

Japan's National Output Rising Faster Than U. S.

By LORNA MORLEY
Washington - Japan's national output, spurred by a business boom of unprecedented proportions, is rising faster than the national output of the United States. Fewer than 15 years have passed since the surrender terms signed aboard the U.S.S. Missouri in Tokyo Bay deprived the Japanese of the last of their imperial possessions. Yet Japan already has become a formidable trade competitor of the countries that humbled her in World War II.

Japan's economy was kept afloat in the first postwar years by a large infusion of dollars from the spending of occupation troops and personnel. American expenditures for defense of Japan continued to contribute for years to the support of the economy, as did procurement spending for the Korean War and spending by the many foreign troops who passed through or went to Japan on leave during the conflict. By the time the Korean War ended, the country was in a strong economic position.

Curtailment of outside assistance in the following years was offset by the vigorous steps then taken to modernize Japan's industrial plant. An extensive investment spurge in 1956 and 1957 financed not only new equipment but also the launching of new products and new technologies. Although the accompanying sharp increase in imports soon led to a heavy deficit in the country's international balance of payments and necessitated stringent austerity measures, the modernization enabled Japan to rally rapidly.

Capital of Laos Said Mishmash of Old World and New

Vientiane - (UPI) - Vientiane is a curious mishmash of the old and the new. The capital of Laos has no water or sewage system and few telephones. Yet its streets are dotted with big American and European cars, its shops filled with Western goods.

One thing a traveler quickly notices in Vientiane is the almost total lack of beggars. Kids prefer to shine your shoes or run errands to begging for pennies.

The population of Vientiane is estimated (according to a recent incomplete census) at 68,000, nearly double the figure of 10 years ago. It is a mixture of Lao, several racial strains common to Laos, Chinese, Indian and Pakistani. Its big businessmen are Chinese - a common situation in Southeast Asia.

The world's oldest profession flourishes, with its chief operators Chinese girls imported from Hong Kong and Bangkok. Prices are steep, ranging up to \$100 per night.

Vientiane's lone power plant generates 2,572 kilowatts, not enough for the expanding urban area. Lights frequently blink off, then on, then off again.

Conversely, the lower wage and other production costs prevailing in Japan have drawn substantial amounts of American private capital into manufacturing enterprises in that country. Many U.S. companies are finding it more profitable to produce in Japan for the Japanese market and for other overseas markets than to manufacture in this country for export.

Water is distributed by tanker-trucks, and buildings, stores and houses keep their own storage tanks. The city will eventually have a sewage system. Today, it has none. But few Lao notice its absence.

Competition Difficult
American competition in the domestic Japanese market has been made especially difficult by persistence of trade barriers that were introduced early in the postwar period to restrict imports of dollar goods and protect sparse reserves of hard-currency foreign exchange.

Phonics Installed
About 300 telephones are installed in the city, but the majority don't work. The French government has promised Laos new telephone exchange equipment which could handle 1,500 sets, but so far the machinery hasn't arrived, and, as one Lao official says, "Why worry? Telephones don't seem to work here anyway. It is quicker to send a messenger with a note."

William Tallis was guest speaker at the Boy Scout Troop 38 Court of Honor in Hornbrook Nov. 13.

Despite the primitive elements, Vientiane has the air of a prosperous city. There are some 2,500 registered autos, and the most popular single make is the expensive Mercedes-Benz, practically a must for a government official who wants to make face.

Attending the church bazaar held recently in Hornbrook were Mrs. M. E. Barron, Mrs. Cal Sharp, Mrs. Roy Middleton Jr., and Mrs. Pat Killingsworth.

The Mekong River slides turbulently past Vientiane to form the border with Thailand, and most of the goods which reach the capital must use the waterway. Some foodstuffs come down river from other towns in the province, but the bulk of traffic is from Nong Khai across the Me-

tion to long-range measures to expand exports to South and Southeast Asian countries. By offering liberal, long-term financing for industrial development, they hope to increase the national incomes of the underdeveloped lands and thereby increase their capacity to absorb Japanese exports.

HILTS Talent Show Staged

By MRS. M. F. CAVIN
Hilts - Seventh and eighth grade students staged an amateur talent show in the school cafeteria here Nov. 20.

Master of Ceremonies James Blanchard introduced the numbers, which included a piano solo by Marsha Simmen; a square dance by La Wana Trina, Marilyn Thompson, Barbara Rainwater, Marsha Simmen, Gayel Ward, Lee Roy Green and Shirley and Sherrie Staley; a poem by Gayel Ward, and several jokes by James Cain.

Other acts were a pantomime by Barbara Rainwater and Lester Chase; a play featuring Dennis Williams, La Wana Trina, Marsha Simmen, Gary Tollis, Lee Roy Green, James Blanchard and Robert Jordan; a ventriloquist act by Gary Tollis; an imitation of Elvis Presley by Lee Roy Green; a piano solo by Joan Caster; a tap dance by La Wana Trina, and a dance by Marilyn Thompson.

Members of the cast, accompanied by Mrs. Alec Rutledge on piano, sang three songs as their finale.

Proceeds from the show will go to a fund established to pay for a trip to Alturas by the two classes this spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Williams accompanied their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Russell Williams, to Ashland Tuesday on business.

Mrs. Fred Haynes went to Redding Saturday as a weekend guest of her son, Fred Jr. and family. On Sunday they drove to Oroville to meet Mrs. Haynes' mother, Mrs. Gwen Evans of Ogden, Utah. Floyd Evans, Mrs. Haynes' brother, accompanied his mother on her trip to California as she is 84 years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stickeny of Medford, accompanied Vicky Van de Weghe to Yreka to attend the Yreka-Weed football game. Alanna Stickeny stayed with her grandparents and they drove to Horn-

brook where they visited at the Florene Van de Weghe home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Clark of Glendale, Ore., spent a recent week end visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Trina and daughters La Wana and Nancy.

Mrs. Grady Rabjohn, who is now living at the Frank Ohlund home on Cottonwood creek, entered the Ashland hospital Nov. 12 and underwent major surgery the following morning.

A surprise party given by her mother, Mrs. James Cain, Saturday evening, Nov. 14, honored the 11th birthday of Edith Cain. Guests were Paula Eastman, Gayel Ward and Barbara De Clerck.

Mrs. Walt Adams made a business trip to Redding Thursday and returned that evening.

Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Silf drove to Ashland Sunday afternoon to visit Mrs. Grady Rabjohn, who was a patient in the Ashland hospital at that time.

In remembrance of Mrs. Fred Haynes' recent birthday, Mrs. M. G. King, Mrs. Louis Dettmar and Mrs. Walt Adams met at the Dettmar home the afternoon of Nov. 4

Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Nunes visited over the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bonner and son Bruce. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Gano and son in Corning. Mrs. Gano is Mrs. Nunes' aunt.

The Japanese already have devoted considerable attention to long-range measures to expand exports to South and Southeast Asian countries. By offering liberal, long-term financing for industrial development, they hope to increase the national incomes of the underdeveloped lands and thereby increase their capacity to absorb Japanese exports.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Spannaus was hostess to the bridge club Thursday afternoon, Nov. 19. High score was won by Mrs. Al Simmon, second high by Mrs. Fred Haynes, and low by Mrs. Art Blanchard. Other guests were Mrs. Frank Ohlund, Mrs. H. G. Thompson and Mrs. Frank Graves.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Patton of Etna visited Mrs. Patton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson, last week end.

Divorced Couple Shot to Death

Independence - (UPI) - A man and woman were found shot to death in a trailer house here Friday. Police said it appeared to be murder-suicide.

The victims were identified as Milton Bressler, 36, a truck driver, and his former wife, Alta, 37. Police said the deaths apparently occurred late Thursday or early Friday.

The bodies were found by John Peterson, a fellow worker of Bressler's at Valley Concrete company.

The woman had been beaten. Polk county authorities theorized that Alta was shot and then Bressler turned a weapon on himself. The woman was shot with a .22 caliber pistol and Bressler with a .25-20 hunting rifle.

The two separated last summer and the divorce was final two weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Patton of Etna visited Mrs. Patton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson, last week end.

mer and the divorce was final two weeks ago.

WE FILL ALL PRESCRIPTIONS
with unfailing accuracy from fresh stocks of pure, potent drugs.

Park & Shop
Leave your Prescription here while you PARK & SHOP
Open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily
Closed Sundays

Green Stamps
CENTRAL
Pharmacy DRUG
Main and Central
FREE DELIVERY

WHOLESALE
JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS SAVINGS SPREE

At Parker Woods' **Leon's**
21 N. Central

A Wonderful Time to "Stretch" That Christmas Budget . . . For This Week Only You Can Find Some of the Best Values Ever in Shoes . . . Sportswear . . . Coats and Dresses . . . So Hurry Down and Take Advantage of These Great Savings.

"COATS"
Rain Coats . . . Storm Coats . . . Wool Coats . . . values to 39.95.

"Skirts and Sweaters"
Beautiful plaids . . . lovely plain wools and nationally known lines of sweaters . . . values to 16.95 . . .

"DRESSES"
Dozens of dresses reduced for this pre-Christmas savings event . . . values to 24.95 . . .

"SHOES"
Flats . . . casuals . . . school shoes . . . not all sizes but terrific savings . . .

"Dress Shoes"
From all our well known brands . . . mid and high heels . . . lots of blacks and colors . . . values to 18.95 . . . broken lots only . . .

6.99 to 19.95

5.99 to 10.99

8.99

Save at **Leon's**

BIG SAVINGS ON STEREO - RCA VICTOR

You'll save money and Get Big Value, too during this great Festival of RCA Victor Newsmaking Values. Like the 4 big values shown here, every RCA Victor Newsmaker gives you new "extras" in features, "extras" in dependability, "extras" in quality. And every Newsmaker gives you big savings when you buy it - gives you more pleasure when you use it. See for yourself. But hurry - values like these don't last long!

OPEN TONITE

2-IN-1 SUPERCHARGED CHASSIS

PANORAMIC SPEAKER SYSTEM

CONVENIENT PLUG-IN JACKS

4-SPEED "FLOATING ACTION" RECORD CHANGER

NEW STEREO BALANCE CONTROL

FREE \$100.62 in Stereo Albums
when you buy NEWSMAKING STEREO HI-FI and Matching Record Cabinet!

Lowboy Console with 17-watt dual amplifier, diamond stylus, 4 speakers, in 4 housing finishes. The Mark XXIID, PA23D.

Stereo Console	199.95
Record Cabinet	49.95
Record Albums	100.62*
Total Value	350.52
Festival Price	259.95

350-19 RCA Victor Stereo Hi-Fi albums, when you buy The Mark XXIID and its beautifully matched record storage cabinet.

SPECIAL \$259.95 Complete
Time Pay Plan Available

Swem's
BOOKS · GIFTS · RECORDS
217 EAST MAIN MEMPHIS, OREGON

Park & Shop