

MUSIC MAKERS



Mary Kasai guided the music department through an activity-filled calendar including participation in many of the Center's programs and presentation of recitals and community sings of their own.

Included in the music curriculum were six piano classes, mixed chorus, and girls' glee club. Assisting Miss Kasai were Kazuo Sekiya, Gladys Yoshikawa, Caroline Matsuyama, and Masako Ono.

Following its initial performance at the high school graduation exercises, the mixed chorus of forty-voices took part in the

Fourth of July programs, the Education Department Open House, and the forum, "Music in America".

Choral recitals were presented by the mixed chorus and the girls' glee club with the assistance of guest artists. The intermediate piano class also presented recitals.

Sponsorship of music appreciation nights were undertaken by the department and were held in the Center Bowl weekly. Many of the classics with spoken commentaries were played to satisfy the ears of the residents. Another series inaugurated and carried on were the weekly community sings using a printed songbook.

PARENTS LEARN english

Recognizing the convenient situation for the learning of English that this Center afforded, many Issei requested of the Education Department an opportunity to take up the study of this language.

No system having yet been devised to fit the peculiar needs of the Japanese, C. K. Ogden's Basic English system was utilized by the classes which were taught by volunteer instructors. Kiyoshi Hamanaka played a leading role in the inauguration of this course but later resigned and was replaced by Yoshiharu Matsumoto.

The teachers faced many problems in their difficult task and experimented in their methods in

order to arrive at the best possible method. Though the knowledge of English on the part of Issei varied, many of them already had comparatively large vocabularies. Hence the demands of the individual students varied widely. English was spoken as much as possible with a minimum of Japanese used. Classes were divided into beginners, intermediate, and advanced groups. Some of the pupils progressed as far as writing compositions that were printed in the GRAPEVINE.

Kosel Akamine, Fusako Matsui, Albert Hirohata, Lily Ota, Kaoru Otani, R. T. Ono, Kinuyo Sumida, and Ame Yamane formed the teaching staff headed by Matsumoto.

NISEI STUDY THE LANGUAGE, TOO

The English department, headed by Rayko Mano, gave courses in grammar, literature, and public speaking for students from the seventh to twelfth grades with some graduates also forming a class.

Miss Mano was assisted by Kay Mano, Yuri Minakami, Mrs. Al Tsukamoto, and Theodore Ono. The group participated in the Open House display and students serving as master-of-ceremonies and speakers.

Though handicapped by the lack of equipment, the English department carried on until the arrival of text books from the Fresno City schools.

