place of residence, (5541 So. University Ave; tel. FAirfax 7726) today. Three other nisei girls were also present, plus ~~was~~ a Hawaiian Japanese (nisei) couple who were friends of mine and who were visiting the city then on their return trip to ~~home~~<sup>Hawaii</sup>. At first Eunice suggested a ~~picnic~~ picnic, but due to inclement weather a picnic supper was held at her place of residence. The whole visit ~~was~~ lasted from 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Although this was suppose to be a purely social visit, I managed to find out something about the four nisei girls that may be pertinent to our study. Probably ~~was~~ a brief description of each girl's situation here in Chicago would be important for the present. More intensive interviews can be conducted with any one of the girls, if such a need arise.

Besides Eunice Mohri the other girls were: Hisako Fujii, Marien Uyetani, and Aiko Kotani (?). Since little was learned about Aiko she will be left out of this report.

VISIT WITH 4 NISEI GIRLS

1. Eunice Mohri;

Eunice is single and probably around 28 or 29 years of age. She lives with a caucasian family of three in a fairly nice home which is located in a fairly nice district. Her immediate family consists of her father, mother, and younger sister (Florence), all of whom live in Washington, D.C. at present. Formerly she lived with her family in Bakersfield, California. Her parents did farming (check this). Her sister worked as a secretary or clerk for a collection agency. ~~km~~ They all evacuated to Poston together in May 1942, and remained here for approximately 1 1/2 years. Eunice became a school teacher during this time. ~~xxxxxx~~ In the summer of 1943 she left camp to accept a teaching position with the Indian Service at one of the Indian schools in New Mexico or Arizona. After a year of teaching here, she came to Chicago in early summer of 1944. Since ~~km~~ then she has been working <sup>clerk</sup> in the mails and files section of the Indian Office here in Chicago. I believe she has a CAF-4 or CAF-5 rating.

Eunice is a college graduate with a major, I believe, in teaching. She is intelligent and appears to be quite capable. She is probably not a typical nisei girl for the various reasons: 1) she is much older than the average; 2) she prefers to identify herself with the caucasians rather than with the nisei; 3) she is very independent and ~~xxxx~~ is not too unhappy about being separated from her parents and family. She speaks English fluently and can express herself very well. She has a number of nisei friends in the city but not too many who are very close. When she goes to church, which she admitted was very occasionally, she goes to the First Baptist Church of which Rev. Morikawa is the associate pastor.

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VISIT WITH 4 NISEI GIRLS

1. Eunice Mohri (cont.)

Eunice stated that she is quite happy in Chicago. She likes her job with the Indian office, and likes the caucasian family she is living with. In return for room and board, she cooks and cleans the house during her off-office hours. She has little desire to return to California, and seemed to feel that Chicago is just as nice a place to live in as any other place.

She corresponds with her sister in Washington, as well as her family, fairly regularly. She indicates no strong desire to become reunited with her family in DC., although she probably would like to have them near by.

She will probably resettle in Chicago or some Eastern city permanently.

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VISIT WITH 4 NISEI GIRLS

2. Hisako Fujii

Hisako is a nisei girl of about 27 ~~xx~~ years of age. She is single and is of average intelligence. She and her family formerly lived in the area near Bakersfield in California. The family did farming. When evacuation came they all went to Poston center. She left camp in 1944 to come to Chicago where she has been ever since. In Poston she worked as secretary to Dr. Ned Spicer of the research unit. She was <sup>very</sup> efficient as a secretary. Here in Chicago she is working as a secretary in the Indian Office, health section. At present she is living with another nisei girl (Aiko Kotani-? who was present at this occasion) in an apartment in the near north side. (1026 North Dearborn; tel. Whitehall 9076)

Asked how she liked her job and Chicago in general she replied:

"I like my job very well and am quite satisfied ~~with~~ living in Chicago. I guess it was partially due to dislike for camp life and a necessity to adjust to a new community, that I have come to like my job and Chicago." She probably receives a CAF-4 or CAF-5 rating.

She informed that her family (parents and brother ~~and~~ sisters) is now back in California in the area where they formerly lived ~~and~~ has resumed farming. Asked whether her family plans to settle there permanently, she said she thought so, ~~and~~ that in any case they would never come east.

Asked what her plans were regarding permanent residence, she replied it dependent on a number of things. It was apparent that she ~~xxx~~ is quite happy in Chicago, and that she does not cherish returning to a farm life. She is of a marriageable age, ~~and~~ therefore this is a consideration in her plans to remain ~~xx~~ here or not. Apparently she is not too unhappy in being separated from her immediate family. She appears to have succeeded in adjusting herself to Chicago. In camp she was a very shy and reserve individual, but now it seemed that she has become more confident of herself and

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VISIT WITH 4 NISEI GIRLS

2. Hisako Fujii (cont.)

is no longer afraid to meet and talk to people. From other sources it was learned that she ~~has~~ goes out on dates with fellows quite frequently. In camp she never went out on dates.

~~She~~ She probably has a small circle of friends among nisei and not very many caucasian friends. She is a Buddhist, but probably not a very strong member of any church here.

She will probably remain in Chicago for a few years more, and possibly for a long period.

3. Marion Uyetani: (Eunice Mohri can give her address)

Marian is a nisei girl of about 26 years of age. She is single and is of average intelligence. She and her family formerly lived in the Bakersfield region of So. California. They probably did farming (check this). The family was evacuated to Poston center. In Poston she worked as secretary in the research unit of which Dr. Leighton was head. She was a very capable secretary. She left camp in ~~1944~~ late 1943 and has been working as a secretary at a hospital in the city ever since.

Her family (parents and siblings) are all out here in Chicago living in a rented apartment. Her younger sister is studying to be a nurse in New York city.

Asked about her job she said she was quite happy in her present position. She indicated she was interested in nursing as a career, but that this was out now. She informed her family is quite happy out here in Chicago.

Asked if her parents have decided to remain here ~~permanently~~ permanently, she said they weren't sure but that at least they will stay here until her sister finishes her nursing training (which will be about two years) and until her soldier brother returns from overseas and is discharged (which ~~will~~ probably won't be for 1 or 2 years).

It is fairly certain that Marian's family as well as herself will remain in Chicago for at least two ~~year~~ years or so. If this is so, then it is very likely that they will continue to remain here for a number of years if not permanently.

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#12

RELIGION

First Baptist Church--Young People's Fellowship

I attended the Baptist Young People's Fellowship meeting which was held at the First Baptist Church tonight (Sunday) from 8:30 to 10:00 p.m. I was previously asked by Mr. Shorty Fujita, leader of the group, to speak on my experience in Japan while on duty with the Strategic Bombing ~~xxxx~~ Survey following the conclusion of the war.

The regular evening church service was held earlier between 7:30 and 8:30 o'clock with Rev. Morikawa preaching. When I got to the church it was a little after 8:30 p.m., and many of the people were filing out. I learned later that there were close to about 150 or more present for the service.

The young people's meeting was held in a huge hall in the basement. The group was formed in a huge circle and were boisterously singing lively church hymns. After the singing, Mr. Fujita immediately began introducing a number of new visitors ~~ka~~ present. I was introduced and ~~im~~ I immediately went into my extemporaneous talk. I guess I talked for about half an hour and a ~~faq~~ question period followed. The group was primarily concerned with "relief for Japan" which followed the general theme of "World Relief" which they have adopted for the current period. Light refreshments followed the conclusion of the regular meeting. During the refreshment period a number of the people came up to me to ask ~~xxxx~~ more about various aspects of Japan's condition. One young nisei girl asked me how she could go about getting a job ~~xxxx~~ in Japan as a nursing instructor. I advised her she ought <sup>write to</sup> to the War Dept., overseas branch. I met a number of friends of mine as Harry Kita, who is just starting out in the law profession, Dr. Watanabe, whom I met at the C.J.A. Council meeting, Bob Okazaki, ~~Miss~~ Miss Chizuko Takahashi, who was a neighbor of mine in Poston center, and a few others whose names I can't remember just now.

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RELIGION  
First Baptist Church -- Young People's Fellowship

The Group:

Because I was so busily engaged answering personal inquiries about Japan ~~and~~ the Resettlement Study I was not able to find <sup>out</sup> too much about the group. There were close to 90 people in attendance, most of whom were nisei (95%) and the others caucasians. They were all young between the ages of 20 to 35. I believe the females outnumbered the males in about a 3 to 2 ratio. The group appeared to be a rather compact group, that is to say there ~~was~~ seemed to be feeling of oneness or unity. I felt the group was very active and alert. They were ~~very~~ very attentive and the slightest bit of humor thrown in by the speaker resulted in a thunderous laughter.

The group meets every Sunday evening right after the regular evening service, usually ~~between~~ <sup>from</sup> 8:30 to 9:30. ~~The~~ Shorty Fujita, one of the leaders, informed me that the summer meetings are not too well attended and that tonight was an exception. He had previously advised me that there would be about 40 people present that night, but actually there were twice that number. Rev. Morikawa was present and apparently takes a very active interest in the group.

The First Baptist Church whose membership is about half caucasian and half nisei is probably the lead~~ing~~ing christian church among nisei in terms of membership, influence, and interest shown.

~~xxxxxxx~~  
During the refreshment period some interesting remarks were made by certain niseis and these merit recording.

RELIGION

First Baptist Church -Young People's Fellowship

1. Harry Kita:

Harry is an acquaintance of mine from Poston center days. He is a nisei of about 28 years of age, possibly younger. He completed his law education about a year ago, and since early this year he has been practicing law here in Chicago. He hails from San Diego and was a star athlete (football player especially) at the state university there. His parents are at present in Iowa where he attended school for a while after leaving the relocation center.

He is very intelligent, has a pleasing personality, and possesses a nice physique. There is an air of youthfulness about him in his speech and mannerism.

When asked how he was doing in his profession Harry replied:

"Well I just started out you know. I occupy an office together with a hakujin insurance salesman. I want to remain here, but I don't know ~~whether~~ whether I will. It will all depend on whether the Japanese remain here or return to the West Coast. If most of them return to the Coast, I probably will go there myself."

When asked about whether there is a trend among the Japanese to return ~~in~~ to California or the West Coast, Harry stated:

"We've been trying to push a 'Stay in Chicago' campaign among the Japanese here. I believe they ought to stay here instead of going back there."

This statement was also made by Dr. Watanabe, ~~the~~ nisei doctor, who was present in the discussion.

(NOTE: Harry feels very strongly about the advisability of the Japanese remaining here in Chicago or out in the East. He himself wants to remain here. However, he seem to feel that he will have to rely upon Japanese clientele in his chosen profession, and therefore if a large segment of them return to ~~the~~ California he feels that it may be necessary for him to do likewise.)

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ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT  
Professionals  
Interview with Dr. Tom Watanabe

#13

11:00 a.m. to noon

A luncheon interview/was conducted with Dr. Watanabe, who is engaged in diagnostic reentgenology, x-ray and radium therapy. With three ~~other~~ caucasian doctors Dr. Watanabe is employed by Dr. Schwartz on a salary and commission basis. Dr. Schwartz is the founder and owner of this particular medical firm. The firm cover the whole 21st floor of the professional building situated in the downtown section. Address is: Suite 2110, 58 East Washington Street, Chicago 2; telephone DEArborn 6960.

Of the four doctors employed by Dr. Schwartz, Dr. Watanabe is the oldest employee with over 4 years of service. Regarding his income he stated: "We make between ~~2x~~ \$10,000 to \$15,000/ <sup>per year,</sup> depending on our years of service and skill! Apparently Dr. Watanabe is quite well liked by Dr. Schwartz, as the latter, according to Dr. W, ~~xxx~~ asked the former to buy a share in the business of ~~xxx~~ about \$25,000. worth. Dr. Watanabe hasn't bought any share, as/ he is not sure whether he will continue to remain here in Chicago. Outside ~~the~~ his own office he is quite popular, as the ~~xxxxxx~~ <sup>a number of</sup> elevator men and/employees of the other firms in the building shouted "Hi, doctor" or "Hi Dr. Watanabe".

Dr. Watanabe's work is taking x-rays of patients and ~~diagnosing~~ making diagnoses from the x-rays and recommending appropriate therapy. Besides the four doctors, there are numerous nurses, technicians, clerks, etc. There are numerous rooms each ~~with~~ equipped with different x-ray machines. Dr. W. took me around the various rooms and explained the purposes of the various equipment. Dr. W. was very proud of the fact that the equipment they use are the latest models, and that they cost many thousands of dollars. The firm's clientele ~~xxxxxx~~ <sup>are</sup> exclusively referrals from other doctors in the city, and are largely caucasians.

ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT  
Professionals  
Interview with Dr. Tom Watanabe

On the surface it appears that Dr. W. has made a very successful economic adjustment. He is earning a sizable income and enjoys the respect of the head of the firm.

However, Dr. W. did not feel that he wanted to continue in his present capacity indefinitely. His desire to return to Los Angeles, California, his attachment to his family now in California, where he lived 20 years or so, and his references to the need of his getting married before long are some of the main reasons he is not certain he will remain here. He stated:

"I enjoy my present job all right. But you can't beat California as a place to live. My dad is now in Los Angeles living with my married sister. He is 69 years now, and I don't expect him to work any more. My mother died last year. Next year or so I expect to make a trip to ~~the~~ California to look the place over. Then I'll know more definitely whether I'll stay in Chicago or return to Los Angeles. Somehow I feel happier among issei and nisei. They speak your own language. That's why I have tried to be active among the various nisei and issei organizations, as the churches and the GJA Council."

"If I go to Los Angeles I probably will be doing private practice. I am going to try and get attached to some big hospital. Have you seen the Los Angeles County Hospital? Now, that's quite a hospital."

There was evidence in various remarks made by Dr. W. that he wanted to establish his own practice and not have to work for somebody else and be paid a straight salary. Although he was born in Colorado, he was reared in Los Angeles, California, and he stated "after living there for 20 years one naturally gets quite fond of the place!"

He joked about getting married, and asked if there were some eligible nisei girls in Washington, D.C. He said, "Maybe I am getting old, and getting too particular." Along this line he voluntarily expressed himself on intermarriages:

"I don't believe in intermarriages, as Nisei girls and Negro fellows, or niseis and hakujins. One side has to sacrifice too much. That is, one side has to adapt oneself to the other almost completely. There are too many problems arising. I heard that there have been at least a dozen marriages between nisei girls and Negro fellows. Maybe this

"was due to the male shortage during the war, I don't know. If the Negro fellow ~~is~~ has a fair complexion and has some hakujin traits, it may not be too bad. I know a Dr. Nakaya, who is an issei, ~~but~~ married to a hakujin woman. They had 5 children, all grown up. The first two, a daughter and son, looked like hakujin and hardly any trace of Japanese. The other three children, however, looked like Mexicans or Spanish, and had marked oriental features. (At this point Dr. W. pulled out a Life magazine issue and turned to a page which had a picture of the oldest daughter posing as an acrobat on the beach.) During the war the children all adopted their hakujin mother's name which was 'Norton'."

Dr. Watanabe spoke at great length of Dr. Nakaya ~~and~~ as he knows him and his family. As far as he knows Dr. Nakaya and he are the only Japanese M.D.s specializing in roentgenology.

Background notes on Dr. W.

Dr. W. is a nisei ~~of~~ <sup>over</sup> ~~35~~ 35 years of age. He is unmarried and his immediately family consists of: father, 69 years, living in Los Angeles at present with married daughter, operated a small business in Los Angeles before the war; and two sisters, one of whom is ~~xxxxx~~ married. His mother died last year. He was born in Colorado, but was reared and educated in Los Angeles, California. In 1936 thereabouts he came to Chicago to ~~xxx~~ continue his study and work in roentgenology at the University of Chicago. After ~~xxxx~~ a couple of years of so he returned to Los Angeles and began private practice. He was evacuated to Manzanar and after about 8 months of residence there, he came out here and ever since he has been working ~~xxxx~~ Dr. Schartz' firm.

He is a very friendly person and appear to be very intelligent. He appears to be a very capable doctor and expressed a great deal of confidence in himself. ~~xxxxxxx~~ He stated: "My kind of work is mainly studying shadow as they appear on the x-ray plates. One needs many years of experience before one can do the work efficiently and feel confident in himself."

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# 14

A Nisei Lawyer  
Interview with George Kita

Had dinner with George Kita, a nisei lawyer, at the Japanese restaurant "Ten-Katsu" this evening, after which George came to my room where we had a lengthy "bull-session". (A brief of description of George's background is given in the report of the "First Baptist Church, Young People's Fellowship" dated August 11th.) Additional notes are: 1) He ~~was~~ attended Drake University in Iowa; 2) he lives with his unmarried sister in the south side.

Occupation:

George finished his law schooling about the middle of last year (1945). He immediately accepted a job with the Federal Gov't in Washington D.C. He worked in D.C. for about half year until early 1946 when he came to Chicago to establish his own law practice. He ~~is~~ was reluctant to talk about his law business at present, which indicated he probably isn't faring very well. He has been dabbling in real estate together with a caucasian realtor. At present he seems more interested in real estate than in the practice of law itself. About his income he stated: "Well, I'm not making too much, but I'm getting along."

He spoke rather freely about the real estate business. He stated, "I didn't know too much about the real estate business until I came here. It's quite a business. The hakujin fellow I work with handles a lot of property for hakujins and Negroes. He makes so much more doing business with the Negroes that he says he doesn't know why he continues doing business with the hakujins. The Negroes are willing to pay high prices."

He explained how they went about buying a lease on a property and then selling it for a higher price in turn. He confided that real estate was a good investment and encouraged this analyst to invest in real estate and get bigger returns than ~~is~~ to invest in bonds which bring very small returns.

Housing:

"Many Japanese are buying houses or buying the lease on houses in the south side. I think the district in the south is better than the near north side. Of course, there is the Negro problem in the south side. Many of the Japanese would move out of the house as soon as Negroes begin moving in. I think that the congested housing quarters that the Japanese are living in will lead to delinquency among the young."

Gambling:

George confessed that he had ~~xxx~~ never known much about how gambling was operated. He stated that here in Chicago, there are several gambling houses operated by Japanese. These places are protected <sup>from</sup> ~~by~~ ~~xxx~~ police raids, he stated, by paying the police in that district one-third of the gambler's winnings. He stated, that is the reason very few of the places have been raided. When he was shown an article appearing in today's Sun informing that 46 Japanese were cleared of gambling charges when they proved they were members of a private club, he was rather surprised as the gambling establishment was not far from where he lived. Regarding membership in a private club, George stated that this protects the gamblers on the basis that they gamble just among themselves.

Hawaiian Club, recreation center, 1358 North Clark Street

After supper, George and I visited the Hawaiian Club just for curiosity sake. The club is ~~an~~ nothing but a gambling outfit. The place is located a little inward from the main sidewalk and one has to climb a flight of stairs to get to the first floor. There is someone always guarding the front door and ready to tip off the gamblers inside in case of a raid. He probably stops any suspicious looking individuals, or any non-oriental. We had no trouble getting in, and in a huge room in the back there were three pool tables. A number of people were squatted on the billiard tables and gambling.

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Interview George Kita

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One table was engaged in poker. Another was engaged in a Chinese game called "Pai-kyu", which is something akin to dominoes. The third table was also engaged in cards. Most of those gambling were older people consisting of issei, Filipinos, Chinese, and Koreans. There were about 20 people in all. I suppose that later in the evening there are more people. In case of a raid, the gamblers all pretend to be playing billiard or non-betting card games.

#### JACL

G.K. was very bitter about the JACL in general especially its top leaders. In no uncertain terms he tore apart Mike Masaoka and Dr. Yatabe. On the other hand he had nothing against Masao Satow, Noboru Honda, and few ~~of~~ JACL leaders. He felt that there was a need for <sup>a</sup> national organization ~~for~~ among nisei and issei, but felt that the present JACL leaders were not qualified to represent all the Japanese in the U.S.

"If JACL wants to increase its membership as well as popularity it must get rid of some of its leaders like Mike Masaoka and Dr. Yatabe. These guys are psychopathic cases. They are out to advance their own glory. Now you take Yatabe. Several months ago I tried to get an ad in the Pacific Citizen announcing my practice. I called Yatabe up at his office. I asked him if he was busy, and he shouted, 'Yeah, I'm terribly busy. I can't be bothered now! I told him, 'Just a minute; let me tell you what I want to say. All I want is an advertisement in the P.C.' He then stated, 'Well, if that's all you want, you can see my wife about that.' Well, I went down to see his wife about this ad. I asked her whether her husband was terribly busy, and she confessed, 'No, he just pretends to be busy!'"

"Just before this incident I ~~was~~ learned that a JACL chapter was to be formed here in the city. I felt I'm going to let 'By-gones be by-gones' and attend a meeting. When I got to the meeting they (including Dr. Yatabe) began to quiz me, I guess to see ~~if~~ if I was eligible for membership. They asked why I never was a member before. I replied that I wasn't too interested in it then, and furthermore there wasn't a chapter nearby. They replied it was odd that I wasn't a member before. Well, this was enough for me."

JACL (continued)

"Now, Mike Masaoka is another crackpot. God, does he loves to talk. And the worst part is that all the hakujins in high places swallow all the stuff that he spreads. They think he is the true representative of all the Japanese in America when actually he isn't. Well, at the nisei GI testimonial dinner held in May of this year, Mike was introduced and ~~briefly~~ permitted to speak briefly. He spoke about half an hour on various peculiar subjects. He bragged about the nisei GIs doing intelligence work in the Pacific and about how they aided materially in defeating our 'Jap-enemies'. I guess he felt it was very American to use the phrase 'Jap-enemies'. Now the president of the U.S., not even our ignorant Chicago mayor would use such language.

"I remember when I visited Mike at his place one day. Gosh, he pretended he was so big and so busy. Every few minutes he would say 'Oh, I gotta call up the Mayor,' or some big politician, or some big name. Then he would turn to his secretary and say, 'Oh, I gotta fly to Indiana tomorrow. Please get me plane reservation' Gosh, I wonder why he acts that way.

"You know, if the JACL wants to become more popular, it should get rid of leaders like Masaoka and Yatabe who have been in office for so long. They ought to put in young blood. Some of the JACL leaders now are 35 or 40. Why don't they give the young people a chance."

Buddhist group

George stated that it would be interesting to watch how the Buddhist group develop. "They have been very active in Chicago. They have many

leaders like Corky Kawasaki, Noboru Honda, and Rev. Kubose. It's interesting to note that they have practically taken over the leadership among the Japanese residents here in Chicago. Noboru is head of the CJA Council as well as president of the Buddhist group. Corky is chairman of the Resettlers Committee. They were main responsible for staging the huge nisei GI testimonial dinner held in May at the Stevens."

"Corky and Noboru belong to Rev. Kubose's church in the south side. Rev. Kono has a separate Buddhist church in the near north side. Just between you and me, these two priests are not on very good terms. You ought to go visit Rev. Kono; he's an interesting guy. Rev. Kono has much more personality than Kubose. He's much younger and is a better speaker. He appeals to young Buddhists more than Kubose. I guess he's a Hongwanji member."

Resettlers Committee

G.K. felt that the Resettlers Committee is doing a good job in general. He thought Corky Kawasaki was quite a hard worker, and although he felt ~~max~~ C.K. had a tendency to indulge in personal glorification. He related the following experience he had with Corky.

"One night at a meeting when we were discussing the future of the Resettlers Committee work and how best to raise funds, I made this statement to Corky:

'You know, Corky, if the issei and nisei don't want to contribute to continuing the work of the Resettlers Committee, you should just forget the work and discontinue it!

I guess I must have said the wrong thing, for Corky was pretty sore at me for ~~saying~~ suggesting that the Resettlers Committee be abandoned. He said:

'Oh, no, we can't abandon the work of the Resettlers Committee. It must go on.'

He strongly indicated to me that I had stepped on his toes. "

Japanese organization:

George felt that there should be a united organization for all the various nisei-issei organizations and for all issei and nisei. He thought Chicago the Japanese American Council was a good thing. He objected strenuously to any organization which had ulterior motives in assisting the evacuees. He felt any organization which is making a sincere effort to help the evacuees is good, and if in the course some individuals received some material benefit it was all right. He objected, however, to certain organizational leaders who made it their business to advance their own selfish ends.

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#15

HOUSING & rooming  
Picture of a Japanese-operated apartment/house

This is a brief description of a Japanese operated rooming-apartment house combination, which is located in the heart of the near north side concentration. Because I have been living in one for the past week this one has been selected as an illustration. The address is: 1421 North Clark Street; telephone, DELaware 7857. The Mr. and Mrs. T. Takeuchi, a nisei couple of about 30 years of age, has a lease on the ~~entire~~ entire house. There are at least 15 adult tenants and about 6 youngsters living in 13 separate living units, half of which are merely rooms and the other half apartments having kitchen facilities but no private bath. There is one public bathroom on each of the two floors. The tenants are all Japanese. The following tenant names are listed ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ for future reference:

	<u>Room No.</u>	<u>Names</u>
2nd floor	( 1	Tochio Yatsushiro
	( 2-3	Mr. and Mrs. K. Nishioka an infant and a young daughter
	( 4-5	Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kada
	( 6	Miss Sessie Kimura
	( 7	Joyce Kawano
	( 8-9	Mr. and Mrs. T. Takeuchi (owners & operators) two young daughters
	( 10	Mr. Fukuda
3rd floor	( 11-12	Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura
	( 13-14	Miss Emi Kimaka Tetsuo Kimaka
	( 15	Mr. H. Osawa
	( 16	N. Takeuchi T. Hirata
	( 17-18	Mrs. F. Nishioka Satoshi Nishioka

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Japanese-operated apartment and rooming house

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The first floor of the building is a drinking bar called "Moulin Rouge Cocktail Lounge". This is entirely separate from the apartments and rooms on the second and third floors. The building is rather narrow, flanked on both sides by other buildings, but is rather deep. In the front on the top of the building is the inscription "1890", which indicates the building is 56 years old. The stairways climbing up to the second and third floors are very dark, and so are the hallways on both floors.

The room I occupy (No. 1) has a double bed, a dresser, a table with two chairs. Parts of the room has been repainted blue, but in general the walls of the room look rather dirty. The room measures about 10 feet by 10 feet. There is a rather deep closet. The room faces the street and therefore exposed to all noise from the street cars which run up and down the street continuously. At present the street in front is being torn up in order to repair the street car tracks, therefore, it is extremely noisy. The room is full of dust and soot constantly.

Lack of playground for children:

In such a place as this the children have no playground to play in. At various times I've seen some of the youngsters here run and down the hall or the steps trying to find some playing space. The owners of the lease on this house (Takeuchi) told me that they are terribly dissatisfied with the lack of playground for their children. She said for this very reason she is thinking of returning to the West Coast (Los Angeles) in two years or so.

HOUSING  
Japanese-operated apartment and rooming house

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Cramped housing and proximity to saloons, night club, etc.

Cramped housing condition is in itself conducive to juveniled delinquency. gambling houses, Beside this, living ~~xx~~ in town near drinking bars, night clubs/and other vice will materialky aid in producing delinquent children. Bob Okazaki (he has been written up) who lives in a nearby apartment house ("La Salle Mansion") has expressed grave concern over this particular problem. He believes with families living in apartment and rooming houses, often the members are split up, and very little ~~xxx~~ parental control is exercised over the young children. Therefore he believes ~~x~~ many young girls and boys are engaged in immoral practices.

In the past 2 weeks of living in this district where a number of Japanese have taken up residence, I have noticed nisei fellows and some nisei girls frequenting bars, night clubs, and ~~gmkkingx~~ gambling houses like veterans. There seem to be no feeling of restraint among them as it existed on the West Coast.

Cramped housing will eventually drive the youngsters away from home in ~~an~~ <sup>their</sup> effort to find an escape from the tension and friction that usually result from cramped living.

Old Bachelors vs. families

For families with children this apartment house far from an ideal place to live. It is not only cramped and noisy, but it is located in the worst part of the city, near saloons, gambling houses, night clubs, etc.

It may meet the/ needs of old bachelors who can stand the noise and other inconveniences and who want to be near town where bars and eating places are close by.

Family interview  
Interview with the T. Takeuchi family  
(1421 North Clark Street; DELaware 7857)

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The following covers two or three brief interviews, or conversations actually, conducted with the Takeuchi couple.

Background:

Mr. and Mrs. T. Takeuchi are both nisei. He is about 30 years of age, and she is probably about 28. She is originally from Gardena, California; while he hails from Los Angeles (I believe). When evacuation came Mrs. T. and family children (one daughter at that time I believe) relocated to Rowher center. Mr. T. was inducted into the army just about that time, so he never did live in a center. About a year ago or more Mr. T. was discharged from the army, after serving over 4 years, and he and his family resettled in Chicago. He secured the lease on the rooming-apartment house that he now resides in.

Family set-up:

Father: Mr. T. ; 30 years; at present working as a machinist at some caucasian firm; works at night.  
Mothers: Mrs. Lily T.; 28 years; operates the rooming house.  
Children: daughter, Lily; about 6 or 7 years; will begin attending school in Chicago from September.  
daughter, an infant.  
(a ~~xxxx~~ infant son died in the relocation center)

Evacuation losses and Center life

Mrs. T. is rather bitter about the whole evacuation and relocation program. This is largely because of the fact that she lost an infant son while in camp. She related that her son had pneumonia actually, and the doctors in camp insisted that it was a mild cold and there was nothing to fear. The camp doctors therefore did not take any special precaution. During the winter when it was severely cold, and it was necessary to take her son to the community mess hall, she believes that the son's condition got serious due to the exposure to the cold. Very suddenly he died. Mrs. T. stated: "Now, if it weren't for the evacuation my son ~~xxxx~~ probably would not have died. I could have ~~xx~~ had better medical care outside."

Family  
Interview with the T. Takeuchi family

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She was very interested in the Gláms Bill which was pending in Congress. She inquired if it would be possible to list the death of her son in claiming evacuation losses. ~~She~~ Analyst replied he wasn't sure, and that she might inquire.

Housing:

Mrs. T. stated that they had to lease a place like this, as ~~she~~ otherwise they would not have been able to subsist on their earnings. Furthermore, they had relatives (Mrs. T's sister and family) who were in need of housing. Therefore they figured that by taking over the lease on this house, they would have a place to live at a very moderate cost and would receive an income from tenants renting the apartments and rooms.

It is believed that the rental on the apartments and rooms is very low. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Just a plain room without kitchen or bath facilities rents for about \$4.50 per week. There are about 12 separate living units, of which the Takeuchi and relatives occupy at least two.

Mrs. T. is not at all satisfied with their present housing situation. She said this is bad for young children, as they had no place to play. She feels very strongly about ~~this~~ the lack of playground for children.

Permanent residence

From various remarks made by both Mr. and Mrs. T., it is very questionable that they want to reside in Chicago permanently. It appears that they have been forced to take up residence in Chicago, after being forced to leave the relocation center. They are still desirous of returning to California, Los Angeles specifically. Their plan is to remain here for a few years, and see how things make out, before they ~~xxxx~~ decide definitely on staying here or leaving for the West Coast.

Family  
Interview with the T. Takeuchi family

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Children's schooling:

Mrs. T. has arranged to have her daughter (7 yrs) attend<sup>a</sup> school located about 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  blocks from here place of residence. She said this a mixed school, that is Negro students also attended. She related how shocked her daughter was when she took the latter to register at the school some time ago. Her daughter stated: "Mother, are they (point at the Negro students) going to attend this school too."

Social relations:

The Ts sphere of social activity is very limited. They are not strong members of any organization. Most of their time is spent at home, making entertaining outside visitors or relatives. Mr. T. likes baseball and ~~gax~~ attends ball games quite frequently. Mrs. T. ~~sax~~ stated occasionally she and her husband and other friends go bowling at a nearby bowling alley.

Tom Masuda:

Mrs. T. complained that "Nisei ~~kayaxx~~ lawyers aren't very good". She explained that she hired Tom Masuda to evict a hakujin tenant from her rooming house, and although Masuda was successful in this the latter didn't go as far as collecting the back rent from this evicted tenant. She was told by Masuda that she would have to arrange for collection of this back rent ~~sxtkxaxax~~ herself. Then she complained that he charged rather high fees.

FAMILY

Visit with Marvel Maeda's family  
(2241 North Clifton Avenue)

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#17

(NOTE: Since John deYoung is making a thorough study of the Marvel Maeda family, this report will cover ~~only~~ mainly impressions gathered by this analyst)

On the invitation of Marvel Maeda, John and I visited her and her family and had dinner with them. Marvel's family consists of: father, mother, Marvel, sister Alice, another sister, and a young brother.

I have known Marvel since early 1942 when we were in Poston center together. After about a year in Poston she left for Washington D.C. where she became quite an active leader in nisei activities. She was very well liked and respected by the nisei as well as the hakujins. She was one of the few nisei leaders who together with a number of hakujin church leaders served on the "Nisei Committee" and greatly assisted the new nisei residents in the District in adapting themselves to the new community.

Marvel is a nisei of about 30 years of age. She is intelligent, very capable, and appear to be very confident of herself. She has a very pleasing personality, and is a type of person who can adjust herself to practically any kind of situation without too much difficulty.

They live in a large house for the size of their family (John informs there are 10 rooms). Externally the house looks fairly old, but the inside indicates it has been kept up very nicely.

The general impression gathered is that the family is very happily adjusted in Chicago. The father works as a shoe repairman at a big department store, and has been here for the past 3 years ever since leaving Poston. Marvel and Alice are working for the government. A younger sister is going to college, U. of Illinois. The youngest brother is attending high school.

In speaking about his job, Mr. Maeda said he was quite satisfied with his job, saying he is old now and it would be very difficult for him to begin his own business. He seemed to like Chicago immensely. When he was

FAMILY  
Visit with Marvel Maeda's family

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informed that this analyst was going to Denver very shortly, he asked the latter to be sure to look up the Sonoda family that is farming near Denver. He asked that the Sonodas be urged to come to Chicago, that there were more opportunities in the way of farming in the rural vicinity of Chicago. He informed that the Sonodas were one of their best family friends, having come from the same region in So. California.

Moody Institute (near North Ave and No. Clark St.)

Mr. Maeda ~~and~~ attends the Moody Institute church service for issei. There are two issei ministers, father and son, and about 60 issei attend services every Sunday morning. I believe he said that they formerly belonged to the "Holiness" church in California. There are two nisei ministers here at Moody Institute. (A visit ought to be made here)

CASE STUDY -- NISEI  
Visit with a nisei photographer  
(Bill Yamamoto; 837 North La Salle St.)

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# 18

Made a casual visit at the "Oriental Studio" which is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yamamoto. I made a brief visit here previously and since I was in the general neighborhood I stopped in to visit them. As Mr. Y had to leave after a while, a complete interview was not made.

Background:

Bill is a kibeI of about 28 or 29 years of age, although he looks much younger. He comes from a region near San Francisco, and was evacuated to Granada center in Colorado. He left camp about 3 years ~~xx~~ and has been here in Chicago ever since.

His wife told me the following about him: He was extremely interested in photography when he was very young. In time he was given a movie camera and he prized this very much. All through his youth he tinkered with photography, taking pictures and doing his own developing and printing. When evacuation came he took all his photography equipment with him to camp where he continued with his hobby. When he left camp he was so interested in photography that he studied for a year or so at some photography school here in Chicago, as well as working at a photo studio. About a year ago ~~xx~~ (mid-1945) he opened his present photo studio and has been operating ever since.

Business prospects

Bill informed that he was doing satisfactory business at present. He stated about 75% of his business ~~xx~~ is with Japanese, while 25% is with caucasians. He said business was very slow at first, but gradually as he became known in his section of the city, more and more people have been coming in. Although most of his customers come from the near north side, there are some who come from the far north side, the west side, as well

CASE STUDY -- NISEI  
Visit with a nisei photographer  
(Bill Yamamoto)

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as the south side. Concerning his relationship with the hakujiins he said:

"Hakujiins in this neighborhood don't seem to care that I am a Japanese. In fact some of my hakujiin customers recommend me to their friends who often come to me. A number of times hakujiin customers have come saying that ~~xxxxxx~~ hakujiin friends had told ~~xxx~~ them about me. I haven't any trouble with them."

Beside his own photo studio, Bill has a contract with a night club nearby to take all pictures of customers there. He said he has ~~xxx~~ had this contract for over a year, and although the fee to the night club is very steep he has been able to pay off all his expenses and now is comfortably situated. He was very proud of the fact that he has this contract and especially because the night club is a very ~~night~~ nice place, not just an ordinary one.

When asked about business prospects here in Chicago as compared to the West Coast, he stated:

"Oh, Chicago is definitely a better place for business. Here the people don't care whether you are a Japanese or not as they do on the West Coast. There is better chance for advancement."

Bill's own photo studio is a moderate one, not very fancy and big, but substantial for his business needs. His wife is his office manager, and handles all the business routine. The studio is situated in a relatively nicer district of the near north side area, say compared to ~~xxx~~ North Clark St. Although it runs parrallel to North Clark St. and is only one block apart, it has no eating places, night clubs, drinking bars as characteristic of North Clark St. Also it has no street cars. North La Salle Street ~~is~~ mainly ~~xxxxxx~~ consists of big hotels and rooming houses, and few big business firms.

CASE STUDY--NISEI  
A Nisei Photographer  
(Bill Yamamoto)

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While conversing with Mrs. Y. a well-dressed Filipino came in the store and asked if his pictures were completed. Mrs. Y. replied in the affirmative and showed the proofs to him. The Filipino was a friendly chap and voluntarily began talking about himself and his family in Philippines. He said the pictures were to be used for his passport. He stated his family, consisting of 6 sister and 5 brothers, were in Philippines and that they were all doctors, lawyers, and engineers now. He said he was ashamed to return to Philippines, as he considered himself "a North Clark Street bum". The significance of the last remark is that the North Clark Street, between 800 and 1400 blocks, is a notorious area where many of Chicago's drunkards and ~~bums~~ bums are produced.

Resettlers Committee:

While three of us were conversing, an elderly issei man dropped in the studio and inquired where he could locate the Resettlers' Committee office. He stated he had walked up and down the street and apparently was lost. Bill told him that it was just a little ways down the street. Bill's studio is rather prominently situated on North 21 La Salle Street and probably accounts for the reason why the issei inquired here. When I myself first came to Chicago two weeks and was investigating the area there, ~~the~~ Bill's studio was one of the first business establishments that caught my eye.

CASE STUDY -- NISEI  
A nisei photographer  
(Bill Yamamoto)

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Mrs. Y's background:

Mrs. Y. is a young nisei of about 25 years of age or older. Her family lived in the San Francisco Bay area before the war and were evacuated to Topaz, Utah. She left camp about two years ago and got married to Mr. Y. out here. Her family returned to the San Francisco area and is there now. They were formerly clothes cleaners, and at present they are trying to resume the cleaning business. She reported that they are prohibited from getting an operating license, as apparently there is a city ordinance that discriminates against Japanese, citizen or aliens. She reported that they are taking the case to court, and she feels confident that they will win out.

Mrs. Y. is a very pleasing individual and appears intelligent and capable.

Kalifornians --Directory and Yearbook

Bill is the official photographer for the Kalifornians' Directory-Yearbook which is scheduled to come off the press shortly. He and Joe Kowaki are good friends and have been seen together regularly.

General Comments:

Bill will probably make his home in Chicago for some time anyway. He enjoys his work, which his wife describes as his "hobby". He seems to have established himself here, professionally. He has an income from his studio and from his night club contract. He is a rather quiet sort of a person but he is ambitious and quite confident of himself. He talked about Harry Shigeta, who is a nationally known commercial photographer. He informed that there are quite a number of nisei and issei photographers in Chicago.

JAPANESE BUSINESSES  
North Clark Street.

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#19

The "Chicago Nisei Business Director, 1945-46" was scanned and the following Japanese businesses were found. The places are listed in order of address (house number) from south to north. The names in parenthesis indicate the owner, and the "p:" represents the page number where advertisement was found.

<u>No. Clark St.</u>	<u>Name</u>
192	Suite 614, Tell Bros. Watch Makers (John Kurimoto) p.27
512	"S & H Restaurant" (Sagawa) p.15
513	"Palace Cafe" (Kotake) p.15
608	"Nishimura Rooming House" (Dick S. Nishimura) p.38
665	"New Atlas Hotel" (Seichi Onitsuka) p.38
675	"Yoshida Apts" (Masako Yoshida) p.42
670	"Claron Apts" (Kasuyama) p.33
677	"Hollywood Hotel" (Kazo Ito) p.35
707	"Western Lunch" (Fukuda) p.15
800	Room 229; Ken Yoshiharu (Insurance) p.24
816	"Ave and Gahan Restaurant" (Maruyama) p.15
851	"Clark Restaurant (H. Nikuto) p.12
853	"K and H. Food Store" (K. Hayashi) p.12
857	"Nisei Cleaners and Laundry" (Joe Sotomura) p.9
1012	"Diamond Trading Co" (Oriental food) back cover
1016	"Gila River Rooming House" (Yamamoto) p.34-3 13
1018	"Gila River Restaurant (Yamamoto) p.13
1020	"Corregidor Barber Shop (S.B.Venus) p.31
1030	"Ted's Restaurant" (Yamamoto) p.15
1118	"Charles Barber" (Charles Ciccione, prop) p.31
1120	"Tsukahara Rooming Hse" p.41
1120	"Sun Grocery" (Yahiro) p.32
1126	"Aloha Inn" (Suzuki) p.13
1128	"General carpentry" (Sakurada) p.25
1128	"Amino Rooming House" p.33
1132	"Kin Mon Low" (S. Yokota) p.12
1136	"Subway Billiard" (Joe Zipp) p.21
1151	"Ten Katsu" (T. Miyaki) p.12
1151	"Kanaya Apts" p.35
1158	"Oriental Recreation" (2nd floor) p.20

JAPANESE BUSINESSES  
North Clark Street  
(continued)

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<u>No. Clark St.</u>	<u>Name</u>	
1213	"Gold Coast Bowling"	p.20
1216	"Yamazaki Rooming House"	p.42
1219	"Windsor Hotel" (Shikuma Mori)	p.42
1246-48	"Virginia Apts". (Takei Matsunaga)	p.41
1248	"Sanitary Restaurant" (Kakita)	p.15
1250	"York's Super Food Mkt" (Tom Hayashi - Tom Fukuda)	p.4
1250	"Kato Apts" (Kiyo Kato)	p.35
1358	"Hawaiian Club" --billiard, cards, etc.	p.20
1416	"Kitaoka Apts"	p.36
1421	"Tomiye Apts"	p.40 (now operated by T. Takeuchi)
1428	"Ito's (Fred) Apts"	p.35
North Ave - North Clark -- JJapanese Christian Church" p.22		
1800	"Nakata Apts (Hikobei Nakata)	p.38
2473	"Lincoln Chop Suey" (Edith Kushino)	p.13
2835	"Bee Kay Apts" (Chizue Kushino)	p.33

NOTE:

This "Director" from which the foregoing businesses were taken is now rather outdated. A new directory is being published soon. However, most of the businesses listed are still operating. Some of the owners have changed hands. Some new businesses have become established.

It is interesting to note that the business are clustered in the blocks from 600 North Clark to 1400 North Clark, an area of about 8 full blocks. Generally speaking, this is a rather notorious district being complete with/night clubs, cabarets, saloons, cheap eating places, gambling houses, cheap rooming houses, cheap prostitution, and other undesirable features. Late in the night any number of drunkards, men and women, can be seen prowling about the street.

NISEI BUSINESSMAN (Grocery operator)  
Interview with Mr. Yahiro  
(Sun Grocery Store; 1120 No. Clark St.)

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A luncheon interview was arranged with Mr. Yahiro, who owns and operates the Sun Grocery Store located at 1120 North Clark Street. In the course of the conversation it was ~~ax~~ learned that Mr. Yahiro is a friend of a number of friends I have, especially those from Los Angeles. Mr. Y. was very busy in his store when I came to call for him at one o'clock in the afternoon. After a few minutes he freed himself from work and we had luncheon at the "Aloha Inn" which is operated by Mr. John Suzuki. Following the luncheon he introduced me to Mr. Suzuki ~~ax~~ and the latter was told that John de young would make a call on him in due time.

Mr. Y's prevacuation history

Mr. Y. was born in Hawaii but at a tender age of about 4 years he ~~ax~~ left the islands for Los Angeles. He studied and grew up in Los Angeles which had been in his home until evacuation. He finished law school at U.S.C. in Los Angeles, but he related he "was never admitted to practice law". It is assumed that he failed to pass his law examination given by the state. However, he worked as the legal agent for about 125 Japanese business firms in the Los Angeles area.

Evacuation history:

He and his family were ~~ax~~ evacuated to Pomona assembly center first, and then to Mt. Mountain, Wyoming. Early in 1945 or late in 1944 he began to ~~ax~~ survey Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, and other cities ~~ax~~ for business prospects and as a place to reside. About the middle of last year or later he decided to establish himself and his family in Chicago, and since then he has been living in Chicago.

Family set-up:

Father: Mr. Y; about 45 years; nisei; formerly in law profession, now operator of grocery store.  
Mother: Mrs. Y.; nisei; born in Hawaii also and reared and educated in California.  
Children: 5 boys, ranging in age from about 22 to 15; oldest son was inducted into the army while attending Drake U.; second eldest son now attending Drake U. in Des Moines, Iowa; Other 3 sons attending school here.  
Except ~~the~~ for the son in the army, all four sons are home now and helping in the store.

Housing:

Mr. Y. stated that he had been looking for a flat apartment for some time, but was not successful. ~~He~~ They lived in an apartment upstairs to the store, but since they did not get good ~~service~~ room service, they moved out and are now living in the back of the store in the "mezzanine" he calls it. He says living quarters are not big, but he says they are all right as they spend most of the time in the store anyway.

Attitude toward evacuation:

Mr. Y. was very bitter about the whole evacuation. He stated:

"I lost everything when evacuation came. My house which I bought for \$3800 I sold for \$1100. My library, which contained volumes of law books and which I estimated to be worth at least \$1000., I sold for \$25. I was just sick of the whole thing. Elmer Yamamoto, my best friend (attorney and friend of analyst also) advised me not to sell any of my law books, but I was so disgusted that when a Jew came to see my books and offered me the ridiculous sum of \$25. I simply told him 'Take it'. Of course, I suffered losses in many other ways also."

"At that time I wanted to get rid of all my possession in Los Angeles. I said to myself, 'The hell with this damn place; they can have Los Angeles; I'm not ever/ coming back to live here.'"

Relocation Center Experience, and Attitudes

Mr. Y. was determined that he was not going to get involved in any community activity or program. He refused to serve on the council. He decided to align himself with the Red Cross movement only because it has not connection whatsoever with the War Relocation Authority or the camp administration. He was very critical of the issei in camp in their effort to dominate the camp administration. He blamed the issei for the small financial assistance, \$25. upon leaving camp, that all evacuees received. He related how the issei told Federal gov't and camp officials how much money the Japanese evacuees ~~xxx~~ had and how they ~~didn't~~ need any financial assistance. He made up his mind that he was not going to have anything to do with the issei, who he claimed had selfish motives of trying to glorify themselves without much thought to improving the living conditions.

He spoke bitterly of the food served in camp. He said he spent most of his money he had accumulated before evacuation in buying food from the outside to feed himself and his family. ~~xx~~ He said the food served at the camp mess hall was not fit to eat.

He related how he made the following statement to one camp official who had been investigating him, as he was "blacklisted" by the administration.

"I am an American citizen and no one is going to force me to keep quiet. I am opposed to the formation of community councils under the guise that this is democratic, because the camp is a prison itself, and it seems ridiculous to try to impress the people it isn't. Just picture yourself being put in a camp with barbed wire fence around and cut off from the outside world and friends you knew. You'd feel the same way."

Concerning the ~~xx~~ army segregation questionnaire, questions 27 and 28, he stated that he answered affirmatively that he would protect and defend the Constitution and the United States. However, he stated he wrote "Yes, and" and continued to list the numerous rights/privileges guaranteed all citizens and which were being ~~denied~~ denied them now.

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For this action of his, he was put on the "stop-list" and refused release from camp. Camp officials ruled that his was a qualified allegiance to the country./  
to the officials  
He vehemently denied/that his answer was "qualified", and that he was merely  
inalienable  
enumerating certain/rights which were being denied him and other citizens.  
He told the official: "You can keep me in camp as long as you want to. It won't make much difference to me. I'll continue to live here quietly."  
He stated in the end the official finally acknowledged his mistake and apologized to Mr. Y., saying that Mr. Y's answer was a straight "Yes" and not a qualified "Yes".

Financial Aid by the Government:

Mr. Y. was most sensitive to the losses he and other evacuees had suffered.

Referring to the present situation he stated:

from  
"The greatest single need of the evacuees is financial aid/the government. What can one do with the \$25. they gave us when we left camp. You can't go very far with that sum. You can't start business with that sum. There are many people who want to go into business of one kind or another here, but they have not money to start business. Most of them lost most of their money when evacuation came. If one goes to the bank to borrow money to start business, ~~they would~~ he would be turned down as the bank would ask 'What security do you have' and the evacuee would have no security.

"The greatest that ~~can be done~~ the gov't can do for the evacuees now is to compensate them for the losses suffered. This claims bill which was in congress will be a very good thing if it passes."

It is believed that because Mr. Y. himself suffered financial loss with the evacuation, he feels very strongly about indemnification by the government.

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Grocery business:

He stated he is rather satisfied with his grocery business. He admitted this is ~~a~~ out of ~~his~~ line with his academic and vocational experience on the West Coast. He decided upon coming to Chicago that there ~~was~~<sup>were</sup> good prospects for the ~~grocery~~ grocery business, so he undertook it. He has both Japanese and Caucasian customers, probably more Japanese ~~customers~~ customers. He stated previously a Jew owned and operated the store, and ~~that~~ before his Jew left the store to him he introduced all his former customers to Mr. Y. Mr. Y. stated that he has no trouble at all with his ~~caucasian~~ caucasian customers. He said here in Chicago, people don't discriminate against a group of people as they do on the West Coast. Business is considered strictly business, and customers don't particularly care who they buy from.

Mr. Y.'s store is an average sized independent grocery store. His prices are average, in fact they tend to be lower than other stores I've been in. He seems to be rather popular with his customers, ~~both~~ both Japanese and caucasian,

Chicago vs. West Coast

Mr. Y. was very certain that prospects in Chicago were much better ~~than~~ than those on the West Coast. He stated California may have better climate, but from a business standpoint Chicago was far far better. He related a number of his friends left Chicago some time ago for the West Coast, but these same friends all came back after learning that things in general were not so good out there. He himself is sure to be in Chicago for some time to come.

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Problems facing Chicago residents:

Mr. Y. stated that the biggest problem was that of financial assistance, due to the losses suffered in the evacuation.

Another problem is that of housing. He related many families are living in cramped living quarters, and at times separately. This has caused families to become separated in some instances.

Another is ~~that~~ the lack of children's playground. He stated many children are playing on the streets.

(With regard to this, a few days ago while I was in ~~the~~ Mr. Y's store, a young nisei mother was terrified when she discovered that her young son had strayed away from her. Mr. Y. himself went on a search for this son up and down the busy street. After a half hour hunt, they discovered the young son several blocks down, having been picked up by some ~~maxxian~~ caucasian youngsters who had seen the young son roaming the streets. At that time it was very apparent that there was a very definite need for a playground for young children.)

Mr. Y. also stated that nisei juveniles are frequenting the bars and night clubs, as well as gambling houses all located along North Clark Street. He thought this was very bad. He stated that this was partially due to the fact that Chicago itself is a town of excitement and because this district of North Clark Street is known for its notoriety. He related how this section of the city was the most notorious district, with drinkingg places, houses of prostitution, gambling houses, and other vices prevalent.

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General comments:

Mr. Y. is a ~~placating~~ very aggressive individual with a lot of intelligence. He was very friendly and spoke very freely about his various attitudes. The evacuation has definitely left a deep scar in his whole personality and his future plans. From a legal agent to a grocery operator is quite a jump, and although he seems to indicate it was a demotion he is satisfied to know he ~~is~~ owns and operates his own business.

He feels the financial losses he suffered through evacuation very deeply and will probably ~~is~~ never be satisfied until some of the losses can be rectified by the gov't. His sensitiveness in this direction probably indicates his present needs also.

Because Mr. Y. is definitely a very capable individual, it is believed that he will be successful in his business, and that he will probably remain in Chicago for some time to come, if not ~~is~~ indefinitely.