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YAMAGA YASUTARŌ PAPERS

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YAMAGA YASUTARO PAPERS

Nov 19

19, 1945

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# MME. BUTTERFLY RE-ENACTED

## Marines Wed Japanese Girls, But It's Strictly Temporary

By WILLIAM MCGAFFIN  
Chicago Daily News Foreign Service

TOKYO, Nov. 19.—Three young marine officers have been united to Japanese girls at secret marriages, the first since the arrival of our occupation forces in Japan.

News of the marriages was disclosed to me by a lieutenant from the 4th Marines, stationed at nearby Yokosuka naval air strip. He said he was one of the three bridegrooms.

The marriages had been kept secret, for two reasons, he said:

1. In the absence of official American permission to wed

from the University of Alberta in 1930.

Mr. Blaylock's father was an English-born clergyman, Rev. Thomas Blaylock. His mother was the former Eleanor Marion of Quebec City.

Japanese girls, the marriages constituted a breach of the rules of occupation.

2. The young bridegrooms have no intention of either remaining here with their wives or trying to take them back to America.

The marine lieutenant admitted that he and his two friends had entered into the marriages cynically, as short-term temporary conveniences. The brides, described as "nice girls from good families," entered into the marriages seriously and with complete good faith, he said.

One of the husbands already has abandoned his wife and returned to America. "His wife cried all night when I explained that he had to go back," said the lieutenant.

I asked the lieutenant if they were bona fide marriages. He re-

plied: "The girls seemed to think they were. They made a lot of fuss with tea and candles and stuff."

I told him that he and his friends were re-enacting the plot of "Madame Butterfly."

"How does that end?" he asked.

"The wife commits suicide after her Yankee husband abandons her," I said.

"Phew! Let's hope these girls don't get any such ideas," he said nervously.

### Alanbrooke In Tokyo

TOKYO, Nov. 19.—(AP)—Field Marshal Lord Alanbrooke, chief of the British Imperial general staff, arrived today with a party of British officers and lunched with Gen. MacArthur.

Buy Famous Players' Christmas Gift Books.

# Mission Co-op Organizer Passes Away

By Y. YAMAGA

HOPE, B. C.—On June 19, death from a cancer ailment took away the late J. B. Shimek, well-known to a large host of Japanese Canadian friends as the former general manager of the Pacific Co-operative Union and the United Farmers' Co-operative in Mission, B. C.

Mr. Shimek, whose slim, tall, energetic figure was a familiar sight to Fraser Valley farmers made a notable contribution to the berry growing industry. In the process of development of that industry in the Fraser Valley, the past two decades had been a period of great trial. Competition and unorganized selling led to chaotic conditions in every market, with resulting serious loss to the farmers.

In 1929, Mr. Shimek offered his service to the industry. His ability, high purpose, and capacity for quick decisions, bold action and untiring effort, led to the establishment of the Pacific Co-operative Union and the United Farmers' Co-operative in Mission.

## LED CO-OP MOVEMENT

He served the interests of member growers and led in the development of the co-operative movement with signal success, not only for his own organization, but for the industry as a whole. He served as an executive member of the B. C. Coast Growers' Association and the Berry Shippers' Federation, which regulated the flow of berries to the markets through one channel.

Now Mr. Shimek has gone, but he has left an unseen and enduring monument in the minds of hundreds of growers and farmers throughout the Fraser Valley.

I venture to add on behalf of former Japanese growers of the district, particularly, even though they are now evacuated from their farms that Mr. Shimek will remain the "most unforgettable character" of their former days on Fraser Valley Farms.

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