THE JAPANESE-AMERICAN MAGAZINE

NISEI VUE



SPRING, 1948

First Issue

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Thanks to the MARCON LITHOGRAPHING CO., its officers, its artists, its platemakers, and its pressmen, the NISEI VUE has become a reality. We take this opportunity to credit this company of offset printers with a job well done--satisfactory both to our readers and to ourselves.

EDITORS OF THE NISEI VUE

Presenting

NISEI VUE

THE JAPANESE AMERICAN MAGAZINE

HERE IS YOUR FIRST ISSUE OF THE NISEI VUE, the first attempt by the Nisei to publish a pictorial publication devoted primarily for the interest of the Nisei. At this outset, it is difficult to comprehend the extent of success with which this venture can be produced. However, it is the belief of its Editors that in view of (1) the widely-dispersed Nisei population, (2) the historic steps taken by the Nisei today in their participation as American citizens, and (3) the lack of pictures relevant to stories concerning the Nisei, that the need for such a periodical is an actuality. It is their ambitious hope that, perhaps, the NISEI VUE may be the answer to this need.

The Editors realize the limitations under which they commence their pursuit in this endeavor. However, with adequate representation by our agents scattered in many of the prominent points of the States, Canada, Hawaii, and Japan, they feel that in the very near future they will be more suitably equipped to present an improved, enlarged, and intellectually broadening publication. Thus it is, that the NISEI VUE takes its first step, well realizing the cooperation it must request from its readers. If the need for a Nisei pictorial publication is a reality, if the readers can feel that this venture warrants their cooperation then the NISEI VUE makes its debut into the realm of an optimistic future.

NISEI VUE PUBLICATION COMPANY

This Issue's Cover. . . NORI KENMOTSU is NISEI VUE's first Cover Girl. Shivering in the cold winds of Chicago, Nori posed sans warm coat and gloves so that NV staff photographer, Ken Mazawa, could present a shot depicting Spring! The patient, careful Mazawa had her turning blue by the time he calculated the right effect. Posing for a Spring shot in Winter is no cinch -- ask Nori. Extremely photogenic, the 24 year old art student and commercial artist, is a discovery of Art Hayashi, NV's general manager, who seeing her photo in the display window of Chicago's Album Studio immediately contacted its owner Kiyo Okawa. Still unmarried, pretty as a picture, NISEI VUE's first cover girl insists that her career in art still comes first. At that, she is getting places -- employed by a Chicago advertising agency and also getting in some free lance art work of her own.

GET YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW

Attention: Photographers

NISEI VUE requests all photographers to submit any photographs which they believe may be of general interest to the Nisei, and thus, acceptable for use by the Nisei Vue. Fees will be remitted for all photographs used. Depending upon the quality, interest value, and size, these fees will range from $5 00 to $10.00 for each photograph. Please do not forget to enclose with each picture accompanying remarks in detail. Return addresses are important.

CONTRIBUTIONS ACCEPTED

The NISEI VUE welcomes all contributions of articles and photographs of any items of interest to the Nisei. The publishers do not, however, accept any responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts, artworks, or photographs. Please, do not forget to include return address.

SEE YOUR LOCAL AGENT

To expedite matters so that our subscribers may receive the Best of Service, NISEI VUE has appointed agents in principal points of the U.S., Hawaii and Japan to handle your problems first hand. Should you require any such attention, please, feel free to call upon them. They stand ready to serve you.

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NISEI VUE

THE JAPANESE-AMERICAN MAGAZINE

SPRING ISSUE VOL. 1 NO. 1

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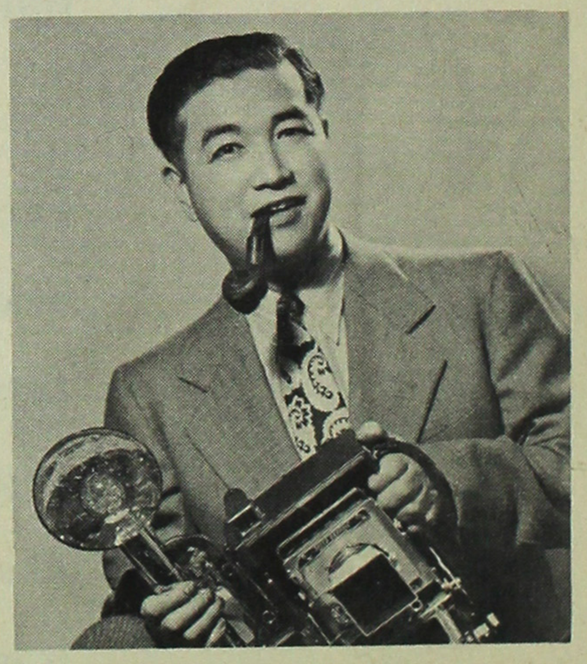
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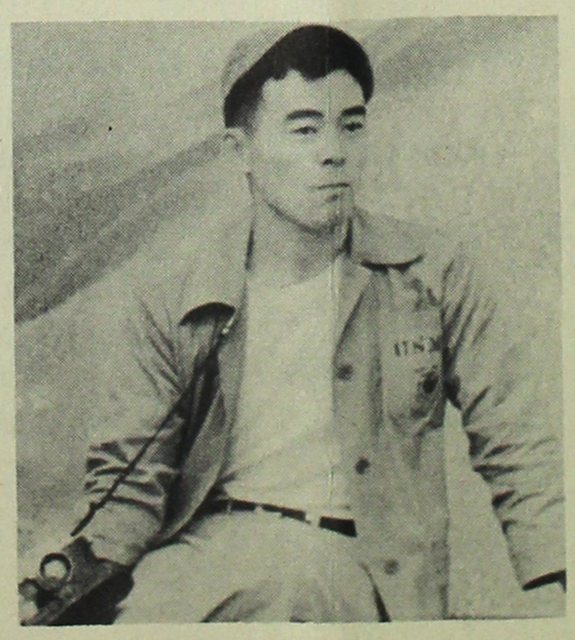
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VUE-GRAPHERS

WILLIAM NAKAHARA



WILLIAM NAKAHARA is credited with the Yonamine and California Bussei Queen Contest pictures (this issue). As NISEI VUE's San Francisco official photographer, Nakahara has been a well known figure among Nisei camera addicts. Covering the '36 Olympic Games at Los Angeles for Domei and a trek to Japan for pics of the golf tournament have been two of his favorite camera assignments. Now he operates from his own studio located at 1731 Laguna Street, San Francisco, California.



KENNETH MAZAWA

KEN MAZAWA, NV Editor's brother, is a CBI veteran and an ex-G.I. with plenty of war-time adventures to his credit Much to his photographic record goes the story that when parachuting for an OSS assignment behind enemy lines in China, he still had his camera strapped to him. Concentrating quite vigorously upon the "artistic approach to photography," Mazawa has been awarded such prizes as First Prize for the Pic mag photo contest. His photos often appear on the Chicago Tribune, while Popular Photography has announced that his pics will be printed in their June Issue.



ALTHOUGH APPEALS FOR NISEI HOMES HAVE BEEN FREQUENT, SUCH SANSEI TOTS AS PICTURED ABOVE ARE STILL WITH THE ILLINOIS CHILDREN'S HOME AND AID SOCIETY.

HOMELESS SANSEI TOTS

Their plaintive plea for Nisei homes go unheeded

ED. NOTE: Nisei Vue acknowledges the Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society for this article.

Little known casualties caught in the backwash of the turbulent war years and mass relocation are the tiny tots such as those shown above, who have been surrendered to the welfare agencies by young unwed, divorced or destitute Nisei mothers. None of them are older than the war and invariably are the children of young girls who had relocated to strange new cities. Most Japanese Americans were aware of the existence of such unfortunate cases, but did little to aid the victims. So indifferent were they that while dependent children of other racial background were being adopted regularly, those of Japanese ancestry were without takers.

Then last August the Denver Post carried a story about seven Japanese American babies being cared for by the state home for dependent children. About the same time, it was reported that an aid society in Chicago was caring for ten homeless Sansei. The oldest of the ten was a four-year-old and the youngest a mere babe in arms. Many were born of adolescent girls. In both cases appeal was made for adoption of the children by Japanese couples or families who would have the same racial and cultural background. The reports also were carried in various Japanese vernaculars.

The Denver appeal struck home, and by Christmas all but two under state care were promised homes. In Chicago the plea went unheeded, however, and the outlook for the dependents looked just as bleak as the day their mothers gave them up.

Chicago being the city it is and having the largest concentration of Japanese Americans who relocated east of the evacuation line, more cases of homeless children are being reported there. In addition, it is estimated at least fifty cases of abortion have been performed in the city. However in many of the child birth and abortion cases the girls came to Chicago from other smaller cities after their condition became known.

Corky T. Kawasaki, Executive Director of the Chicago

(Continued Next Page)



SANSEI GIRL, like the boy, has been placed with a Caucasian family. Their home is only temporary and the cost for board is paid by the aid society.



THREE YEAR OLD NANCY hugs Christmas doll given her by her foster parents. Stranded by her real parents right after birth, this is her fourth home.

HOMELESS SANSEI TOTS

Resettler Committee, and few other Japanese welfare leaders have sought to find adoption homes for the homeless in the city but have had little success. Meanwhile the ten children reported remain under the care of the Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society, a semi-public agency supported by private and state contributions. It does not run an institutional home; instead it makes placements. The Sansei children are being cared for in temporary homes, all Caucasian, which receive monthly fees for their room and board from the agency. None have been adopted. The agency regards it as not being the wisest thing for the children that they are being cared by non-Japanese families. Hence they are anxious to find families having common racial and cultural background which would be willing to adopt the children or serve as temporary boarding homes.

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War has broken up the pre-war Lil' Tokyos, and the Nisei now are setting themselves up in new homes, new jobs...even to a new outlook on life.

ED NOTE: Facts and figures in the following article are based on the booklet, "People in Motion," published by the U. S. Dept. of Interior.



NEW YORK CITY, the eastern frontier of the Nisei. Opportunities heretofore unknown to the Nisei have been opened by their dispersement to the East. Many have found success in New York in such cultural and commercial pursuits as in the entertainment field, dress designing, commercial art, and interior decorating.

A REPORT ON RESETTLEMENT

No single large-size group in this country has been affected as much by World War II probably as have the people of Japanese ancestry, citizens and aliens alike. Their whole pre-war economic and social structure have been destroyed. Homes have been lost, businesses shattered and families split. Since Pearl Harbor, their life has been one of constant motion and instability But gradually the near-chaotic situation which prevailed immediately following the wholesale evacuation gave way to a period of rehabilitation and resettlement. Today a recognizable picture has begun to take shape. Three major results stand out:

1. The Japanese American population has been dispersed more widely than it ever has been in this country.

2. Increased acceptance of Japanese Americans as American equals is strong and in the ascendancy.

3. General dependence by the Japanese American people everywhere is upon employment found in the general community; not within the control of the Japanese Community as before.

In the processes of relocation and resettlement, four out of ten persons who had lived in California, Washington and Oregon have sought and found new homes east of th e evacuation boundary, a large number in areas where very few Japanese had lived before. Sixty per cent of the 106,925 evacuees have gone back to their former homes. In 1940, roughly nine out of ten persons of Japanese descent in this country were concentrated on the West Coast; today a little less than half live outside of these states. Present estimates place between 28,000 and 30,000 east of the Missouri River, from 19,000 to 12,000 in the Great Plains and Intermountain States, and

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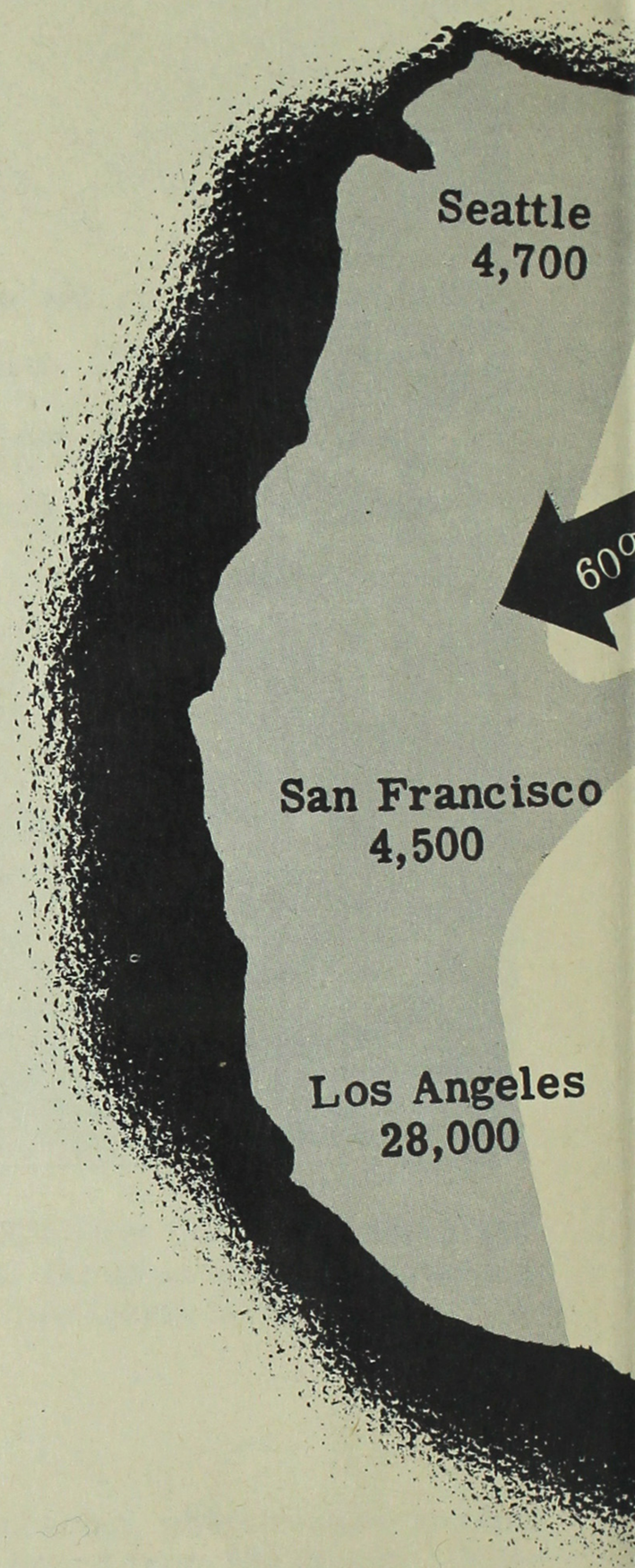
Drab Exsistence Led By Evacuees



RELOCATION CENTERS (such as the Granada, Colorado center - above) were the war-time habitats for 106,935 West Coast Japanese. Stranded usually miles from any town or city, in barren wastelands, the relocatees' contact with the "outside world" was practically nil. These centers offered little individual privacy and much congestion to home life.

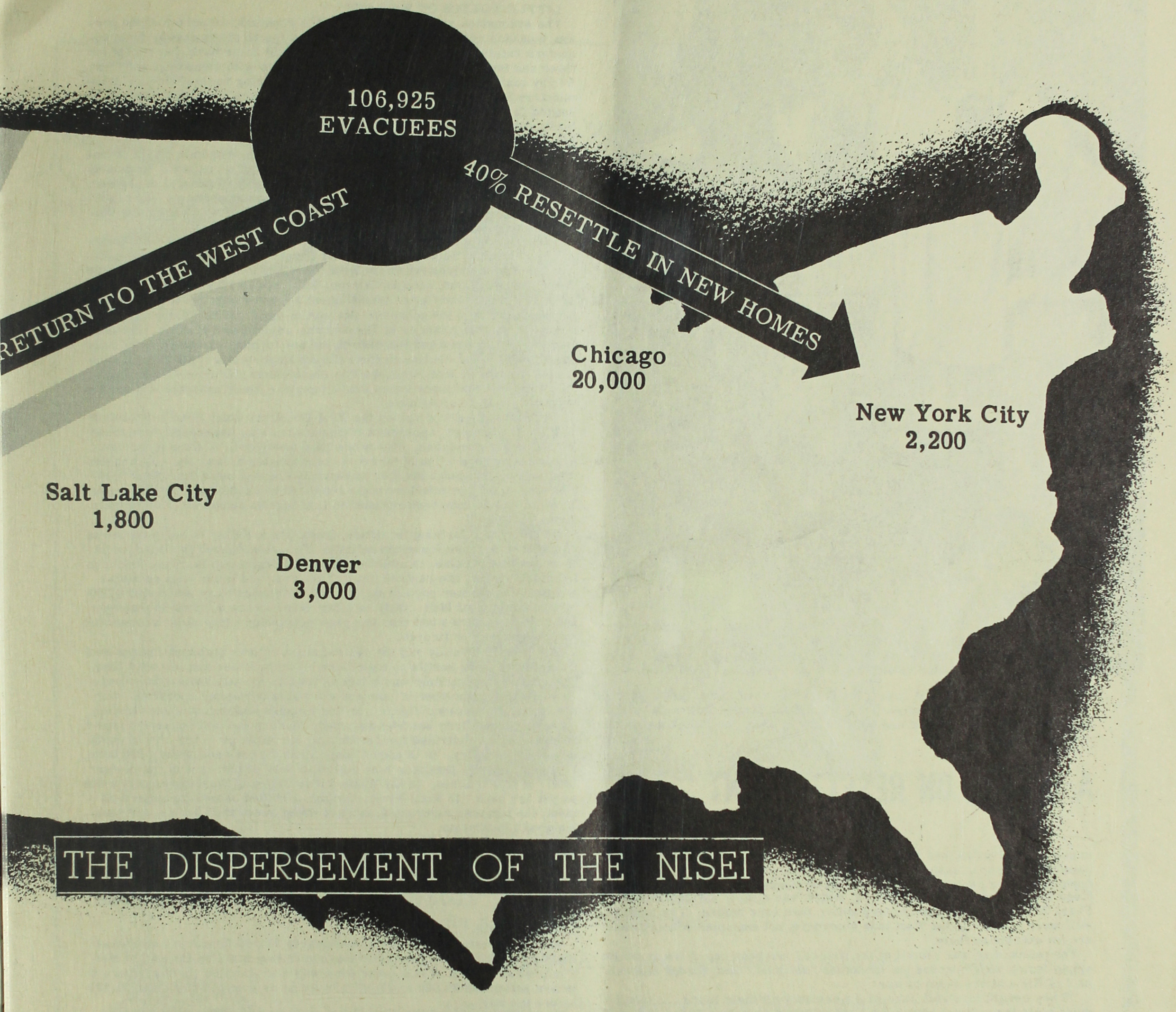


RELOCATION HOMES were oftentime crowded and unorganized affairs. Usually with housekeeping set up on temporary basis with family belongings crowded into an area of a room twenty by twenty five feet, it was not unusual to find five to seven people attempting to make home of this congested situation.



	1940	1947
Los Angeles	37,000	28,000
San Francisco	5,280	5,000
Seattle	7,000	4,700
Denver	323	3,000
Salt Lake City	540	1,800
Chicago	390	20,000
New York City	2,087	2,500

*After accounting for births and deaths since 1940, and after deducting the number of those who have gone to Japan, a rough estimate of the total U.S. population of persons of Japanese descent come to approximately 130,000. Of these, not more than one-third are foreign-born. The median age of Nisei, however, remains low--half are below 22 years of age, and in terms of working population, Issei and Nisei are about equal in number.



A REPORT ON RESETTLEMENT

the remainder on the West Coast.

EVACUEES TORN BETWEEN TWO CHOICES

Ever since the West Coast was reopened for Japanese, evacuees have been torn between two choices--to return to their former homes or to remain in the east. During the entire period of the relocation movement, 54,254 relocated to states other than the three West Coast states. Of this figure, approximately 5,500 returned to the evacuated area on government travel grant before March 30, 1946. How many have since returned at their own expense is not known, but it may be assumed from the evident expansion of the West Coast Japanese American population, and general indication of movement, that at least an equal number has been involved.

Those who at first relocated to the East then returned to their original homes had a variety of reasons for doing so. Some had property to which they returned; others felt economic opportunities to be better there. Likewise, some Nisei and Issei, who have become unemployed, have left for the West in the hopes of finding work among old associates. The effect of sentimental attachment to places where homes had been made for 30 to 40 years cannot be minimized. Many of the Nisei returned unwillingly because of family obligations.

Present indications are, however, that the Japanese American population in the East and Midwest has become relatively stable. In Cleveland and Detroit, for example, where the group is small enough to permit general knowledge of its composition, it is believed that the number leaving is about balanced by those who have retraced their steps from the West Coast. Japanese American residents of Chicago believe the same to be substantially true of that city.

Nevertheless, the possibility of return to the West Coast continues to be a general topic of discussion among those now located elsewhere. Without question, old surroundings continue to exert a strong pull. However, where family or property ties to the West Coast do not exist, economic considerations have tended to keep them where they are.

PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE ON UPGRADE

Success of the resettlement of tens of thousands of Japanese Americans,

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



THE OPEN FIELD OF JOBS open to the Nisei dispersed to the East is proven by the case of Margaret Hagiya, formerly of Santa Maria, California, who is saleslady for an exclusive and popular dress shop, the Pollyanna, in the Chicago loop.

A REPORT ON RESETTLEMENT

in new and old areas, has been due largely to (1) a much more widespread person to person acquaintance with other Americans following dispersal from relocation centers and (2) to the exceptional Nisei war record. The trend toward increased acceptance, which was almost extinguished by Pearl Harbor, has become more positive than ever before. The issue is still much sharper in the West than elsewhere, but examples of acceptance are not uncommon there.

The outstanding war record of the Nisei GI has been one of the greatest single factor which served for smoother relations. Gen. Joseph Stillwell said of Nisei at the close of war:

"They bought an awful hunk of American with their blood.....you're damn right those Nisei boys have a place in the American heart, now and forever. . . . . ."

President Truman, on the rain-drenched White House grounds on July 15, 1946 addressed the men of the 442nd Combat Team:

"..You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice--and you have won..."

Statements such as these received wide press coverage and went far to establish a set of criteria for judging the loyalty and contribution of the Nisei. Equally important in day to day activities has been the fact of strong support by individual Caucasian veterans. Nisei veterans themselves refused to remain passive in the face of discrimination such as in the case of a wounded Nisei GI of Colorado, who with his crutches stormed into a restaurant and demanded and got the manager to take down the sign saying "No Japs Allowed."

The trend toward increased acceptance of Japanese Americans as an American equal is strong and in the ascendancy. However, this trend is not unchecked. Apart from legal discrimination based on the fact that persons born in Japan are ineligible to citizenship, definite evidence of discrimination was found in varying degree in every locality studied. Most of the incidents resulted from individual rather than organized prejudice, and in most communities the number of cases was small. It should be noted, however, that nowhere did prejudice or discrimination bear as heavily upon Japanese Americans as upon other racially disadvantaged groups, and everywhere strong counter measures were being taken by community leadership to secure unprejudiced treatment of Japanese Americans.

ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT

LITTLE TOKYOS ON WAY OUT

The evacuation virtually destroyed the economic structure of the prewar Japanese communities on the coast. A fourth of the prewar farm operators retained property to which they could come back, but except for these and few who left business establishments with competent and trustworthy managers, most of the evacuees returning to their former communities found it necessary to start from scratch, much like those who settled in the Midwest and East. The complex and far reaching structure built around the growing, processing and marketing of farm crops has not been revived.

Five years after evacuation, the most obvious economic effect of that order is a change from dependence for livelihood on an economy fundamentally within the control of the Japanese community to general dependency by the Japanese American people everywhere upon employment found in the general community. The "Little Tokyos" in the sense of before the war are on their way out.

With few exceptions, the able bodied have secured well-paying employment, both in the East and on the West Coast. There has been some postwar business development on the West Coast and in new centers of Japanese American population, such as Chicago, Salt Lake City and Denver, business activity began shortly after resettlement got underway, but the new enterprises do not have the economic strength of those existing before the war.

Among notable changes in the postwar adjustment, mention should be made of the very marked increase in the employment of women, both Issei and Nisei: of the decline in the relative importance of first generation men as compared with Nisei, both in employment, farming, and business; and of the fact that many times mor e Japanese Americans are now receiving public welfare assistance.

Agricultural enterprises on the West Coast, on which nearly two-thirds of the total prewar Japanese working forces was dependent, have made only a small comeback. Not more than one-fourth of former farmers have resumed operation of farms in the evacuated areas; the Los Angeles wholesale market which had done an annual business of more than $26,000,000 now employ 160 Japanese Americans compared to 2,000 before the war; only 30 retail outlets have been resumed in Los Angeles compared to the prewar figure of 1,000.

Of all former farming localities, Santa Clara Valley is today the scene of greatest Japanese American activity. This area offered the least resistance and into it came, in addition to the old residents, families from the Imperial Valley, the central coastal valleys, and other less receptive places. The former population of 3,773 increased to an estimated 6,250 by midsummer of 1946. Only in a few other areas such as Sacramento and Fresno counties had the Japanese population come close to reaching its pre-evacuation figures.

The Imperial Valley and the central coast valleys including Salinas and Santa Maria were hostile to the return of the Japanese and few went back. Anti-Japanese sentiment was bitter in the San Joaquin Valley, but a comparatively large number of farmers were able to resume operation. Population is about prewar figure. In Los Angeles and surrounding counties, little farming activity has been resumed. Much of the land formerly farmed is now either subdivided for residential purposes or is the site of newly developed industry. In Orange County about 70 per cent of the 1,800 have returned, but the Japanese now cultivate only 10 per cent of the prewar total of 12,000 acres. In the White River Valley of Washington only a few as yet are back. In Hood River, Oregon, a hotbed of anti-Japanese sentiment, the Japanese Americans, most of whom owned their farms, are making good adjustments.

The sucess of the first year of farm operations has been varied and not a few formerly independent farm families are working together as laborers, pooling their income for a time when farms can be purchased at lower prices. A few instances of high return as well as of loss have come to light. General indications are that most farmers are about breaking even.

LOS ANGELES

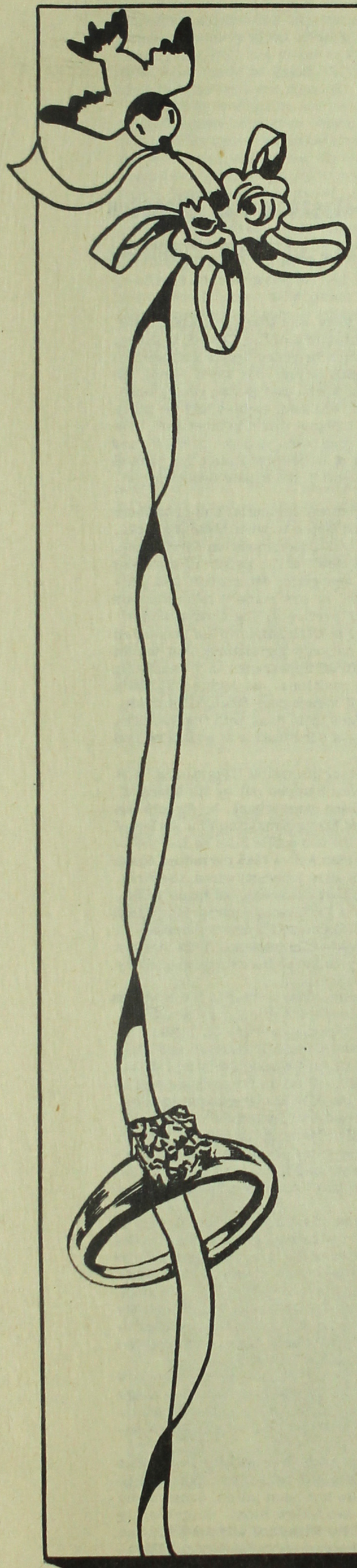
Approximately 60 per cent of the nearly 94,000 Japanese Americans evacuated from California had returned to that state by the end of 1946. The prewar center of this population was Los Angeles County, where it is now estimated 25,000 to 28,000 are living as compared to about 37,000 before the war.

Since the opening of the West Coast on January 1, 1945, about 500 business and professional men have become established in Los Angeles. Most of these are located in Little Tokyo with a few in other areas of Japanese concentration, including Boyle Heights, West Jefferson, and in the "skid row" section only a few blocks away from Little Tokyo. When compared to the numbers listed in the Rafu Shimpo in 1940, the present business and professional activity represents a little less than a 25 per cent comeback.

Similarly, the extent of financial recovery is minute compared to the millions of dollars worth of business lost in the evacuation. The $26,000 000 a year wholesale produce business is practically untouched; the retail fruit markets which did $25,000,000 worth of business annually, and the several million dollar fishing industry are practically extinct. Returned evacuees must now depend primarily on sources of livelihood outside the control of the Japanese community. The Little Tokyo business comeback has been remarkable, but the trend now is toward opening stores in the larger community.

Noteworthy in Los Angeles has been the great number of Japanese engaged in gardening and likewise the high income derived from this source of employment. Before the war, approximately, 2,000 gardeners were averaging $125 a month. In 1946, there were 3,000 or more and earnings of $400 to $600 were not unusual. But to many, gardening is a temporary expedient by which to build capital against the time they can invest in a small business.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27



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THE NISEI'S VOICE IN WASHINGTON

Although with Little Help From The Nisei, Masaoka Has Elocuted Washington Into Consciousness of Nisei Problems.



Eloquent, determined, persistent, Mike Masaoka, the Nisei's Voice in Washington, has proven by his 1947 record that the recently created Anti-Discrimination Committee can be of vital advantage to the Nisei

A novel sight in Washington D.C., last year was that of youthful Mike Masaoka hustling about the somber chambers of the Capitol building, buttonholing Congressmen in the corridors and addressing Senate committeemen. This nation's lawmakers and Washington hanger-ons were seeing for the first time a Japanese American lobbyist at work--and getting things done. Within a year almost single-handedly he has reasoned, cajoled and virtually hammered out achievements that a veteran lobbyist would be proud of. His record; enactment by Congress of four bills (two public and two private), and passage of three major bills by the House of Representatives, all passed unanimously. The last three measures are now in the Senate awaiting consideration.

Regarded as a novelty at first, more and more influential and prominent ears in the nation's capitol now perk up and listen to what Mike Masaoka, legislative director of the newly organized Anti-Discrimination Committee, has to say. To them he has become the "Voice" of the people of Japanese ancestry living in this country. Eloquent, energetic, determined and persistent, Mike has made his presence known; he has made Washingtonians aware of the Japanese Americans and their particular legislative wants.

So effectively has the former University of Utah salutatorian presented the case of the Japanese Americans in the nation's legislature, that within less than a year since he made his first official appearance in Washington, he has been offered several high-paying positions--as high as $1,000 a month--by other lobbying groups. Though it meant near financial suicide, compared to what he is getting now, Mike turned them down with thanks, preferring rather to stick with his present task--a combination of watchdog and crusader of Nisei rights.

As legislative director of the Anti-Discrimination Committee, it is Mike's duty to see that the policies and plan mapped out by its board of directors are executed. Like the signal-calling quarterback, he directs his team's attack on the field. Last year, he led his organization to a string of important accomplishments. Significant are the two public bills he has pushed through. An amendment to the Soldier Brides Act of 1945 permitted Nisei servicemen to bring back to the United States alien Japanese wives, the first time since the Oriental Exclusian Act (1924) that Congress had made an exception to immigration from Japan. The First Deficiency Appropriation Bill contained a section which awarded some $30,000 to former relocatees of Poston and Manzanar for fire damages incurred while in camp. This marked the first time that the Japanese in his country had ever been compensated by the national legislature for any kind of damage.

Though still short of being a law, a triumph nevertheless for Masaoka has been the unanimous approval by the House of the evacuation claims measure, designed to indemnify persons of Japanese ancestry for losses inflicted them during the 1942 mass West Coast removal. Losses are estimated to exceed $200,000,000. In the fight to push through this legislation Masaoka's brilliance probably shone greatest. Vital as its passage was to the tens of thousands of Japanese relocatees, the ADC leader campaigned relentlessly for over a year as the measure seesawed between the two houses. In the 79th Congress, the Senate unanimously voted for the bill; However, the House fumbled the measure. Ironically the same House passed it unanimously a year later during the 80th Congress and the bill was sent to the Senate where it was buried under an avalanche of other important national measures.

Another major victory for Mike was the passage by the House in July of the limited naturalization measure. It also reflected a great tribute to the Nisei servicemen who served on the battlefields of the last war. The bill extends the privilege of naturalization to all alien parents whose children were killed or wounded while serving in the armed forces during World War II. Not only will some 20,000 Issei benefit, but for the first time in U.S. history the right of alien Japanese to become an American citizen had been recognized by a branch of Congress. There is also the House-approved measure which helped to stay the deportation of some 2,000 Issei.

Never before in U.S. history has the rights and privileges of persons of Japanese ancestry in this country won such favorable consideration of the Congress within such a short period of time--a fact which in itself constitutes a great tribute and effective testimony of Masaoka's work in Washington.

The year 1947 was one of triumph for the ADC. For Mike it meant that at last his long years of sustained effort has begun to bear fruit. The road to Washington was not an easy one for him. He has been jailed, damned and censured. He has been ostracized by his own fellow Nisei. Immediately following the war, Mike pleaded the cause of the Nisei and was arrested and detained nine times for his troubles (though he was never convicted). Paradoxically, at about the same time he incurred the wrath of a large group of fellow Nisei he had sought to defend when the JACL (Japanese American

Citizens League--the only national organization representing persons of Japanese ancestry in his country), of which he was a leader, went on record as cooperating with the order to evacuate all Japanese, both Nisei and Issei alike, from the West Coast. To this day, some Nisei still have not forgiven Mike and the JACL for this act.

But Mike's singular desire to see that justice and fair play are carried out had become almost an obsession. After his discharge from the army, he resumed his fight. His efforts began to bear fruit as support grew. By 1946, the move was strong for the creation of a body with direct approach to Congress. In March, a registered lobbying group called the Anti-Discrimination Committee was formed. Its charter was the crystallization of Mike's ideals. It aims at (1) enactment of legislation favorable to Americans in general and persons of Japanese ancestry in particular, (2) repeal of discriminatory legislation especially to persons of Japanese ancestry, (3) educating and informing the public at large or discriminatory policies and practices and the problems and aspirations of persons of Japanese ancestry, and (4) participation in litigation involving the rights, privileges and immunities of persons of Japanese ancestry.

The ADC consists of a five-member Board of Directors stationed at its headquarters in Salt Lake City and a five-man team in Washington. It operates on a shoestring budget receiving financial support only through contributions from private individuals which until recently came in trickling sums. The living-room of the four-room brick flat of the Masaokas serves as headquarters in Washington.

In regard to experience and legislative know-how, this tiny group is probably one of the greenest to ever invade Washington lobbys. But with a few desks, typewriters, a file cabinet and little cash, the Washington team was in business. With a briefcase hooked underneath his arm, Mike dared to run the gamut of veteran Congressmen and their aides.

Though short on experience, the staff was long on hard work. During one year of operation, they turned out 150 news releases in English and 125 in Japanese and personally contacted approximately 60 Congressmen, 20 Senators and 50 secretaries or representatives of Congressmen. In addition to legislative work, the ADC has had to tackle hundreds of problems which are dumped into its lap every month. They range from locating capable Nisei for work in Japan to that of going to bat for individual grievances. Notable in the latter category is the famous Oyama alien land law case which was brought before the highest court of the land before a favorable decision was handed down.

The battle waged by the ADC has been uphill all the way. It must be recalled that the war with Japan is still fresh in the minds of many Congressmen. Also, the ADC has had to buck up against powerful lobbyists of organizations which have constantly opposed pro-Nisei legislation. These obstacles are in addition to the tremendous difficulties normally involved merely in getting a bill out of the committee room onto the floor for a vote.

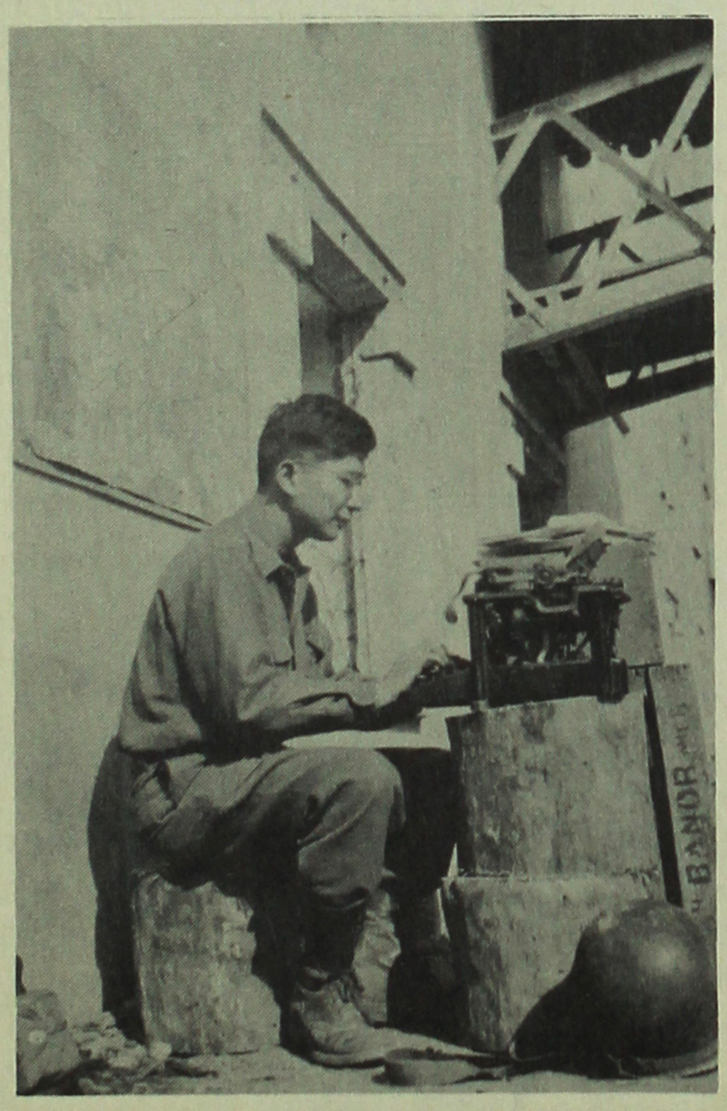
Mike puts in an average of 14 hours of work every day working well into the night--even during weekends. At his side his little-publicized wife, Etsu. In addition to keeping house, Mrs. Masaoka, formerly of San Jose, acts as her husband's secretary handling correspondence, mailing and multitude of other miscellaneous office work. When Mike is out of town or swamped with too much work, Etsu even pinch hits for him on the lobbying front. Pretty "Mrs. Mike," who has been noted to resemble Myrna Loy, also is credited as being a charming hostess when she and her husband entertain Congressmen at their home with a suki-yaki dinner. Others on the Washington staff include Thomas Takeshita who handles news releases in Japanese, Toske Yamazaki in charge of public relations, English news releases and research, and Mrs. Yamazaki who handles office work.

Mike is a veteran of World War II. The first volunteer for the famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team, he has won such awards as the Legion of Merit, the Italian Military Cross for Valor, the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation, the Meritorious Service Unit Wreath, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the European Theatre ribbon with four bronze stars and various other ribbons. He served as Public Relations Officer for his unit.

Mike is no overnight sensation. Already during his college days his eloquence, which was to resound with most effective results in the halls of the Congress building, stood out. An outstanding public-speaker and a member of the debate team, he was salutatorian of his graduating class at the University of Utah. In 1940, he was named "Citizen of the Community" by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Salt Lake City and also in the same year he was selected as the outstanding Japanese American in the United States winning the Yamagata award. The following year he was appointed national secretary and field executive of the JACL. It was at this time that Mike experienced the darkest moments of his career. During the turbulent months after Pearl Harbor certain quarters of the Nisei community rose up against the JACL, indicting its leaders and policies.

Being a brain-child of the JACL, the ADC inherited part of the same sort of resentment directed against its conceiver. But the ADC persisted; and with each report of its success, support grew. The young organization's work and accomplishments and the extensive benefits derived from them could not be denied. Prominent of late is the growing support not only from Caucasian organizations active in Washington. In connection with the ADC's important naturalization program, support of the public-at-large is being marshalled through the recently organized Committee for Equality in Naturalization. This group includes prominent Americans such as Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Roger BAldwin, Pearl Buck and Mrs. Joseph Stillwell.

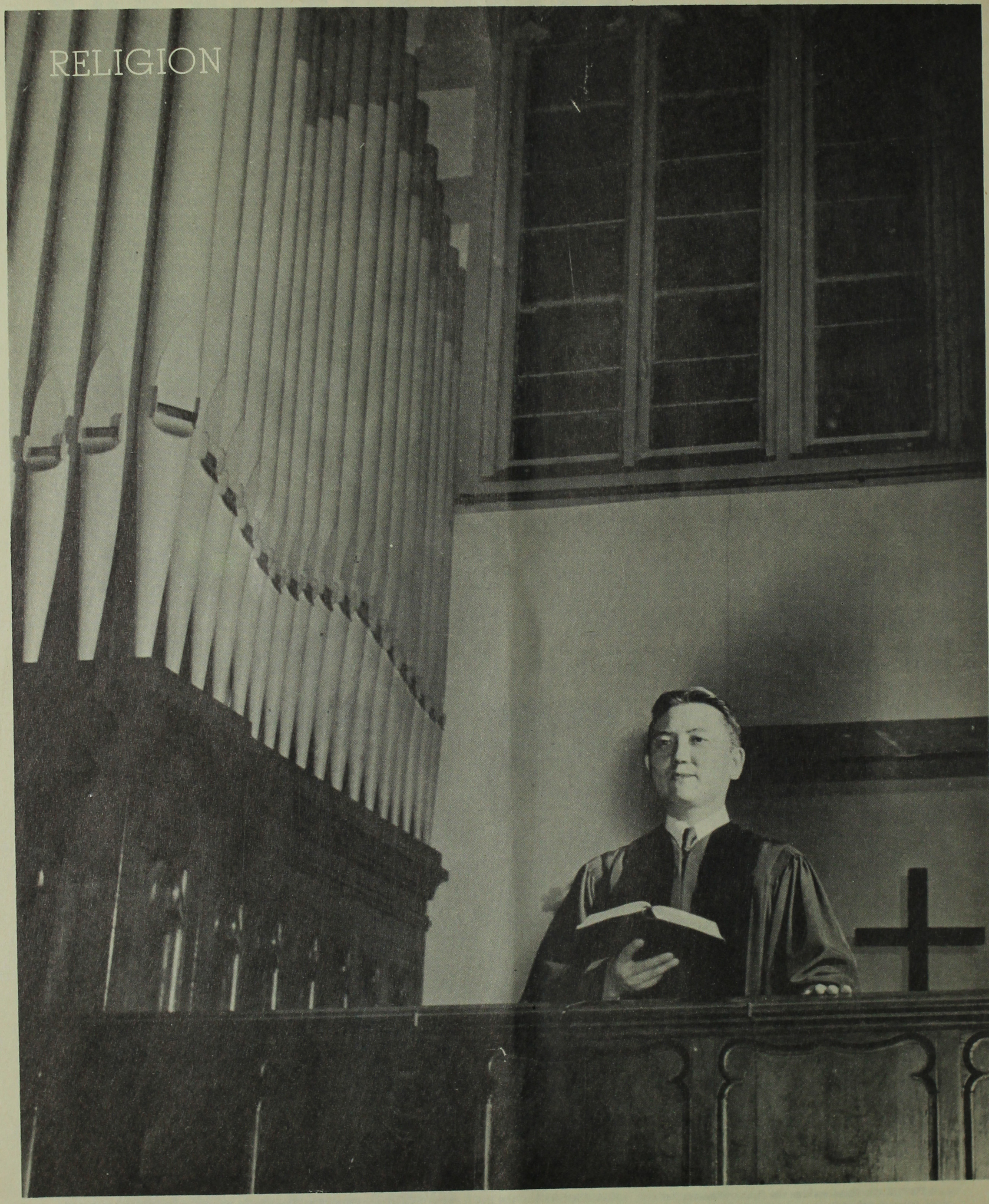
The outlook for the ADC is the brightest it has ever been; and from present indications, 1948 should be a banner year. But probably one of the last to concede this is Mike Masaoka. Though he now leads a more seasoned, legislative-wise group in Washington, he is inclined to view the future with less optimism than his past record would indicate. Realistic as he is, he undoubtedly realizes that the work he has accomplished during the past year has put him in a rather delicate and precarious position; the lion's share of the legislative future of all the Nisei in America has been dumped onto his laps. Eyes will be focussed on the Nisei lobbyist this year to watch how he meets this challenge.



A VETERAN, Masaoka was the first volunteer for the famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He served as a public relations officer for this unit.



KEY FIGURES of the JACL organization are Masaoka, Hito Okada and Saburo Kido (as pictured above). Masaoka is presently on leave of absence from JACL duty to head Washington activities for the recently created Anti-Discrimination Committee.



REV. JITSUO MORIKAWA SERMONS AT 114 YEAR OLD FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE HE IS PASTOR.

CHICAGO'S NISEI PASTOR

In the impressive, ivy-covered stone Gothic structure of Chicago's 114 year old First Baptist Church located in the Windy City's fashionable southside Hyde Park district, a young (35) pastor of Japanese ancestry today leads a congregation composed mainly of Caucasians. He is Canada-born, the Reverend Jitsuo Morikawa, the first and only Nisei thus far to head a predominantly white congregation in this country. Four-fifth of the church's members are Caucasians, while the other fifth is of Japanese origin.

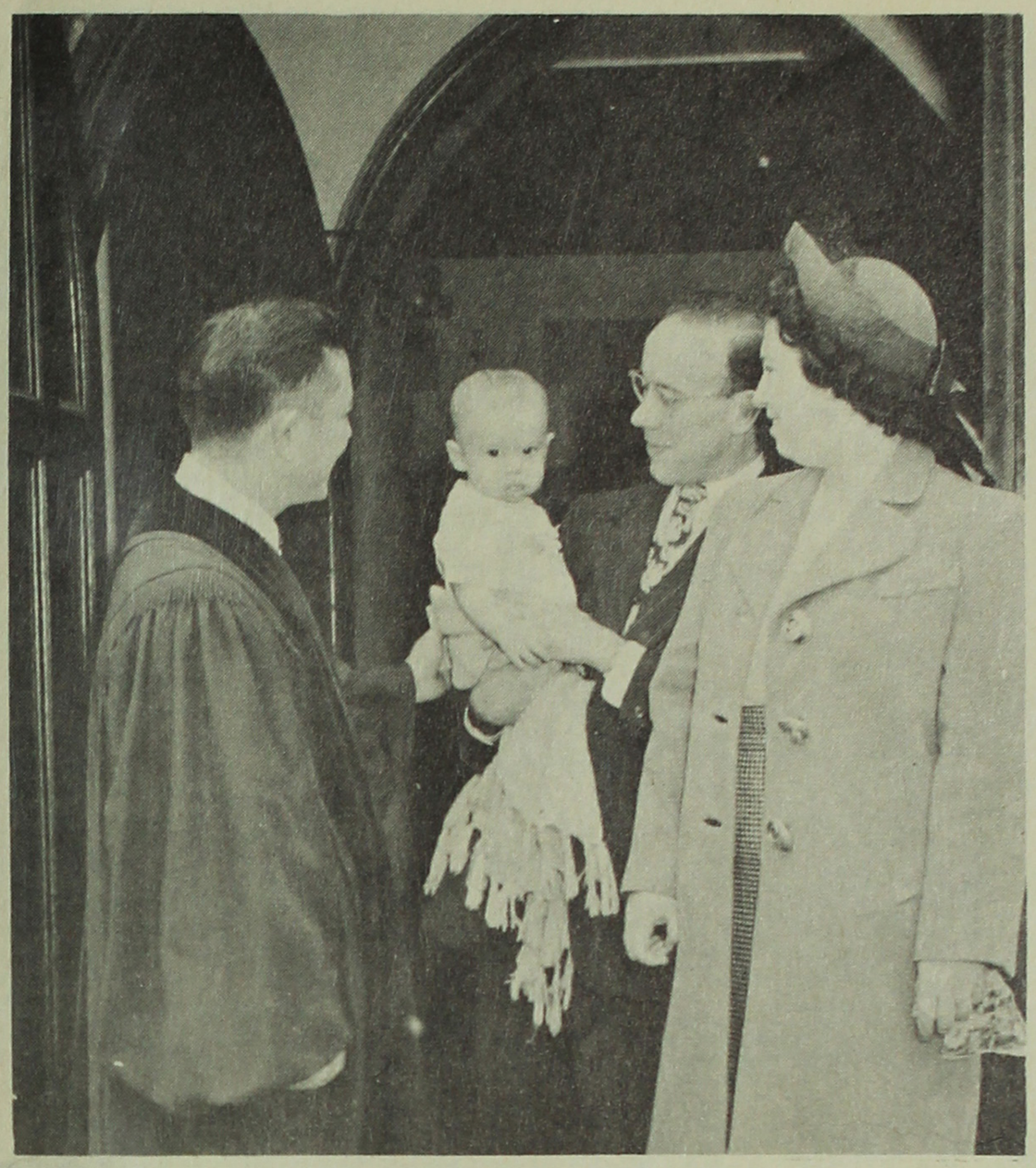
The Rev. Morikawa, a son of a farmer, earned the rare distinction last October by a unanimous vote of the members of the church. He won the acclaim of the whole community a month later when he was honored by the Council of Hyde Park and Kenwood Churches and Synagogues of the Southside to be preacher of their big annual community Thanksgiving services at the Rockefeller Chapel of the University of Chicago.

The wide publicity and splurge of newspaper headlines which overnight followed the unprecedented appointment of the young Nisei took the congregation by little surprise. To them, it was simply the case of a capable clergyman, who had well proven his qualifications being recognized by the church which he had served conscientiously for over three years. When the church's pastor, the Rev. Robert Steiger, was called to another church, the congregation turned to their associate pastor, Rev. Morikawa.

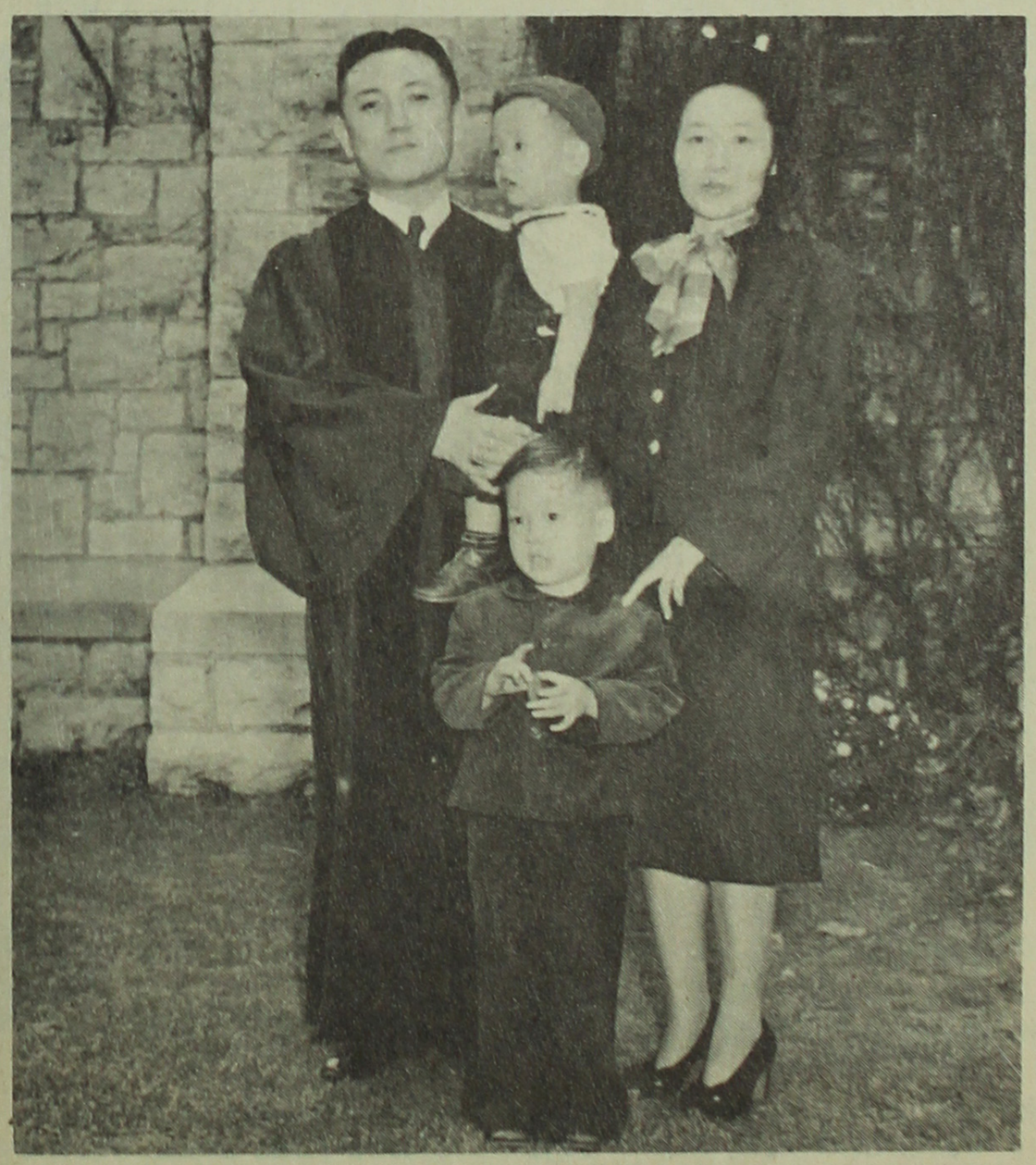
The Nisei pastor attaches greater significance to the step taken by his church in 1943 when the Reverend was called to serve as associate pastor after his release from the Poston Relocation Center, Arizona, where he was detained for a year and a half. It took place in the midst of war, and his call by unanimous congregational vote came on the Sunday after the news of the Bataan atrocities were released to an angered America. But, the Reverend recollects, the congregation took it in their stride and greeted him warmly.

Nevertheless, the story of the Nisei pastor is one of accomplishment which smacks of the Algeresque qualities. A farm boy, he aspired to become a minister at the age of seventeen. Leaving his home near Vancouver, B.C., Canada in 1931, young Jitsuo came to the United States--where he has stayed ever since--to prepare for his calling. He was graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1937. In 1940, he received his Master of Theology degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky. When the war broke, he was serving as Nisei minister to three Japanese Baptist churches in Los Angeles, Gardena, and Terminal Island. Two years later, he was appointed associate pastor in Chicago.

Since then, the eloquence and the penetrating mind which distinguished him on the campuses have won him friends and fame wherever he has gone. He has preached in nearly every state in the union. Though he has come a long way since he left the farm for the pulpit 17 years ago, the Rev. Morikawa still retains the clear diction of Canada and the warm, homey philosophy of the soil which assume their greatest heights at the lectern.



THE DEDICATION of eight month old Kenneth over, the Reverend congratulates the beaming parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emile Bonvallet. Mr. Bonvallet is one of the members of the church's board.



MARRIED to the former Hazel Takii of Alameda, Calif., the young pastor is father to Andrew (4) and Dennis (2), who were both born in Chicago. The Reverend's parents are now living in Toronto, Canada.



AN EXHIBIT by the Gaka Art Guild, their first, was spread out in the Southside Community Art Center last August. The Gaka has since sponsored two other exhibits, and is planning another showing in May.



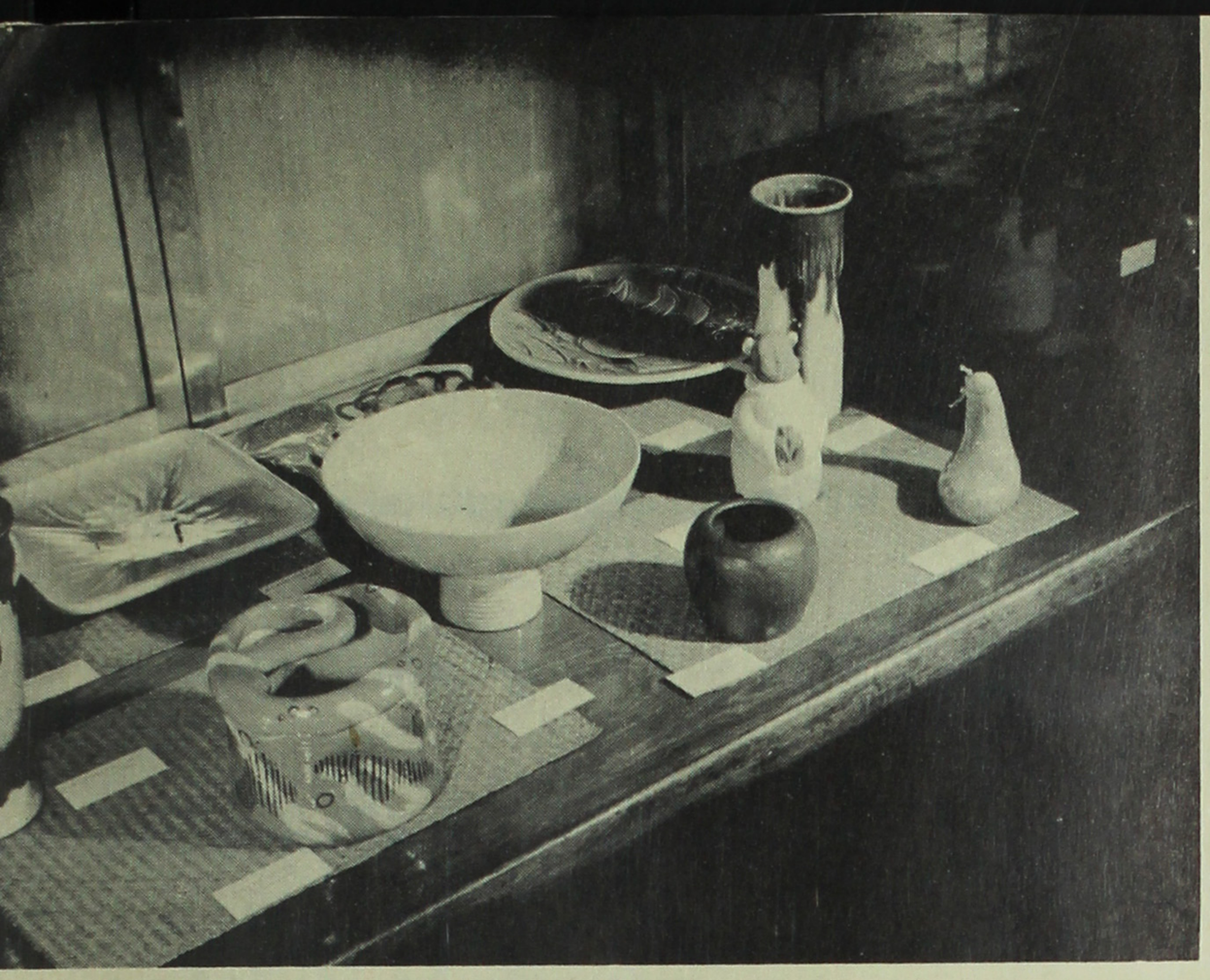
GAKA PRESIDENT, George Tajiri, hammers in the finishing touches to his "Father and Son" creation. Tajiri, formerly of San Diego, has worked with Isamu Noguchi, well known New York Japanese sculptor in abstracts.



"FATHER AND SON" Tajiri's yellow lime stone work was chiseled out when he wanted to solve his "own problem" of how to present work of two figures. He will sail in September for Paris to further his studies under the famous French sculptor, Ossip Zadkine.



MEETINGS are usually in members' homes. (Here in George Tajiri's basement studio.) Informal with hero-worship for the work of the immortals as the main theme, the meetings are so well attended S.R.O. (standing room only) is common.



CERAMIC DISPLAYS attracted a lot of attention at the exhibit. Especially the "Praying Monk," the comic figure by Robert Kinoshita, who is usually known by his derivated name "Rokin."

NISEI ART ENTHUSIASTS BLEND

THE GAKA ART GUILD

A group of young Nisei and Caucasian art enthusiasts in Chicago today are familiarizing the city's Nisei with an exotic, harsh-sounding double-syllable word. It all began last April when they organized a club--or guild as its members fondly refer to it--called simply "Gaka," which is a direct adaptation of the short Japanese word meaning "artists." The name attracted wide Nisei attention two months later when the guild held its first exhibit. On these pages are shown pictures of that showing. Two more exhibits have been held since then.

The organization is now composed of 25 members, although many non-members also attend its monthly meetings. In the group are painters, sculptors, industrial and commercial designers and also a specialist in ceramics. Not all earn their living from art, but without exception it is their first love--they pursue it for self-expression and self-satisfaction. They are serious-minded disciples of art who at their meetings discuss the finer points of such subjects as contributions of Van Gogh, Picasso and Henry Moore with as much facility and enthusiasm as rabid Brooklyn fans about the Dodgers. Most of the members have attended the famous Chicago Art Institute. The majority are from the West Coast coming to Chicago via the evacuation-relocation route. Their strangeness to the city and their desire to discuss their pet subject with persons equally interested was one of the primary reasons which prompted the organization of the club.

President of the guild is George Tajiri, younger brother of Pacific Citizen editor, Larry Tajiri, who is a sculptor student at the Chicago Art Institute. He plans to go to Paris this summer to further his studies. The first club president was Mas Nakagawa an industrial designer. Both presidents are from San Diego, California.



CREATOR of the owl-eyed wooded figure entitled "Mother and Child" is Byron Goto, talented former student of the Chicago Art Institute who on a scholarship from the school studied in France, Belgium and Switzerland. He has just finished a mural painting for a Chicago studio and is now working as designer of window displays.



Does he notice a pretty neckline?
...Definitely!

No neckline is more becoming than a scooped-out neckline on a flare-skirted dress for an after-dark date to enhance the atmosphere of a pleasant evening.
Miss Katie Kagawa (above) of Hawaii has attended the Parson School for Designing and is now an assistant designer at an exclusive Fifth Avenue Shop in New York City.

Does he notice her taste?
...Definitely!

Because it's the sort of suit one can wear during business hours and can also be dressed-up with feminine accessories to wear for an early dinner date and the movies...
Miss Sue Masuda (right) picks her clothes to fit her position as a secretary in one of Chicago's business office.

As much as men make

they still admire

A woman well dressed

confident



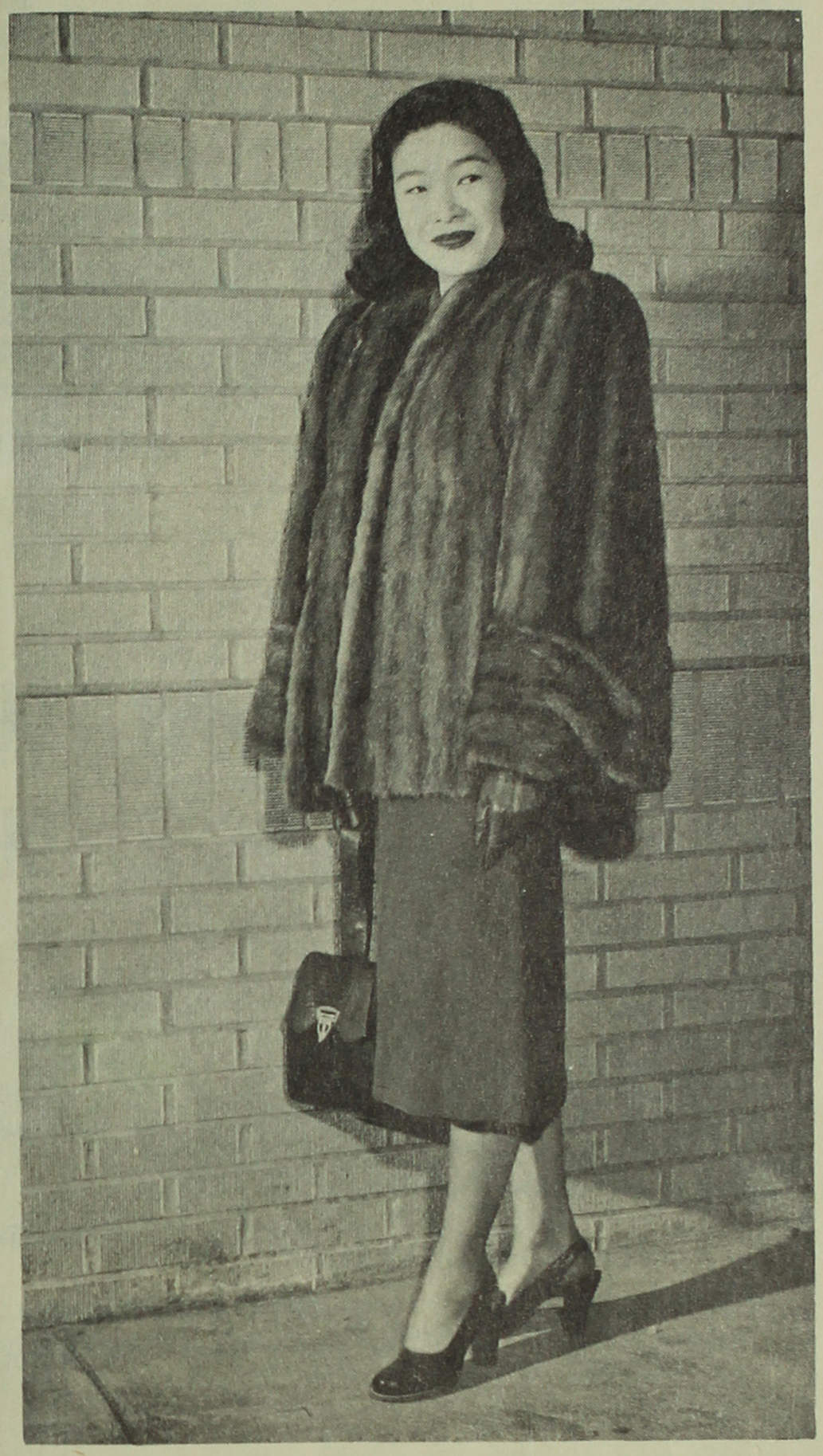
fun of women's apparel

good taste. . .

is a woman well poised. . .

of his admiration





And a dream of every girl...

is to possess a fur coat like the one worn by Miss Yuki Takami (above).
This attractive young miss was born in Brooklyn and spent four years at the fasionable Skidmore College at Saratoga Springs. She is interested in art and fashion designing.

Does he notice her selection of colors?
...Definitely!

Practical is a dark suit in any woman's wardrobe.
Miss Nori Kenmotsu, this issue's cover girl, (left) selects a dark suit as a 'must' in her wardrobe. A commercial artist, she is well aware of the effects of color.



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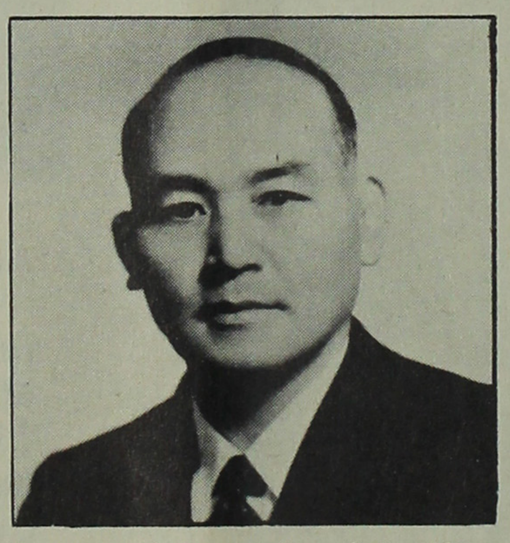


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OUR HISTORY IS OUR BEST ADVERTISEMENT

Over 25 years of sound, practical experience is our special reason for our guaranteeing satisfactory service.



T. HIDAKA, owner and manager, of the Sun, Division, and Diana Cleaners has learned his business the hard way. Arriving upon American shores while still in his teens, he had not only to master the English language but also to locate a line of business he could pursue. His early job with San Francisco's large Home Dry Cleaning Company soon determined his choice of business. As for his English, he went to school in the evenings. Soon moving to Modesto, Calif., he opened his own plant. From here, his story of success in the Dry Cleaning business is well known to his many friends. Up to the war, Hidaka was not only prospering but acquiring a reputation as a solid member of the Modesto community. In 1945, his business wiped out by the war, Hidaka decided to start up again. The Division Cleaners was opened in Chicago on July 15. The response to this venture was so promising that soon this venture expanded to another branch, the Diana Cleaners. Finally, the central plant, the Sun Cleaners became established--testimony to the enterprise and aggressiveness of Hidaka's know-how and energy. Many Nisei are now employed in his plants--while others who have worked under him have opened shops of their own.

SUN · DIVISION · DIANA CLEANERS



FIRST NISEI to break into major league football, Yonamine was relegated to bench-warming for most of past season. Above, the Nisei star is pictured with 49er standouts, Norman Standlee (left) and Frankie Albert.

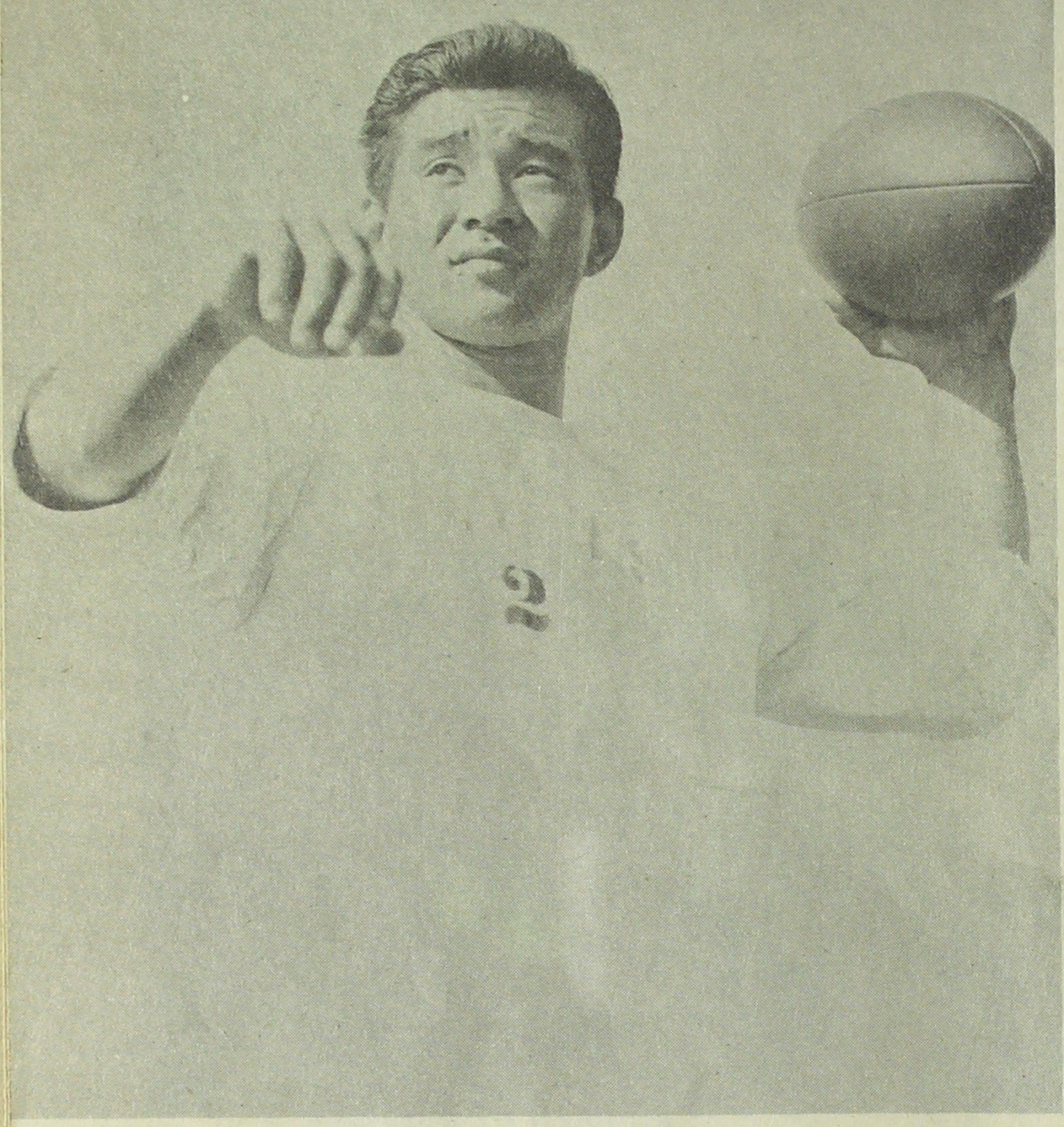
WALLY YONAMINE

NISEI STAR SEES LITTLE ACTION IN FIRST SEASON AS PRO

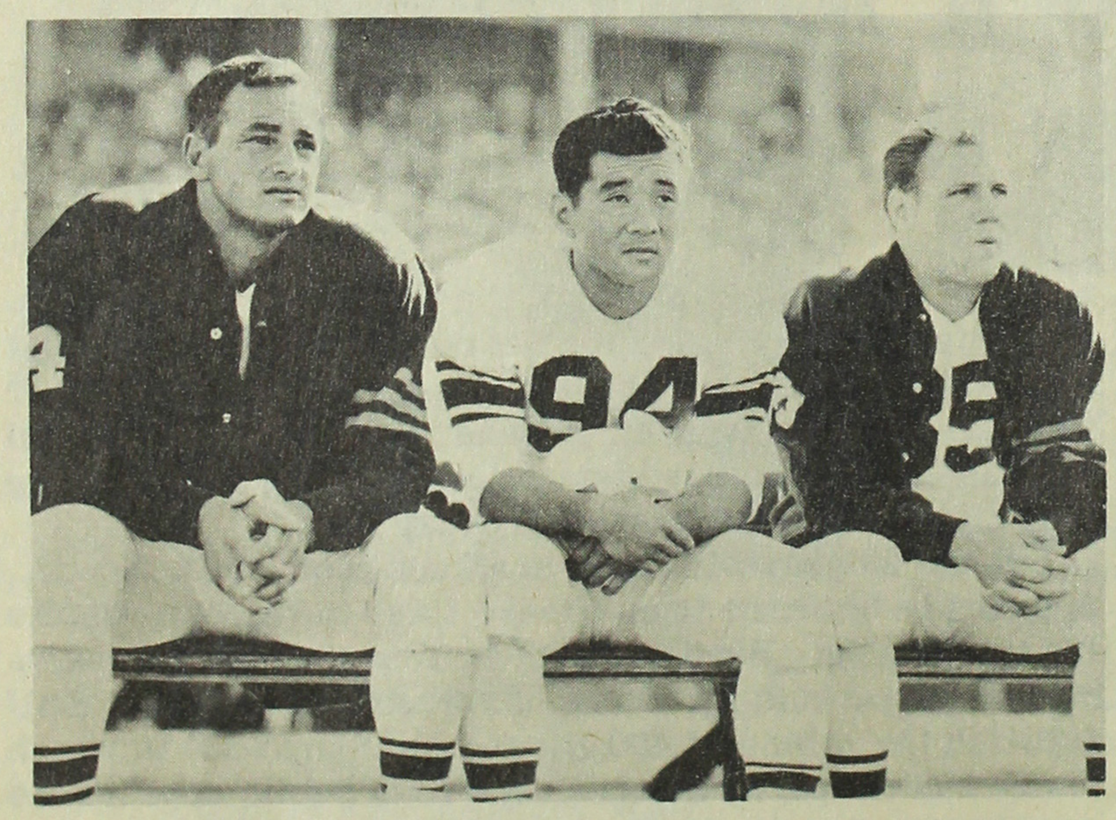
More Nisei sport fans last year clicked the professional football turnstiles than ever before, and greater space was given to those games than heretofore in the Japanese American vernaculars. Nisei readers scanned the sport pages to spot a name which had become very close to them. The name is Wally Yonamine. And the reason for the avid interest is that he happens to be the first Nisei to break into tough, star-studded major-league football. Last spring, young Wally signed up with the San Francisco 49ers of the All American Conference and by so doing turned down another offer from the New York Yankees. His contract reportedly calls for two seasons of play and $6,000 for the first year.

Yonamine's debut into football professionalism probably was the biggest piece of news to hit Nisei sport fans since the day outfielder Jimmie Horio of the Los Angeles Nippons slugged his way into the Pacific Coast League. But unfortunately, the parallel does not end here. Just as heartbreaking as was the fadeout of the baseball star was the disappointing first season of play of the Nisei backfielder. In both cases, expectations were jacked up sky-high before the bottom dropped out.

But the 23 year old Nisei scatback from Hilo, Hawaii, appears to be more than a mere flash in the pan despite his past season. Hard to forget is Yonamine's impressive record he had built up before he turned professional. Still fresh in the minds of 400 Nisei who turned out to watch Wally's great performance is his first public appearance as a professional. In the intrasquad game, Wally was a major factor in his side's victory by scoring two of his team's three touchdowns, one of which was a sensational 89 yard punt return. (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



SOUTH PAW, a triple-threat, 5feet 8, and a compact 180 pounder, Yonamine has been regarded as " one of the greatest backs developed in Hawaii" and " just as good as Wedemeyer."



THOUGH Yonamine saw little action this past season, many predict that next season will find him more confident and in more games. Wally has had no college football experience.

YONAMINE

Young Yonamine won recognition on the West Coast in 1946 when he sparkplugged the Leilehua Alumni eleven against Portland, San Jose State and Fresno State. It was his impressive playing in the tilt with Portland that clinched him a berth on the 49ers team. Former All-American Bobby Grayson, who broadcast the game, immediately recommended the Nisei to Buck Shaw, coach for the San Francisco team. A southpaw and an open field runner, who stands 5 feet 8 inches and carries a compact 180 pounds, the Nisei scatback appeared to Shaw as the answer to his prayers for that breakaway threat that his team needed in the previous season.

In Hawaii, Wally is almost a legendary figure. The Island's sport writers began to sing his praises ever since the days Wally sparked the Farrington High School team to championship in 1943. He earned such high plaudits as "one of the greatest backs developed in Hawaii" and "just as good as Wedemeyer." During his 17 month's hitch with the Army, Yonamine played on the Army All-Stars coached by Jock Sutherland. For the next two seasons, he starred on the Leilehua Alumni team.

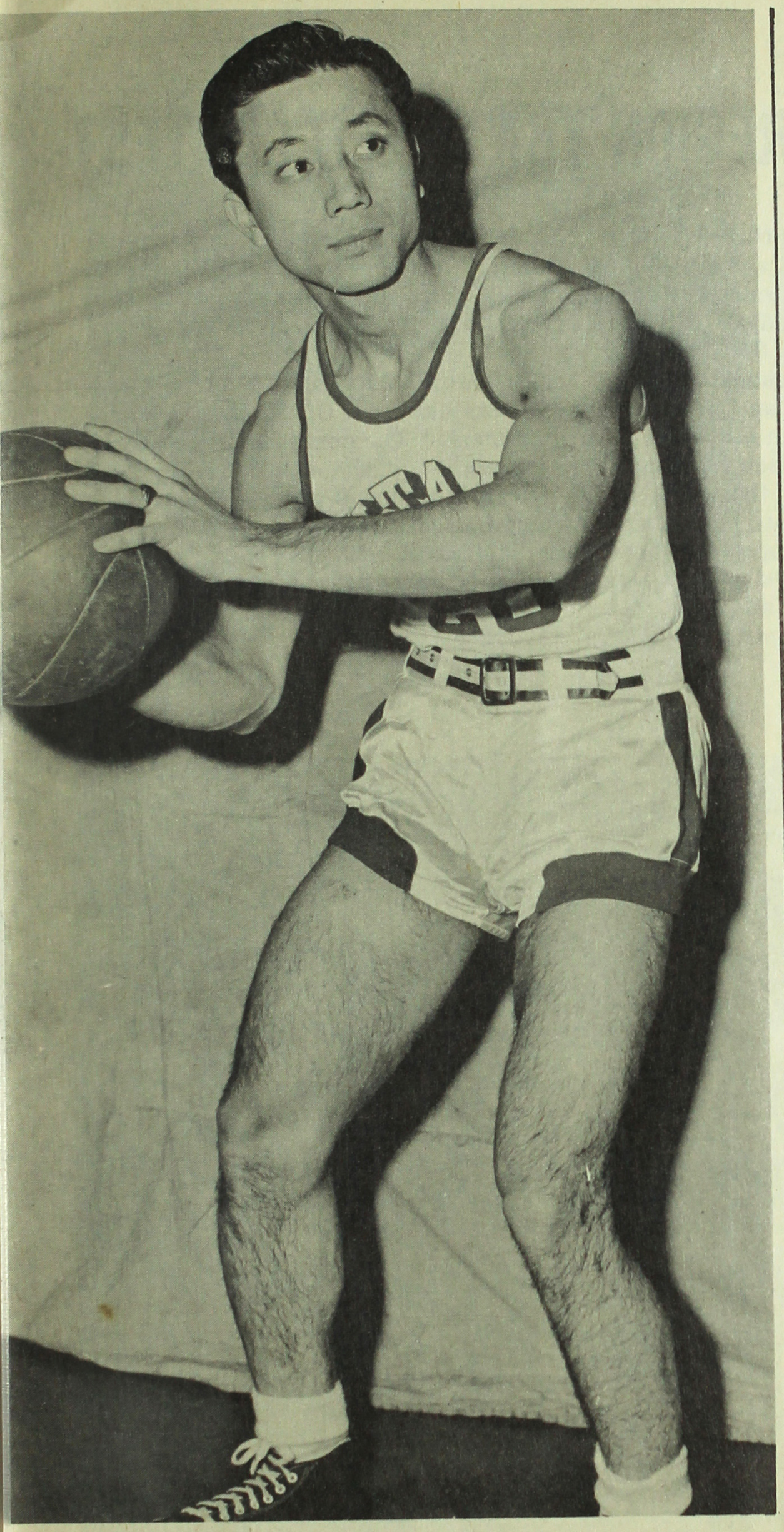
Wally joined the 49ers as one of the prized rookies of the year. As the season got underway, however, less and less was heard of him. Like many publicized newcomer, he found it difficult to live up to his advance billing. A rookie that he was, he could not win over such veteran backfieldmen as former All-American Frankie Albert (also a southpaw), John Strzykalski, or Ned Mathews on one of America's ranking teams. Yonamine has had no college football experience and is one of the youngest members in professional ranks.

Though a rugged, slashing player on the gridiron, Wally off the field is an unassuming man of few words who neither smokes or drinks. He is single and during his off-season works for a water supply company in Honolulu.

Next to sports, one of Yonamine's greatest favorites is Chop Suey and rice which he partakes frequently with his player roommate.

When he first began training for the 49ers -- a story goes -- Wally began to lose weight and lacked his usual energy. Questioned, he explained in effect, "No rice." Shaw went into a huddle with the mess chef. The cook now has a standing order which is unprecedented in professional football -- to provide ample cooked rice on the training table, especially for its Japanese American member of the team.

ED NOTE: Thanks to William McGee, publicity manager of the Forty-niners, Bill Nakahara, NV's San Francisco photographer, was able to get right onto the practice grounds for these shots shown. Nakahara had to hurry back from a vacation in Mexico to cover this assignment.



WAT MISAKA

Last November, the Utah Nisei who had risen up to pro-basketball heights, Wat Misaka, was on the New York Knickerbocker's waiver list. Reports has it that the 5' 8" former University of Utah star, who rated a line on Walter Winchell column, has re-enrolled at his Alma Mater.

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BAY REGION YBA QUEEN CONTEST

Oakland Nisei indulged in one of America's favorite pastimes of picking out a pretty girl for queen of what-have-you with all the pomp and zest familiar with such doings. The affair was the Bay Region Young Buddhist Association's Coronation Ball at the classy Mark Hopkins in San Francisco.

The winners selected: Senior Queen, 20 year old Ayako Inn of Berkeley, and Junior Queen, 18 year old Fumi Urushibata of Richmond. The harried judges' comment: "The contest was close and the final decision tough--very tough."

Regal in their robes and crowns, the queens and their beauteous court reigned over a sophisticated Ball attended by one of the largest crowd in recent San Francisco Nisei social life. To many, the affair represented a vivid testimony to the fact that the Nisei are again becoming adjusted to their West Coast homes and falling back into pre-war habits.



QUEENS AND THEIR COURT: In their regal fineries, the queens pose with their court in the anteroom of the Mark Hopkins. Left to right: (Junior Attendants) Pat Hoshino 17, Cookie Takano 18, Fudeko Tsuji 18, Asako Kawamoto 18, and Junior Queen Fumi Urushibata. Senior Queen Ayako Inn and (Senior Attendants) June Nakayama 24, Violet Yoshimura 20, Shinako Ninomiya 18, and Michiko Masaoka 19.

A Queen is Selected



AYAKO INN

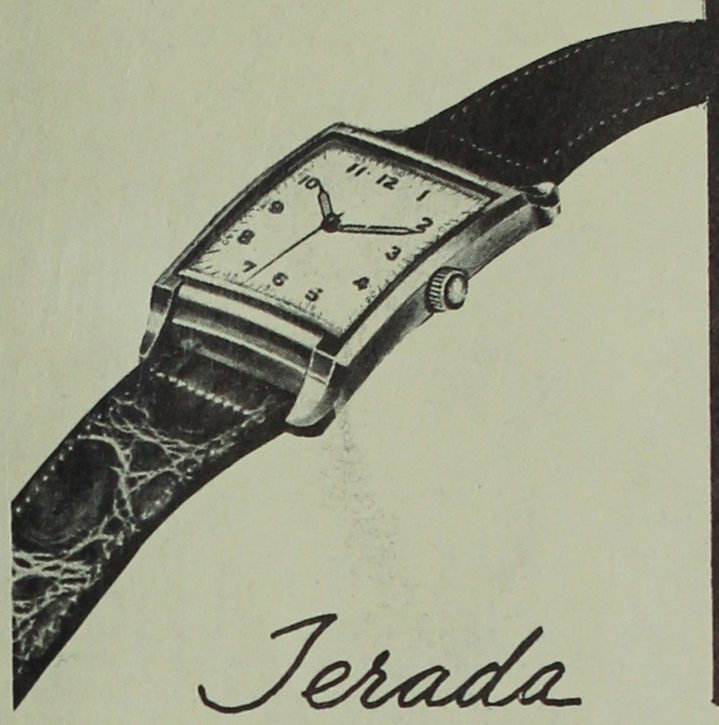
MISS BUSSEI OF 1947

Ayako Inn, winner of the Bay Region YBA contest, went on to win the title of Miss Bussei of 1947 in the All-California YBA Queen Contest held at Monterey on November 16th. The 20 year old, five feet three and 115 pound beauty captured the title after outscoring three other regional finalists.

The new Miss Bussei received her honors at the Coronation Ball at Asilomar during the Coast District Young Buddhist Association's annual conference. Other candidates were Sumiko Nakagawa of Reedley (Central California winner), June Manji of Marysville (Northern California) and Kimiko Nakagawa of Mt. View (Coast District).

A 1946 graduate of Berkeley's Armstrong College, Ayako Inn is now a private secretary with the Social Security Administration. Quite a bowling enthusiast, she is reported to claim a 155 average. Athletically inclined, she also plays a fast game of basketball with a local team. Despite these activities, the Bussei Queen reveals that she also does a lot of reading. Matrimony? "Not interested at present," so she says.

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NISEI WINS SEATTLE SALMON DERBY

1947 DODGE FOR 37 LB. KING SALMON

A happy fisherman is Kaz Kimura of Seattle, Wash. Entering on a last minute impulse, the 1947 Champion Salt Water Angler of Seattle borrowed some heavy trolling gears, landed a 37 pound 14 ounce King Salmon, and drove home a brand new 1947 four-door Dodge.

The affair was the annual Salmon Derby sponsored by the Seattle Times. Kimura's Puget Sound beauty topped them all (26 pound 2 ounces won second place), although Dodges went to the first three placers.

The first Nisei to win the Derby, Kimura is a graduate of Seattle's Garfield High School and has been employed at the University Club for the past fifteen years except during the war years when he was stationed at Sidney, Nebraska with the Army Ordnance Depot.

Two other Nisei, Rinji Nitta and Masao Kodani, were among the first fifty winners.

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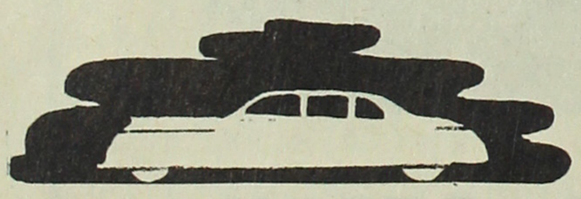
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L. A. NISEI WINS ESSAY CONTEST

Places 4th as Only West Winner

Pride of the West is scholarly, 16 year old Noriko Chiwaki, B-12 student of Belmont High School, Los Angeles, who this January upheld west coast prestige by garnering top honors behind three New Yorkers in the nation-wide fifth annual Hearst Newspaper American History essay contest. Participants from over 1,000 high schools were represented. The winner of the fourth place $250.00 award scored 92 1/2 points, only 1 1/2 points behind the first place winner. She qualified for the finals by placing second in the Los Angeles competition.

A straight A student in high school, the San Francisco-born Nisei was able to read cryptic Japanese at the age of three and at nine was ready to do ninth grade work.

Miss Chiwaki received her junior high school education at the Topaz Relocation Center, Utah, where she and her family were interned after the outbreak of war. They returned to Los Angeles in September, 1945.

A REPORT ON RESETTLEMENT

While the trend now is toward seeking means of livelihood in the general community, the most noteworthy departure from the prewar economic pattern is the vastly increased number of Japanese women, both Issei and Nisei, who are now employed in Los Angeles. They have been in high demand from the very beginning of the resettlement period and competition for Nisei girls as secretaries and stenographers has been keen. If the women did not have office skill, the demand for garment workers drained Japanese female labor market.

Among men, light industrial work, a field employing few Nisei before the war, comes next to gardening in source of employment. An estimated 2,900 are now working in these plants and though earnings average about $1 an hour, $100 a week earnings are not rare. Reception in the phonograph record companies has been good. Cafeterias and restaurants have also drawn upon a large number of Japanese Americans. The pattern of discrimination was more widespread in Los Angeles when exclusion was first lifted, but the employment situation recently has been described as being better.

SAN FRANCISCO

Of the three centers of prewar Japanese population, Los Angeles, Seattle and San Francisco, the latter has more nearly regained its prewar numbers, but has been slowest in its postwar development. The prewar population was 5,280; the present estimate is between 4,500 and 5,000. Business recovery has not been as rapid as it has in Los Angeles and Seattle due partially to the fact that prewar business centered in the export-import trade. Returning Japanese have started about 150 stores and other business enterprises compared to over 500 before the war.

As employees, the Japanese in San Francisco generally follow the pattern noted elsewhere, except that a much higher proportion are in domestic service. About 1,500 are estimated to be employed as domestics. As elsewhere, other employment is found primarily in the wider community. About 700 persons, equally divided between office and factory workers are found outside the domestic field. By far the largest employer of Japanese Americans is the Simmons Mattress Company which has 150. Ninety Nisei hold civil service jobs. White collar jobs. while open to Nisei girls, are having greater difficulty in securing employment. As nearly as can be determined, this has been the result of a general loosening of the labor market in the city rather than from any specific objection to employment of Japanese.

SEATTLE

By the late winter of 1947, approximately 4,700 Japanese were again in residence in Seattle compared to 7,000 before the war. Business locations on lower Jackson and Main Streets which were taken over mostly by Negroes during the war gradually returned to the hands of the Japanese, and the center of the small Japanese business district is again at Sixth Avenue South and Main Street. There is evidence that the Japanese community has rebounded from the economic dislocation of the evacuation with surprising resilience and have reestablished their employment status to an extent where they are as well off as the American population generally.

An unusually high percentage of the Japanese are engaged as service workers (except domestic and protective), proprietors and managers, and clerical or kindred workers. A significant number, compared to the prewar figure, is also employed in the manufacturing industries. Compared with the East and Midwest, Seattle is definitely a poorer place to seek the better type of employment under Caucasian employers. The average income for Issei males is between $160 and $170 per month; Issei women earn less with few making in excess of $150. A majority of the Nisei men do not get more than $200 a month. The higher wages are earned by gardeners and general factory workers through putting in extra hours. Nisei girls average between $150 and $185. A larger number are holding various civil service positions. It is felt that private enterprise still remains the best opportunity for Japanese Americans. At present, some 200 hotels are owned by Japanese. Restaurants are again flourishing and there is a remarkable outcropping of florist shops.

DENVER

The Japanese American population of Denver, after a hectic period of mass movement back to the West Coast following recision of the exclusion order, has settled down to a more normal -- if somewhat restless -- living. From the sleepy little Japanese community of 323 in 1940, the population increased to a high of 5,000 in late 1945, then dropped to approximately trebling of the number of Japanese on the farms of Colorado, from the prewar figure of about 2,300 to between 6,000 and 7,000. Growth of the rural population developed a demand for service which contributed greatly to the development of a new Japanese enterprise in Denver. But Denver's pre-eminence was short lived. The main movement of evacuees was towards Chicago, then later the exodus to the west from the Rocky Mountain capital was as rapid as its abnormal growth.

Business opportunities were numerous because of the mush-roomed population and the number of businesses increased from 46 in 1940 to 258 in 1946. Apartments and hotels rank first in number of enterprises with 46. Manufacturers and distributors of Japanese food products are next with 35. Most of these sprang up after evacuation when Japanese sources were cut off and similar processing plants on the West Coast had been shut down. Denver became the center in this field, but it is expected that this flourishing business will decline as West Coast production of Japanese food and eventual trade with Japanese is resumed.

Unlike other Japanese communities, the greater proportion of Japanese in Denver are dependent on the Japanese community for livelihood. The remainder are working mostly in the produce shipping companies, garment

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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MORE JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES are open for Nisei in the Eastern portion of the country. Above, Nisei and Issei women work on greeting cards at the Cello-Craft, Inc. plant, where Alfred K. Doi, a Nisei, is share-holder and production chief.



THE DEXTERITY AND INDUSTRY of Japanese hands have been discovered by many Chicago business men, who today even make special appeal of Japanese American help. Above, Jackie Suzawa, formerly of Alameda, California, hand-assembling greeting cards.

A REPORT ON RESETTLEMENT

factories, and as domestics. Very few have jobs paying more than $200 a month with the average being between $30 and $35 a week. It must be considered, however, that while wages are low, living costs are also in line with low wages.

Because of the large post-exclusion movement away from Denver, the resulting uncertainty concerning business prospects, and the relatively low wage scale, the Japanese Americans in the city are more likely to return to the West Coast than those located in any other city, with the possible exception of Salt Lake City. It has been predicted that within two years a third of the Japanese Americans now living there will have returned to the West Coast, that a third will remain permanently, and the chances that the remainder will stay are about equal to the chances that they will return.

UTAH

The experience of evacuees in Utah is quite similar to that in Colorado. In 1940, the Japanese population numbered 2,210. Like Colorado, it became a stop-over for evacuees and the population hit a peak of 10,000 -- 3,500 in Salt Lake City and 1,400 in Ogden. Likewise, movement away from the two cities was rapid once the West Coast was opened, 1,800 remaining.

Early in 1947, a check of businesses operated by Japanese Americans showed 56 enterprises -- cafes being by far the most numerous with 18 establishments. The greater proportion of the population, however, are employed by Caucasian-owned concerns. Very little "white collar" employment has been available to the men, except for the professional men Discrimination in employment has been felt in Salt Lake City, especially during the war years, but has decreased rapidly over the past two years.

CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST

The Japanese American population of Chicago at the end of 1946 with 15,000 to 20,000 very closely equals that of the rest of the country east of the Mississippi River, and exceeds that of any other American locality with the single exception of the Los Angeles County. Only 390 persons of Japanese ancestry lived in Chicago in 1940; thus, at least 97 per cent of the present number are evacuees. Resettlement to such industrial centers as Cleveland and Detroit also proceeded steadily.

In Chicago, there are estimated to be 12,000 employables. About one-sixth of these are in private business and professions, and five-sixths in the employ of some 2,000 different non-Japanese business and industry concerns. In other Midwest cities, nearly all are employed by outside concerns. Somewhat as with prewar Los Angeles, Chicago has become the recognized economic and social center of the Japanese Americans located in the Midwest. During 1946, it was estimated that over a million dollars was invested in businesses in this city, bringing the total to a reputed $2,500,000 in over 300 business enterprises. Home purchases have exceeded 400, and new businesses were reported to have been established at the rate of two or three per week throughout 1946.

The basic economic adjustment of the Midwest resettler group has been good, and gives every indication of remaining so for the immediate future. As compared with the prewar West Coast distribution, an important occupational shift has taken place. In Chicago, the major occupational category is that of industrial work, a field in which the group had heretofore found little opportunity. Likewise, the level of white-collar employment in the Midwest has been raised to a degree never experienced before the war. Even more significant in terms of long range adjustment is that the bulk of the resettler population is working in the larger economic community. This is true, not only for the thousands of industrial workers, but for all other occupational groups.

The level of income of factory workers has dropped since the wartime high, but most are still averaging around $55 for a 40-hour week. In many, if not most of the plants, overtime work still is found and even semi-skilled operators in the printing plants were making between $70 and $75 a week in the middle of 1946.

The number of "white collar workers" is close to 1,500, with the majority being girls working as stenographers, secretaries, clerks and other office jobs as well as sales clerks. Ever since resettlement to Chicago began, larger hotels have employed great numbers of Japanese Americans. At one time, one Chicago hotel employed 300. Many of the employees are older Issei earning wages ranging $150 to $200 per month for men and from $125 to $140 for women. Approximately 40 professional men have opened offices. In addition, several hundred are employed as professional and semi-professional workers.

Chicago, unlike Denver and Salt Lake City, did not experience a mass exodus following the lifting of the exclusion orders from the West Coast. Although information is limited on the numbers who have returned or will return to the West Coast eventually, the Japanese American residents of that city believe that the number leaving is about balanced by those who have retraced their steps from the West Coast.

NOTES ON THE EAST

Approximately 6,000 evacuees went to the eastern seaboard, principally to one of five places -- Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Seabrook Farms near Bridgeton, New Jersey, and Washington D. C.. Of these, Boston received the fewest -- less than 200. Movement to Philadelphia was slow but fairly steady, and eventually 700 found their way to that city. Adjustments in both cities were without notable incident, although there was a proportionately high rate of movement from each when the West Coast was reopened.

Although no figure for Issei has been available, it was estimated in April 1947 that approximately 2,000 Nisei were living in New York City. Types of occupation follows the same pattern found in other cities, but there have been very few who have opened businesses. The fact that a great majority of the resettlers have been in the younger age group has limited the amount of capital available for this purpose. A large number of the New York Nisei and Issei are thinking ultimately of resumption of trade with Japan. Two Nisei wholesale pearl merchants, as well as a Nisei import-export firm, have already become established.

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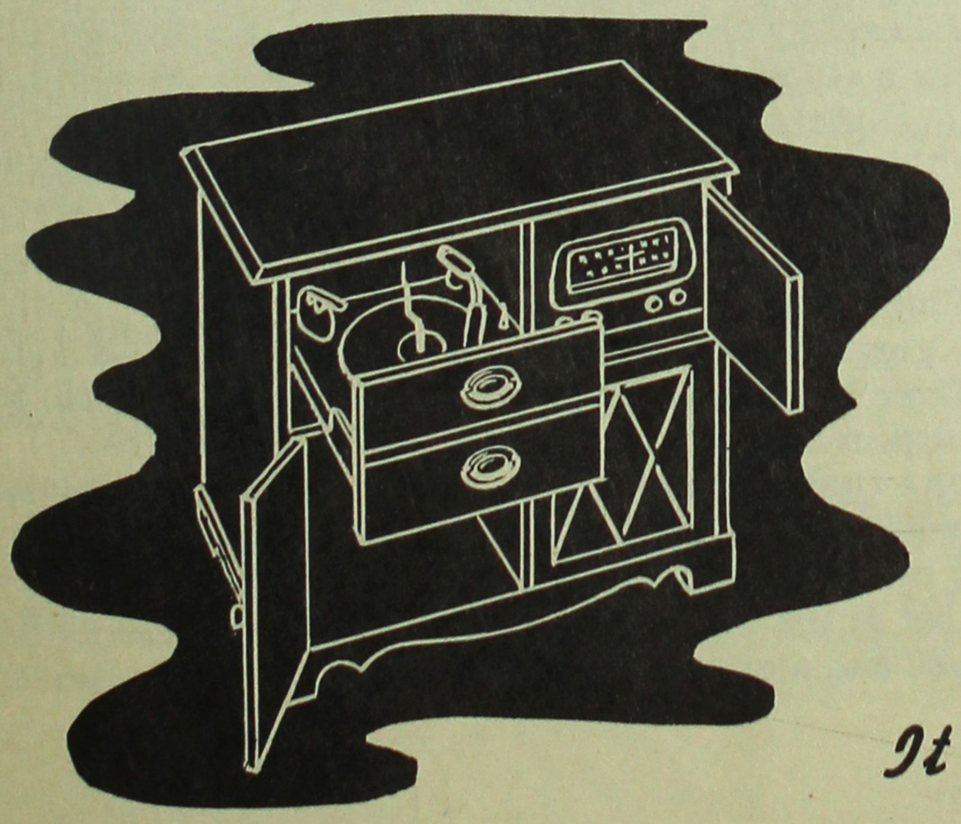
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A LESSON IN POISE is demonstrated by Mae Sawa at one of Jolenés' semi-monthly meetings. Very conscious of good grooming and proper social conduct, the girls find they learn much from such gatherings.

NISEI BOBBY SOXERS

Teenage Clubs Like Jolenés Prove Helpful and Pleasant

Americans are conceded to be club-conscious. No different, therefore, are the Nisei teenagers, who for all purposes take great delight in forming clubs whenever the occasion presents. The Jolenés, an organization of Chicago's Hyde Park High School's upper class Nisei bobby soxers, comprise one of eight such groups found in the Windy City. Openly flounting that their purpose is only for social purposes, the girls nevertheless, have participated in such community-spirited activities as their joint sponsorship of the Japan Relief Dance. And helping carry out programs for the Hyde Park Neighborhood House is another weekly project.

Naturally, the Nisei Bobby Soxer is no different from the rest. Jitterbugs, Frank Sinatra swooners, disk (record) fans, and usually uninhibited, they are the familiar bundle of energy so typical of the American teenager. Senior and president of the Jolenés ('Jolenés' in French is 'born beautiful!'), Nancy Ishikawa, is 'sent' by Frankie, while Lil Ito finds Vic Damone, the new singing sensation, 'mellow'. Their semi-monthly meetings usually held at the Neighborhood House are a conglomeration of hot dogs, cokes, gossip, giggles, and loud records on the juke box. (Ed. Note: Their last meeting was called off as Vaughn Monroe is now appearing on the stage of State-Lake Theatre.)

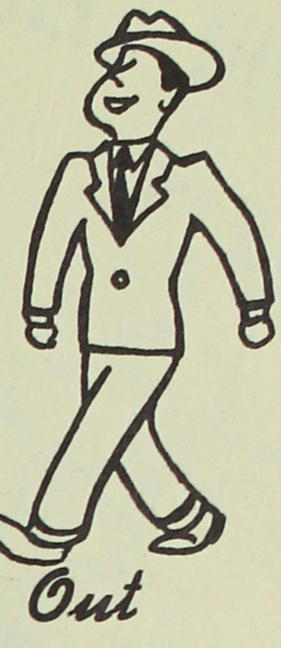
Despite their apparent reckless mien, the girls still hang firm to ethics, good manners, and a philosophy summed up by President Nancy as "having fun while we're young, but at the same time preparing for our future with open eyes and alert minds."



CLUB MEETINGS usually mean a lot of food, soft drinks, swooning to current popular singers, and giggles and laughs galore. Despite the rowdy, informal atmosphere, the discussions of business at these meetings are surprisingly well-conducted and serious. Sponsoring their own basketball team, helping carry out the recreational program at the nearby Hyde Park Neighborhood House, and initiating dances for Nisei teenagers keep the Jolenés active.



HOME WORK is an important agenda on the girls' list of chores. While Yeiko Yamamoto visits and catches up on her movie news, Lois Yasuda looks to her next day's lessons. Organizations, like the Jolenés, which include all girls into its group, help make friends and avoid the sometimes harmful practice of forming small cliques.



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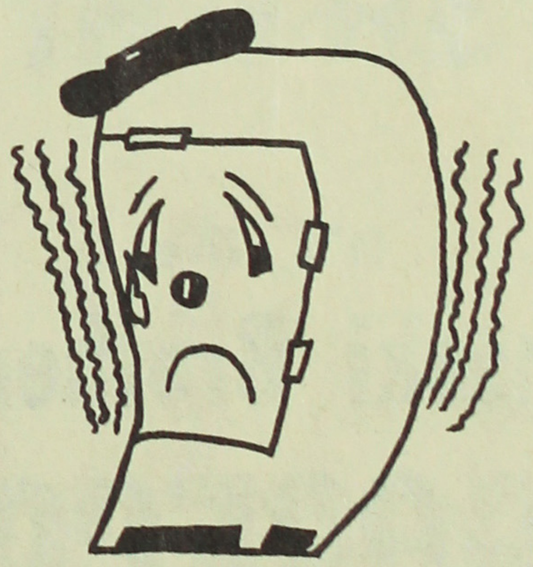
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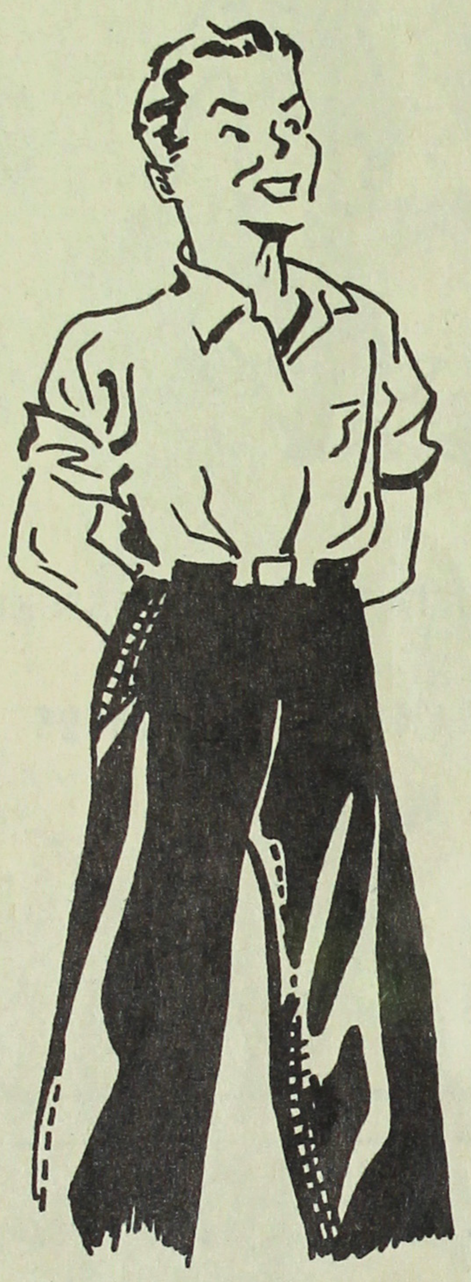


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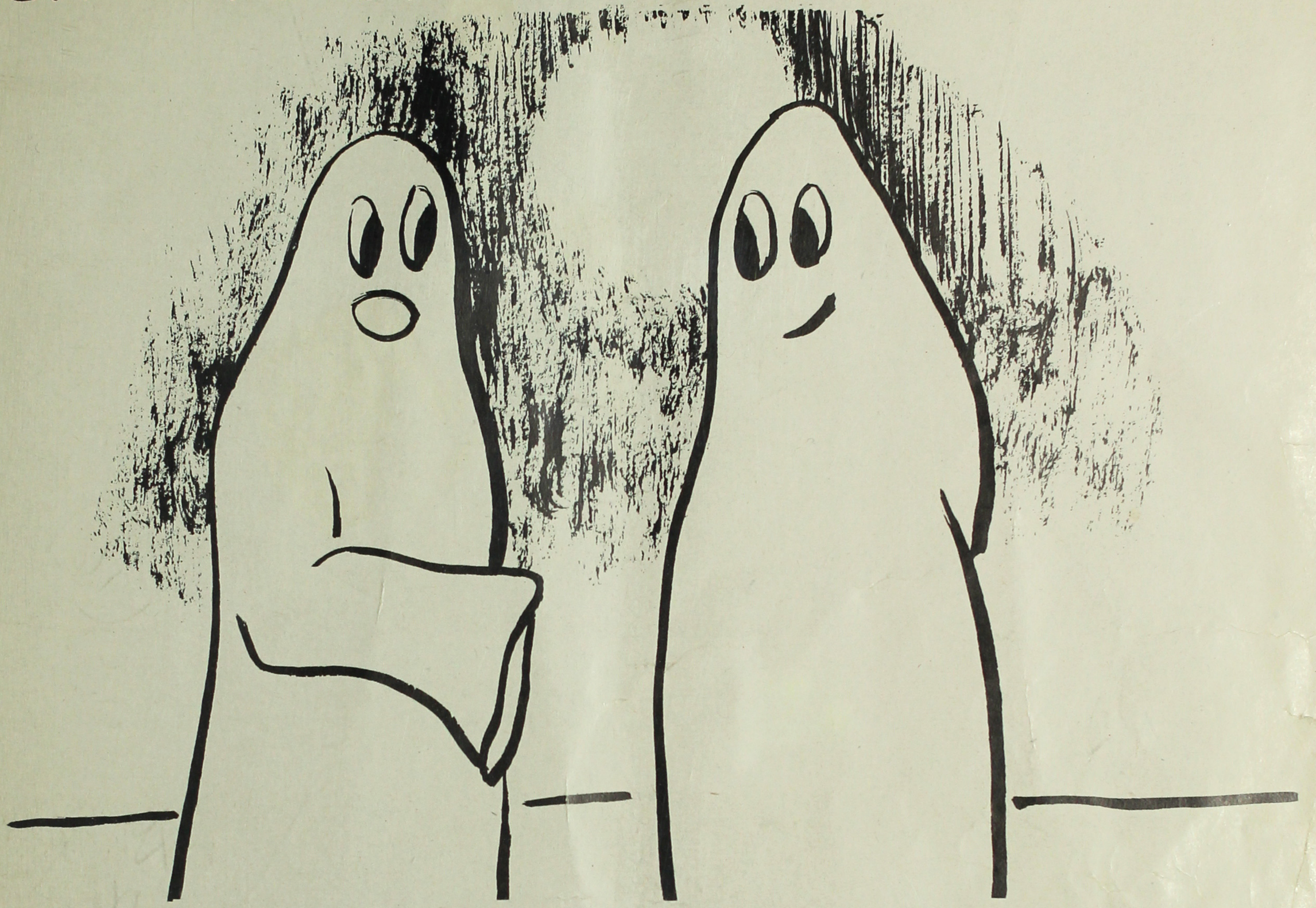
AN OUTING, with new sights to see in a city still new to them, is a gay and merry affair--though, perhaps, a little tiring. Here the girls rest to pose for NV photographer, Ken Mazawa, on the terrace of the Science and Industry Museum, one of Chicago's famous landsites.



DANCING is another popular item on the girl's list of activities. Usually well-conducted and well-attended, these social dances are highlighted by numerous requests for 'Jive' so that the Jitterbugs can swing into action. Though girls see no man-shortage, they still complain that the boys are 'too bashful and not too cooperative.'

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