



LEID UNIVERSIT

'calamus gladio fortior'

Kobayashi Establishes New Steal Record



Outfilder Hiroshi Kobayashi, captain of Keio Univ. baseball team, has established a new record in the Tokyo Six University Baseball League of 63 steals.

On October 31, the first game of the traditional K-W match series was held. In the bottom of the 6th, Kobayashi walked to first base after being hit by the hurler Shirou Mitani and stole second, thus tying the record for steals held by Tadashi Matsumoto (a graduate from Waseda Univ. and now a professional baseball player for the Yomiuri Giants). He then succeeded in stealing third, establishing a new record of 58. And he was successful

3 times in the second game, and once again in the final game to set up a record of 16 steals in a single season.

He said, "It has been my dream to establish this record. As I knew my legs were the only thing \ensuremath{I} could depend upon in college baseball, it's the greatest pleasure. After graduation, I will go on playing semi-professional baseball, I will make greater efforts from now on."

Disappointingly, the Keio baseball team ranked fifth in 1981 fall season. However, his legs have encouraged the Keio-nine and us, Keio students. Let's look forward to his brilliant performance in the future.

Otaiba Comes to KEIO **Takemi** Program at Harvard

Dr. TARO TAKEMI, who will be resigning as chairman of the Japan Medical Committee this coming March, has accepted a similar post at Harvard University. Dr. Takemi's thesis on development and distribution of medical treatment resources has been highly evaluated by Harvard Univ., where programs aimed at training world leaders in medical treatment policy have been undertaken. Harvard Univ. will be establishing "Doctor Taro Takemi Program" starting next Sept. There have been other programs named after world famous Professors, but Dr. Taro Takemi is the first Japanese to receive this honor. Dr. Takemi will be going abroad to make further arrangements before starting the program in Sept.

Dr. Takemi received this offer in August from the dean of the Medical Dept. In the United States, where a public insurance system has not been innovated, there has been strong depolicy. In this ongoing debate, supporters of a national health system have

An acute change is now engulfing Mideast crude oil producers, and it is more serious than the oil embargo crisis of 1973-1974, threatening the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the visiting United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mana Said al-Otaiba said on October 15, at the Public Speaking Hall of Keio University. Otaiba received the doctor's degree from Keio University and made a speech under the theme "OPEC and an excessive supply of crude oil"

At the coming general OPEC meeting in Abu Dhabi in December, the members must have "a comprehensive, justifiable solution" to the present situation of OPEC members, Mana Said al-Otaiba said in an hour-and-a-half address. He was referring to the world's escalating development efforts for alternative energy sources, including coal, natural gas and nuclear power. These new and revived sources of energy are now threatening to scale down the market of Mideast oil, he said.

The minister also cited the prevailing * mands for a national medical treatment conservation trend for petroleum, a move he said that would eventually reduce crude oil supply from the petroreferred to Dr. Takemi's theory. Presileum cartel. He said this trend has dent Reagan has also shown interest in taken place during last two years. Dr. Takemi's theory and it was one of "We will not join efforts to take oil the topics discussed at U.S.-Japan out of the market," according to conference back in May. Otaiba.

bably dream of going abroad to study. Actually, the number of students studying abroad has been rising rapidly in Japan. It is believed by people all over the world that the role Japan can play in the world shouldn't remain only in the economy and that Japan should contribute in other fields. In order to fulfill the expectation, an image of the Japanese who has abundant international senses or global viewpoints without insularism is necessary and much effort is being made in various fields to cultivate this image in Japan now. It may be safely said that the worth of studying abroad is to build an expected image of the Japanese. Of course, there are many kinds of studying abroad; from those aiming to master a foreign language combined with sightseeing during a month or so, to earnest ones aiming to get their master's or doctor's degree by the Fulbright Program for graduate students, or the system of sending employees to make them get their MBA

Every university student would pro-

by companies. Naturally, the fruits will be different according to the kinds of studying abroad. In general, the orientation for those

who are going to study abroad is sufficient in Japan. However, when it comes to thinking how and to what extent the fruits or the experiences of students returning home from abroad are appreciated, used and applied in the actual Japanese society, little, if any, attention is paid to such problems and answers. For example, it is often said that foreign language facility which was once improved to some extent during studying abroad may decline in Japan if the opportunity to use it is not given in an environment where the Japanese is the only method of communication. This is often seen in the cases of the shortterm studying abroad aimed at mastering the foreign language. There are cases where academic credits granted by foreign universities are not admitted by some Japanese universities or companies. In addition, there are cases where students returning home from abroad cannot make the best of their fruits in Japan and must go abroad to stay. For example, there are many world-wide Japanese scholars who devote themselves in their studies at foreign universities, disliking the closed diathesis of Japanese universities.

How Should Study-ing Abroad Be? Not to Master English; To Gain A Broader Mind and stay out of the mainstream of Japanese life: and cases where university students studying abroad for several years are shut out of their job-huntings owing to the age limitation. So, however many students may be sent abroad for study with ardor, if the Japanese society or systems don't change and in the first place students can't fit back in, it would be meaningless or ineffective to send students abroad and the Japanese would remain as an odd people for ever. So, studying abroad from now on must be thought over along the course in which internationalized students returning home from abroad can take active parts in the Japanese society. It is important to improve both the institutions of studying abroad and various ones of the Japanese society so as to train the internationalized Japanese who retain identities as themselves and are not excluded in Japan. To do so, Japan will be able to make rapid progress toward true internationalization.

Under such a critical mind, the Mita Campus has interviewed four undergraduates who were dispatched to foreign universities with which Keio University is now exchanging students and returned home from studying there about a year and one undergraduate who studied at Illinois State University obtaining a scholarship for about a year. The interviews were held mainly as to how those five students are now thinking and appreciating their experiences of studying abroad. (n.b. There were 8 students who were dispatched by Keio University excluding those for Australia, but the interviews were held with only 4 students because of various circumstances.)

Interviewed students are as follows;

- Mr. A (Senior at the dept. of economics) Western Michigan Univ. (U.S.A.)
- Mr. B (Senior at the dept. of literature) Université de Paris III (Paris) (Senior at the dept. of econom-Mr. C
 - ics) Chung Chi College (Hong Kong)
- Mr. D (Senior at the dept. of economics) Univ. of Maryland (U.S.A.)
- (Junior at the dept. of economics) Illinois State Univ. (U.S.A.)
- All of them studied abroad for about a year, which is comparatively a shortrm one

There are also cases where American- long-term ones and they are now workized students deeply captivated with the ing hard at their lessons at Keio Univeroccidental culture are alienated and sity. In general, it is socially safe for

nsidering various kinds of isolated by the group-oriented Japanese university students to study abroad and

Continued on page 2

Vol. XXXVIII No. 3

KEIO UNIVERSITY, TOKYO, JAPAN

Page 2



ate from the original school taking into I felt that the U.S.A. is a country consideration the problems of job-hunt- where one can live his life with comings or so. Into the bargain, in case of plete freedom and develop his abilities the institution of exchanging students only if he takes on this responsibility by Keio and the foreign universities, the limitation is very lax and the school authorities don't particularly intervene Mr. B: "I studied at the Universife de in the contents of the course or the Paris III. I didn't go to France for the completion of college courses at universities abroad. So, students can take or the doctor's one like graduate stucourses which they want to study and dents, but I studied abroad in hopes of enjoy their lives in foreign countries. In such a sense, they probably won't worry about the problems which were mentioned earlier, and say, they are socially accepted or can readjust themselves to the Japanese life. It would be rather possible to find the ideal image of the internationalized Japanese in them. Let's introduce the meaningful and impressing remarks they made at the interview hereafter.

EXCERPTS:

Mr. A: "I studied at the Western Michigan University in the state of Michigan abroad have translated an idea which I Pekingese language. At first I could to be able to do many things I had for about a year placing emphasis on the English language and psychology, especially communication. Apart from my free time and I thought that life in after returning from Taiwan during the the elite universities in the east, the Paris was similar to that in Tokyo in the winter vacation where Pekingese is an Western Michigan University is a typically average one, so I could look at the to their dwellers. Through interchanges language in Hong Kong is Cantonese) more strongly. I felt that I was the only average Americans. As for the fruits of with a French student from the prov- I could understand about 80%. So, I studying abroad, I can say that my view- ince who always returned to his family am satisfied to have been able to impoints on many things have become on weekend and made much of his famobjective and my way of thinking has ily and the students who were ashamed become more realistic than before. at being pointed to by teachers, I found Japanese students are good at discussing that the French students and the Japathe highly abstract things, but at the same time they are apt to be short of actualities or realities. However, the American students, even if the contents apologize to even strangers for rudeness of conversation are on a low level, are even in the case of slightly toughing system of universities in Hong Kong is important is that students can obtain quite realistic. In such a sense, I think I was very satisfied to touch the actual, realistic way of thinking of the Americans. I also notice that the Japanese much of his family, I was rather surpris- with students not only from Hong Kong methods of communication, students don't make much of things such as human relations compared with the of the French. In my opinion, studying could steep myself in the atmosphere of useful in some fields after returning Americans. I cannot help admiring the abroad as a student has a merit in that Hong Kong, which was the best fruit to home.' Americans on this point. Anyway, it he can study and live in easy, carefree me. My viewpoints on many things and was the best thing to add the reality, manner apart from immigration which way of thinking have become more realthe flexibility and the variety to my inevitably brings clashes of interests istic, flexible in that I could accept way of thinking or viewpoints. Since and great culture shock and the system others' thoughts as they are and regard I returned home from studying abroad, of dispatching employees in a company myself as one of foreigners. Hong Kong I have been making it a rule to talk to make them get the master's or the is an unbelievably densely populated things to others in easier, more actual doctor's degree which cause great area where members of a family live

with many peole who were not only this university from all over the world return home while at school and gradu- and I placed a great value on friendship. for himself."

> purpose of getting the master's degree mastering the French language, so I didn't leave anything in concrete form. by studying abroad. As for study, of ity is all. I also regard studying abroad course, I could improve in the French as the time when a student is conscious language to some extent, but what was of everything he does in his life. Actions solid background to the future direc- ter of course in Japan come into his tion in studying the French literature. consciousness abroad. When I found the lecture on the problem of poetry and its translation there Mr. C: "I studied at Chung Chi college which was not yet founded at univer- to which about 3,000 students attend in sities in Japan, I was not only happy but a remote countryside of New Territory could manage to follow the lectures greatly shocked in that some people for the purpose of mastering the and made many friends and was likely thought vaguely in my mind into ac- understand only 20% of the contents wanted to by myself. In general, tion. I walked throughout Paris during of the lectures and used English, but American students were almost the solitude and isolation that big cities give nese students were much the same are candidates for the elites in the future people. What was interesting to me was and they have studied very hard with attached to the universities. It is posthat the French people would certainly consciousness that university is a place sible to master it even in Japan with their shoulders with each other with their eyes set toward each other's ones. English degree one, so students must or ways of thinking. Taking into Including the French student making study hard further. I talked frankly account that languages are only the ed at the compassion and the courtesy but from Southeast Asian countries and must try to get something which will be

> the Americans but students coming to dents, he can hardly step into the in Hong Kong in such swelling environsociety more deeply within the limits ment, I was very fortunate to study and of a position as a student. To sum up, live in Hong Kong. In such a sense, the students can safely enjoy their studies worth obtained by having lived alone and lives in foreign countries, but on the for about a year and having seen the other hand they can hardly plunge into subsurface complicated human interests were very great to me. relations, thus they are apt to see superficial things. Anyway, I found it a good Maryland for about a year. Before chance to have been able to study leaving Japan, I found it a good chance abroad as a university student. After for reconsidering myself, trying what studying abroad for about one year, I I've obtained for 3 years at Keio Unihave been able to look at and accept versity and knowing the outside of things as they are. I have had a manner Japan. But, now I cannot help admitthat I should not lightly and blindly ting that I was a little optimistic about search for things that we have not here However, I obtained incorporeal fruits and there and a viewpoint that the real- a brilliant campus life like a short-term more important was that I could get a to which we pay no attention as a mat- As for the English language, I could

official language, (n.b. The official ness. They had better assert themselves prove both Pekingese and English to some extent. There are only two universities in Hong Kong with about 5 of time and money, only to go to foreign million residents, so university students for study first of all. In addition, the adequate methods. What is more composed of Amrican unit system and not only in study but in his viewpoints way. Into the bargain, I made friends spiritual pressure. However, regarding their own lives in a tiny room. Having

The Mita Campus November 1981

demerits of studying abroad as a stu- been able to see the vitalities of people ways of living of people in Hong Kong

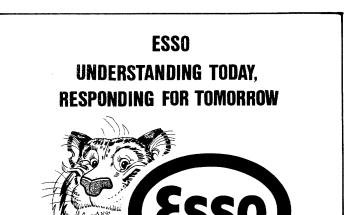
> Mr. D: "I studied at University of studying abroad in that I had dreamed studying abroad to master one foreign language. Actually, I had a hard time. especially regarding studying at first. manage to get along in daily life, but I was very handicapped in lectures, especially class discussions. The time of a year was too short for me in that when one year was about to pass, I same as the Japanese students, but the latter ones are a little lacking in positiveperson I could depnd upon after all.

Lastly, let's listen to Mr. E's remarks regarding studying abroad.

"I think that it is meaningless, waste universities for the purpose of mastering a foreign language at language schools

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TOKYO, AKASAKA, YOKOHAMA, NAGOYA, OSAKA

The 33rd Japan-U.S. Student Conference



Chairman Shuji Tomikawa Junior of Keio Univ. Economic Dept.

The 33rd Japan-American Student conference (JASC) ended its 26 days of discussions and field trips sharing deepest fraternity and a strong will toward international peace established in the minds of 45 Japanese and 42 American delegates. The hot humid weather of the past summer in Tokyo, Hiroshima, Osaka, and other cities added greater discomfort to the already heated discussion of the student organized conference. In 1934 a group of Japanese students who, at this time of deteriorating relations between the two countries, felt an urgent need to promote mutual understanding and invited 70 American students to attend the first conference. With the exception of World War II, two other interruption in the late 1950's and early 1960's the routine of holding the conference annually and alternately in Japan and the U.S. has continued up to this date.

Under the unchanged goals of promoting mutual understanding, friendship and trust between the two countries across the Pacific Ocean, JASC provides a unique opportunity for student delegates to have a frank exchange of view on a variety of subjects. The U.S.-Japan relations have become increasingly important in this highly interdependent world, economically, diplomatically, and culturally. The past few years have witnessed, moreover, dramatic changes of elements alongwith environments of the bilateral relations.

The TV series "Shogun" was a hit of such magnitude last fall that not only the more than 200 Japanese restaurants in N.Y. were swarmed by businessmen but also a variety of interest in this country, ranging from health food (soybeans and others) to the labormanagement relations, increased even among U.S. general public. The search for a universal validity of the native culture and social system of Japan may have been started abroad.

Meanwhile, the Japanese emotional as well as political character of "nuclear allergy" was unveiled and brought to the fore of the nation's top priority issues by the following events of waves: first, the accidental sinking of a Japanese freighter by an American nuclear submarine, then the war of the word "alliance" in the U.S.-Japanese communique, and finally the disclosure by tormer U.S. Ambassador Reischuer and Johnson (both happened to be members of JASC Board of Trustees) that U.S. warship carrying nuclear weapons have frequently entered Japanese ports or passed through territorial waters.

With these topics and a multitude of others in the background of the 33rd JASC, delegates visited many places, where their questions were always welcome by college professors, politicians, government officials, and company executives.

Many of the American delegates were exposed for the first time to the theories of disarmament presented by Prof. Yoshikazu Sakamoto of Tokyo Univ. in his keynote address following the opening ceremony on July 27th. The Defence Agency officials explained in detail how "infantile" Japan's defence forces are and analyzed the readiness of Russian combat capabilities and the global role Japan must play. Upon the delegations' visit to the U.S. Embassy Ambassador Mansfield (also a member of JASC Board) denied the potentialities of a military alliance among the U.S., Japan, and China. When one Japanese delegate asked him about U.S. arms sale to Peking along with Soviet's allegation on the matter. In Hiroshima a Jewish-American student accused the nuclear arms race by



The briefing by US Ambassador Mansfield for the Conference

was wiped out and 140 thousand were Hideo Nishioka, professor emeritus, killed in the nuclear halocaust by the Dept. of Literature, then captain of nation where thousands of Jews includ- K.E.S.S., took part in the 4th confering her kinfolks fled from the Nazi ence in 1937. When the 5th JASC was Holocaust. The 33rd JASC adopted hosted by Keio Univ., Prof. Takehiko a Peace Declaration after attending Yazaki, Dept. of Medecine, devoted the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Cere- himself to the preparation of the conmony on August 6.

place of visit on the basis of one Japa- the chief Cabinet Secretary, then junior nese and one American student in one at Tokyo Univ. and Mrs. Miyazawa, room and this changed every time then junior at Tokyo Women's College. delegations moved to the next destination. Roommates would take advantage States on the 6th JASC. of this golden opportunity to get to countries

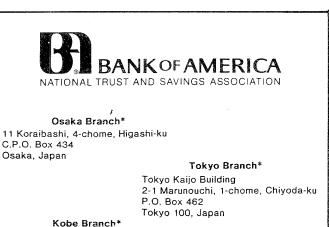
The 33rd JASC members were fortu- relationship, especially in the coming nate enough to be able to stay for four years of uncertainties. It is expected nights at Keio Tateshina Lodging, for full heartedly that promising Keio which all the delegates sincerely wished students will participate and play an to thank Keio Univ. There have been important role in the Japan-America three or more Keio participants at each Student Conference.

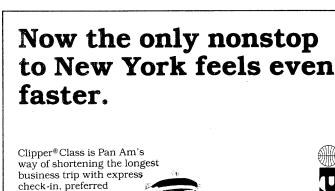
seating, complimentary

drinks and more.

pointing out the paradox that the city conference throughout its history. Mr. ference. He recalls those days when he Room assignments were given at each worked hard with Mr. Kiichi Miyazawa, The three also went to the United

The 34th JASC is going to be held in know each other late in the evening. In several cities on the eastern coast of the those endless informal conversations, U.S. in July and August of next year. sometimes until morning, delegates While the world is becoming more and became really close friends. In addition, more interdependent, the exchange of towards the end of the conference there human resources will also continue to were big parties attended by all the increase. There is no doubt that mutual delegates almost every night. Here, understanding through open-minded again, nobody could recognize dif- and frank discussions between young ferences between youths of the two, generations of the two countries will always serve to shape the best bilateral





Page 3

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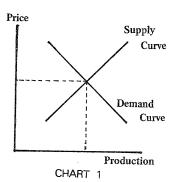
How Oil Price Determined Is

The determination of oil prices is curves of oil for simplication. wrapped in mystery. It seems to go against the general law of "price mecha- is a lways increasing. (See Chart 2.) nism", which determines most commodity prices. This mystery results Price from the peculiarity of oil as a commodity. If it were not for the maldistribution and limitedness of oil, the oil price would follow the law of price mechanism. We will answer some of general questions about oil prices and

(Q1) Since the resources of oil are limited, the oil supply should get always smaller and smaller. On the other hand, the demand for oil is increasing more and more. So oil prices ought to be constantly increasing, should never be fixed or on the decrease. But the fact is right. As a result, the price of oil will rise. that the price of oil has been fixed or rather on the decrease for a couple of years. If we consider the decrease in and production should always be demonetary value caused by the inflation, creasing, in the result that its supply the substantial price of oil has evidently curve shifts to the left. If so, the oil decreased. What accounts for this situ- price will grow even higher. (See Chart ation?

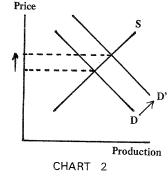
clarify ' the price mechanism of oil.'

(Ans.) As a basic rule, oil prices are determined by the intersection of demand and supply curves. (See Chart 1.)

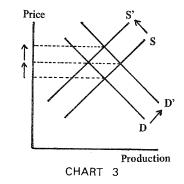


commodities because of the peculiar- technology, the cost necessary for prosuppose they are demand and supply considerably. These facts account for price soar.

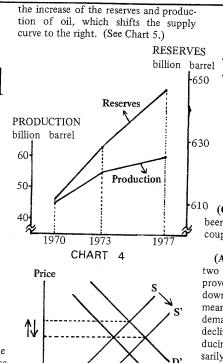
By the way, the demand of oil



Therefore its demand curve shifts to the How about supply of oil? Since the oil resources are limited, its reserves 3.)



But this is not true. (See Chart 4.) This chart shows the reserves and production of oil from 1970 to 1977. Could the reserves of limited oil increase? This seems strange, but it is

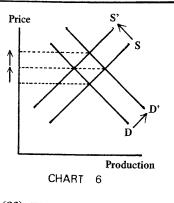


Production CHART 5

In the end, the increase of demand raises the price, but the increase of If 20% of production is reduced and a supply works to the contrary. So oil 10% increase of price is realized, the prices rise when the demand curve is revenue will decrease 12%. (See the shifting faster to the right than the expression 2) supply curve is shifting to the right. $(1-0.2) \times (1+0.1) \times 100 - 100 = -12.(2)$ And they go down in the other case.

go down, why did it only keep soaring reduction in production and after the First Oil Crisis in 1973? Why all the countries cut down their producdid the oil price suddenly rise abnormal. tion as directed at the cartel. ly in 1973 and in 1979?

price of oil rises to some extent due to try the motives of producing more in the inflation dominating today's world order to maintain the present revenue. economy. Nevertheless, the oil price And If one of OPEC countries produces rose much faster than the inflation. more against agreement of price cartel, This is because OPEC monopolizes the it will see its oil revenue increases a lot, oil supply. OPEC made a price cartel for a moment by the increase of both and shifted the supply curve to the left, price and production. Meanwhile, other nothing but a simple truth. Every year which should have shifted to the right countries will also produce more and Demand and supply curves of oil new oil fields are discovered and start under a perfect competitive market. the price of oil will decrease. Finally, differ greatly from those of ordinary producing oil. Thanks to progress in (See Chart 6.) OPEC deliberately shifted the cartel will collapse. the supply curve to the left by reducing ity of oil as a commodity. But we will ducing one barrel of oil has dropped oil production, and therefore made the appeared as the disagreement of the posted



(Q3) Why has the oil production been greater than market needs for a couple of years?

(Ans.) First due to the two Oil Shocks, every country improved the productivity of oil, and cut down their consumption of oil. This meant that the speed, at which the demand curve was shifting to the right, declined. Secondly, rise of price by reducing the production does not necessarily increase the revenue of oil producing countries. Let me give you some examples. If an oil producing country cuts down 10% of its production and got a 20% increase of its price, the revenue increases 9%. (See the expression 1)

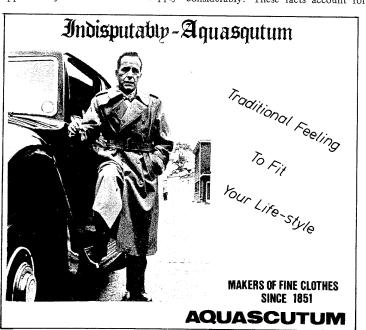
 $(1-0.1) \times (1+0.2) \times 100 - 100=9.(1)$

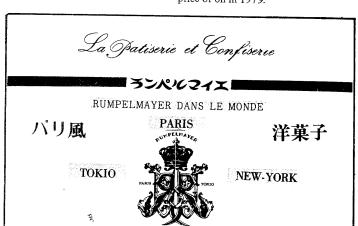
By the way, price cartels will be

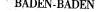
successful when (1) the rate of price (Q2) If the oil price can either rise or increase is greater than that of the (2)

Decline of demand made the rise of price smaller. And decline of the price (Ans.) It is only natural that the increase gave each oil producing coun-

> This collapse happened to OPEC. It price of oil in 1979.







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English as International Language

- An Interview with Prof. Takao Suzuki-

The Japanese, in general, can read English to some extent, but cannot speak. The English we have learned at school is of no practical use. Endless discussions on how to teach English have been constantly held in Japan, but have not resulted in any significant, fruitful form. Why has English been an object of discussions with fruitless results? Why do so many people study English? How should the English education be from now on in this international society? Such problems must be thought over on such basic viewpoints as the Japanese way of thinking towards the education of foreign languages. Under such consciousness, the staff of the Mita Campus has interviewed Professor Takao Suzuki, a world

authority on language sociology, famous for his unique opinion on English education.

Language and Culture

Page 5

- Q: First of all, how do you regard learning foreign languages?
- A: We human beings begin learning to express our basic human recognitions or feelings through our native language. So we can not neglect the relation between the mother tongue and a foreign language in learning the latter. And a foreign language which has been learned and mastered is to some extent influenced by the mother tongue, culture, and religion. For example, English spoken by Japanese is entirely different from that spoken by Chinese. Without considering these facts, we cannot learn a foreign language.
- Q: Then it is very important to think the learning of foreign languages in conjunction with the culture in which one has been brought up, isn't it?
- A: Yes, there hasn't been such consciousness so far in learning foreign languages. For example, there are some cases where children who live abroad cannot entirely speak Japanese because they aren't possessed with the cultural background of the Japanese language. Their identities in thinking things are chaotic, thus giving rise to mental unrest. Thereupon I insist that one should learn foreign languages after one is well versed in his mother tongue and is familiar with the cultural background.

However, taking into mind the internationalization of the Japanese, it might be helpful to accept these half-Japanese in filling up the gap between Japan and the country where they have been brought up. At that time we must pay attention to the fear of losing good qualities as Japanese. For example, there is merit in the fact that the crime rate is very low compared with the Western countries, owing to the group based mentality.

I can't easily decide which is goo

think of things under the influence of the Western world. In this sense, isn't it true that the Japanese people think in terms of not only their own culture but also through evaluation of the Western people?

A: The tendency that, if you are not evaluated highly in Western countries, you won't be evaluated highly in Japan, still remains. The recent relation of Prof. Fukui's Nobel prize and the order of Cultural Merits is really a joke.

This tendency also remains in education of foreign languages. First English is a must, then German and French. The pyramid structure as to what languages are emphasized is already in our minds.

The sturucture that puts English in the center, then German and French on the side is similar to the order in society and military power in the Meiji period when Japan tried to modernize using European and U.S. as a model. It was an ideal plan to modernize through introduction of Western cultures. The order of English first, then German and French was inevitable when there was a demand to choose a model which would modernize Japan most efficiently.

Before World War II, world was obviously evolving around developed countries like Britain, Germany, and France. The goal of foreign language educational system in Japan was to introduce the cultures of developed countries and to raise Japan to their level. In other words, to catch up and to get ahead. In that sense, we can say this system was correct. As a result, the gap between Japan and European/American countries became smaller. Thus the intention to import European-American culture by learning mainly English had accomplished its object. An institution which had achieved its goal will eventually run itself. That's why

English education in Japan has become empty in contents.

Now, Japan's GNP is the second largest in the free world and it's economic power is strong. It has relations with nations all over the world in terms of trade, natural resources, energy and many other things. We must think of Japan through its multiple relations with countries of the world. Since this has a great meaning to security, it is necessary to reconsider what language to learn.

We don't have to study English, German and French as hard as we now. This may be harmful. Because if we take it in the present level, the opportunity to learn Russian, Arabic and Chinese and other languages will be lost. For instance, in universities, no one gets very far with his second or third foreign language. Hardly any one learns a third foreign language and most student's ability in the second foreign language is not enough to use practically. Furthermore, since the first foreign language is English, and the second being German or French, there would hardly



be anyone who can speak Russian, Arabian, Korean, etc.

I don't mean to say that English is not necessary, but we don't need to push it to the extent that we have been for the past hundred years since Meiji. Present English education system will bring a bad effect to Japan. We must know that we are only doing what is already useless by force of habit.

English as an International Language

- Q: Surely, I think it necessary to pull down relatively the weight we have on English. But to master many languages by oneself is not realistic. Isn't there a need to pay attention to the fact that English is functioning as an international language though not absolutely?
- A: Certainly, that can be said. But first of all, we have to change our understanding of English. English has two functions, that as an international language and a national language.
- Q: What is the difference between English as an international language and as a national language?
- A: English as a national language is a private property of the people who use English as their mother tongue But English as an international language is for the people all over the world. And it is a medium of communication for people whose native language is not English.

Of course, English was only a national language until the end of the war. When many of the British colonies declared independence, some countries like India and Pakistan adopted English as their national language. Other English colonies use English for their mother tongue will not be understood. So the number of countries that state their opinions and claim their rights in English has increased. And therefore English became an international language. ics. But, considering that there are many other countries, it is not necessary for all Japanese to study English as an ethnic language. But English as an international language is surely worth the time and the effort.

Then from the method of learning English with English-American cultural background, we cannot learn English as an international language. When speaking with a Korean, an Arabian, or a Persian in English, English-American cultural background is not necessary. In such a case, English without English-American cultural influence is rather desirable. For they are not using English to state their opinion as an American or Englishmen. From now on, English education should be transparent, meaning teaching English purely as an international language.

- Q: How can we learn English as an international language?
- A: First of all, you should not use American and English literature as a text book. For that would be placing weight on English American literature. The ideal way is to use a book in English that covers the world in not only literature but geography, history, economics and society. But taking in mind that there are over 150 countries pertaining to United Nations, not to mention those that are not, it is not possible to make such a text book that deals with all the countries equally and that can be learnt in a short period of time.

I think it better to study a book written in English about Japan, its history, geography, literature, economics and society. Japanese are Japanese no matter where in the world they go. By studying in English you may talk about Japan, and clearly state Japan's viewpoints in a foreign country. Until now the Japanese were poor at discussing about their own country and society. Mainly because English was learned through English and American literature and in such literature there are no "Mochitsuki" nor "Sankinkotai". **From Receiver to Transmitter** Q: The Western image of Japan is "Mt.

- Q: The Western image of Japan is "Mt. Fuji" and "Geisha" and Japan is only a small exotic country in the far east. But Japan sometimes exerts on unbelievable amount of energy as in the Pacific Wars and endless exporting goods. I hear that Japan is one of the most difficult countries to understand. Is this because the Japanese have neglected to pass enough information about their country?
- A: As I have said before, Japan is great nation as GNP ranking in second place of all capitalist countries. But since the Meiji era, we have only imported Western culture and not exported any. From now on we should export information about ourselves actively in order to make

or bad considering the profit and the loss.

Biased Language Education

Q: However the Japanese people have always whole-heartedly devoted themselves to the Western side since the Meiji Restoration. We Japanese

Of course U.S. and G.B. play an important role in international polit-

ourselves understood. I believe that by passing out information, all the misunderstanding will gradually clear itself, like in the exporting goods, and in that process, English as an international language will play a major role.

The Mita Campus November 1981

Great Cellist of Our Time ~ Sumiko Kurata~

Now, we are in the season which is quite suitable for reading, contemplation, sports, enjoying works of art. Now, in particular, is the time when music can become an unforgetable experience. We would like to introduce Mr. Sumiko Kurata, a cellist for many years. At her tranquil house, this expert musician told us about her teachers, performance activities, and her plans for China concert tour. Our interview with her follows.

Q: Please tell us how you began to study the cello?

- A: When I was 12 years old, I started taking violin lessons with K. Tsutsumi. Before long, however, he advised me to change to the cello. He was probably considering the fact that my late father was a cellist and that cellists were much smaller in number than violinists at that time. That was how I began to receive cello lessons under Hideo Saito.
- Q: We are informed that afterward you have also studied in Paul Tortelier's class at the Paris Conservatoire. Were there any difference between the two teachers in the way they taught?
- A: Yes, but it is a bit difficult to explain briefly. While Mr. Saito was essentially an educator who made a point of theoretical interpretations, Mr. Tortelier, an active performer, gave me lessons concerning the technical problems and the proper mental attitude for performing on stage.
- Q: Have you been influenced by Mr. Tortelier not only in regard to technique but also in regard to the spiritual aspect of music?
- A: Why not? He influenced me in so many ways that it is beyond description. For instance, his whole family stays at our house whenever they come to Japan. So, I have come to know him as a person. For example, I have heard all his words from "Good morning" to "Good night". That seems a more precious experience to me than 100 music lessons with him. Mr. Tortelier often says that his family is as passionate as fire, and I quite agree with him. And seeing him silently composing his music every morning at this house, I cannot help admiring his enthusiasm for music.



Q: How often do you have your own recital?

- A: I give one every other year, because it is better to have fewer recitals of good quality, I think. Shortly, I want to leave something every recital. In this way, I would like to lead a both long and slender life as a performer.
- Q: What do you think of performing Bach's works?
- A: I'm too young to play his works. They are so profound, there is so much of the world in them. I might not ever play them in public except for some unavoidable circumstances.
- Q: What do you think about Pablo Casals? For example, Beethoven's piano trio "Archduke" by Casals Trio (P. Casals, J. Thibaud and A. Cortot.), I suppose, is immortal performance in the dis history.
- A: At first I don't like Casals' tone, for I ask for a beautiful tone. But after I became troubled about my tone, I realized his tone is human and excellent. It seems combined with spirit and music. I have often listened to his SP records. From a playing point of view, I obtain many important points, especially spiritual excellence of music. In the "Archduke", there are many parts in which the unison is not combined. But the music is unified and advance, so it doesn't matter at all. At the spiritual concentration, Tortolier and Casals have

attained the same level. By the way, I like SP, good old days performances, rather than LP. For there are amazing passion of players in SP, and I consider them a true performance. In LP, however, a perfect performance is required. So almost all Mr. Tortelier's records are made according to record maker's request. I'm sorry to admit that his true greatnesses have disappeared in them. Q: Were there a turning point for you?

A: Yes. When I became a Christian, I had a great turning point. Once I tried to play the cello by force. But now I try to play it according to the state of instrument. I'm careful of its own tone left on the cello. Or, music is inseparable from belief. At the concert I try to play music not to make the audience listen to my music, but to make one music to

gether and want to admire God. Q: Do you have any immediate plans?

A: Before long I'm going to China as both a player and a teacher. There is an interesting anecdote on the beginning of this plan. On April this year, a Chinese cello teacher happened to find the cello manual (written by Mr. Tortelier and translated into Japanese by me), and wrote to me. He asked me to send him another copy of that manual for there were only 2 copies in China. Though my address on his letter was imperfect, it reached me. Since then, we became good friends, and this visit is a result. Q: Has your program been decided yet?

- A: I was requested to play Dvořák's concerto. I have heard that the Chinese local orchestras have already begun practicing. Besides the concerto, I'll play some sonatas.
- Q: Are you going to teach there, too? A: Yes. Chinese people seem enthusias-
- tic about the music. I'll be very happy if I can be of service to them. I'm going to give lessons in several places, but I expect to "be taught" by Chinese students rather than "teach" them. As we Japanese once did cruel things to the Chinese people, we should never assume an attitude toward them that we only want to "help" them. Their music is getting better and better. I'm sure that I can absorb a great many things and will have a splendid experience there.

Thank you very much for this interview. We hope the China tour will be successful.

The KEIO Light Music Society

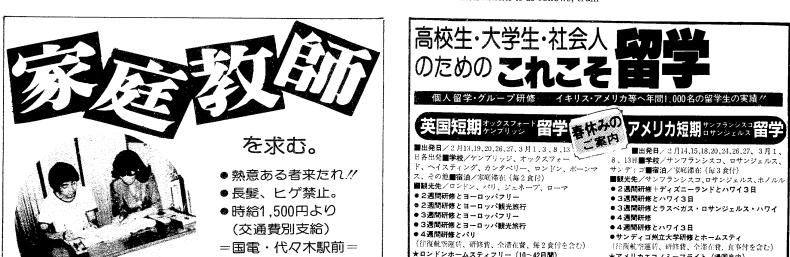
The Keio Light Music Society, founded about 25 years ago, is one of the greatest college bands. It is often referred to as "Light" and it has produced a large number of musicians, for example, Yuji Ohno, Kounosuke Saijo, Eiji Kitamura. It's activities are even international, appearing in the Montol Jazz Festival two years ago, and the Concord Jazz Festival on August 14 and 15 this year. At both festivals, it was well-received.

The band consists of 17 regular members and 18 junior members, both practicing three times a week at Mita and Hiyoshi respectively. The composition of instruments is as follows; trum-

pet (4), trombone (4), saxophone (5), drum (1) bass (1), piano (1)

Light specializes in four-beat jazz but aims to play various kinds of music, for example, fusion and Latin music. Throughout the year, Light holds concerts and performs at dance parties. Every year besides the vast number of requests to perform, especially between October and November, it looks forward to two major events—the concert tour in the summer and the recital in February.

Lastly they performed in Mita Festival and we enjoyed a forceful stage.



Page 6



★ロンドンホームスティフリー(10~42日間) ★ヨーロッパエコノミーフライト+パリ3日	★アメリカエコノミーフライト(帰国自由) ※他にも、いろいろコースがあります。詳しくは資料をご覧くだきい。
■お問い合わせ・資料のご請求先 〒104 東京都中央区銀座7-8-5E IES・国際教育文化交流協会 ⑥係	^{東京本社} ☎03(572)2581(代)
金画 电 国際教育文化交流協会	旅行IRT国際ロータリー旅行(株) 取扱 Alditate (日本新日本版目に日日、東新人民では、Martine

The Mita Campus November 1981

Outline of the New Library at KEIO - To Be Opened Mid-April -

Not only undergraduates, graduate brary in terms of floor space. As you students and the faculties but ordinary can see from the B table, the new livisitors to Mita campus of Keio Univer- brary has almost double the capacity of sity as well, will notice the construction the present one with regard to the of a building looking like a block. Stu- number of reading seats and book dents, excluding seniors who will leave capacity. The stacks of the new build-Keio University next March, attending ing have the book capacity of one and a school and the faculties working at quarter millions books. Including those school, hope that the building will be of the present library and the undercompleted shortly so they will be able ground stacks of Faculty Research to use the facilities of the building as Building, the whole book capacity in soon as possible. As all Keio people Mita will be one and nine-tenth millions know, this building is the New Keio books. University Library that is to replace the present one, famous for its octagonal tower now suffering from superannua- 1. Improvement of reading environment tion and functional limit. According to the school authorities, the New Keio

plete construction on November 8th, floors will be covered with carpet and 1981 and should open on April 10th or will be air-conditioned. so, 1982. Though it took three years just to plan the building of a new

library, the long-cherished desire to have 3. The use of open access books-more a new one is now being realized thanks conveniently and easily used to the understanding and cooperation of many persons concerned.

TABLE B

The New Keio University Library consisting of 7 stories above 5 layers easier to find and choose books. under the ground is to be Japan's largest

New distinctive features of a New Library

The area of reading space per head at the new library will be twice as large as University Library is scheduled to com- the present one. Moreover, all the

2. The introduction of a book detection

system

The new library is to adopt totally the open access system of books, so users will find it more convenient and

4. Newly-established corner of books building as an independent college li- for general reading

THE NEW

344

31

60

30

70

132

30

9

84

14

8

8

30

46

90

15

A corner of books for general reading novels, hobbies and general education or so is to be established at the reading rooms on the second floor of the new library.

5. The centralization of periodical collections

The new library is supposed to centralize periodical collections on the third and the fourth floors for the purpose of integrating them effectively. The periodical collections for the department of economics and the dept. of commercial science and those for the

law dept. are to be combined on the fourth floor with the name of Periodical Collections for Faculties. In addition, those for the faculty of literature and library are to be combined on the third floor with the name of Periodical Collections for Students.

6. Newly-es tablished Audio Visual Hall and Visual Booths

The Audio Visual Hall is to be used for screening movie films and users will be able to listen to records and cassette tapes at the Audio Visual Booths on the first floor under the ground. (B1F)

TABLE 1. THE CROSS SECTION OF THE NEW KEIO UNIVERSITY LIBLARY

MECANICAL ROOM	7F	
OFFICE	6F	
RARE BOOKS COMPUTER ROOMS BOOKS FOR LIBLARY AND INFORMATION SERVICE	5F	
SEMINAR ROOM PERIODICAL COLLECTIONS FOR CUBICLES FACULTIES		
MICROFILMS PERIODICAL COLLECTIONS FOR STUDENTS		
READING ROOMS GROUP READING ROOMS		
REFERENCE ROOMS SERVICE COUNTER PUBLIC CATALOGUES		
OPEN ACCESS BOOKS A000-A399 REFERENCE BOOK AUDIO VISUAL HALL AUDIO VISUAL BOOTHS		
OPEN ACCESS BOOKS (A400-A999 SA, B, SB)		
CLOSED ACCESS BOOKS OPEN ACCESS BOOKS		
OPEN ACCESS BOOKS MECHANICAL ROOMS		
OPEN ACCESS BOOKS	B5F	



THE NAME OF FACILITIES (READING SEAT) THE PRESENT LIBRARY LIBRARY READING ROOMS FOR STUDENTS 320 LOUNGE GROUP READING ROOMS 72 NEWSPAPER ROOM REFERENCE ROOMS 116 PERIODICAL COLLECTIONS FOR STUDENTS 50 READING ROOMS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS 32 READING ROOMS FOR FACULTIES 0 CARRELS IN CLOSED STACK AREA 0 READING ROOMS FOR RARE BOOKS 3 MICRO READING ROOM 1 CUBICLE 0 SEMINAR ROOM 0 PERIODICAL COLLECTIONS FOR FACULTIES 0 AUDIO VISUAL HALL 0 AUDIO VISUAL BOOTHS 0 BOOKS FOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE 0 LECTURE ROOM 0

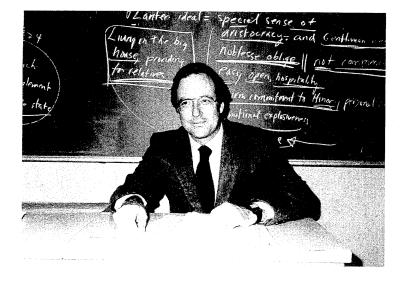
38 60 TOTAL NUMBER 594 1099 OF READING SEATS (FOR UNDERGRADUATES) (562)(870)

BOOK CAPACITY	THE PRESENT LIBRARY (ten of thousa	
OPEN STACKS	20.4	33.3
CLOSED TSACKS	35.1	55.3
PERIODICAL COLLECTIO	NS 3.0	12.2
PERIODICAL COLLECTIO	NS 0	10.7
RARE BOOKS	1.5	1.7
MISCELLANEOUS	0	1.8
TOTAL BOOK CAPACITY	60.0	115.0
TOTAL AREA	6357m ²	15193m ²

Page 7



–Prof. John F.Zeugner------Former Tennis Pro. Lectures U.S. History



Beginning with this edition, we are going to introduce professors coming from abroad, and today Professor John F. Zeugner from the U.S.A. comes on stage. He came to Japan this September, and is teaching American culture history at the Mita and Hiyoshi campuses as a visiting professor.

Upon first meeting him one may as a free lance writer and a tennis take him for a sportsman rather than a scholar, being that he is a tall and powerfully built man with a bright expressive voice.

Prof. Zeugner received his BA from Harvard University and his MA and his Ph.D. from Florida State University. He became a professor of American History of Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1971. Though his academic career is as above he had another career that makes his personal history "mixed" as he calls it.

After completing his undergraduate course at Harvard, he became a professional tennis player for two or three years and then became a free lance writer for about seven years. He said, "I went back to graduate school and became a professor because I enjoyed America. teaching and at that time there was a

professional. You don't get paid very much for short stories and short novels, it was easier to make a living as a professors."

Prof. Zeugner's speciality is American History, particularly the history of the South, which has been the substantial portion of the U.S. history since the Civil War. He, further pointed out that "More recently the South and Southwest are becoming politically and economically the dominant section of the U.S. Particularly so called Sun-belt areas attract more people, more political power, more economic strength away from the North, the Northeast and Midwest areas. The South and the Southwest will play the most important role in the future development of

In terms of the Japan-U.S. relationgreat need for professors." Then he ship he commented, "In the short term, added, "But there was another reason as I expect Sun-belt politicians to be well; it was very hard to make a living more agressive, more demanding and

Weekly Review The New York Times

The New York Times' Week in Review is now available through the Asahi Evening News in the form of the eightpage Weekly Review.

Started in 1935 as a new section of The New York Times' Sunday Edition, the Weekly Review contains reports, commentaries, incisive analyses and opinions covering the world's major events of the past week.

The Weekly Review is published by the Asahi Evening News on Sunday and delivered on Thursday. A single copy Is for ¥120

more truculent in the relations with Japan, particularly in trade relations, there will be much trouble." He added, "In the longer term the situations for example, increasing pressure on Japan to expand her defense power, will force the Japanese to decide for themselves what their role is really going to be with regard to the third world countries, and China, Russia and the Pacific basin. That role might diverge from the American interests, \ldots a very complicated

situation." Prof. Zeugner will stay in Japan until July of 1983. "I enjoy living in Japan much more than living in the United States. Japan is a very civilized and wonderful place and I think Japanese students are very good," he said.

If you are interested in the lecture, please come to the classroom. Auditors will be welcomed.

Law Dept. Entrance thru Recommendation

In the Keio Univ. Law Dept., a system of admitting students upon the evaluation of the recommendations from high school principals was introduced last year. The department each asked 100 schools for applicants and heard from 90 sudents for the Law Dept. and 87 for the Politics. On the 28th and the 29th of August, the faculty gave each an oral test and accepted all.

Due to this system the departments can accept promising students who cannot be found only through entrance exams. As well received as it is, this system should develop more and more.



A change of deans took place on the 1st of October. Each dean's term of office is two years.

Literature Dept.: Natsumi Mikumo (reappointed)

Economic Dept.: Michiyoshi Oshima Born in June, 1929, in Tokyo. Graduated from the Economic Dept. of Keio University in March, 1952, went through the graduate school and became as assistant professor of Keio Univ. (Economic Dept.) in April, 1954, a professor in April, 1973

Law Dept .: Genshu Tokito (reappointed)

Commercial Dept.: Saburo Kojima (reappointed)

Commercial Dept.: Saburo Kojima (reappointed)

Medical Dept.: Seiichi Kurata Born in November, 1919 in Tokyo. Graduated from the Medical Dept. of Keio Univ. In September, 1942, became an assistant (Medical Dept.) in the same year, a professor in May 1963. Also held the post of Head of Pharmaceutical Chemistry Laboratory.

Science and Engineering Dept .:

Taneyoshi Mori Born in August, 1920, in Tokyo. Graduated from the Dept. of Engineering of Keio Univ. in September 1945, became an instructor (Engineering Dept.) at Keio Univ. in the same year, professor in October, 1964. Sucessively became the dean of the Engineering Dept. (From October of 1975 to June of 1977) eventually, managing director. Majoring in electrical engineering.

こし下さい。



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Page 9

Growing up

meet at a station. Among them there

may be friends who are and will be true

portant. However, don't you want to

listen to notions of other people and

their way of feeling things? Don't you

want to feel yourself from different

cence, which will have decisive impact

on our life. We aren't yet perfect in the

end. But because of this imperfection,

we should expose ourselves. Even if we

experience bad moments by having

head-on collisions with friends or

others, we can digest it as an important

We are now in the midst of adoles-

We have met a good many persons,

Pro. Brown on International Politics - Former Sec. of National Defence -

Prof. Brown (former Secretary of point of view National Defence) gave a lecture on "Modern International Politics, Military itary power against Japan has been slowsituations and role of Japan" on the ly strengthened. The Soviet, however, the students who returned to Japan was way of thinking and living in many 20th of October. Two staff members must divide 25% of their land and airof Mita Campus attended the lecture. power along the Chinese border and a The gist is as follows:

U.S.S.R. political deadlock

The military balance between the west and the east has had a tendency to ed her military power through the lean against the west these past fifteen 1970's, moreover, the political and ecoyears. This tendency should continue nomic situation in South Korea should for several years. Concerning weapons be considered. the west and the Soviet Union are at equal level. As far as power is concern- that Japan has enough military power to ed, the west obviously attains superior- torment invading armies, therefore ity but this merit is reduced because the Japan should have F15's, E2's, P3's, west fundamentally depends on sea.

overwhelmingly predominant. Finally lane. in the air, both are equal in figures, but

Futhermore, U.S.S.R. has many polit- Anyway, the political role of Japan only ical difficulties for instance Poland. Japanese role from the American be sufficient.

These past several years, Soviet milconquest of Japan would not bring in much profit. These are advantages for Japan.

As for North Korea, she has reinforc-

Judging from such facts, it is basic moreover the offensing power to With land power, the Soviet Union is submarines is needed to defend the sea

In North-East Asia, a closer connecin quality, the west shows dominance. tion with South Korea is important. through economical power would not

103 Returnees Apply for Entrance at KEIO from strangers passing beside ourselves to old friends who we happened to

1982 Returning Student Applicatts

friends throughout life. Conversations The result of the entrance exams for with them must have stimulated our announced on October 30th as follows: ways, and naturally that is very im-No of

	190.01	NO.
	Applicants	Accepted
Literature Dept.	47 (35)	25 (22)
Law Dept. Law	12 (5)	6 (4)
Politics	16 (9)	13 (8)
Commercial Dept.	20 (6)	9 (4)
Medical Dept.	5 (5)	1(1)
Science &		
Engineering Dept.	3 (2)	1(1)
Total	103 (62)	55 (40)
	() indicate girls.	number of

(United States 82, IB 7, Mexico 2, stimulation to self-improvements, and France 2, Belgium 1, U.K. 6, Soviet such youthful spirit and groping in the Union 1, Australia 1, Brazil 1)

dark which are expressions of energy are possively only now. Even if you think From November 9th the sucessful you have improved yourself far enough,

angles?

applicants attend special lectures in you may yet become aware of immature preparation for the regular courses aspects in yourself.

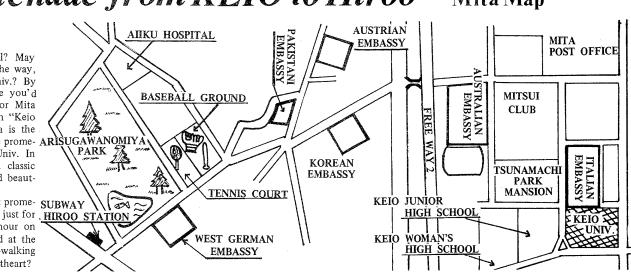
Thus I feel deep inside-I shouldn't . cover myself up and hide.

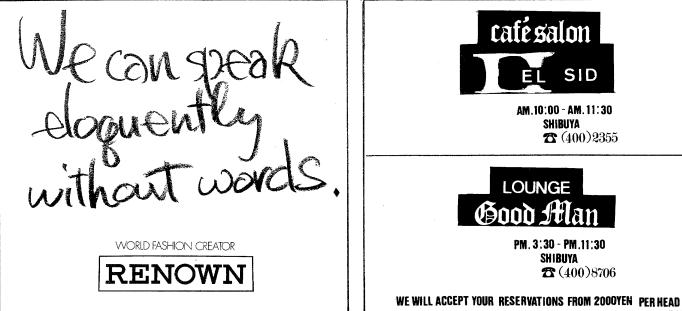
************************ **Promenade from KEIO to Hiroo** Mita Map

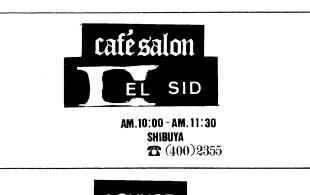
beginning next spring.

How about our Mita Festival? May you have a good time! By the way, how did you come to Keio Univ.? By train, bus or car? In any case you'd come from Tamachi Station or Mita Subway Station and go through "Keio Nakadori". Although this area is the main area of Mita, there is a nice prome- ARISUGAWANOMIYA nade in the west side of Keio Univ. In this area, there are many old classic buildings, foreign embassies and beautiful parks.

Now we'll introduce the best prome-SUBWAY nade course from Mita to Hiroo, just for . HIROO STATION you. It takes about half an hour on foot. After you walked around at the Festival, what do you say-walking along this course with your sweetheart?







Honorary President: Prof. Noritake Kobayashi Adviser: G. Smith

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Prospect

It is true that words are the core of methods of communication depending communication. But words are not on the situation.

enough, there are times when words do not mean a thing. For same words may we touch all become symbols for be spoken with different intonations communication. For example, let us and express different feelings. Actually, analyze the bell at school which indicates other media of communication such as the beginning and the ending of class. facial expressions and gestures com- The sound of the bell originally has no municate one's will and feeling much relation whatsoever with the beginning more eloquently than words. To close of class. We united the two voluntarily one's eyes, raise one's hand, whistle, and gave it a meaning. Though volun-

PUZZLE

How Many Philosophers can you

find? Find the hidden philosophers

in the block of letters below. Some

are hidden horizontally, some ver

UAESSUORHUMES

DHOBBSAUEBASO

EACADAMSGOQCC

WRDCEFDSETUHR

EILOCKEELAIOA

YSLNGSSLKLNPT

HTILLACSAPAEE

COMTERAJNKSNS

LTADITRMTNOHP

QLRNBETHCIFÁR

MEXUNEETUVWUX

YSZWIASPENCER

NIETZSCHEBCRD

Answer on next issue

tically and others diagonally.

What we see, what we hear and what clap or even silence may be a powerful tarily, once this agreement has been reached, the bell functions as a medium of communication. Social environment is flooded with this kind of symbol communication.

Symbol is form of sign, along with index and icon. But as Nida says (1964 Toward a Silence of Translation), index has a natural and direct relationship with what is being indicated, icon shares the communality that can be distinguished by the five senses. They include an element that is practically easy to understand even between those who come from a different culture. However symbols have no natural relation nor share any common form. They are just voluntarily united and made customary. As long as words, facial expressions, and gestures are a form of symbol, their usage are customary and cultural. Therefore when culture changes, symbols and their meaning change.

This is only one aspect of culture and one small step towards intercultural communication. And perhaps the first step to becoming a cosmopolitan.

Suicide in Modern Society

The Mita Campus November 1981

This February, a friend of mine committed suicide by burning herself with kerosene. It wasn't even a year since she had made a new start as a senior at a correspondence school to which she applied after repeating her Junior year in agony. Her distress began toward the end of her sophomore year causing her to not get out of bed in the mornings, nor leave home. She hesitated riding on trains for fear of finding herself alone in a crowd and she wouldn't even answer the phone. These were obviously the symptoms of the so-called "school-phobia". To her, everything surrounding her-school, friends, and even her boyfriend seemed to be nothing more than an enemy trying to hurt her. She wanted to build a fortress around her and protect herself from those enemies. Only one place seemed to relieve her---her bed; however, even there she couldn't escape from everything. She constantly had to face her mother who seemed to represent society and its threats. She was even conscious of the fact that she failed her school life. She wanted to escape from all these realities.

Lamentably enough, she is not a rare case. Every day on the papers we read about losers in society; not only children but university students like us and even middle-aged workers. Common to all of them is that they see too many "impossibilities" in living in this society. Society may reject his excuses and call him spoiled, but for that individual much of society is just "impossible" to deal with. As for my friend, it was certainly her own problem, yet she was too weak and vulnerable to fight it.

The perplexity of modern man's thought patterns rises from the structure of modern society itself. People are not innately given a feeling of self existence. Therefore he must dig out his own from chaos he is brought up in. Modern society, huge and complicated, no longer takes its original role, of a way of socializing and getting rid of loneliness. Attainment of a state of mind that could survive this society, therefore requires a definite process of developing self consciousness. This process must be independent of the protection from one's parents, and must include parting from one's own immaturity, confrontation with reality, experiencing crises and finding one's own solutions. Then for the first time we can perceive our own self or "ego" constructed upon a firm base of confidence.

I sometimes envy Naoya Shiga who had an inborn ego common to the premodern type. However, as a modern man, I have a small but extravagant hope of accomplishing, or at least exploring that other domain he didn't know of, and someday being able to stand on the peak of my own accomplishments and obtain the view of that other eminence he established.

部員募集 慶応大学英字新聞学会 三田キャムパスでは、学内ニュース、 三田キャムパス 経済問題、社会問題と全般にわたって 活動しております。新聞の編集および 場所 三田・学生会館33号室 英語に興味を持たれる方は、一緒に英 電話 03(453)0216 字新聞をつくりませんか。特に一年生 月曜日~金曜日 の入部を歓迎します。 12時から1時迄



