PACIFIC NORTHWEST JAPANESE AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM

Japanese American Newspapers Held in the University of Washington Libraries

Entries are in chronological order, beginning with the oldest title. Many of our holdings are partial---missing occasional individual issues, sometimes months or even years and decades. We are always trying to complete our holdings and appreciate information that might lead to filling some of these gaps.

Published from 1900 (mimeograph); 1901 to 1902
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A11798: February 16, 1901-January 11, 1902

**NOTES**: Founded by the Japanese Association, financial backing by Tōyō Bōeki Kaisha 東洋貿易會社 (Oriental Trading Company). This arrangement did not last long due to difficulties arising between the Association and the editor Manzo Watanabe; the paper ceased publication in 1904.

Published from September 1, 1902 to March 12, 1942
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A6045: October 14, 1916; December 14, 1917-March, 1920 (inc.); 1934 (inc.); October 1935; November 18, 1937-December 30, 1941; on microfilm A11562: September 10, 1923 (item two, misc. reel).

**NOTES**: Founded by Dr. Kiyoshi Kumamoto, Kurasosuke Hirade, Juji Yatagai and Ichiro Yamamoto, their original intent was to publish a more objective newspaper to compete with *Nihonjin*. Sakutaro Yamada was the first editor, soon succeeded by Yasushi Yamazaki. The latter eventually became editor of the Vancouver, B.C. *Tairiku Nippo*. In 1913, Shoichi Suginoo and Sumikiyo Arima took over the paper. Arima had been in charge of the Tacoma office of the *Hokubei Jiji* and became editor and publisher; Suginoo was the business manager until returning to Japan in 1918. Arima’s two sons joined the staff and eventually took over the business around 1930. An English language page was added in the mid-1930’s. Sumiyoshi Arima returned to Japan in November 1941, and his brother Sumio remained in charge of the paper until December 7, 1941 when he was arrested by the FBI and imprisoned until the end of World War II. Associate editors continued to publish until closed down in 1942. The last issue of the longest running Japanese language newspaper in Seattle was published on March 12, 1942.

Published from January 1, 1902-April 1942
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A3855, October 1911-October 2, 1933-February 18, 1937; April 21, 1942 (The Center for Research Libraries reports holdings for 1917-1927)

**NOTES**: Published by the Takeuchi Family
**Oshu Nippo, Oregon News.** Portland. Japanese
Published from 1908 or 1909 to 1953?
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A11562, January 1, 1915; August 28, 1934-September 11, 1946
**Notes:** this paper was the continuation of Oregon Shinpo. It was suspended temporarily World War II but resumed publication in 1945, and continued to publish until about 1953. It appeared much later, as Oregon Shuho. An unconfirmed story states that the Oshu Nippo backfiles were stored in a house in Vanport during the war, and that the file was lost in the great Vanport Flood of 1946.

Published: 1911/1912(?) to 1921
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A11562, January 1, 1915
**Notes:** This title is a continuation of the magazine Takoma Shuho. Only one issue known to exist. The editor was Otsuka Shun’ichi. By 1916 Takoma Jiho had converted back to a magazine.

**Oshu Seinen,** Portland. Japanese, some English
Published from 1926-?
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A11562 July 7, 1927
**Notes:** considered a newspaper but published bi-monthly (every two months). The editor was Wataru Takahashi.

**Japanese American Courier,** Seattle. English
Published from 1928-1942
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A3902: January 1, 1928-April 24, 1942
**NOTES:** First all-English language Pacific Northwest Japanese American community newspaper. James Sakamoto was the editor, and his wife, Misao Nishitani became Sakamoto’s eyes and served as office manager, carrying much of the daily burden of publishing a newspaper. The Japanese American Courier promoted Americanism, and Sakamoto was one of the main founders and supporters of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Published: May 1922 to April 1942
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A11562, April 9, 1942
**Notes:** One of the great tragedies for the Japanese language press in the Pacific Northwest, there are, so far, almost no surviving copies of this key paper but rumors continually circulate about hidden backfiles. The last editor, Shuichi Fukui continued working as a journalist (and grocer) after World War II, and was a contributor to the Hokubei Hochi.

**Taishu, The Masses,** Portland. Japanese
Published: 1930?-1934?
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm 11562, August 25, 1934
**Notes:** Edited and published by S. Hata and concerned itself with issues of social and political criticism. (A weekly Seattle publication called Taishu was a weekly labor magazine published by Kazue Martin (no relation to the Portland paper)
**Kosuto Jiho** コースト時報 *The Coast Times*. Portland, Oregon. Japanese
Published 193?-19??
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A11562, October 1 and 22, 1936; September 29, November 3 and 17, 1939
**Notes:** Mrs. Tora Miyake was listed with the paper, and the publisher was Bunro Sakaino.

Published between May 5, 1942 and August 14, 1942, producing 12 issues.
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm Uncat #316, May 5, 1942-August 14, 1942
**Notes:** This paper was heavily censored by the military but despite that, it conveys an intimate portrait of life in the Puyallup Fairgrounds stables. It is included as part of the award-winning website “Japanese American Exhibit & Access Project.” The entire paper was transcribed by Librarian Theresa Mudrock. The original paper is on microfilm held at the University of Washington Libraries. The entire website also includes photographs, information about the assembly center layout and administration, photographs, artwork, etc. A special section focuses on the experiences of UW’s Japanese American students following the attack on Pearl Harbor, “Interrupted Lives.”

**Minidoka Irrigator**, Minidoka Relocation Center, Idaho. English and some Japanese
Published from September 10, 1942 to July 28, 1945
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A6973, reels 17-18: September 10, 1942-July 28, 1945 (additional microfilmed runs of this title available); licensed online collection of all the Japanese American Relocation Camp Newspapers available at: 
**NOTES:** All of these American concentration camps published newspapers although the content was closely controlled by the U.S. Army censors. Nonetheless, they allow a surprisingly intimate and often heartbreaking glimpse into the lives of imprisoned Japanese heritage families, two thirds of whom were American citizens. The *Minidoka Irrigator* is especially significant to this project because it was located in the Pacific Northwest and many PNW Japanese American families were inmates here. The other PNW camp paper included in this collection is the Montana *Heart Mountain Sentinel*. Richard Takeuchi, the former editor of Seattle’s *Great Northern Daily News* was the editor of the *Irrigator*. The staff included Jackson Sonoda, formerly of the *Hokubei Jiji*. The paper became increasingly professional over the years and was eventually typeset, and included more far-ranging stories from former inmates who had enlisted in the military, reports from children who had managed to enroll in colleges in the Midwest and East, photographs and other features.

The University Libraries has several collections of the Assembly Center and the Camp papers on microfilm as well as licensed access to online issues.
Northwest Times, Seattle. English
Published from January 1, 1947-March 30, 1955
NOTES: Founded by Budd Fukei, he had been a key contributor to the Japanese American Courier before the war and who, during the war years, worked at the St. Paul Pioneer Press-Dispatch and the Cleveland News. Urged by friends to start a community paper, Fukei returned to Seattle and began publishing twice a week. One of the most interesting features appeared in 1950, the “Foto Times,” a pictorial focusing on local businesses and events. Regular columns on local and national news, health, fishing, reprinted articles from the New Canadian and Utah Nippo, and a series by University of Washington professor Floyd Schmoe, long time peace activist and naturalist who stood with the local Japanese community throughout the war years. After the paper closed, due to financial and personal reasons, Fukai worked for many more years as an editor at the Seattle Post Intelligencer.

Seihoku Nippo, Northwest Daily, Seattle.
Published November 17, 1948 to September 15, 1952
UW Libraries Holdings on microfilm A9545, November 17, 1949-September 12, 1952
NOTES: The second Japanese newspaper published in Seattle after World War II, it was published and edited by Kazue Martin Miyata, who was joined by Sumio Arima, Noboru Hokusei Date and Gentaro Oe. The paper covered international, national, regional and local news. When Miyata became seriously ill in 1952, the paper ceased.

Oregon Shuho, Oregon Weekly, Portland. Japanese
Published from 195?-1969?
NOTES: Continues Oshu Nippo and is continued by Oshu Jiji

Oshu Jiji, Portland. Japanese, English
Published from 1969(?) to 1980's(?)
Notes: Published as a weekly on a mimeograph machine by Frank Mokuo Tomori. At one time, it was based in the regional office of the Japanese American Citizens League. The paper continued the Oregon Shuho.

Northwest Nikkei, Seihokubu Nikkei, Seattle. English
Published from May 1991 to May 2, 1997
UW Libraries Holdings
NOTES: This paper served as the English language companion of the Hokubei Hochi and covered both local and national Japanese community concerns. It carried local history articles as well as current news. It merged into the English language section of the Hokubei Hochi from May 16, 1997 to July 1998. The name Northwest Nikkei reappeared as part of the English language section masthead of the Hokubei Hochi from 2001 to August 28, 2004.
**Soi Sosu, Soy Source**, Seattle. Japanese
Published 1992 – current
UW Libraries Holdings in original papercopy; to be microfilmed, September 25, 2002 – current (copy received by the UW East Asia Library and transferred every few months to the Microform & Newspaper Collections.

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**Pacific Northwest Japanese Newspapers published but NOT held by the University of Washington Libraries (and not necessarily held anywhere)**

Entries are in chronological order, beginning with the title, place of publication and dates of publication. Locations of holdings noted if known.

Published in 1894-1995
Holdings: Unknown
**Notes:** A daily, it is said to be the first Japanese language newspaper published in Portland.

*Japonika Poorando*, Portland, Oregon. Japanese
Published in mimeograph form in 1899
Holdings: Unknown

Published (?) 1899
Holdings: Unknown
If this title actually existed, it might be Seattle’s first newspaper. More likely, it was a brief-lived newsletter published by the Japanese YMCA

*Seihoku shinpo, Northwestern News*, Seattle. Japanese
Published between June 1902-New Year’s edition 1903
Holdings: Unknown
Published from 1904-ca. 1908
Holdings: Unknown
Notes: Published by the S. Ban Company, the newspaper was used to inform and stay in contact with contract laborers throughout the Western states. In 1909, it became Oshu Nippo.

Kashu Nichinichi shinbun, Washington Daily News, Seattle
Published April 1908, ceased late 1908
Holdings: Unknown

Published between March 1, 1905-March 1918
Holdings: Unknown

Supoken Jiji, Spokane Times, Spokane. Japanese
Published August 1906 to 1915/16? Or possibly continued by Supoken Taimusu.
Holdings: Unknown

Amerika Shinpo, Seattle. Japanese
Published between March 1908-November 1908
Holdings: Unknown

Published: 1912 (two issues)
Holdings: Unknown

Supoken Taimusu, Spokane Times, Spokane. Japanese
Published: 1911 continuing Supoken Jiji
Holdings: Unknown

Hankyō [Echo], Portland. Japanese
Published August 25, 1918-December 1920.
Holdings: unknown

Nichi-Bei Koron, Seattle. Japanese
Published mid-1930’s-1941
Notes: Not exactly a newspaper but a monthly journal of opinion published by Toshiharu Kanbe, a regular contributor to Japanese language newspapers in Seattle. This would be a valuable publication, should it ever be found.
Holdings: Unknown