

# U. S. Born Japanese Feel Out of Place In Land of Ancestors

*Ancient Prejudices Beset Newcomers Unused to Ways Of Country, Survey Shows*

By Rose McKee

(Editor's Note: Miss McKee is an American newspaper woman now working on the editorial staff of the Japan Times in Tokyo.)

JAPAN has failed to prove the Utopia that was expected by the thousands of American-born Japanese who, prompted by the depression, have returned to the land of their ancestors from Washington, Oregon, California, and Hawaii in the last few years.

This they tell you in their private conversations, explaining that the native Japanese are prejudiced against them.

When the ordinary American in Japan makes a mistake, the Japanese overlook it, saying, "He is a foreigner and doesn't know any better," but when an American-born Japanese errs, the Japanese do not excuse it. They say, "He is Japanese and should know better." As a result, the doors of Japan's famed hospitality swing closed and remain closed to the American-born Japanese. They do not have the advantages which are offered by their own people to the ordinary American. They do not "fit in." Naturally, they feel and resent this.

That their complaint is justified to some extent is shown in an analysis of the first census of the American-born Japanese taken in Tokyo, capital of the Rising Sun empire. However, this survey, recently completed, indicates also that the situation is not as dismal as the so-called second generation pictures it. It reveals that the American-born Japanese is beginning to enjoy the feeling of ease and composure which results from association with one's own people. On the other hand, it proves that the young people miss the recreational opportunities afforded in the United States and that some of them are extremely lonely.

QUESTIONNAIRES were sent to 1000 members of the so-called "second generation group" in Tokyo by American-born Japanese working in the Y. W. C. A.

Some of the questionnaires were returned undelivered, for the "second generation group" moves rapidly from one place to another in Tokyo, indicating that they, like other foreigners in Japan, have difficulty in finding a desirable place to live. Others threw the questionnaires into the waste paper basket. There were, however, 105 young people, 66 boys and 39 girls, who replied. The majority of these were 21 and 23 years old. The



Japan is no Utopia to American-born Japanese returning to work in land of ancestors. Modern young Japanese (shown above) find the customs and traditions against them. Native-born boys and girls (inset) have the "edge" on them.

youngest was 17 and the oldest 47. Most were college graduates.

Answering the question, "Do you feel free of race prejudices?" 30 said yes, but 13 replied no. Many left the question unanswered.

Replying to the query, "Is it good to live among

your own race?" 24 said yes, but 10 said no.

To the query of whether or not they were happy in Japan, 13 said, "Quite happy;" 10, "Reasonably happy;" 10, "Yes and no;" and 6, "Unhappy."

Sixteen complained of language difficulties, 20 of being lonely, 20 of being misunderstood, 12 said

*Low Standards of Living, Class Distinctions, Cause Many to Plan Return Here*

it was hard to make adjustments to life in Japan. 15 complained of lack of understanding of things Japanese, and only 9 found it easy to make adjustments to life in the land of their fathers.

To the question, "What do you like in Japan that you did not have in the United States?" some of the replies were as follows: Feeling of ease and composure from association with own people; scenic beauty; courtesy and hospitality; better positions; cultural betterment; inexpensive to live; variety of friends; more scope and freedom; no racial prejudices to combat; Japanese spirit, and more tasty food.

ON the other hand, the question, "What are your objections to living in Japan?" brought the following replies: Standard of living low; hard to make friends; too much class distinction; American-born Japanese looked down upon; Japanese men's undue superiority complex toward opposite sex (listed by both men and women); lack of free education; provincialism of people, and unsanitary conditions.

Difficulty in finding employment was discussed. Listed among difficulties were: Lack of knowledge of oral and written Japanese; lack of proper preparation in right line of work; prejudice shown by native Japanese against American-born Japanese; lack of proper contacts, and lack of understanding of Japanese psychology.

But the group also had one outstanding advantage when it came to looking for a job, their ability to meet foreigners as they are accustomed to being met. (Japanese firms doing business are glad to have young Japanese who speak English and understand foreign customs to "front" for them.)

Study brought many of the group to Japan, although they wanted to work while they studied, for the most part. Others came for work alone, to visit, or to accompany their parents.

THE survey indicated that a large percent intend to return to America. California was the birthplace of the largest number, but almost as many came from Washington, with Oregon rating third. The University of Hawaii had most of the college graduates with the University of California second.

The census revealed that 71 are students, 15 stenographers, 4 secretaries, and that the others are bank clerks, tutors, interpreters, reporters, architects, teachers, and accountants.

## DICK SHELTON

WORLD CHAMPION ALL-ROUND COWBOY AND A LOYAL CAMEL SMOKER

# AT THE RODEO

"ONE REASON I SMOKE CAMELS—THEY ARE MILD"—DICK SAYS

HERE IS DICK SHELTON IN ONE OF HIS THRILLING EXHIBITIONS OF STEER WRESTLING. IN THIS CONTEST THE STEER IS GIVEN A 30-SECOND START—DICK MUST CATCH UP—LEAP FROM HIS HORSE—GRAB THE WILD STEER—STOP HIM AND THROW HIM BY THE HEAD AND HORNS! (THIS STEER WEIGHED 998 LBS.)

YEOW! WHAT A BRUTE!

THAT'S THE KIND I LIKE. THE BIGGER THEY COME, THE HARDER THEY FALL

READY, SHELTON?

YES, SIR—LET'S GO!

—THE STEER TEARS FROM THE SHUTE!

LET ME OUT OF HERE. BOY, HE'S HEADED FOR HOME

HE MAKES THE LEAP!

THE PLUNGING STEER REFUSES TO STOP—HEADS STRAIGHT FOR THE SIDE WALL!!

OH! HE'LL BE HURT!

DON'T WORRY, BABS, SHELTON IS A TOP HAND. HE CAN HANDLE ANY CRITTER

THEY THUNDER DOWN THE ARENA. DICK PULLS UP TO THE CHARGING STEER—THEN—

THE CROWD GASPS!!!

YOU GOT HIM, DICK! AND JUST IN TIME

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—SHELTON WINS IN RECORD TIME

I'LL BET A CAMEL WILL TASTE GOOD TO YOU NOW

YOU SAID IT!

DICK SHELTON ENJOYING A CAMEL

CAMELS ARE SO MILD THEY DON'T GET MY WIND OR UPSET MY NERVES. ANY TIME I'M TIRED I GET A 'LIFT' IN ENERGY WITH A CAMEL

A MAN LIKE DICK SHELTON HAS TO KNOW ABOUT MILDNESS IN A CIGARETTE, SO FROM NOW ON I'M SMOKING CAMELS TOO

RODEO FAN

COSTLIER TOBACCO!  
CAMELS ARE MADE FROM FINER, MORE EXPENSIVE TOBACCO—TURKISH AND DOMESTIC—THAN ANY OTHER POPULAR BRAND.  
S. R. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO. WASHINGTON, D. C.

TUNE IN! CAMEL CARAVAN WITH WALTER DUNFEE, DICK JAMIE, TED HUNTER, OLE DEAY AND THE CALA LOMA ORCHESTRA  
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 8:30 P.M. EST. 7:30 P.M. CST. 6:30 P.M. MDT. 5:30 P.M. PDT. ONLY WABC—COLUMBIA NETWORK

ATHLETES say "CAMELS DON'T GET YOUR WIND"