

THE AMERICAN SCENE

Yukio Wants to Join the Army

(From the Christian Science Monitor)

It was while our thought was disturbed about our promising young friends being drafted that we heard about Yukio — Yukio who daily brought fresh fruits and vegetables to our door, driving an old truck laden with good things, and ringing a bell to make his presence known. This truck had been coming by our door for as long as we had lived here, driven first by the father, and now by the son.

It was one lovely morning in early January when a friend said to us, "Did you know that Yukio has volunteered for service?" The news startled us. We had thought of this Japanese lad as not being an American at all. We knew, of course, that he had been born in the United States, and had attended the local high school, but he was so distinctly Japanese, with parents so more distinctly so, that it just didn't seem to us that he could be a fellow-countryman.

Once we even seriously considered withdrawing our patronage from Yukio lest we contribute to a Japanese victory in China. We did curtail our purchases for a long time, buying only occasionally; so that we did not seem to break off relations altogether with Yukio, but at the same time being careful not to finance the Japanese war effort. Of course, we soon saw how ridiculous we were, Yukio helped us to see it by his unfeeling kindness and courtesy. On rainy days he appeared at our back door in oilskins to ask what he could bring us, admonishing us not to come out in the rain and get wet. On the days when we went out in his truck he would note the bulk and number of our packages, and number of our packages, and if these were the least bit heavy he must carry them for us and deposit them on our kitchen table. And never, never did he urge us to buy more than we needed (a virtue not so pronounced in his father),

but rather did he try to curb any tendency to extravagance on our part.

And now he was in the army — or soon would be. A few more days on the truck, and he would be gone. We wondered if they would let him do mechanical things in the army. Yukio had always wanted to be a mechanic, despite his flair for creating still-life pictures with his produce. "Driving a truck all day is too soft work," he had once said in one of his rare personal observations, although he admittedly worked from dawn till dark.

Well, maybe the army wouldn't be "too soft." How strange it seemed that Yukio should be in the United States army! How doubly strange it seemed when our relations with Japan were so strained, when Japanese politicians' threats and warnings were still ringing in our ears. The thought of Yukio in our army intrigued us no little. We felt strangely curious about it. We wished we might ask him about it before he went away. Finally we came right out with it. "Yukio," we asked, "why did you volunteer for service in the army?" We were careful not to say "our" army in that possessive tone.

Yukio is shy, and not at all voluble. A young friend of ours calls him the "man of two words." "Well," he replied, measuring his words the while he weighed a pound of broccoli for us, "well, I have to go sometime, so I might as well go now—and besides, I want to go."

And suddenly we knew that throughout the land there were many Yukios, American-born sons of foreign-born parents. Neither courses in college nor lucrative jobs could stand in the way of their serving their country in its hour of stress. Yukio had evidently glimpsed something worth doing. "Besides," he had said, "I want to go."

Public Morals Topic Of "Minshu" Parley

Standards of Nisei morals will be one of the vital topics for deliberation of the discussion meeting which is being sponsored by the Camp and Mill Workers Union, this Friday evening at the Japanese School.

With leading figures in the community, including prominent business men, ministers, school teachers and physicians, invited to the meet, keen discussion is expected. Facts and observations on the Japanese community, especially of the effects of the war, will be aired.

T. Sada, president of the Union, will be the chairman for the evening.



All group captains and members of the executive of the Japanese Canadian Unit are urgently requested to attend the executive meeting to be held March 16 at the Tairiku Hall at 3 p.m. Discussion on the year's program will be a feature of the meeting.

Seven thousand miles from the heart of the Empire on the far-flung frontiers of northern British Columbia, "Polaris Taku", a remote mining camp, located on the Taku river somewhat south of the famous gold town of Atlin, is a staunch and regular supporter of the Red Cross. Since the outbreak of war every month a substantial cheque has been sent to the provincial Red Cross headquarters in Vancouver. This money is raised by contribution of a day's pay each month by many of the miners and by entertainments. The objective is \$25,000 and to date approximately \$6000 has been raised.

Mrs. Clarke of Terrace, who lost her right arm at the shoulder in an accident many years ago, is an untiring Red Cross worker. She cut and pieced a quilt top of four-inch blocks, sewed it together by machine and donated it to the Terrace Red Cross branch. The members completed it and it is now on its way to England. She also donated a live goose which realized \$11.00 for the branch.

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"SATO", Continued from Page 1

gines were badly needed. Diesel Expert.

A graduate of a Vancouver diesel engineering school, and with wide practical experience with all kinds of engines, Sato jumped at the suggestion. His letter of application was on its way to Victoria that same day.

Later he consulted with the recruiting officer in Vancouver who declared that he would have to refer the matter to his superiors. To help his case, Sato also wrote his former commanding officer in the militia, now stationed at Victoria.

A week later he received an encouraging letter from Victoria, and on February 19 was interviewed by Provincial Police officers acting on military orders. He came away from the interview, satisfied that his application would be accepted, and that he would soon be able to wear the King's uniform.

Referred to Ottawa
 A few days later he was informed that the matter had been referred to Ottawa, but that his "chances were good."

Modiste Millinery

To the wide range of women's apparel already stocked, Mr. Shimotakahara has added a smart millinery department featuring the latest in hats. Romance blue and dusty pink felts with brims tilted jauntily over the right eye; little perky straws in early American or trim sailor models to sit saucily on Miyuki's newest high hairdo—they're all to be found and many more, in this new department.

And when looking for hats, remember that Mr. Shimotakahara, a specialist in glamorizing the unglamorous in Nisei figures, announces his special stock of half sizes—10½, 11½, 12½, 13½, especially made for Niseiettes.

Step into Modiste's today for Easter is just around the corner!

But on March 1, he received a letter flatly rejecting his application.

Said Sato to this reporter in wrath:

"The army needs skilled men who are willing to go. I waded through all the red tape because I wanted to do something to prove that the second generation are loyal to Canada.

"After rapping us right and left about disloyalty, this so-called Canadian democracy owes us the chance prove ourselves loyal. All I've had so far is a wild goose chase!"

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The New Canadian

THE VOICE OF THE SECOND GENERATION

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YAMA TAXI
SE 1414

weekly whirligig

Joseph Long, a Chinese student at the local university, told a group of fellow students in a talk that he bore no ill will against the Niseis. That should give those who have that mistaken idea of deep-rooted enmity between the two Oriental races, a bit of a jolt.

It must make those self-appointed "friends of the Chinese people," those societies who believe that they are doing so much for the Chinese people, feel rather silly to find that the offsprings of the very race which they are so self-righteously championing, are little concerned over events so far remote as those in the Far East, and are more concerned with problems of living, of civic rights — which they, these friends of the Chinese people, have denied them.

The efforts of the "Friends of the Chinese People" and other similar societies seem like the proverbial "white man's burdens," burdens accepted unasked and in the wrong fields, accomplishing very little of good and a great deal of harm.

Registration . . .
I went and got registered the other day. I was properly written out, and properly thumb-printed, and now carry a nice little card with my picture on the front and my secrets on the back.

The registration cards, I noticed, came in three delicious colours: yellow for alien Japanese, salmon pink for naturalized British subjects, and white for the Canadian born. This problem of colored cards has followed me right through my school days. Ever since I can remember certain papers and cards handed out to us with the yellow skin and the black eyes and hair, were colored differently to those of our fellow Canadians. Take for example the dental cards given out after a general inspection of public school molars. I always received a blue card; my Canadian friend, a white card. I liked the colour, but it prevented me from receiving free medical treatment.

Yesterday, I received a white registration card. And it makes me feel proud, for it's the first white card I've ever received. Yes, it's only the colour of the card—but it proves that I'm a Canadian-born!

Shadows . . .
When the days become warmer and the twilight lingers as if it hated to go, I find myself restless—and the crumpled up paper piles up in the waste-paper basket beside my desk.

When twilight lingers, I have strange visitors. Ordinarily, I love visitors, but these particular ones have no respect for the fact that I have work to do, and in their eyes I see sometimes, something like pity for what I have become.

There's the little tomboy with the smudge on her cheek, who tells me that the gang is waiting for me up on the "Rocks" close by. There's that gangly, idealistic, straight-haired high-school girl, who whispers that the moon is fuller tonight, and the shadows fall like black lace on the trails near the sea . . .
Go away! I have work to do and the deadline is only an hour away.

On The Newsfront

Medical Aid Program For Japan's Poor

TOKYO. — A vast program of medical treatment for the millions of poor in the Empire to go into effect next Autumn is now being drafted by the Welfare Ministry. A six-month expenditure of 1,500,000 yen has been decided upon. There are approximately four million persons belonging to the poorer class in Japan who have no means of acquiring medical aid.

Poultrymen to Increase Pressure on Government

NEW WESTMINSTER. — Japanese poultrymen are joining in with Occidental farmers in the Fraser Valley to find a solution to their problems. They are seeking from Victoria some plan of subsidizing the egg industry, either through payment of part of the freight rates on feed, or the freight charges on eggs to the Atlantic seaboard for overseas delivery.

Organization of the Poultrymen's Association is nearing completion with producers being signed up 100

per cent, and a permanent committee, it is expected, will be elected shortly.

Los Angeles Japanese Y.M.C.A. Wins Trophy

LOS ANGELES. — Winning over two other local "Y" branches, the Japanese branch of the Young Men's Christian Association this week brought signal honour to the local community by finishing first in the city-wide membership drive of the Y.M.C.A. It won the two and half foot perpetual challenge trophy for its success.

Cheminus JCLC Conducting Mid-Island Organization

CHEMINUS. — The local chapter will hold a welcome social in conjunction with its monthly meeting, with young people from Paldi and Duncan being present. Principal object will be to acquaint the Nisei from these points with JCLC work. It is hoped in future to establish a chapter in Paldi. Representatives from the National Executive, it is probable will attend.

Rap Racial Discrimination

Council Asked To Prevent Hysteria

(From the Province)

VANCOUVER. — Recent anti-Oriental outbursts in the City Council have incurred the displeasure of the Canadian Civil Liberties Union.

A letter received from the organization on Tuesday charged that certain councillors have attempted to jeopardize the standing of Oriental citizens and asked assurances that no discrimination or "public hysteria" would be brought to bear against any race at any time.

It argued that the dignity of any alderman would be

maintained in a manner more fitting to the responsibility of his position by more careful consideration of public utterances on controversial subjects.

Any discrimination against law-abiding Canadian citizens, Oriental or Occidental, is entirely illegal and only tends to create a minority group with all its attendant ills, the union contended.

Aldermen ordered the communication filed.

"The courts will protect Orientals if we do anything wrong," commented Ald. John Bennet.

1,000 Per Week Registered

FISHERMEN, FARMERS NEXT

VANCOUVER. — Over one thousand people were registered and issued identification cards in the first week of registration, Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers told The New Canadian. At this rate it is expected that registration of all Japanese in the province over sixteen will take upwards of four months.

In addition to the central headquarters on West Hastings Street a sub-office has been opened at the Holy Cross Anglican Mission on Cordova Street, with two constables stationed there.

Both offices have been registering a steady stream of people, old and young, from every part of the city, as well as numerous out-of-towners. For this reason it is not expected that any change in the set-up will be effected until the flow of people falls off.

Steveston Next?
It is likely, however, that the first point for registration outside the city will be the fishing centre of Steveston. It will be necessary to register fishermen before the busy season sets in.

Similarly farming districts in the Fraser Valley are scheduled for early registration, to complete these areas before the berry season reaches its peak.

If officers now stationed in Vancouver are sent to outside points, the central staff will be reinforced.

No serious difficulties have yet been encountered, Sergeant J. K. Barnes said. Registrants who have lost bona fide documents can have these traced by supplying necessary information to the police, who will check government files for verification.

All Ages Registering

Oldest registrant to date has been a 90-year old man, while several young people just sixteen have also been registered.

Roughly one-third of the registrants have been Canadian-born, an equal number naturalized British subjects, and the remainder aliens.

Photographers, meanwhile, are reporting a rushing business with people hastening to secure necessary photos. Amateur photographers in outside points are also reported to be reaping a fair profit.

STORY OF THE WEEK

ARMY HAS NO USE FOR A CANADIAN'S SERVICE

"We cannot accept your application!"

With these terse words, the Canadian army has made it known that it does not desire in any shape or form the services of Canadians of Japanese origin in British Columbia, no matter how willing they may be to risk their lives in the Active Service Force as loyal sons of Canada.

And Yoshiaki Sato, aggressive New Westminister fisherman, is plenty hot under the collar, because his persistent attempts to enlist in the army have met with complete failure.

Known to his friends as "Sunshine," Sato has spent the better part of a month writing letters of application, and spent some \$50 on six trips into Vancouver in his efforts to enlist.

Last week he received a final letter from the O.C. No. 11 District Depot A.F., stating that his application could not be accepted, although no reason was given.

Served in Militia

The 25-year old fisherman, in top-notch physical condition, is the sole support of aged parents and owns some \$2000 worth of fishing gear.

From 1934 to 1939, he served in the militia — in "B" Company of the 47th regiment at New Westminister. At the outbreak of the war, he was discharged along with the whole company, in the understanding that he would receive a call to join the Active Service Force. No such call came.

Then early last month, a personal friend, a commissioned officer, suggested to him that he apply, because men with knowledge and training in the operation of diesel en-

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Vets Seek Comfort Bags For Soldiers

The Canadian Japanese Association, senior Japanese organization in the province, will call a conference of representatives at the request of the Japanese Branch of the Canadian Legion, to discuss a campaign to raise funds for sending comfort bags to Canadian soldiers overseas, it was announced Monday.

At the same time the executive decided to throw its influence behind the national war savings certificates campaign.

Bunji Hisaoka, prominent boat-building contractor, was finally chosen president, to fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Eikichi Kagetsu. Kojiro Shoji became vice-president in Mr. Hisaoka's place.

Drive For Fishermen's Credit Union

A vigorous drive to extend the credit union movement among the fishermen of the Fraser River, irrespective of location or race, will be embarked upon, it was decided last Saturday at a meeting of delegates from fishermen's organizations in Vancouver.

Nisei delegates from the Upper River Japanese Fishermen's Association were Tatsuro Suzuki and Hideo Onotera, active leaders in the Sunbury area.

"We hope to further as far as humanly possible co-operative relations between Japanese Canadian and other fishermen," Suzuki said.

Actual organizational work will be carried on by Arthur Wyrick of the Department of University Extension of U.B.C., carrying on the work begun last season.

A. L. Nichols, president of the British Columbia branch of the Credit Union League, led delegates in a discussion of practical difficulties confronting a credit union was not only valuable from a monetary standpoint, but that it encouraged the spirit of co-operation among members of the organization, among different credit unions, and nations through international contact.