

1929-1979

KEISEN JOGAKU-EN



Our Founder's Words from My Lantern (1939) p.230

"Outsiders may laugh at me, scorn me, or consider me a daydreamer, but to me what Dr. Stanley Jones once said from the platform should be shouted from the top of the roof, namely that Christ was crucified on Friday, he lay in the sepulchre the following day and nothing happened, and his enemies laughed at him, but there was the third day when he rose from the dead. In the world there are some days which seem to others as though nothing is being accomplished and we Christians are apt to be considered crucified, dead and buried. Perhaps the present days are such. But we believe, to us the third day is given. I believe the third day is in store even for me and my work."

Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Keisen Jogaku-En

President Minoru Akita

The above-mentioned passage was written forty years ago by Miss Michi Kawai, when the war-storm was threatening peace-loving Japanese. But she lifted her head high with firm faith in a victorious Christ. Her school, started with a handful of pupils in 1929, was a sort of demonstration against the increasing nationalistic tendency of Japan.

When we think of those struggling years of our school, it is a wonderful blessing that we can celebrate the golden jubilee of our school this year. We are so grateful to many friends in and out of Japan who have helped us in various ways with faith in its growth.

Following the steps of Miss Kawai, we would like to have our school charged with the evangelical Christian spirit. Our girls are encouraged to learn international-mindedness. They are also trained in gardening so that they may love nature, and feel joy in manual labor.

Our school has now grown to have 1670 girls on two campuses; the junior and senior high schools, and the English department of the junior college are in Setagaya, and the horticulture department is in

We do pray that God may bless our friends who have supported us until now.



Miss Michi Kawai (1939)



After working in the Fields (Setagaya Campus, 1931



Our School on its original Site (1929)

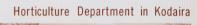






Cleaning Windows (1941)





Students with Sweat on

their Brows (Hort. Dept

Keisen Day (1936)







Welcoming Dr. John R. Mott and



Mr. Soichi Saito (1949)



Nisei Graduates with Miss Kawai, sent to the U.S.A. by the Church of Christ in Japan (1941)



Christmas Service (S. and J.H.S.)



Graduation Ceremony (Eng. Dept., Fellowship Hall, 1972)



KAY Chorus singing the "Messiah" (J.C. 1960)

where girls come to know the love of God and the joy of living. That year Miss Kawai's friends in the U.S.A. organized Michi Kawai Fellowship to support Keisen morally and financially. The second and the third presidents, Mr. Jiro Shimizu and Mr. Nobuya Utsunomiya, did their best to maintain the founder's spirit, and also to replace the dilapidated buildings. Ours came to be recognized as a school where each one of the students is well taken care of, and the girls discover strength in co-operation, and blessing in giving. Since 1976, under the presidency of Mr. Minoru Akita, we have been

Miss Michi Kawai began this school with nine girls in a small

Japanese house in the heart of Tokyo in 1929, moving to the suburbs

During the war years (1941-45) Christian schools were persecuted,

but Keisen never neglected daily morning service. Our fearless principal

enkindled her prayers to bring her girls to Christ, so that many stu-

In 1947 Keisen Jogaku-En semmon gakko (comparable to junior college grade) was started with English and horticulture departments. Three years later it was reorganized as a junior college. In 1949 Dr.

John R. Mott visited our school. He esteemed Miss Kawai highly, and

In 1951 Miss Kawai visited the U.S.A. as a member of the Japanese

Association of Junior Colleges, and saw many schools there. She was

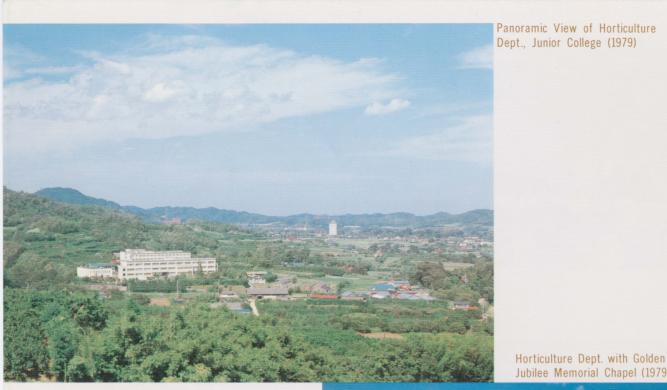
full of creative ideas about her school, but she passed away in 1953 to

the sorrow of Keisen people. But she left her school as a unique one

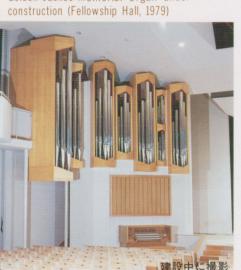
she was greatly influenced by this distinguished Christian leader.

dents were baptized after the retreats.

trying to see our graduates serve others with a true Christian spirit. Our junior college has a special course on South East Asia, and this summer a group of teachers and students made a tour there. Our junior and senior high schools are also keenly interested in our Asian neighbors. We would like to promote mutual understanding and friendship with other Asian countries.



Golden Jubilee Memorial Organ under construction (Fellowship Hall, 1979)







Isehara Campus,



Thanksgiving Service (J.H., Fellowship Hall, 1974)

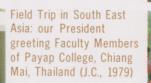




Morning Worship at the new Chapel (Hort. Dept., 1979)

Welcoming Students from South East Asia, International Day (Eng. Dept., 1979)





Floral Decoration (Hort. Dept.)

Growing Vegetables (Hort. Dept., 1979)







1929-1979





Fellowship Hall (Auditorium) English Dept, Junior College



Senior High School



Japanese House where our School started

Lounge (S.H.S.)