

B U D D H I S T S E R V I C E S

The ministry staff for the Buddhist Church at Fresno Assembly Center included the Rev. Kai, formerly of the Fresno Betsuin, the Rev. Kono from the Hanford area and Rev. Hirohata from Florin.

Mrs. Kinu Fujinaga was the secretary and Grace Nishi was the assistant. They were in charge of the office of Buddhist Works, coordinating actions of the Buddhist leaders and making all of the needed arrangements, including the collecting of materials needed for the various activities.

The weekly services included meetings for first generation evacuees that had to be held in two Recreation Halls simultaneously because of the number involved. Because of the predominance of Buddhists in the Center the Recreation Halls were not adequate at times to accommodate all wanting to attend and the Center outdoor bowl was used on occasions.

The 1,000 plus Center Busseis were headed by the following leaders. Dr. George Miyako - Fujiye Jitsumyo - Ella Yoshinaga - Chiyoko Fujimura - Shoichi Dobashi - Kazue Sekiya - George Teraoka - Sumio Kono - Kiyomi Nakamura - Michiko Kataoka - Hatsumi Wada - Harry Takeuchi - Haruko Kawano - Nori Masuda - Masako Ono - Taro Matsui - Ayako Noguchi.

Young Buddhist group activities were varied and interesting. They included lectures by Rev. Julius Goldwater of the Los Angeles Betsuin - Panel discussions - speech programs - get acquainted socials - farewell socials - singspirations and even a Minstrel Show that was sponsored and presented for all Center residents. Chairmen for the various special programs were, Dr. Saburo Okamura - Kiyomi Nakamura - Ella Yoshinaga - Haruko Kawano - Sumio Kono - Dr. George Miyako - Ayako Noguchi - Hatsumi Wada - Dr. K. Taira - Mrs. Kinu Fujinaga - John Hirota and Harry Takeuchi.

There were classes for children of all ages and a large staff of teachers for the various ages. The age groups and the names of of the teachers that served each group are listed here.

Kindergarten Age

Michiko Masai - Fusaye Sasaki - Michiko Kataoka - Sumiko Tsuji - Marion Nakasuma - Mieko Fujisawa - Kimiko Kawano - Toshiko Nishimura - Frances Sawai - Herbert Hirohata.

Ist To 3rd Grade

Fusaye Tokumoto - Grace Nishi - Shizue Ishida - Tsuru Sakata -