

C O P YExcerpt from the Boston Chronicle

February 21, 1943

FAITH IN GOD AND HUMAN SANCTITY

"Many Nisei are still moping, decrying that the "cause has been obscured" by the events of the past 12 months. They are demanding guarantees that we be permitted to return to California, that our future in this country be categorically assured before we take up arms.

It is to wonder then, in the face of such apparent superficialities, if such Japanese-Americans are at all familiar with the history of our Nation. Our national foundation was founded on faith. This Lincoln aptly brought out in his famed Address: "Four-score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure .....that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom." The revered Archbishop John J. Mitty of San Francisco elaborates thusly on this topic: "Note how President Lincoln here speaks of the fathers 'conceiving' this Nation"...."They held their vision with a FAITH which they rested on God, on the one hand, and on the other hand, upon the sanctity of the human person and his essential rights as God's creature."

Now our Nation is once again being tested of its invincibility. Admittedly, no crisis, especially such as that which is confronting our country today, is conducive to rational reasoning. No one can guarantee anyone anything today. First, we must win the war. Before asking of "assurances," the Japanese-Americans must share their burdens of responsibilities to preserve our autonomous way of life with cogent diligence. If that is met overwhelmingly in the affirmative, it will amply serve to solve our particular problem, that of assuring our own future security as American citizens.

But, you skeptics say, that is not enough. So you've lost faith in God and in the sanctity of the human person? Okay, so you think you are the only ones who were forced to undergo terrific sacrifices? How about our fellow citizens in the swamps and heat of North Africa, in the entangling jungles of the Solomons, the days of torment on Corregidor? Oh, you say, but that's different; we were willing to do our share prior to evacuation! And, you ask how can one maintain faith in a government that suspends its own citizens' civil liberties and forces them to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars?

Yes, so you were temporarily deprived of your rights! How can you so blindly disregard the facts of military necessity? Sure, our soldiers in Tunisia and Guadalcanal have their civil rights. But how much of it can they exercise? And remember, too, those millions

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were forced to give up their homes and businesses, totaling so much more financially than we ever hope to have! At least, you're enduring life more or less snugly in a relocation camp. But those lads are going without the very things which you may consider necessities here. And, you see, they're too busy to exercise their God-given rights, trying to extinguish the Axis so that even you Japanese-Americans may continue to live in the democratic way. Yes, out on those God-forsaken sanguinary battlefields, those kids are dying, having their legs and arms shot off or mutilated beyond repair... so that they may enjoy their God-given liberties, not now, but after the peace, even as you and I shall enjoy them.

No, you skeptics, you're not the only citizens worried about some kind of a "Guarantee" for future security."

## FAITH IN GOD AND HUMAN SANCTITY



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No, you skeptics, you're not the only citizens worried about some kind of "a guarantee" for future security. An international poll taken among the soldiers revealed that the question uppermost in their collective minds was, "What are they going to do for us boys when we return back to normal life?" Let me quote Sgt. Foltz of Camp Crowder, Mo., "What gets me is this--are we going to

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## JUST INCIDENTALLY

By Kaz Oka

Native Sons Indeed!  
--That California organization alphabetically known as the N. S.G.W. was certainly aptly named. They're such "native sons of the golden west" that even the aboriginal Indians who used to claim the golden west as their stamping grounds appear to be more civilized.

While the Utes took sheer delight in scalping the Apaches and the Cherokees probably had no more use for the Blackfoots, nevertheless when it came to meeting a common foe, they put up a more or less united front. But it seems as if tho' the members of the NSGW, as well as some Pacific Coast American Legion posts, are only patriotic to the extent of gaining notorious publicity (if that be patriotism), rather than concentration on uniting our Nation against treacherous and dangerous enemies. Maybe those "native sons" ought to go back to grammar school and catch up with the Indians! Being such "native sons" is certainly not going to help us win this war! We need men, and I mean those courageous, stout-hearted but tolerant men, such as is in our armed forces, instead of at home espousing racial prejudice, to lead the way for a truly Allied Nations victory.

### ASSIMILATION...

If the plans of State Senator Clarence C. Ward of Santa Barbara materializes, the State of California will take a leading role in assisting Japanese Americans to become assimilated with the Caucasian population.

Senator Ward, in delivering an address to

## YOUNG PEOPLE! HOLD, CHERISH CITIZENSHIP!--TAJIMA

The Japanese people in the United States are going through a great test. The Japanese Americans are hardest hit. Some are desperate and estimate their citizenship as of very small value. Those who do not have American citizenship know its real value. One of my sons is Japan-born and has no citizenship in this country. He wrote me and said, "We must believe in America. We aren't getting a decent deal, now but would we get a better one in \_\_\_\_\_? Of course not. And in the future, America is quite apt to be the only country where freemen will have any chance to follow their ambitions."

In the past and at present, while injustice was done us and our citizen rights were curtailed, there were and are many individuals and groups who stoop up for our rights in words and in deeds. An American citizen is free to do good as his intelligence and conscience directs and dictate to him. This is the greatest value of American citizenship.

Young people! Do not give up your citizenship under any circumstances. Hold it, cherish it. The founders of this nation had won and held this freedom with their blood. Could we win it at less cost? Let us not be bitter about our present status. Listen to your country calling. Respond splendidly and manfully. Win American heritage and leave it to your posterity.

Rev. Kengo Tajima

(From the) -- GILA NEWS-COURIER

Sat., Feb. 13, 1943

a State Chamber of Commerce meeting in Los Angeles recently, stated "While those who are American citizens (referring explicitly to the Nisei) are ENTITLED TO FULL PROTECTION OF THE 14TH AMENDMENT, a trend of thought must be started which will forever abolish some of the unsound thinking that has prevailed." This in itself is an heartening indication for the future status of Japanese American citizens, inasmuch as the 14th Amendment provides that citizenship rights shall not be abridged. Specifically, it reads as follows, "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due pro-

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### Editorial

## Faith In God

(Cont. from page 2)  
get the same old brush off as our fathers got (after World War I?) We're willing and anxious to do our part to win this war. Will Americans be willing to do the right thing by us after the war is won?

Will you faithless, skeptic Japanese Americans be able to interrogate that sort of questions with sincerity, with a clear conscience?

"We are a nation under God, conceived in liberty, dedicated to the divine rights of all men." So re-affirmed Lincoln. Our national creed is "In God we trust." And remember, mister misguided nisei, what the Lord sayeth: "That whatsoever ye sow that ye shall also reap."

K.O.