## Masajiro Miyazaki CM 15/12/76

Dr. Masajiro Miyazaki is now a Freeman of Lillooet, British Columbia, treasurer of the district's historical society and the father of two successful children.

He has patiently gathered many other honours as well. He was born in 1899 at Kaideima, Shigaken, Japan, came to Canada as a teen-ager, graduated from the University of British Columbia in 1925 and from the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. After interning in Los Angeles he went into practice in Vancouver.

One low point in his life came in World War II when the government interned the Japanese in British Columbia. He went voluntarily and served as the medical officer at the camp at Bridge River.

After the war things improved steadily. In 1949 he went to vote in the British Columbia elections, and when the man at the polls told him that be-

cause he was Japanese he was not eligible, he replied, truthfully, that the law had been changed. In 1950 he became a village commissioner, the first Japanese elected to office in Canada. In 1960 he became involved in scouting; in 1961 he joined Lillooet Lodge 467 of BPO Elks as a charter member; and in 1970, was made a life member. In 1973 he published his autobiography, My Sixty Years in Canada, and was named president of the Lillooet District Historical Society; and in 1976 the Kamloops District Council honoured him for sixteen years in scouting. He says that there is no longer any prejudice against Japanese in British Columbia. "When I graduated I could not get a job. When my son graduated two years ago, he had offers from 3 firms." His only daughter is doing quite as well: she is the vice-principal of a public high school.

## **David Lewis** CC 15/12/76

David Lewis minces no words. He was born in the battered town of Swislocz, Poland, in 1909 and was attending socialist meetings in his front parlor when he was six.

In 1921 his father, a leather worker, (who had called the meetings) took his family to Montreal where David taught himself English, finished elementary and high school in a total of six years and entered McGill University. He was politically very active, won the Talbot-Papineau trophy for oratory, and in 1931 applied for a Rhodes scholarship. Sir Edward Beatty, president of Canadian Pacific Railway and chairman of the selection board, gave him an oral examination.

"What would be your first step if you were elected Prime Minister?" Sir Edward asked. "I'd nationalize the CPR," David replied. He received the scholarship and was the first Canadian presi-



dent of the Oxford Union where he met Clement Attlee, Sir Stafford Cripps, Harold Lask and Sidney and Beatrice Webb.

