

Mantaro Takemoto

1870 - 1942

Mantaro Takemoto emigrated from Fukuoka, Japan in 1902. That same year his son, Kiso, was born in Japan. It is unclear if Mantaro's wife, Hatsu, ever emigrated to the United States, but she died sometime before 1930. Kiso came to the US when he was 17 in 1919.

Kiso married and had four children in the 1930s. Mantaro lived with his son's family. Horribly, Kiso's wife, Inoyo, died by accidental drowning in 1940. When the Takemoto's went to Topaz it was father and son, both widowers, and four small children.

**Mantaro died on December 18, 1942 in Topaz.
He was survived by his son and four grandchildren.**

Two Children See Mother Drown in Creek

A young Japanese mother of four children drowned in a creek on the Webb ranch on Portola road back of Stanford University late yesterday afternoon with her two youngest children looking on and powerless to help her.

The woman was Mrs. Inoyo Takemoto, 29, wife of Kiso Takemoto. Her husband, who had been away from the ranch for a short time, returned home to find two of his children, Setsuko, 4, and Yoshiko, 3, crying in their cabin with their aged grandfather Mantaro Takemoto.

They warned the father not to go near the creek, a short distance from the house.

Takemoto rushed there, according to Deputy Sheriffs Milton Minehan and John O'Brien, dived in the six-foot-deep creek and pulled his wife's body out. A doctor was called, but artificial respiration efforts proved fruitless.

The children told the deputies that their mother had been hauling brush across the creek in a wheelbarrow, and that she had lost her balance on the 15-inch plank bridge.

Deputy Coroner Lewis E. Franklin said there was no sign of a bruise, indicating the woman had not been knocked unconscious by hitting the plank. The husband told the deputies she could not swim.

Besides the two children who were with her, Mrs. Takemoto is survived by two others, the oldest being seven years of age. The body is at the Franklin and Crowe Mortuary.