

**Takahashi**

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IMPORTERS - EXPORTERS  
CABLE ADDRESS: TAKATRADCO

Friday April 4th 1958

Dearest Henri,

Your airletter #1 showed you were in good spirits and made me happy to read it. This afternoon we have lots of sunshine, but it rained this morning. Wednesday it poured, and between 12:30 and 2 we had the heaviest steady downpour in history; and during this time I took Mr. Hiramine of Kamei and Martha to Kuo Wah rest to lunch for shu mai and Jim took him to the terminal to catch the airport bus in the evening to catch the 8 pm plane out to New York. Said he only stopped by to say hello bec. TTCO was a customer.

Gave me a chance to look at the Kamei raw silk (noil) sample 'blanket' of color samples.....the warp and fillers of all colors in blocks showing the variations, and still think that a 72 x 90 (aprox measure) piece would be very nice to merchandise, and think we could try it if we could sell at retail for \$12.95 per pc. If we can wholesale it, it would be great. Should be 72x90 when cut, and a two inch hem on both ends, with selvedge sewn together with 1/3 inch depth of seam in middle, outside selvedge edge left as is....assuming it is 36 inch width goods.

Design should be a kind of plaid, and if you OK the idea, I will send best color range. This material can be cut up into garments like skirt, etc, for retail customers who do their own sewing and like the fabric, without our having to sell yardage. It is drapery length, it is bed spread length, and sofa throw cover, and all around handsome piece. Should go conservative on quantity.

About warehouse roof leak of rain, Mr. Selig called me by phone, will meet him at Battery Street Monday 10 AM and make settlement. Says last year he spent \$7000 to patch roof, apparently not done right. Selig Skidmore are not lawyers, one is a lumber man, another, an investor. Our estimate on the damaged 28 sheets of 30x72" scenic laminated onto fiberglass is \$480.00 which includes 4 pcs screen boxes at \$2.50 each, since we can make that if we sold it, and make nothing if we didn't and can't have just 4 made on order.

About Shore View, Handa didn't come the day after you left, Saturday to look at the building, but another firm did Tuesday this week, and will send bid in a week. Specialists in re-modeling, recommended by insurance adjusters.

Firm is Silverberg, and Mr. Grabowski the estimator said underpinings for front porch can be just re-supported and windows dismantled, adjusted to open and close easily, other windows caulked shut to be water-tight, the water-sill replaced with a slanting top this time, plastered with stucco, and cracks filled. Painting is a different job, I guess. Most of these people I've seen recently are more practical and urge me to keep the feeling of the house and not try to re-design in a half-baked modernization manner. He said keep front hand-rail as is, just paint it.

Please put into your note book:  
Paper place mats (kake-gami for o-kashi boxes) KOMURO YOO SHI-TEN tel: 85-1270-4  
add: Daito-ku Asakusa Kuramae 2-chome 10-banchi and around him are other paper dealers who also handle this type of paper. These people tho, make immediate delivery, and can tell you inventory on hand, etc while you stand there. Small dinky office and showroom, but have sample books, to order from, and a nearby warehouse, and doing brisk business. Sizes vary, so see them and choose. OK if words are printed on them, if banks



not available. If you ask, they have blanks of a certain color or design before the printing in black sumi-type lettering is done on them.

Red paper with gold lettering was one of the most popular. Also the plainer soft-paper type ones, and so on, but don't get too many. They are sold in 500 sheet reams, packaged. (ichi-ren is one ream)

They delivered to NisshoKan so they remember TAKAHASHI BOEKI SHOKAI of America Fujin-(nisei) if you tell them ~~W/F/W/K/K~~ delivery to Ochanomizu no ryokan and Nisei no Fujin Mrs. Takahashi.

Temple Tassels are made by Yonemoto Shokai tel: 5301038 Nagoya, Nishi ku, Torimi-cho 4 chome, 8 banchi in front of a bath-house (onsen) not called a furo-ya tho it probably is. Can order any style, as long as it is a tassel, they'll make it. Probably lots cheaper than KYOTO. Urge you to go, I went with Soh 1956, May 12th. Looks like ordinary house, has upstairs stock room.

I bought plastic dishes from wholesaler in Osaka. Osaka Shikki Senmon Ten 64-5580 Osaka, Minami Ku, Kawahara machi 2 chome 1511 a large stockroom in wholesale area.

Our supplier of plastic spoons is Kato Shin-ichi Shoten Tokyo Asakusa Kura mae 2 chome 12 banchi (84) 2964 specialist in all-plastic things, bought chopsticks spoons, and stacking boxes there (shipped us by Ken Kato) by Takahashi Boeki Shokai.

Papers indicate I paid Y35,000 for gold screen Heike Monogatari from Fujita, table maker and Tales of Genji Y50,000 from a Uyeda antique dealer in Osaka, and wide 2 panel gold screen Y65000 floral, and for the little ones, floral, Y8500 plus Y3,200 packing charges and Y600 for inland freight from a dealer Tsuruki of Kyoto. I can sell all these for considerable profit, I think, but will get rid of all so if you see something fine you like, go ahead and buy it. All prices by the pair. Tall ones are 5'7" high, 6 panels measuring total of 9 running feet each half of pair.

Enclosing what I can find of Serizawa's match labels. These were removed from a sheet of white paper pasted. Total of two sheets. Small pieces were loose, for small match boxes. Think you should box a 2.50-3.00 retail seller, besides small packets for 50¢ or 1.00 retail. If you want to make money like before, suggest mass produced machine printed. Thought there should be more match designs, so will keep looking. Think you should have firside matches too, in colorful modern design. Nothing wrong with Kamei color swatches in oil. I have learned from Hiramine that colors woven like they did for us are called BLANKETS in the trade.

Bamboo spoon, fork, knife makers of excellent shape who sent us samples and prices are 3K-Sha Mr. Kai, president Oita ken Beppu shi can't read rest so will write it in Japanese.....shall I send your samples and price list given us before, to your address in Mojito/O your father? Then you can go see them. He has good idea of salad servers, etc and can do the same designs that Aomine does, and is equally talented. He calls them Salad Helpers and are terrific! About same size, and only Y80 per pair your cost ex-factory! 10" length, but will make them any length you wish. Terribly attractive. Make mark-up cover possible wormy ones, but stress winter-cut bamboo, and guarantee of worm-lessness) (kan-chuu no take) means cold-season-cut bamboo, and they fumigate with govt tested chemicals, don't know the degree of efficacy.

Show him our salad server photos, and tell him to do variations of same. He's Tokyo art school graduate, modern art. He wants orders of about 200 doz. each shape on spoons and forks and small stuff. Pickle fork we've been selling is a good thing for him to do for us, will send sample if you want. Fork will come to about Y3.50 in 200 doz lots ex-factory, can be sent parcel post by him. Knife and fork is Y5.50 pair. Spoon is Y6 each. Salad Helper intrigues me. We'll be copied in the Aomine line soon, you know, and we should be prepared. Bet Kessler's there to do just that.

Enclosing Dorothy's report. Lots of Love from all, miss you very, very much. tami