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Nisei Shows Purple Heart



SGT. KAZUO KOMOTO, veteran of Guadalcanal and New Guinea, shows his Purple Heart award to a younger brother during his visit to the Gila River relocation center where his family is now residing since their evacuation from Parlier, Calif. Sgt. Komoto was injured by a Japanese sniper in a New Guinea jungle.

War Department Announces Names of Five Nisei Killed, One Wounded on Italy Front

WASHINGTON—The War Department this week identified five more American soldiers of Japanese ancestry who have been killed in recent action in the Mediterranean area, presumably on the Italian front. The War Department announcement also listed one Japanese American as wounded in action.

On Jan. 2 the War Department announced the name of the following Japanese American soldier as killed in action in the Mediterranean area:

NAKAMURA, Cpl. Edward E.—Sutejiro Nakamura, father, 890 McGerrow Camp, Puunene, Maui.

On Jan. 5 the War Department announced the names of the following three Japanese Americans as killed in action in the Mediterranean area:

HASHIZUME, Cpl. Hisao—Mrs. Kinu Hashizume, mother, Box 986, Lihue, Kauai.

KANETANI, Pvt. Isamu—Chujiro Kanetani, father, Box 144, Kurtistown, Hawaii.

KAWANISHI, Pvt. Kikumatsu—James Y. Kawanishi, uncle, Box 456, Hilo, Hawaii.

On Jan. 4 the War Department announced the name of the following Japanese American soldier as wounded in action in the Mediterranean area:

ISHIKI, Pvt. Donald S.—Mrs. Chiyo Ishiki, wife, 916 Ahana Lane, Honolulu.

On Jan. 6 the War Department announced the name of the following Japanese American as killed in action in the Mediterranean area:

ASAI, Pfc. Ralph Y.—Mrs. Tokio Asai, mother, 1409 9th Ave., Honolulu

H. V. Kaltenborn Questions Coast Policy on Evacuation

SAN FRANCISCO—H. V. Kaltenborn, noted radio commentator, urged here recently that loyal Japanese Americans "should be given the benefit of the doubt and permitted to follow their vocations."

Kaltenborn returned here from a three-weeks tour to Pacific warfronts, during which he covered 20,000 miles.

"American-born Japanese are doing one of the greatest services for our Pacific armies, and there is no Japanese problem in Hawaii. Why in the world we had to create one here I don't know," the radio commentator declared in a San Francisco Chronicle interview.

"If Army control would be as intelligent here as in the islands on the Japanese problem, I would favor it, but I don't blame the Army if they don't want to accept the headache here," he added. "I think loyal Japanese here should be given the benefit of the doubt and permitted to follow their vocations. In view of the situation on the islands in regard to the Japanese, it is evident the problem has not been handled intelligently here."

Issei Evacuee Has Four Sons in U. S. Armed Forces

RIVERS, Ariz. — When Noriyoshi Masamitsu applied for leave from the Gila River WRA center to work at the Edgewater Beach hotel in Chicago, he had to prove that he was a loyal resident of the United States.

Without saying a word he handed the clearance board a slip of paper bearing four reasons—the names of his sons who have been in the Army since Pearl Harbor.

The board approved his request.

Nisei Soldier Awarded Purple Heart Medal

Japanese American from Montana Wounded in Southwest Pacific

Another American soldier of Japanese ancestry has been wounded in action in the war against Japan, according to a United Press dispatch from Helena, Mont., on Dec. 27.

It is reported that Sgt. Dye Ogata, a native of Helena, has received the Order of the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in the southwest Pacific.

The soldier's father, R. Ogata, is a resident of Helena.

Sgt. Ogata enlisted in the armed forces after Pearl Harbor in Feb., 1942, and has been active in the South Pacific since Dec., 1942.

He is the second Japanese American listed as wounded in action in the southwest Pacific. It has been announced previously that Sgt. Kazuo Komoto of Parlier, Calif., was wounded by a Japanese sniper on New Guinea.

Funds Collected By JACL Used for Soldiers' Christmas

HATTIESBURG, Miss.—Christmas gifts made possible through donations received by the Japanese American Citizens League and the Hawaii Emergency Service Committee helped make the holiday season a bright one for members of the Japanese American combat team at Camp Shelby, Miss., according to Melvin Harter, USO director.

Members of the Combat team on maneuvers were visited by Harter a few days before Christmas. Stockings and gifts prepared at the Nisei USO were distributed to the men.

Christmas morning stockings were given all the men in the hospital, and a Christmas program was held in the evening at the center, where more gifts were given out.

Six Warehouses Destroyed by Fire

POSTON, Ariz.—Six barracks serving as warehouses at the Colorado River war relocation center here were destroyed by fire Christmas night.

The fire was believed to have started from a kerosene stove used to heat one of the buildings where a recent shipment of chicks was housed.

WRA officials estimated that the fire destroyed about $25,000 worth of property belonging to WRA employees and evacuees which were stored in the barracks. The value of the structures was estimated at $13,500.

A high wind threatened to spread the flames through the entire northwest sector of the center but evacuee-manned fire departments from the three Poston units succeeded in bringing the fire under control.

Japanese American Battalion Fighting Some of Hardest Italy Battles, Says Newsman

Nisei Soldiers Feel They Have Personal Duty To Make People at Home Feel They Are Loyal Americans, Cables Don Whitehead of Associated Press

Japanese American soldiers who have fought in the Italian invasion "to prove they are as good Americans as any other doughboys have won their place so far as their fellow fighters are concerned," Don Whitehead, Associated Press staff correspondent with the Fifth Army in Italy, reported in a delayed dispatch dated Dec. 27.

"From the beaches of Salerno right into the Nazi winter line these troops of Japanese descent have fought and are now fighting some of the hardest battles of the entire campaign," Whitehead declared.

"They have asked no quarter, nor have they received any. They rank on a par with other troops for endurance, skill and ability," the A.P. report added.

Noting that these Japanese Americans have the added incentive of their effort to prove themselves good soldiers, Whitehead quoted Major John A. Johnson, Jr., commanding officer of the Japanese American battalion, whose home is at Kauai in the Hawaiian Islands:

"The boys feel they are on the spot and that they have a personal duty to make the people at home feel they are as much Americans as anyone.

"They are no different from any other soldiers, but they have that added incentive to fight—because some of their fathers are in internment camps at home."

"These island troops do not like to be called 'Japanese Americans' nor do they like to be regarded as different from any other troops," said Whitehead. "About ten percent came into the army from the Hawaiian National Guard while the others entered through selective service. About 17 percent of them are college men. Some operated or worked on plantations, some were school teachers and others were in business.

"Since landing in Italy the unit has won a reputation for its close fighting.

"Their first commanding officer was Lieut. Col. Farrant Turner, 48, of Honolulu. But in this rugged country a man near his 50s can hardly expect to stand the physical strain.

"Turner gave up his command to Major James Gillespie of Des Moines, Iowa, but Gillespie suffered an attack of stomach ulcers and in turn gave over to Johnson, who was well know in the islands as a member of the University of Hawaii football team in 1936."

WRA Director Warns Against Wishful Thinking

Myer Comments on Prospects of Early Return to West Coast

WASHINGTON — Dillon S. Myer, national director of the War Relocation Authority, this week warned Japanese American evacuees in war relocation centers against "wishful thinking regarding the prospects of an early return to California."

Mr. Myer stressed that relocation "at the earliest practical date should continue to be a matter for serious consideration by all center residents.'

"I firmly believe that with relocation will come renewed independence and self-confidence, which in the end will make for an easier post-war adjustment," he added.

The WRA director commented on the recent resolution of the California State Agricultural Board which upheld the rights of Japanese Americans to return to farm occupations in the evacuated area whenever the military relaxed the present restrictions.

Military Authorities Seek More Nisei

HONOLULU—The United Press reported on Jan. 1 that the United States Army has called for several hundred more young Americans of Japanese ancestry for service as interpreters and translators, according to an announcement by military authorities.

S. F. Paper Questions Tactics Used by Gannon Committee

SAN FRANCISCO—The appointment of two members of the Native Sons of the Golden West to act as special counsel to conduct hearings of the Gannon interim committee of the California assembly "brings into sharp question the committee's own impartiality," the San Francisco News declared in an editorial on Dec. 29.

The News' editorial was inspired by a letter to the newspaper from Ernest Besig, Northern California director of the American Civil Liberties Union, which questioned the Gannon committee's policy.

The News declared that there can be no objection to the Native Sons being heard fully by the committee, inasmuch as they have been one of the most active groups against the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to the Pacific coast. The newspaper questioned, however, the Gannon group's policy in appointing the Native Sons to conduct the inquiry.

"Are we to assume that the complexion of the committee's report to the Legislature, based, as directed, upon 'an impartial study of all the factors involved,' is already determined before the investigation has been completed?" the News asked.

"If that assumption is correct the time and money the committee has spent have been wasted," the News' comment added. "The Legislature ought to refuse to receive the report."

The letter by Mr. Besig noted that the Native Sons had announced that Assemblyman Gannon had invited them "to join in preparing information on the Japanese problem in California."

"The Gannon Committee has started off on the wrong foot in Northern California by virtually turning over its functions to representatives of a group that have expressed a strong bias against the minority that is under investigation. We hope this situation will be remedied and that the committee will stick to its job of obtaining facts and opinions on which legislation can be based," Mr. Besig declared.

Agitation on Pacific Coast Against Japanese Americans Described in "Time" Article

News Magazine Notes "Hate-Mongers" Untroubled By Facts Attesting to Loyalty of Japanese Americans; Publishes Protest Letter from U. S. Marine

The west coast's current agitation against persons of Japanese ancestry was described by Time Magazine in its issue of Dec. 20 as the "West's most violent racial hysteria since 'Yellow Peril' pioneer days."

In an article, "Inquisition in Los Angeles," Time said that the "112,000 U. S. Japanese evacuated from the West Coast had become the object of hatred more intense than the anti-German-American feeling of World War 1."

A news photo of Japanese American soldiers at mail call somewhere in Italy was published by Time with the captain: "Would they find California unhealthy?"

"The U. S. morally hates and fears the Jap," Time noted, but added: "But the furiously boiling stew had many other ingredients. Professional patriots, demagogues and sensational newspapers led by the Hearst press, were vigorously stirring the witches' broth."

Time Magazine noted the west coast "hate-mongers" were not troubled by facts proving the loyalty of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

"Hardly anyone ever bothered to distinguish between the alien Japanese, who are deportable, and the U. S. citizens of Japanese ancestry. A battalion of U. S.-born Japs is fighting well in the front line in Italy; another 2,500 Japanese Americans are elsewhere in the U. S. Army; hundreds serve in Military Intelligence in the South Pacific; 20,000, cleared by FBI, now live in the Midwest and East," Time continued.

"The feeling is bitterest in California," the news magazine reported, declaring the loyal Japanese Americans have suffered from the trouble at Tule Lake segregation center in November.

"Almost their only defender has been the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play," Time said. It noted that the Pasadena chapter of the Fair Play group got itself "investigated" when it distributed a letter from a marine veteran of Guadalcanal, opposing the American Legion's campaign against persons of Japanese ancestry.

This "investigation," Time noted, was "California's fourth legislative romp into U. S.-Jap baiting. It was headed by ruddy-faced Sacramento attorney. Chester F. Gannon, Legionnaire and key Republican member of the State Assembly."

Time added:

"Although Marine Borchers' letter had started the fury, Gannon did not summon him as a witness. Gannon had his own views: 'We have been told it would be unhealthy for Japanese—even American-born—to be seen on California streets, and that returning Marines and soldiers would slit their throats.'

"Before Gannon's committee in Los Angeles trooped a succession of witnesses, outdoing each other in wild charges. Hearst's Examiner one day ran 62 inches of testimony, blazoning high above the progress of the war in Russia, Teheran and Italy: Typical 'evidence':

"Stories of nude bathing parties in a river near Fresno, of Japanese men and women 'bare naked' cavorting in an outdoor tub.

"A missionary who said he had seen 'Japs take the body of a Chinese, cut out the heart and ilve and eat it.'"

Time published a section of the interchange of words between Chairman Gannon and Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer, DAR member and chairman of the Pasadena chapter of the Fair Play committee, noting the type of questions asked of witnesses at the hearing.

"The Gannon investigation was too much even for the Los Angeles Times, which until then had been close behind the Examiner in retailing the committee's doings," said Time, noting that the Los Angeles Times had editorialized: "It is no proper function of a legislative committee . . . to turn itself into a prosecutor of what may currently be unpopular. . . . When they turn themselves into witch-burning agencies . . . they got far afield."

Time printed a section of Marine Pfc. Robert Borchers' letter to the American Legion:

"I am one of the fortunate Marines who have recently returned to his country after serving in the offensive against the Japanese on Guadalcanal. . . . We find . . . a condition behind our backs that stuns us. We find that our American citizens, those of Japanese ancestry, are being persecuted, yes, persecuted as though Adolf Hitler himself were in charge.

'We find that the California American Legion is promoting a racial purge. I'm putting it mildly when I say it makes our blood boil. . . . We shall fight this injustice, intolerance and un-Americanism at home! We will not break faith with those who died. . . . We have fought the Japanese and are recuperating to fight again. We can endure the hell of battle, but we are resolved not to be sold at home."

Sgt. Kuroki Visits Denver



SGT. BEN KUROKI, enroute to a new assignment in California, is greeted during a visit to the Denver JACL office by Joe Masaoka, JACL regional representative in the Denver area. Sgt. Kuroki, veteran of 30 combat missions as a turret gunner in the North African, Middle East and European war areas, is a member of the North Platte, Neb. chapter of the JACL.

TIMELY TOPICS

By SABURO KIDO

Reaction Sets In Against Race-Baiters

California race-baiting has gone to such extremes that a reaction seems to be setting in throughout the nation. Even in California, the thinking people are beginning to have a clearer picture of the entire agitation, and there are more who are speaking out in public against the un-American handling of the whole problem. The newspapers condemning the rabid, hysterical outbursts are increasing in number.

When the Gannon legislative committee held its show in Los Angeles, its tactics became so nauseating that even the Los Angeles Times stopped its own tirades to reprimand the committee.

In laying its plan to have a hearing in the San Francisco Bay Region, where the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play has its headquarters, two leaders of the Native Sons of the Golden West were appointed as the "prosecution attorneys." The whole thing began to assume the semblance of a packed court with its mind already made up and whose sole objective was to find witnesses to say what it wanted to be said. The lambasts from the fair minded press here already discreditted the committee proceedings. Everyone knows in advance that nothing favorable or fair is going to come out, as far as the Japanese are concerned.

Time Magazine on Assemblyman Gannon

The extremes to which the Gannon Committee went was given national publicity when the Time Magazine came out with its article. It is little wonder that even the Los Angeles Times was unable to swallow the committee's antics. If the entire proceedings had been published, California and its so-called investigation of the Japanese problem would be entirely discredited.

Here are some excerpts, which show the calibre of the committee members:

"Gannon: Tell us who is this man Millikan. I don't know him."

"Investigator Gannon to Mrs. Thayer, one of the witnesses from the Pasadena chapter of the Fair Play Committee: You see the Bill of Rights is not such a sacred thing after all."

"Assemblyman Thomas: You know Mrs. Thayer, the Bill of Rights has no application to the State of California, it is only a Federal limitation."

"Investigator Gannon, when Dr. David E. Henrey of the American Friends Service Committee stated: 'My fear is that we're drifting toward minorities in an un-American way,' said: "We'd better give you a one way ticket to Japan."

Japanese Americans Not Sole Targets

We are not one of those who are optimistic enough to think that the race-war in California has reached its peak. Reports about the movement against the Jews in Southern California and so forth show that those of Japanese extraction are not the sole target.

As the Pacific area becomes the center of war and as casualties mount, personal feeling with the already poisoned mind may increase the intensity of the hatred. But as far as the press and organized agitation are concerned, things cannot be worse than today. Every vile trick is being used to whip up public feeling.

Outside of the regions where the Hearst press is powerful, there is the hope that there will be a revolt against the type of hysteria being whipped up in California. For instance, in Idaho, three of the leading papers have come out against the un-American persecution. Furthermore, the good, solid citizens are realizing that the home-front battle to keep this country a true democracy is just as important as the foreign battle front.

Nisei Soldiers Winning Recognition

The glories being won by the Nisei soldiers in Italy and in the Pacific are receiving recognition. There is no doubt that the 100th Infantry Battalion is making a splendid fighting record as a unit. It is proving itself under the most trying conditions.

One of these days, we hope the War Department will give the public a more comprehensive story of the contributions of the Nisei soldiers in winning the Pacific war. Drew Pearson carried an interesting column about the Nisei intelligence soldiers in the Southwest Pacific. The work that these men are doing cannot be duplicated by any other American soldier as far as fighting Japan is concerned.

Returning navy men and soldiers are spreading the word about the value of these Nisei men. Instead of bring home hatred towards all persons of Japanese extraction, these fighting men are anxious to see that those who have fought side by side with them in the jungles against great odds be given decent treatment by the American people.

The Japanese American combat team is already establishing a reputation for itself as a tough and intelligent unit. It may well equal or excel the 100th Infantry Battalion on the battlefield.

Those of us who are carrying on as civilians should not lose sight of the great sacrifice the soldier boys are making for us. With the blood of these volunteers, the position of American citizens of Japanese ancestry in this country is being strengthened. When we think of the Nisei soldiers, it must make everyone of us feel proud. At the same time, those who are talking about hibernating in the relocation centers for the duration of the war must realize that they must do their share on the home front.

The battle against racism is not a lost cause. Every successful resettlement means an additional friendly community. 1944 should see more and more going to new regions to show we are loyal citizens.

Ogden Officials Ban Permits For Evacuees

Commissioners Support Denial of Business Licenses to Nisei

OGDEN, Utah — Following a stormy session, one of the longest in the past two years, Ogden's new city commission on Jan. 4 indicated that it strongly favored the continuation of a policy followed by the former commission which called for denial of all requests for business licenses to persons of Japanese ancestry who had not been in business in Ogden prior to Pearl Harbor.

Commissioner William D. Wood recommended the continuation of the policy adopted last fall, with the stipulation that the former city attorney's recommendation be brought before the board for re-reading and further discussion.

The matter came before the board when Kay Mukai appeared and asked a statement of policy from the board. Mukai was reported to have interceded for an evacuee who was seeking a license to operate a cafe in Ogden.

Hunt Firemen Strike Against Long Hours

HUNT, Idaho—Minidoka was without hot water for showers, bathing and laundry purposes this week as one hundred and five janitor-boilermen went on strike Wednesday in protest at a new 24-hour operation rule decree with the arrival of cold weather, according to a UP news report of January 4.

Fires were put out under 35 boilers, which heat water at each of the blocks at the Hunt relocation center.

The walkout caused delay in other work, because evacuees who have jobs in connection with coal and garbage dropped their duties for the lack of hot water for washing.

The new schedule, which calls for men on duty at all times, puts the men on a six and a half hour work day seven days a week. Previously the work called for an eight-hour day schedule, five days a week.

The men are paid $16 per month.

R. S. Davidson, acting project director, declared that discussions are underway between community leaders and the administration to seek solution of the walkout.

Eight Evacuees Teach Japanese in Chicago University Program

CHICAGO—The Chicago Sun reported in an article on Jan. 2 that eight of the ten instructors now training Army cadets in the Japanese language as part of the Army Specialized Training Program at the University of Chicago are American-born Japanese from war relocation centers.

Two of these instructors are girls. They direct the cadets through a 12-week course with 17 hours classroom work a week, the Sun reported.

Iowa Newspaper Notes Many Californians Back Fair Play

DES MOIINES—Taking note of the fact that many Californians "have raised the banner of undiscriminating hate against everybody of Japanese ancestry," the Des Moines Sunday Register declared on Jan. 2 in its lead editorial that "not all Californians are like that, by any means."

"Against those who are just so passionate that they can't think, plus those who see a chance to grind an economic axe on the spinning stone of patriotism, there stand many eminent Californians," the Register added.

The DesMoines newspaper cited the names of outstanding Californians who have set up the Pacific coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, and cited the San Francisco Chronicle as one newspaper "that opposes unbalance, un-American "hate reactions."

The Register editorial also published the recent resolution of the California State Board of Agriculture as expressing the general attitude of these Californians toward the present agitation to "treat all Californians of Japanese ancestry as pariahs permanently."

The Register concluded:

"We are not interested in either the internal politics or (at the moment) the economic axe-grindings of Californians. What we are interested in, along with the San Francisco Chronicle, is the national problem of the application of our constitutional guarantees in all the states, including California.

"We applaud the attitude of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. We consider the resolution adopted at the California Board of Agriculture's meeting a good one, which is simply beyond attack by anyone who considers our Constitution other than a scrap of paper.

"And we think that the significant thing is not whether some of the rabid patrioteers froth at the mouth about it, but rather the fact that there are forces of sanity and fairness in California strong enough to give such resolutions impetus."

Judicial Commission Will Try Cases In Gila River Court

RIVERS, Ariz. — The judicial commissions of Butte and Canal will try cases of residents from the new year, says the News-Courier. The project director has been hearing all cases to date.

23-Year Old Nisei Is Iowa Principal



Two junior students in the Galt, Ia., high school, LaVonne Hammitt (left) and Macine Denger, discuss their bookkeeping with their teacher and school principal, Patrick Noda, 23-year old Japanese American.

Noda has a bachelor of arts degree from Central College. He came there from Granada, Colo., relocation center and attended Central for one year. His prior scholastic work was at the University of California, in Berkeley.—Photo courtesy of Des Moines, Ia., Sunday Register.

War Department Executives Proud of War Record Made By Japanese American Troops

Not One Nisei Has Betrayed Trust in Army, Says Pearson

"High executives of the War Department are proud of the way in which Japanese American soldiers have responded to the call of American patriotism and done a good job in the army," Drew Pearson declared in his nationally syndicated column, "Washington Merry-Go-Round," this week.

Pearson noted that "enlisting American-born Japanese in the United States army was frankly an experiment and many old-line officers were very skeptical. "The columnist added that "Undersecretary of War Patterson and Assistant Secretary Jack McCloy insisted they be given a chance," and the "performance of Japanese American troops in battle has more than justified this confidence in them."

The Pearson column, published in more than 500 U. S. newspapers, added:

"Reports from Italy pay tribute to the bravery of one Jap-American battalion which was under heavy fire. Most of its men were recruited from Hawaii. They fought with great heroism and the casualty lists were very heavy.

"When Undersecretary of War Patterson was in the southwest Pacific not long ago, General Oscar Griswold asked him to meet his intelligence unit. Patterson stepped into the intelligence tent and there met five grinning Japs. They were no prisoners, but Hawaiian-born, and were entrusted with the vitally important job of translating intelligence information picked up from the enemy.

"The Japanese Americans are all carefully investigated before they enter the army, but in no case has one of them, after entering the army, betrayed trust."

Minneapolis Nisei Gets Job as Street-Car Conductor

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Thomas Sasaki, 17, is probably the first American of Japanese ancestry to get a job as a street car conductor on the mainland.

The Star-Journal reported the fact on Dec. 17 and ran a picture of the nisei conductor, taken aboard a Minneapolis trolley.

The young evacuee is only employed part-time at present, since he is a student of Marshall high school in Minneapolis.

Gov. Vivian Promises Study Of Protests

Brighton Delegation Objects to Evacuee Purchases of Land

DENVER, Colo.—Governor R. Vivian told a delegation from Adams county Tuesday he would give "serious study" to their protests that "Japanese Americans were buying up all the choice land in the farming area."

The delegation, headed by Mayor J. W. Wells of Brighton, asserted that the evacuees were paying far more for farms than they were worth.

"It used to be that the Japanese were only renters of farm workers," Wells told the governor, "but now they are replacing old-time tenants."

Mayor Wells said there had been 26 property transfers in the past six months and that the Japanese were growing only "money crops" such as melons and lettuce.

The governor advised the group to take up the legal aspects of the situation with their county attorney.

Disloyal Group Declared Target of New Organization

LOS ANGELES — Marshall Johnson, president of the newly incorporated American Foundation for Expulsion of Japanese, clarified the organization's aims this week.

Declaring that headquarters were being opened in Los Angeles by the new group, Johnson said that the organization had as its targets those persons of Japanese ancestry who have admitted their disloyalty to the United States.

"We do not intend to breed race hatred, nor demand the exclusion of Japanese Americans whose loyalty is unquestioned," explained Johnson, a Los Angeles advertising man and promoter. "Our purpose is to build up sentiment to oust from this country the treacherous members of a race which has stabbed us in the back."

Twin Falls Official Denies Charges in Hearst Paper

Chamber of Commerce President Sends Letter To S. F. Examiner

TWIN FALLS, Idaho—Recent charges in a letter printed in the San Francisco Examiner that Twin Falls was "controlled by the Japs" from the Hunt relocation center were denied in a letter from Claude H. Detweiler, president of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, to the editor of the Examiner.

"We are not having any trouble whatsoever with the Japanese nor the Japanese Americans," said Detweiler, whose city was called a "Jap Hot Spot," by James K. McCoy, in his letter.

"For information of your readers," wrote Detweiler, "'the camp referred to is not an internee camp, but an evacuee camp. Approximately two-thirds of the inhabitants are American citizens with the same constitutional rights as any American. There is only one Japanese owned business in Twin Falls, having been established for about 15 years, the loyalty of the owner never having been questioned. The only farm purchased by a Japanese in Southern Idaho since Pearl Harbor is 160 acres, purchased by an Idaho citizen of Japanese ancestry, a resident of many years. No evacuee has purchased, or leased, any farm land or city property. No overt acts, as quoted, have ever occured here.

"The citizens of Hunt Relocation Center have performed a most patriotic service to the farmers of Southern Idaho and the war effort, since their evacuation here less than fifteen months ago. Approximately 2500 Japanese Americans have helped harvest our bumper crops the past two falls and helped cultivate them the past summer — without their help thousands of acres and tens of thousands of tons of food-stuffs would have rotted in the fields each year.

"May we invite your attention to a repercussion of such rabble-rousing, race-hatred ravings as the above. Only a few days ago, a press dispatch reported that the Japanese government halted negotiations for exchange of prisoners, pending investigation and full report of the Tule Lake matter.

"This making such a 'tempest in a thimble, of 15,000 internees, magnified by rumor-mongers and racial-hatred inciters, has deferred many of our citizens' opportunity to come home. I wonder just how much satisfaction such people as this man McCoy will get out of this—and how our own people in Japan thank them.

"As a side-light, there are only about 15,000 dangerous Japanese in this country, about one-to-ten thousand; they are under control, and we get so excited about them. Also, how can we ever have peace at home, when we get so exercized over racial and religious minorities. Are we going to permit witch-hunters and unprincipaled gossip-mongers to cause internal disunity and strife; these people do not vent their venom only on the Japanese, but on the Negroes, Chinese, Jews, Catholics and others.

"As a matter of fact, we brought the Negroes to our country to be our slaves; we, and particularly California brought the Chinese, Japanese, Hindus, Filipinos and others of the colored races over here to perform our 'stoop' labor for us, and to exploit them. When they develop an ambition to live as we do, we immediately persecute them. Just how consistent are we?

"No, Mr. Editor, for the enlightenment of your readers, we are not having any trouble whatsoever with the Japanese nor the Japanese Americans—our city is NOT a 'Jap Hot Spot.' We do not need the sympathy, nor deserve the censure of Mr. McCoy or any of his like."

NISEI PROVE LOYALTY IN WAR, SAYS OFFICER

HONOLULU—Hawaii's Americans of Japanese ancestry, by sending their men to America's battlefronts, have "thoroughly and fully proved their loyalty to the United States," Maj. Frank O. Blake of the U.S. Army declared here recently.

Occasion for Maj. Blake's expression of faith in Japanese Americans was his presentation of a 54-star service flag to the church, indicating the number of church members and relatives of church members now serving in the armed forces.

The flag was accepted by Rev. Harry S. Komuro, pastor.

WRA to Drop Resettlement In Iowa Town

OMAHA, Neb. — Walter N. Parmeter, head of the War Relocation Authority's office here, declared last week he has decided not to recommend resettlement of Japanese Americans from California on a 612-acre tract south of Hamburg, Iowa, because of the opposition of residents of the vicinity.

"It is unfortuiate that the residents of Hamburg and the vicinity do not accept this project because it is a war program and it is part of everyone's duty to help this relocation program," Parmeter said.

'He declared that the Japanese Americans "are American citizens and should have every right as citizens."

A "citizens' committee" from Hamburg protested.

100th INFANTRY COMMANDER GETS NEW ARMY POST

HONOLULU, T.H.—The Star Bulletin reports that Lt. Col. Farrant L. Turner of Honolulu, commander of the special Japanese American battalion now fighting with the Fifth Ahmy in Italy, has been assigned to other duties.

Friends here declared Col. Turner's transfer was in accordance with a policy that men leading troops into action, which would include battalion commanders, be not much older than the men they are leading.

Col. Turner took the Japanese American battalion from Hawaii to camp McCoy, Wis., then to Camp Shelby, Miss., and then overseas, where the group, according to reports, saw action in Italy.

Nisei Veteran of North Africa Weds Minnesota Girl

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—Simple rites marked the marriage on January 2 of Sgt. Paul Sakai to Miss Marie Olson of Alexander, Minn., at the University Baptist church in Minneapolis.

Members of the immediate families and a few close friends attended the ceremony, at which the Rev. George C. Fetter officiated. The bride was attended by Ellen Olson, her sister, and the best man was Pfc. John Matsuo, the groom's brother-in-law.

Miss Irene Ehre sang a few solos, acompanied on the piano by Mrs. Hoshiye Yamada.

Sgt. Sakai is a veteran of the North African campaign. He is at present stationed at Camp Savage.

Kishi Plays for Texas in Bowl Game

DALLAS, Tex.—Jim Kishi, big Texas University tackle, saw action in the New Year's Day Cotton Bowl game here as the Texas Longhorns tied the Randolph Field Fliers, 7-7.

Volunteers Aid In Epidemic At Jerome

DENSON, Ark.—Volunteer block aides have helped in checking the influenza epidemic at the Jerome center, according to Dr. Douglas R. Collier, chief medical officer, in a statement in the Denson Tribune.

Approximately 500 persons were ill last week.

Coast Problem Political, Not Military, Says Hawaii Paper

HONOLULU — The "Japanese question" on the Pacific coast "is fast becoming a political. rather than a military issue," the Honolulu Star-Bulletin declared in an editorial on Dec. 17.

The Star-Bulletin noted that "there will be determined efforts to prevent any Japanese to return to the homes and properties from which they have been dispossessed, for initial reasons of security."

"It is perfectly evident," the Star-Bulletin added, "that these efforts will not be based solely on reasons of military security. Economic and political considerations and motives play an important part in the whole question of treatment, on the coast, of Japanese—the American-born as well as the aliens."

"There is evidence that the same sort of agitation which a generation and a half ago resulted in the passage of the Chinese exclusion act is now centering on the Japanese," the editorial added.

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LARRY TAJIRI ..... EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Vindication

Japanese Americans can be proud of their men in uniform. Wherever they have faced enemy fire, these young Americans with Japanese faces have won the acclaim of their commanding officers. The now-famous Japanese American unit in Italy, called the "laughing battalion" because they marched into battle with smiles on their faces and laughter on their lips, won the personal commendation of General Mark W. Clark on Christmas Day at an advanced point on the Italian front. Gen. Clark also promoted two men of the battalion to the rank of captain for outstanding leadership in battle.

Japanese Americans at home are stronger today in their determination to resist the hate propaganda of those in America whose minds are still moored to the past, to antiquarian prejudices, to bigotry and ignorance. The Japanese Americans are stronger because of men like Sergeant Ben Kuroki who wears a Distinguished Flying Cross for his participation in the great AAF raid on the Nazi-controlled Ploesti oil fields, one of the epic flights of the war, and of other anonymous thousands who, like Ben Kuroki, are of Japanese ancestry, and who are proving in the mud of Italy and in the jungles of New Guinea that loyalty is not a matter of race or ancestry. The battlefield performances of many of these Japanese Americans, particularly those in the war against the Japanese enemy, may not be revealed fully until the last shot has been fired, because of the very nature of the work in which they are engaged. H.V. Kaltenborn, the radio commentator, noted after a recent tour of the southwest Pacific, that these Japanese Americans are rendering a valuable service to the armed forces of the United States.

Japanese Americans, as a group, have never questioned their allegiance to the country of their birth, but it is true that their loyalty has been under serious surveillance in many sections, particularly among those who have had little individual contact with Americans of Japanese ancestry. During this trying period the cause of fair play for Japanese Americans has been championed by many Americans who were steadfast in their faith that race and ancestry do not constitute a measure for loyalty. The news from the battlefronts in recent weeks provide the strongest endorsement for the faith that these fellow citizens have placed in the Japanese American group. Dispatches from the warfronts prove that these Americans were right, and that the hate-mongers and the yellow perilists were wrong.

Camouflage in Ogden

"In the interests of public safety," says a news report this week, commissioners of the city of Ogden have gone on record as opposing the issuance of retail business licenses to Japanese Americans who were not in business prior to Pearl Harbor.

Ringing in an old brodie, Commissioner William D. Wood, Jr., pointed out that it is difficult to distinguish between a loyal and disloyal Japanese.

Thus once again the principle of safety for the general good has been perverted. Apparently it does not matter how often the words of the government, and its high officials and others in defense of Japanese Americans and testifying to their loyalty are repeated. An evacuee whose moral character and loyalty are attested to by the stringent character of his WRA release can still be considered unsafe and of doubtful loyalty, merely because "it is hard to determine the difference between loyal and disloyal Japanese."

The mayor of Ogden, Kent S. Bramwell, observed: "This is a defense area, and there are many jobs that Japanese can obtain instead of going into business." But if the "Japanese" are of doubtful loyalty, surely they are much more dangerous in defense jobs than in private business.

The whole affair sounds like an echo of other incidents repeated often in the past in many farm areas, where the demand for evacuee farm labor has been strong—but only during harvest seasons. But at other times, when evacuees have attempted to settle down or purchase farms,, the cry arises that the evacuees are "disloyal."

It would seem that loyalty or disloyalty were to be judged by the need of an area for evacuees and their labor.

It is considerably heartening, after this incident, to read the strong, commendable letter written by Claude Detweiler, president of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, to the San Francisco Examiner..

". . . How can we ever have peace at home," he writes, "when we get so exercised over racial and religious minorities. Are we going to permit witch-hunters and unprincipled gossipmongers to cause internal disunity and strife; these people do not vent their venom only on the Japanese, but on the Negroes, Chinese, Jews, Catholics and others . . . When they develop an ambition to live as we do, we immediately persecute them."

Mr. Detweiler's words are a credit to his ability to tie together the whole sorry problem of race-baiting. They are also a credit to the Chamber of Commerce and the city of Twin Falls. The chambers of commerce of California have not, apparently, men of Mr. Detweiler's courage or honesty.

The peace and justice we fight for on the world's battlefronts will not immediately bring the same peace and justice to the homefront. Doubtless it will be decades before total justice is attained for the many people of America who are of the minority races. But it is encouraging to note how often and how strongly, even in time of war, many of our citizens will go out of their way to see to it that the justice for which we fight is extended to all Americans. These citizens it will be who will see American democracy is maintained, for these citizens are the strength of America.

People Without Rights

For Japanese Americans, one of the great tragedies of the war has been the dissillusionment of some of the nisei, the few who could not or would not see that though they suffer from the viciousness of race-discrimination, this country still holds their only hope for a full and happy future.

Because the attacks upon them have been solely of racial character, it was only natural that for these disillusioned, Japan seemed the only alternative—a Japan axis-bound and caste-ruled.

Had there been no alternative, these nisei might have determined more strongly to work out their destinies in the country of their birth. But that "out" existed, and some looked toward it as their only hope.

But all nisei can heed the words of Capt. Paul F. Rusch, who spoke recently to audiences in certain of the relocation centers.

Japanese Americans who were caught by war in Japan, he disclosed, are under daily surveillance, daily suspicion. Some have been interned as "dangerous," others make weekly reports on their activities. They are the most desperate people in the Far East today. They have no "out."

Certainly the Japanese government has good reason to be suspicious of the nisei, who are products of the American way. Democracy, individual freedom and liberty are anathema to the ruling powers of Japan. Japan's military class can be strong only so long as the people can be led, so long as the people do not stand upon their rights as human beings. They have no rights as citizens of Japan.

In America we have the means for working out our future as loyal, deserving citizens of a democratic nation. We have within this nation, at least, the means by which to establish justice for all men. We have the goals toward which to work.

We cannot accomplish these ends overnight. But accomplish them we will.

We have a country, we nisei in America. But the nisei in Japan have none.

MR. TOJO OF JAPAN — By Taro Yashima



Labor Under Co-Prosperity

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

Nisei and the Films

The case for the Japanese Americans has been effectively presented in newspapers, magazines on the radio and through the means of special publications, but little use has been made to date of what is perhaps the most effective of all information media, the motion picture. The reasons for this, of course, are obvious. The high costs involved, and the apparent technological difficulties presented militate against the utilization of the motion picture screen in the fight for justice and fair play for this American minority group.

As long as campaigns of racial hatred are directed at Japanese Americans, as long as the hate-inciting poison of the Hearst press continues to flow, and as long as scheming politicians and legislative inquisitions attempt to make scapegoats of Americans with Japanese faces, other Americans who believe in fair play will counter the wilful lies and the warped arguments of those who stir these race antagonisms. The motion picture has been used already to spread lies about Japanese Americans and their wartime conduct. It has rarely, except for a few newsreel shots of Japanese American troops in training and in combat, served to picture the other side of the story.

The eighty million Americans who are said to attend the movies weekly have seen such films as "Air Force," "Little Tokyo, U. S. A." and "Across the Pacific," which have pictured Japanese Americans as spies and saboteurs, although there is no official record of such disloyalty. It may be that the geographical location of Hollywood, in the midst of the sunkist racial hysteria of California, may have something to do with this attitude. For although hundreds of Japanese Amercans today are fighting and dying in the armed forces of the United States, Hollywood prefers to picture them as bucktoothed, grinning saboteurs, and snarling disloyalists.

In the case of one film, "Air Force," representations were made by various organizations and individuals regarding the film's inaccuracies in showing a fifth-column attack by Japanese Americans on the island of Maui in Hawaii, and in blaming the disaster on Hickam Field on Dec. 7 upon "local Japs" from Honolulu. All the horror rumors of Japanese American sabotage on Dec. 7 in Hawaii were already disproved in official statements from the FBI, the War and Navy Departments and the Honolulu police at the time "Air Force" was being filmed. The story of the general buck-passing which ensued upon the presentation of protests regarding "Air Force" to the producers, the Warner Brothers (who, incidentally, have made some of the finest films of the war), makes a weird chronicle. It seems that the Warner Brothers, the OWI and the War Department all disclaimed responsibility for the film's details. But despite the protests, no changes have been made in the film and it is still showing today throughout America. It is interesting, however, to note that "Air Force," although released more than a year ago, has never been shown, as far as we know, in the Hawaiian islands, although Hawaii gets films almost as quickly as theatres on the mainland. It may be that the producers realize that the wholesale lies in "Air Force," regarding the loyalty of the Japanese American population there, are too raw for screening before the people of Hawaii.

Traditionally, as far as Hollywood is concerned, Japanese Americans have been accorded treatment given other non-Aryans in pictures about life in the United States. The Japanese American, like the Chinese, the Negro, the Filipino or the Mexican, usually appears as a menial, if he appears at all. The only exception which comes to mind was in James Cagney's 'Something to Sing About," of a few years back. In this film a Japanese American is pictured, as usual, as a servant, a valet to the motion picture star played by Cagney. However, this nisei, in a scene with Cagney, is shown protesting his perpetual status as a man-servant. The nisei tells his employer that he is not a Japanese, but an ordinary American and that he prefers American dishes to suki-yaki. He is allowed to speak good American, and not the pidgin English associated with Oriental actors. Of course, "Something to Sing About," was not produced by a major studio. It was made independently by the Cagney brothers.

The one wartime film, which has attempted to present even an objective view of Japanese Americans, was the OWI's "Japanese Relocation," which told the government's story of evacuation, the necessity for it, and delineated the first stages of relocation in government camps. The weakness of this short subject, unavoidable because of the fact that it was produced by the government, was its apology for evacuation. A more positive film, a follow-up on the first picture, was believed under consideration by the OWI in the summer of 1942 when the OWI film unit was dissolved by rampaging congressmen in their action which severely limited the scope of OWI's domestic activities. This second film was to have screened positive examples of Japanese American participation, as soldiers and civilians, in the war effort. The need for such a film becomes increasingly apparent, in the face of the present all-out propaganda of west coast hate groups. Japanese Americans are doing their share toward victory. The need is for a camera to record this participation. The screen has already been used to spread the fiction of disloyalty about Japanese Americans. It can also be used to tell the truth.

Some Notes for the Nisei

By Fred Fertig

THE ROLE OF JAPANESE AMERICANS IN A NEW WORLD CULTURE

There was a time that I envied the Japanese American his mixed cultural heritage. For I believed, as did many Nisei, that he had a unique social and even political mission by virtue of his birth. It was as Virginia Kadoike, an acquaintance and Nisei leader, had written in a magazine distributed internationally: "to throw up a bridge between the Orient and Occident, to help keep the Pacific peaceful." It looked to many Japanese Americans and some of their non-Japanese friends—that they were to be, if they would, neither Japanese nor American but first citizens of the new world state to come. Those who read history carefully saw Europe old and tired, bleeding to death from imperial strife and civil war. The countries of Asia were re-awakening—and trade, statesmanship—and faith—looked to the great star rising in the East. Theodore Roosevelt as president had taken up the cause of Japan and the Japanese America because, he prophesied: "The Pacific era, destined to be the greatest of all, is just at its dawn."

A few, a very few, of the second-generation realized this ideal, of acting as mediator—mainly in the realm of art, notably Isamu Noguchi. But those Nisei who gained most prominence by their contributions to society, by thir personal success, did so in some purely Western way. S. I. Hayakawa is a semanticist (and semantics is no Oriental science; but surely a science that the Orient—and especially Japan—needs.) Other Nisei known outside Nisei circles are typically, sometimes too typically, American—in thought habit, public expression, and choice of occupation. They are New York style newspapermen like Larry Tajiri and Bill Hosokawa. Charles Kikuchi (of "From Many Lands" fame,) Mary Oyama, Mike Masaoka, Saburo Kido, Masao Satow, are other cases in point. They are American like hot dogs and Hollywood—as American as Walt Whitman and the Constitution.

Understandably, the overwhelming majority of Nisei gave up the effort to do liaison duty between their native land and the land of their ancestors. Even the internationalist must have his home where he is welcome—and in order to find welcome in the United States often Nisei sought to gain acceptance by severing all ties with the Asia and joining themselves to 100 per cent plus Americans. But the 100 per cent plus boys—Hearst, Dies, the American Legion—the Nisei found, when came the test of war, are those who love America and Americans least. Not that many are not honest in their devotion to our flag—but that they are wrapped so tightly in the flag that they cannot see minorities of race and class suffering at the base of that flag. They cannot see the flags of the United Nations—say that of China, Mexico and England—flying side by side. They tore at the flag of Germany when it flew over the Weimar Republic. They tore at the flag of Japan when liberals like Taro Yashima sought to rally around it. America jingoes helped spawn Hitler and the Nazis, Tojo and his "Japan First" gang.

We live or die by loyalties, and to whom or what can the Nisei now give their allegiance? What flag or sign might they follow that will not betray them? To answer those questions we must make analysis of world trends, and find America's place in those trends.

Because of radio, airplane and total war no nation can any longer choose to isolate itself and stay free from "entangling alliances," safe from invasion. Fascism and imperialism cannot in the twentieth century be contained, but are spread like deadly seed from bombers and propaganda broadcasts.

However radio ond airplane not only make possible total war but total peace. Even as there is a trend towards global suicide, there is for the first time in history the chance for a world culture. Mr. Churchill recently spoke that the empire of the future shall be the international "empire of the mind." That is so—if only we can shake off the burden of political and racial empire, as with Mr. Churchill's control of India.

Great Britain jails India's anti-fascist leaders and starves the masses, not so much out of evil will to do so, but due to the inability of imperialism to think in any other way if it would retain its power. As long as the English consider Indians as "lesser breeds without the law" she will find herself fighting Gandhi, Nehru and the Congress party that are democracy's and peace's hope within India. Neither in England or India has the "empire of the mind" begun—because the empire of foreign money and racial arrogance has not ended. It has its start though when a Britisher like H. N. Brailsford can declare: "Of all social experiences the most stimulating is the perception we enjoy in intercourse with Indian friends that while we may differ in our beliefs as in our customs, our values in all that constitutes civilization are the same" . . . or . . . "The wrong approach is to think of India as our possession. The right approach is to welcome her as an independent nation to the family we are organizing."

The empire of the mind had already begun in the Philippines says Col. Carlos P. Romulo in his book just off the press, "Mother America." The American schools in the islands taught the Filipino students—the love of liberty and the significance and obligations of self-rule! The Jones Act of 1916 and the Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1934 were acts of Congress moving definitely to give the Filipinos their full independence. For those reasons the empire of the mind took its roots best in of all the white colonies, the Philippines. "Within the span of forty-two years, in my country, East and West have settled the difference of color and points of view. Through the Philippines, doorway between the hemispheres, the Orient has looked to America and caught its first glimpse of freedom."

All Asia looks to America, asking that our wealth and industrial and humanitarian genius be used to free Asia from the shackles of poverty and imperialism. Krishnalal Shridarani for India, Lin Yutang for China, and Col. Romulo for the Philippines have each addressed their appeals for liberation to the United States

(Continued on page 6)

VAGARIES

Congressmen . . .

Although the Dies Committee has been buisly investigating Japanese American relocation, Rep. Martin Dies has not answered a roll call in the House since Sept. 30. Incidentally, it's reported that Dies faces the toughest fight of his career this year for reelection. CIO workers who have moved into industrial Beaumont in Texas, Dies' home district, are determined to vote Rep. Dies out. . . . Former Rep. Leland Ford, one of the most violent of congressional anti-Japanese Americans, will attempt a political comeback this year. Ford, it's believed, will campaign on a platform advocating deportation of Japanese Americans, whom he once wanted to throw into concentration camps. Ford also wanted to send CIO labor leaders to "relocation centers." He was defeated in 1942 by Will Rogers Jr. However, Rep. Rogers has recently indicated that he may quit his seat in the House to return to the army. Rogers has been one of the few west coast congressmen (others include Outland and Tom Ford of California and Coffee of Washington) who have consistently followed a policy of fair play for all loyal Americans, regardless of race, creed, color or ancestral indentification with an enemy belligerent.

* * *

Discharge . . .

A nisei sergeant, having received his medical discharge from the army, was ordered to report to his local draft board in a west coast city. He did so. The draft board immediately notified the FBI, charging that the Japanese American was violating the military exclusion order by being in the evacuated area. The Japanese American, with an honorable discharge from the army, was forced to leave on the first available train. . . . An evacuee, back from the Midwest, reports Japanese Americans have gotten jobs driving buses on the Motor City's transit lines. . . . Few Japanese Americans have been able to get jobs of this sort in mainland U. S. cities, but in Honolulu nisei policemen, firemen, bus drivers, and postmen are the usual thing. . . . At Winfield, Kansas, many of the Japanese American students at Southwestern College are employed as city bus drivers in their off-school hours. . . . A Chinese American has been appointed deputy district attorney of San Francisco by the new city administration.

* * *

Nisei WACs . . .

Nisei WACs now in training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, are not being segregated into racial units, a fact which has brought forth an editorial accolade from the Des Moines Register. . . . A wild rumor raced through the community of Kent, Washington, recently that the Japanese American evacuees had returned. A check disclosed, however, that although there were Oriental Americans working in farms in the vicinity of Kent, none were of Japanese ancestry. . . Every one of the 21 nisei students at Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y., was invited into a home in the city for Thanksgiving dinner. One of these students won the first prize in Syracuse university's war chest poster drive, and is now employed in the advertising department of one of the city's largest department stores. . . . A comprehensive review of what relocated Japanese American students are doing today in U. S. colleges and universities is given by Ruth L. Beyer in her article, "Students — Without Preference," in the Jan. 6 issue of The Christian Advocate (740 Rush St., Chicago, Ill.).

* * *

M. P.'s . . .

Military policemen on guard at the Tule Lake segregation center will soon be offered classes in Japanese to help prepare them for Far Eastern duty. The Tule Lake m. p.'s also have their own paper, the Guardsman. . . . Tom Clark, top civilian official on the west coast in matters relating to persons of Japanese ancestry at the time of the 1942 evacuation and at present assistant attorney general, will run for the U. S. Senate from Texas against the present incumbent, W. Lee O'Daniel of "Pass the biscuits, pappy" fame, according to reports.

From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Monday Morning Quarterbacks Snipe at WRA

The persistent sideline sniping at the Japanese Americans and their treatment by the War Relocation Authority seems to be a part of the kibitzing instinct of Americans manifested in its less harmful forms in such popular pastimes as Monday morning quarterbacking, and in winning the war from an armchair.

True enough there is an edge to U.S. Jap-baiting, whetted by racism, bigotry and selfishness. But the other factors are mutual. There is lack of knowledge of the facts, and incomplete understanding of the circumstances. These factors of ignorance operate in the same manner on the kibitzer, whether he is decrying the policy of the WRA, condemning Wojzchovich for passing on fourth down on the 20-yard-line instead of trying a field goal, or demanding that the cross - channel invasion be launched in February when some obscure current allegedly will push landing barges toward the French coast one knot more swiftly.

In other words it's easy to second-guess, but the fellow on the scene who is there specifically to do the job usually knows more about the problem than the fan in the centerfield bleachers who wants to argue with an umpire over a home plate decision.

Perhaps the big reason for the nisei's indignation over the attacks is the stupidity, the absence of factual justification for such attacks, and what rightly can be called the moronic plane of reasoning which our detractors take great pains to attain.

Persons who profess utmost confidence in the ability of the FBI declare in the next breath that evacuees must not be released from centers because of danger to the national safety. They don't stop to realize that the department of justice has approved the relocation program.

Newspapers froth editorially on one day at the lack of efficiency in the army—over-purchasing, waste of manpower, waste of supplies—and the next demand that efficient army methods, and not civilian, be used in operation of the "Jap camps."

Then there's the newly incorporated "American Foundation for Expulsion of Japanese" which demonstrates it has never even glanced at U.S. immigration statutes when it proposes in its articles to oppose the landing of any person from the empire (of Japan) or adjacent islands without a permit from the United States commissioner of immigration certifying the immigrant is a person of good character. Actually no Japanese immigrants have entered the country for going on 20 years.

But one of the most illuminating arguments of all is the resolution of a western Washington farmers group which proposes permanent exclusion of persons of Japanese ancestry from that part of the country because they, by the sweat of their brows and skill of their hands made a success of farming. The charge, of course, is that by "low standards of living" the "Japanese" got control of the most desirable lands and created a monopoly in truck gardening.

Almost simultaneously there was a furor in other parts of the country because the evacuees, with great presumptiveness, wanted the decent bathing facilities which they were used to and which the native farmers were not able to provide. Something, it seems, is amiss somewhere.

If we were to stoop to the virtually subterranean levels of these arguments for rebuttals, we'd have some whoppers. We might claim, for instance, that persons of Japanese descent in the United States are more patriotic than others because they eat a great deal of fish at a time when there are meat shortages. They're right in line with the OPA's advice to eat more unrationed foods.

Or we might argue that Japanese Amricans being on the average slighter of build than other Americans, are more patriotic because they need less material for their clothing. This is certainly true, for an overcoat to fit a man weighing 115 pounds and standing five feet two inches uses less wool than for one person a foot taller and 100 pounds heavier.

There is a great comfort in knowing that one is on the right side morally. The facts are for us, and with increasing preponderance. This is evident in the wild arguments, the illogical statements, the subterfuge to which our persecutors must resort to promote their campaign.

It would be a somewhat less comfortable situation than now if, by unfortunate chance, we were on the wrong side of the moral fence and had to keep busy manufacturing shams to combat the facts against us.

EDITORIAL DIGEST

Nisei Promotions

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

The San Francisco Chronicle, in an editorial on Dec. 30, noted General Mark Clark's battlefield promotions of two Japanese Americans to the rank of captain, and wondered what the Nazis would think of it.

The Chronicle commented:

"General Mark Clark has promoted two American army officers of Japanese descent, citing them for outstanding leadership in the field of battle, and assuring them that their battalion, the 300th Infantry (100th Infantry), is doing a fine job on the Italian front. The latest War Department figures for that area report 34 American Japanese soldiers killed in action, 130 wounded and nine missing.

"These facts will be carefully overlooked by German propagandists, desirous of increasing racial problems in America and of persuading the world that our race prejudice is as bitter as theirs. A Nazi would find it hard to explain why our army advances officers whose ancestry is Japanese—or why, for that matter, people of that ancestry volunteer to fight and die for the United States."

* * *

Americans at War

"Once more it can be noted how many different kinds of men are fighting under the flag of the United States. Since Pearl Harbor I have personally seen Filipinos, Japanese and Mexicans, not to speak of American Indian and Negroes, fighting side by side with their white brothers in a sort of true brotherhood for which we are waging war."—H. R. Knickerbocker, chief of the foreign staff of the Chicago Sun, and now "with the American Army on the San Pietro front" in Italy, in a cable in the New York PM of Dec. 22.

* * *

On Violence

REDWOOD CITY TRIBUNE

The Redwood City, Calif., Tribune believes that the army "would remain on the side of wisdom in keeping the relocated Japanese in safer areas." Commenting on west coast threats of "violence and bloodshed," the Redwood City paper on Dec. 15 added:

"But should the Japanese actually return, the probability of acts of violence and bloodshed had been given would not give these acts any color of either legality or patriotism.

"Mob violence is criminal. Lynch law is anarchism. Whoever takes the law into his own hands becomes by that act a revolutionary. The government that already has a global war on its hands has enough of violence and bloodshed to contend with without having mob incidents added to its policing job."

FOR THE RECORD

"It is pretty sickening to come home for your first leave in 15 months to find your State the scene of a modern witchhunt rivaling anything seen in New England in the early days.

"I refer to the persecution now being visited upon interned Japanese by self-appointed vigilantes. I can feel nothing but revulsion at this scene of intolerance toward a racial group in supposedly democratic California. If the "investigating" parties are too blind or too prejudiced to know better, they might learn something from any man in the armed forces.

"And he is not enduring separation from home and physical hardship and gambling his life so that some persons or groups can tear things apart in this country by firing race and class frictions."—From a letter by Sgt. G. E. Maschmeyer, Salt Lake City, published in the San Francisco Chronicle of Jan 4.

* * *

"You and I and everyone else belongs to a minority. We are a country composed of minorities. At various times in the past 152 years self-constituted vigilantes have pilloried in turn the Irish, the Mexican, the Chinese, the Jew, the Armenian the Negro, the German—in fact, almost every minority that is part of this co-operative experiment called America. Just now, and for months past, this west coast, unconsciously in the grip of profiteering economic interests, and under the spell of treacherous politicians, who always stampede to turn popular hysteria into easy votes, this coast, by its un-American treatment of 70,000 Americans of proven loyalty, whose behavior as citizens both before and since their evacuation has set the rest of us an example, this Pacific coast, with the aid of a sensational, unscrupulous press, is permitting to be written a chapter in racial bigotry and intolerance which, if allowed to develop, can accomplish only one end, viz., it can succeed in discrediting us and in perverting and obstructing the very cause for which we claim to be struggling." From an address by Jerome W. McNair on Dec. 15 on KPAS, Pasadena, Calif.

FRED FERTIG: Some Notes for the Nisei

(Continued on page 5)

and not to any European state. It is not to tory Englishmen but to a progressive American president that Stalin turns for friendship, and to a United States that after the war can supply the tools for the rebuilding of Russian cities and factories. If England is to be encouraged to give India her independance, and is to economically survive that surrender, then she must receive both the encouragement and the aid in survival from America. It is only from the church and labor in England, and particularly from the general American public's sense of democratic decency, that Germany—and Japan—can expect any other than unconditional destruction in this hour of hate.

America must accept this strategic world position not with pride but with much humility. This is not to be—must not be—the "American Century" of the Henry Luce brand. America is not called to be the nation that shall command all others—but the nation that shall help others, serving with the strength of her youth and her example of various races and creeds side by side, not in conflict but in cooperation. Not yet however is this country ready as servant or example. Race riots, Jim Crow and evacuation, yellow journalism and cheap politics, monopolies and cartels, are no preparation for leadership. We must first clean house.

And that is where the Nisei come in: They come in where every voting American comes in. The vote in the election year of 1944 is the broom that can help sweep clean. We can vote out of office the native fascists and racists—knowing that these are one and the same men: those who oppose labor unions and protect vested interests, bait Jews and fillibuster on the poll tax, talk world order and mean isolationism again and world anarchy. Voting is a narrow but immediate and important job. There is then the broader, long run task—where through study and endeavor we seek to devise a world culture that will increase wisdom and good will and happiness amng all peoples.

While most Nisei, till of late, have had little interest in politics, to come to an interest in this cultural task will be even harder. Culture has either meant to them "things Japanese," impractical and exotic, or reading so many books and attending so many operas—"and of what use either of these in breaking down the walls around Little Tokyo?" "Culture might be alright if it furnishes escape from the terrible fact of race prejudice." This is a misunderstanding of true culture. True culture in the modern world is not the copying of some inherited national scheme of manners and philosophy, nor is it forced attention to literature or music. The true culture required by the modern world commences as a creative act of thinking within the individual and encompasses the great thinking and arts (both aesthetic and practical) of all nations. Real culture means having the perspective on one's own life that world history offers, possessing and improving upon the spiritual experience of Buddhists and Christians alike, dedicating oneself to building not only political but economic and social democracy, here and abroad. It will find its clearest demonstration, as I have often said in this column, in interracial churches, cooperatives, and liberal political groups such as the Free World Association.

The material on which to solidly base this culture can be found in the science and technology, the logic and the democratic political systems of the West. And it can be found in the East, as Pearl Buck suggests, in India's "deep belief in man's relation to God and eternity," in the Chinese "philosophy of reasonableness," and the "loyalty and high sense of duty which the people of Japan have developed, even when the object of the loyalty has been unworthy." We can read to gain these materials for our new culture, we can gather these materials by appreciation of the arts of the nations, and to us the reading and art shall not be labor but adventure—because through them we come to understanding and peace within and between countries and between East and West.

If this thesis is a correct one—then the earlier Nisei dream, to be a "bridge for peace," was not so wrong, and instead of an aim for just Japanese Americans, it should be the ambition of all Americans. And specifically for Japanese Americans—in a new world culture—they shall not be judged, accepted or rejected, on their color or national ancestry, but by what they have to offer in talent and moral purpose as world citizens. As whatever is today done in America finally reaches and affects the rest of the world, what you do here and today towards the cause of racial brotherhood, economic equality or the extension of culture—that helps qualify Nisei for world citizenship.

No Go-Between

Last week, four men were selected as representatives of the alien residents of the center to appear before the Spanish consul . . .

Who the individuals were that asked for messages to be transmitted to the consul through the four men, we do not know. We do know, however, that they overlooked a perfectly legitimate method of presenting whatever griefs they may have been harboring by not appealing through the community counsils, which were created among other things, to see that the administration is aware of what they believe to be right and just . . .

After all of the persons designated as disloyal have been segregated, we see no reason why the Spanish consul need concern himself with the probdems that exist here. We have, as stated earlier, a means whereby our wishes can be presented to proper officials without the rigmarole of introducing a foreign go-between. If our requests are thought to be unreasonable, then neither heaven nor hell, let alone the Spanish consul, can put them into effect.— From the Gila News-Courier.

Ann Nisei Says:

No Spring Day Can Match the Sparkle of A Winter Afternoon

January, 1944

The snow has finally stopped falling after a steady two-day storm, and today it lies all around like great drifts of granulated sugar. The rooftops are all sugar-coated, and the trees are silver and black etchings with their cottony branches.

No spring day can match the gold, white and blue days of sunny winter afternoons. The sunlight sparkles on the snow and it glints excitingly on the icicles that drop from the eaves. The lot next to our house, the lot with the now-boarded-up gas station, looks for the all the world like a southern cotton field. The field is a mass of tall, brittle weeds, but each dry blossom holds a cup of snow, like a bud exploding with cotton.

From outside comes the sound of snow shovels scraping the sidewalk, where three neighborhood kids are cleaning off our walk. They appeared at the door ten minutes ago, straight from a snow drift, apparently, for they were covered with snow from head to foot. Shaking themselves off a bit like puppies, they wondered if we wanted our walk cleaned off for twenty cents. We did.

Keeping the walks clean is one of those snow-belt customs we find hard to adopt, along with certain other housekeeping habits of this area.

However, aside from the extra housekeeping, this is certainly the nicest season of the year. We love the long winter evenings with the fire place going, the house snug and warm, and snow drifting softly outside. And winter has the nicest holidays and certainly the best food.

Speaking of food reminds us of a new way to make cakes. We ran across this method in a new Betty Crocker booklet that you can probably find in your grocery store.

This new system requires only four minutes of mixing, uses one mixing bowl, and yet makes the lightest cake we've made so far. The method sounds quite haphazard, but it works. We tried something called "Golden Layer Cake," and it goes like this:

Have all ingredients at room temperature. This means milk, eggs, shortening.

Into your mixing bowl sift 2¼ cups sifted cake flour, 3 teaspoons double - action baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 1½ cups sugar. Add ½ cup vegetable shortening and ⅔ cup milk. Beat like mad for two minutes, scraping sides of bowl frequently.

Add ½ cup milk, 1 teaspoon vanilla and 2 large unbeaten eggs. Beat two minutes more. Pour into 2 well - greased and floured 9-inch layer tins. Bake about 30 minutes or till done in moderate oven.

The first two minutes of mixing are really work, but otherwise this recipe is far simpler than pancakes or waffles, almost as easy as making biscuits.

Also speaking of food reminds us that the second pork bonus stamp, your Spare No. 2 is good for five points of raw pork.

One of these days we shall certainly have to get around to cleaning out our basement, which is now bulging at the sides. We haven't kept a guest book these past months, but the basement is a pretty accurate record of all our guests, from the one-nighters to those who stayed several months.

Downstairs there's a solid wooden trunk, big and old-fashioned. It belongs to a Camp Savage man. And there's the suitcase belonging to a Shelby private. There's an assortment of furniture and several bundles belonging to assorted persons. There are packing cases and paper cartons. And there are odds and ends of things like coffee pots and ashtrays and lamps, which will never, probably, find their rightful owner again.

Our cellar is like the old-time attic, which, through the years, accumulated odds and ends till eventually it became a record of a family's history.

Joe Grant Masaoka's Column:

Japanese Americans Maintain Hope for Justice in Conscience Of Enlightened Democracy

I have just seen a photograph of Sgt. Kazuo Komoto, veteran of Guadalcanal and New Georgia, showing his medal, the Purple Heart, to his younger brother, Susumu, while visiting his parents at the Gila River Relocation Center near Phoenix, Arizona. I have talked to other Nisei soldiers who have visited their folks in the centers.

I have talked to Nisei lads who are so keenly anxious to enlist for maritime training as seamen. They have shown me letters refusing their volunteering because it's "contrary to national policy." I have other Nisei friends serving as merchantmen on the high seas.

There are many other Nisei with flying experience who yearn for service in the Air Forces but can't get admitted. Then I think of Sgt. Kuroki's accounts of being turret gunner aboard a B-24 Liberator Bomber, how they chased Rommel and his Afrika Korps out of North Africa, how they swooped at derick level to blast the Ploesti oil fields in Rumania, how they bombed Rome, and how they destroyed the submarine pens at St. Nazaire and Lorient.

When one looks at the relocation centers and thinks of the thousands confined within and committed thereto without charge or trial accusing them of any wrong-doing, one is perforce inclined to junk schoolboy notions of democracy. No longer can we picture this republic as a fountain-head dispensing justice, opportunities, and equality to all with the same impartiality.

To the Nisei soldier visiting his parents and brothers and sisters in the centers, to the Nisei aspirant knocking on the gates of the Merchant Marine, the Navy, the Air Corps, the Seabees, or the Coast Guard for entrance, and to the Nisei chemical engineering graduate who is seeking a job while his classmates are snapped up by scouts from industrial concerns, to countless Nisei who are given a polite brush-off while others are accepted—it's hard to reconcile the textbook definitions of democracy to the realities of living.

Recently I received a letter from a segregee in Tule Lake who decried the absence of race equality in the United States and maintained that his action was a protest against the late history of the Japanese in America. A college graduate, he believed that based on his own experiences this country held little promise for him, that Japan with her doctrine of the ascendancy of the Asiatic races and the manifest destiny of a "co-prosperity sphere" was a much more substantial and reasonable expectation.

A Nisei friend to whom I had explained that viewpoint observed such people might be characterized as "people of little faith." I'm afraid that these people so described have their conception of democracy deluded with Santa Claus and horns-of-plenty ideas. I like this comparison:

"An absolute monarchy is like a great ship. It sails on and on and all the passengers are safe and happy. Then it strikes a rock and goes down with all hands. On the other hand, a democracy is like a raft. You can't sink it, but, damn it, your feet are always wet!"

When the raft of this country hit the rough waters of war, the Japanese Americans took a rough dunking. In seeking to right the unsteady craft several Nisei got an even worse wetting.

I'm thinking of Gordon Hirabayashi, conscientious objector, and Min Yasui, Nisei attorney who, carried the fight on the question of curfew for Japanese Americans up to the Supreme Court. Hirabavashi languished in a county jail for 9 months; Yasui spent $9,400 of his money and twiddled his thumbs for 8 months in the Multnomth County Jail to test the constitutionality of what they felt was a diminishment of their citizenship rights. They believed that a principle was at stake and were willing to stick their necks out.

Transpose the above situation to Japan. On good authority, I'm informed that there are no such military exemptions as "conscientious objectors." Refusal to comply with the conscription denotes "traitor" and the individual is subject to severe penalties. In the matter of adjudicating civil rights, the plaintiff, I understand, is disadvantaged at the outset. The procurator, equivalent to the prosecuiting attorney, is placed on a stand slightly lower than the judge but higher than the level of the plaintiff. This arrangement, we are told, is indicative of the greater acceptability of the procurator's arguments.

Turn now to the recent Patton slapping incident. A returned missionary related how he had seen a Japanese officer in a street car pause and glower at a student studying his English language textbook while seated there as a passenger. The officer became suddenly infuriated and slapped the boy sprawling in the aisle. When the boy arose to his feet, white-faced, bowed and apologized, the officer scarcely listened to the boy's explanations, then continued on his way. Such conduct on the part of an officer toward civilians in the United States is incomprehensible.

Here at home, we have the familiar spectacle of Westbrook Pegler telling Roosevelt how to raise his children; and Roosevelt letting them raise themselves. We have legislative inquisitors intimidating witnesses by browbeating questions as "Have you smelt the odor in a Japanese home?" while Sunday School children all over America send Christmas gifts to the tots in the centers.

While there was a certain Congressman last year agitating for live-wire-charged barbed barricades to pen the residents within the centers, we had the National Secretary of the Japanese American Citizens League in the words of one of his victims: "pricking the conscience of the influential people in the East and getting them stirred to the plight of American citizens of Japanese descent, subjected to unprecedented and unparalled sacrifices in American history, in order that military security might not be endangered." These people and groups are now so helpful in the relocation program.

In the conscience of America is the faith and hope of an enlightened democracy. That is the Nisei conviction and confidence.

Test Case Figure Hitch-Hiked Way to Arizona Prison Camp

Hirabayashi Returns After Serving Sentence Given in Curfew Case

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo. — The story of Gordon Hirabayashi, central figure in the curfew test case, who hitch-hiked his way to serve a three-months sentence in a prison camp near Tuscon, Ariz., is told in the Heart Mountain Sentinel of Dec. 18 by John Kitasako.

While waiting for orders to serve his sentence, Hirabayashi worked for the American Friends service committee in the Spokane area. But three months slipped by, and he was not notified as to his sentence.

Finally he wrote to the U. S. attorney in Seattle, asking when and where he was to serve his sentence. The district attorney did not know. Finally after a conference between the district and the American Friends attorney, he was told that since his was a short sentence, it could be served in the Spokane county jail.

"But county jails held no attraction to Gordon," writes Kitasako. "He had spent nine months in the King county jail. He had had enough of county prisons . . . After all, he was a federal case and he felt entitled to a real federal prison.

"But there were no federal prisons which could take him. They were all filled. And they all had waiting lists."

Finally the district attorney settled upon a prison camp near Tuscon, an honor camp with 300 inmates, mostly conscientious objectors. But when Hirabayashi asked for train fare to travel to the prison, he was told he would have to pay his own way.

Hirabayashi decided to hitchhike.

With letters of identification and reference, "the nisei who was convicted and sentenced by the highest tribunal in the nation" set out alone, hitch-hiking to a jail 1600 miles away.

"In Idaho he was given a lift by a man who mistook him for a Chinese. The man was very disappointed when Gordon told him he was of Japanese descent." By the time they reached Boise, they were on such good terms the man invited Hirabayashi to dinner at his home.

When Hirayashi reached the federal camp, he found his troubles weren't yet over. The warden wouldn't take him in, having received no word of him. After two days the warden was convinced, and Hirabayashi started to serve his sentence.

He was released on Dec. 6, and is scheduled to begin working again for the American Friends at the beginning of the year.

JUST Incidentally

By Dale Oka

Detroit, Mich.

We, my good neighbor Ted Iwasaki and I, had an interesting talk last Saturday nite with Doc Elliott after the overworked m. d. had concluded his nightly analysis of Ted's wife (she, too, was overcome by the Michigan weather) and mine.

The session was concerned primarily with a general discussion of the evacuation of nisei from the west coast and life in the relocation centers. In a manner of speaking, the Doctor was familiar with the situation, which furnished us with another opportunity to discuss a subject which we shall not too soon forget, if ever.

Suffice it to mention, in passing, that he was, as has been our observation of the folks in general of this area, understanding of our predicament and tolerant.

A Story of Tolerance

More to the point, perhaps, of tolerance is the unique experience in which I had the pleasure of participating.

He was just a little tyke, was the lad. I would place his age at around 8, certainly not more than 10 years.

He came into the store and while Sam the salesman was wrapping the merchandise which the youngster had purchased, I engaged him in a conservation.

It was nasty weather outside and he wore only a sweater. So I asked him, "Aren't you cold?"

While mumbling his reply, with characteristic youthfulness, of 'No," he pulled out his 'bank" — which was merely a small round tin can and proceeded to count out the change for his purchase.

After a couple more minutes of questioning on my part, my attention was diverted to another section of the store. When I returned some five minutes or so later, Sam the sales-clerk buttonholed me with a big smile.

"Dale," he started out, 'you know what that little kid told me?"

'No, what did he say?"

"He asked me what you were and I told him that you were Japanese."

"Yeah?"I says. "What did he say to that?"

'He says (at this point Sam broke into a big grin), 'Well, as long as he's an American citizen, he must be okay.'"

It struck me as a unique experience because that statement came from a young Chinese American lad of 8 or 10 years of age. Yes, that little shopper was of Chinese ancestry.

There are only two institutions where such a youngster could have picked up an observation that should put the west coast "maggots of racial prejudism" to shame. It's either (or both) in the home and/or the school, with the greater possibility that he was educated that way in his home.

Wherever it might have been, it behooves me to say that if the up and coming generation of Americans are being taught that sort of wisdom, America in general will never heed the bigoted rantings of Rankin, Dies, Hearst, Lechner & Co., and the USA will rise to still greater heights as the arsenal of democracy.

Sacramento Farm Bureau Opposes Return of Evacuees

SACRAMENTO — The Sacramento County Farm Bureau last week went on record as opposed to the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to farms of the county, the Bee reported.

Based on what was termed "officially unconfirmed reports," the board of directors of the Farm Bureau adopted a resolution directing that a letter be sent to Governor Earl Warren protesting the return of the evacuees and praising the governor's stand on the question.

Meanwhile, A. E. Morrison; county agricultural commissioner, stated that an investigation has failed to reveal any evidence to support the rumors that the evacuees are about to return to their farms in the Florin area.

Morrison said many of these Florin farms were leased by other farmers following the evacuation and some were later purchased outright. The purchasers have given ejection notices to those who leased the properties and in some cases lessees have been asked to vacate because they have faild to take care of the property.

These activities are believed to have been responsible for the rumors that Japanese American owners have issued ejection notices and are prepared to return.

Attorney General's Office Will Study Anti-Alien Laws

SAN FRANCISCO — Attorney General Robert Kenny disclosed last week that Everett Mattoon, in charge of the state attorney general's office in Los Angeles, has been appointed a deputy in the San Francisco office to handle the state's anti-alien land law interpretations andto study the highway freeway problem.

Tacoma Nisei Graduates from School in Boston

TACOMA, Wash.—The News Tribune reports that Hitoshi Tamaki, a Japanese evacuee from Tacoma, has received the degree of doctor of medicine on Dec. 23 at the Boston University School of Medicine at Boston, Mass.

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Sadayoshi Shimano (28-5-B, Poston) a girl on Dec. 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Mitsuru Tashiro (60-10-B, Poston) a girl on Dec. 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Akira Kawamoto (37-7-B, Poston) a boy on Dec. 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masa Hirata (327-2-D, Poston) a boy on Dec. 4.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hana Tanahara (5-2-A, Poston) a girl on Dec. 4.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Akiyama (14-12-A, Poston) a boy on Dec. 5.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nobuo Kawamoto (330-3-B, Poston) a girl on Dec. 6.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hajime Naka (326-10-B, Poston) a boy on Dec. 7.

To Mr. and Mrs. Satoru Ikemoto (306-3-D, Poston) a boy on Dec. 7.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dick Tanino (316-13-B, Poston) a girl on Dec. 10.

To Pfc. and Mrs. Yamashiro (25-2-B. Rohwer, a girl, Paula Michi, on Dec. 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Itogawa (14-7-B, Jerome) a girl on Dec. 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hisanobu Kitagawa (5-8-C, Rohwer) a boy on Dec. 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masao Sukekane (216-10-B, Poston) a boy on Dec. 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Toshichige Yuba (42-14-D, Poston) a girl on Dec. 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Matsumura (307-9-A, Poston) a boy on Dec. 15.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tadayoshi Takaha (29-5-B, Gila River) a girl on Dec. 16.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kamekichi Taketa (38-8-E, Minidoka) a boy on Dec. 16.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kanshiro Yoshida (22-11-D, Poston) a girl on Dec. 17.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frank K. Watanabe (4-5-B, Minidoka) a boy on Dec. 19.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kaname Nakamura (11G-1E, Granada) a girl on Dec. 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tsutomu Watanabe (7K-10C, Granada) a boy on Dec. 19.

To Mr. and Mrs. James Murakami (14-4-B, Jerome) a girl on Dec. 20.

To Mr. and Mrs. Takashi J. Osaki (30-6-D, Minidoka) a girl on Dec. 21.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dick Doi (48-8-C, Gila River) a girl on Dec. 22.

To Mr. and Mrs. Masao Kato (39-9-DD, Gila River) a boy on Dec. 23.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Kanemoto (7-6-E, Jerome) a boy on Dec. 23.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tod T. Fujioka (23-12-C, Minidoka) a boy on Dec. 23.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Nagura (27-2-F, Heart Mountain) a girl on Dec. 24.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kanichi Murata (38-4-D, Jerome) a boy on Christmas Day.

To Mr. and Mrs. George M. Kuroda (12-7-C, Jerome) a girl on Christmas Day.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Egusa (4-11-C, Minidoka) a girl on Dec. 26.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shoichi Tamura (6-7-E, Minidoka) a boy on Dec. 27.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kay Nakamoto (6-7-C, Heart Mountain) a boy on Dec. 28.

DEATHS

Kunitaro Iwamoto, 74, (19-13-C, Poston) on Dec. 5.

Samori Mikami, 68, (11-9-D, Poston) on Dec. 8.

Kamematsu Ikenaga, 71, (4-8-A, Poston) on Dec. 8.

Shozo Wada, 73, (213-13-A, Poston) on Dec. 12.

Jinkichi Nakamura, 61, (59-1-A, Poston) on Dec. 15.

Torataro Yasui (1-3-D, Jerome) on Dec. 19.

Nobu Sakata (6-1-D, Gila River) on Dec. 19.

Mrs. Mitsuyo Fujisaki, 46, (48-14-A, Gila River) on Dec. 21.

Denson Kurima, 11 months, (9-2-A, Jerome) on Dec. 21.

Masao Fujita, 62, (22-12-A, Minidoka) on Dec. 22.

Sangi Yoshinaga, 67, (9-2-A, Jerome) on Dec. 25.

Eitaro Hosoda, 70, (2-11-E, Jerome) on Dec. 26.

Kenzo Koga, 74, (19-12-C, Jerome) on Dec. 27.

MARRIAGES

Tayeko Kitahata to Sgt. Ray Umade on Dec. 14 at Poston.

Plight of Nisei Caught by War In Japan Declared Desperate

ROHWER, Ark. — "The most desperate group of people in Japan today is the Nisei," said Capt. Paul F. Rusch at a general meeting recently in Rohwer, says the Outpost.

For seventeen years a Tokyo resident, Capt. Rusch took active part in young people's organizations, besides teaching at Rikkyo University. Several days after Pearl Harbor he was interned as an enemy alein. He and 17 other Americans were confined in a Girl's Catholic school.

Speaking of the nisei in Japan, Capt. Rusch declared: "Treated as prisoners, they must make weekly reports to the Japanese government. No matter how depressing the Japanese Americans' situation here in America may be, it cannot measure up to the suffering of Nisei in Japan."

Speaking in Gila River on Dec. 15, Capt Rusch told an attentive audience that the nisei are closely watched and checked almost daily by the government, according to a recent report in the News-Courier.

Many nisei he said, are placed in internment camps under conditions similar to those of enemy nationals, and the government will not allow the nisei to leave Japan.

Honolulu Soldier Awarded Purple Heart For Battle Wounds

HONOLULU, T. H. — Mrs. Constance Yamamoto of Honolulu has received from her brother in Italy the medal of the Purple Heart, awarded him after he was wounded in action October 21.

The brother is Pvt. Hitoshi Nagaoka, born in Honolulu. He sent the medal to his sister for safe-keeping. She has learned that he has been released from the hospital and will soon be able to rejoin the combat forces in Italy. He has two other sisters, one in Honolulu and one in Kansas City. Their parents are dead.

Soldiers Rate Denson Tops For Furloughs

DENSON, Ark. — Upholding its top rating as the most popular relocation center USO, the Denson USO entertained 182 American soldiers of Japanese ancestry during Christmas Week, says the Tribune.

All visiting servicemen joined the residents of the blocks in which they were quartered in observing Christmas. All community activities were banned in view of the influenza epidemic, but block festivities were permitted.

Hanako Takeoka to Yoshio Henry Sato on Dec. 14 at Rohwer.

Toshio Tominaga to Kaoru Murakami on Dec. 16 at Rohwer.

Molly Mano to Fukami Morikawa on Dec. 18 at Poston.

Toshiko Fujimura to Frank Uyemura on Dec. 18 at Jerome.

Mary Nakamura to Jackson Takayanagi on Dec. 26 at Des Moines, Iowa.

Mae Teramura to Kanichi Soga on Dec. 29 at Twin Falls, Idaho.

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NAGATA SEES ACTION IN BOWL GRID CLASSIC

MIAMI, Fla.—Probably the first Japanese American to see action in a major "bowl" game, Joe Nagata, first-string quarterback for the Louisiana State Tigers, was one of the Tiger standouts as LSU defeated Texas A. & M., 19-14, in the annual Orange Bowl game here New Year's Day.

Nagata, who has been one of the stars of the Tiger eleven during the past season, played 58 minutes of the game.

Nisei Should Direct Japan Education, Says Chinese American

LANSING, Mich. — Loyal Japanese Americans should direct an educational campaign in Japan after the war is over, according to Dr. Shao Chang Lee, former professor of Chinese history and language at the University of Hawaii.

Dr. Lee made the statement recently in a lecture at Michigan State college, where he is a professor in the institute of foreign studies.

Official Declares Many Japnese Loyal to U. S.

SPOKANE, Wash.—Bert H. Fraser, Department of Justice official in charge of the alien enemy internment camp at Fort Missoula, Montana, is "convinced after three years of contact that we do have loyal Japanese in this country," he told members of the Spokone Chamber of Commerce last week.

War Training Program Started at Gila

RIVERS, Ariz. — A war industries training program has been approved for Gila River, following a conference of Dr. Joseph Samler, WRA director of vocational training, and W. C. Sawyer, superintendent of education, with state officials.

Classes will be open to those working in a position calling for mechanical ability. A W.I.T. certificate will be issued to those who complete the course.

"Lil Dan'l"

The story of a year in a relocation center is told in twenty-eight pages of clever pen sketches by George Akimoton a mimeo pamphlet turned out recently by the Rohwer Outpost. Lil Dan'l, who early in the life of the Outpost, became its mascot and whipping boy, is shown in every phase of center life, from cutting wood and rugs to relocation.

GREETINGS from MIDWEST

George Isoda
4301 N. 48th St.,
Milwaukee 9, Wis.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Minami
4464 West Hope Ave.,
Milwaukee 9, Wis.

Tom Shimasaki
1319 Hill St.,
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Tommy Yonaki
328 S. Winchester St.,
Chicago, Ill.

Japanese Americans Serving In Pacific War, Says Ernst

Salt Lake Meeting Discusses American Racial Problems

Charles F. Ernst, director of the Topaz war relocation center, disclosed in Salt Lake City Tuesday that Japanese American troops are serving in the Pacific theatre as well as in Mediterranean areas, the Tribune reported.

Mr. Ernst's statements were made during the "American Race Problem" forum sponsored by the University of Utah.

The WRA official also stated that Japanese American women were serving in the WACs.

"Many of the Japanese Americans are going into defense industries, although not as fast as we would like to see them take jobs."

The Topaz director, noting that any evacuees not loyal to the United States were being segregated at the Tule Lake center, declared:

"Soon it will be practical, from a standpoint of patriotism by Japanese Americans to open all the relocation camps in the country and let any Japanese American walk out, equal citizens."

Mr. Ernst told the panel that in the peace conferences to come in the Pacific, faithful Japanese Americans will have an invaluable place as liaison workers between the statesmen of this nation and foreign countries.

"The national Buddhist church headquarters are located in Topaz," he added, "and out of headquarters are going Buddhist priests to many parts of the nation to set up churches."

Problems of anti-Semitism and anti-Negro feelings nationally and in the Salt Lake area were also discussed by participants in the discussion.

Families Reunited As Nisei Wed In Des Moines

DES MOINES, Ia. — Two families were reunited, one for its first family Christmas since Pearl Harbor, when Jackson Takayanagi, 21, married Mary Sakamura, 20, in Des Moines on Dec. 26, says the Des Moines Register.

The family of the groom, Mr. and Mrs. Jusuke Takayanagi, and their sons, Jackson and John, celebrated Christmas at the home of a third son, Harry, who is employed at a local jewelery store.

A fourth son, Master Sergeant George Takayanagi, is in training with the Japanese American combat team at Camp Shelby, Miss.

The home of Miss Harriet Macy was the setting for the Christmas family reunion of the Nakamuras. An older sister of the bride, Florence, is a senior at Drake University and has been making her home with Miss Macy. Other family members at the reunion were Kenneth, now employed in Des Moines; Mr. and Mrs. George Nakamura of Chicago, parents of the bride, and Herbert and Martha, two younger children of the Nakamuras.

Montana Private Home on Furlough

MALTA, Mont. — Pvt. Boon Oshitani, whose family operates a restaurant here, is home from Camp Shelby on furlough. With him are Pvts. Nishimura and Matsuda, also of the Japanese American combat team. The two guests are volunteers form the Hawaiian Islands.

Evacuee Families Tend Chicks At Former Chicago Golf Club

Japanese Americans Work for National Candy Manufacturer

CHICAGO—Ill—The old clubhouse of the Arlington Country Club in Chicago has undergone changes since the days when knickered gentlemen roamed the lobby and lounges and dined with their ladies in the great hall, the Daily News commented on Dec 28.

Most of the lounges and the hall, to say nothing of the downstairs locker rooms, are filled with chickens, 20,000 of them, while other rooms upstairs and on the main floor have been remodeled into apartments and are now occupied by Japanese Americans who came from Tule Lake before the WRA center was turned into a segregation camp.

A visitor mounting the steps of the south portico is welcomed by a personable girl of Japanese extraction, according to the Daily News. Then out comes the foreman of the place, "who practically hands you a key to the institution," which is, incidentally, a poultry house sponsored by the Curtis Candy Co.

The foreman is Harry Makino, American born and a former truck farmer in California where he operated 325 acres before being sent to a relocation center. The receptionist is Harry's wife whom he met and married at the relocation camp and who comes from Washington state.

"We have 20 Japanese Americans living here now," Harry told the Daily News reporter. "All except the young children work in the poultry plant. Two of the children go to nearby Buffalo Grove school and they are having the time of their lives there; they are enjoying every minute of it."

The adults, according to Harry, like it, too, but some of them are still dazed at all that has happened to them.

Harry noted that he and his wife had joined the Arlington Presbyterian church, and that the whole town of Arlington Heights has been friendly.

"I'd like to tell you about some of the other people here," the evacuee foreman added. "Mr. and Mrs. Chuzo Katagiri from Kent, Wash., have a family of six. They are Episcopalians. He was a dairyman. David, 18, who is now working with the chickens is crazy about flying. He had tried to join the aviation cadets, but has been refused.

"Mr. and Mrs. Tom Sato ran a laundry in Tacoma. They have two small boys here at the house. Mother is now in the hospital at Elgin where she gave birth to the first Japanese American girl ever born there.

"Toyozo Hirata was a California strawberry grower. He has a son in the army at Fort Knox. Kay Kawamoto has two sons in the American Army in Australia. So we could hang a service flag in our window with three stars."

Harry Makino and his wife told the Daily News writer that they would be glad when peace came once more. "But," Harry added, "I don't think many of us will return to California. We like the Middle West and its hospitality."

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Announcement

HENRY Y. KASAI, agent for the NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY in Salt Lake City for 28 years, announces that he has resumed his business of underwriting life and endowment policies of all forms, especially among the Nisei. His office is located at 325 Walker Bank Building. Telephones: Office, 5-2841; Home, 3-6675.

CALLING All Chapters!

By Hito Okada

NISEI USO

The Boise Valley Chapter came through with a heart-warming check for $100.00 to be forwarded to the Japanese American Unit of the USO at Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Mr. Albert D. Bonus of Seattle, Washington remitted his second contribution for $1.00 and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yamauchi of Springville, Utah, sent in $2.00, so that the total remitted to Mr. Melvin Harter, Director of the unit, is $325.00. We still have not reached the quota of $500.00, so in the language of the day, "Keep Coming."

OUR THANKS

Contributions were received from the following persons totaling $8.00, Albert D. Bonus, Seattle Wash.; Mrs. Masumi Kawanishi, Ethridge, Montana; Miss Jackie Wieland, Seattle, Wash.; and Mr. Hiroichi Mayemura, Salt Lake City, Utah. The staff sends its thanks to Mr. Albert D. Bonus for the box of candy for our New Year cheer.

CREDIT UNION

The annual meeting of the National JACL Credit Union is scheduled for January 22nd; so watch the next Pacific Citizen for the time, place and program.

1944 MEMBERSHIP

The time for renewal of both active and associated memberships is now, so if you are an Associated member, send in your remittance for $3.50, which includes a year's subscription to the Pacific Citizen. If you are already a subscriber and your subscription does not expire shortly you may remit $1.50 for your membership fee. To those in the Relocation centers the dues are $3.00 and 50c respectively as described for those in the free zones.

For those who are living in a district where there is a chapter of the JACL, we suggest that they join the local chapter.

LINING UP FOR 1944

Active members paid up for 1944 from the Denver Chapter are Mary Tetsuko Toda, 1941 Larimer St.; Mrs. Thelma and Charles Miura, 1910½ Lawrence St.; Frank Kenji Toshiyuki, 1120 18th St.; Mrs. M. Kusaka, 1834 Larimer St.; Kiyoto Uriu, Rt. 1, Box 29-B, Henderson, Colorado; George Shibata, 907 18th St.; Susumu Hada, 907 18th St.; Ruby Hashimoto, 1933 Larimer St.; Mrs. Daisy Osumi, 2010 Larimer St.; Fred S. Aoki, 1953 Larimer St.; Clark Kuichi Saito, 2056 Champa St.; Ikuyo Matsumoto, 615 15th St.; Dr and Mrs. Takashi Mayeda, 301 Curtis St.; Rev. Sam Takagishi, 2184 S. Milwaukee; 2nd Lt. Yaeko Suyama and 2nd Lt. Marguerite Ugai, A.N.C. Fitzimmons' General Hospital; Mrs. Sue Oda, 826 15th St.; and Jozo Sugihara, 1775 Xenia St. This is a partial list and the next issue will have additional names and addresses.

Nisei Sergeant On Furlough

POCATELLO, Idaho —Sgt. Kiyoshi Morimoto is home on a 15-day furlough visiting friends and relatives. He is stationed at Fort Leonard Wood. Missouri.

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Member of California Lions Group Attacks Race Hatred

"Jap is Jap" Idea Is Race Hatred, Says Dr. Pieter Samson

MARYSVILLE, Calif.—Attacking the idea that a "Jap is a Jap no matter where he was born," Dr. Pieter Samson of Marysville told the Yuba City Lions club on Dec. 30 that such a theory is "race hatred, nothing else."

Dr. Samson, a member of the Marysville Lions club, declared that our war for democracy does not need race hatred to win it. He called on his listeners to do all they can to combat race hatred in the United States.

"The United States constitution which guarantees equal rights to all American citizens is being made a scrap of paper each day by race hatred," Dr. Samson declared. "Do you remember the actions of the Ku Klux Klan against the Negroes? Race hatred. Do you remember the 'zoot suit' riots of Los Angeles. Race hatred. And why are Japanese Americans herded into concentration camps while Germans are allowed to go free? Race hatred, nothing else."

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Engagement of Two Sisters Is Announced

POCATELLO, Idaho—John Kaneko recently announced the engagement of his sisters, Isa and Ida, to John Matsuda and Marshall M. Ohashi.

Mr. Ohashi is formerly of Los Angeles. He was a student at Brigham Young university and is now employed by the federal broadcast intelligence service in Portland.

Mr. Matsuda is a graduate of the University of Washington.

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