

THE TO-KEN SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
for the Study and Preservation of Japanese Swords and Fittings



HON. PRESIDENT, KAZUTARO TORIGOYE, Dr. LITT.
SECRETARY, 17, PICCADILLY ARCADE LONDON, S.W.1. (HYDe Park 6496)

PROGRAMME

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, December 7th 1966. Fulham Conservative Club, 4 Shorrolds Road, S.W.6.

LAST MEETING

At the last meeting we had the pleasure of welcoming a new member to our meetings, Mr. A.W.Chapman, and we trust he will be a regular visitor.

The Chairman, Douglas Wright, mentioned the forthcoming exhibition and earnestly requested all members to do their best to exhibit at least something from their personal collections.

After the business, Bon Dale gave a talk on counterfeit signatures which was an expansion of his article to be published in the next Bulletin. He illustrated by comparison of written signatures the spontaneity of genuine signatures and the 'hardness' of the counterfeit ones. The Journal will be out soon, buy one and read all about it!

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed at the last meeting that as a Christmas "treat" we would show a film on December 7th. We had hoped to secure a film of some years ago, only seen by a few of our members, "The Gate of Hell". Unfortunately, this is no longer available. We have, however, booked the much more recent film shown in London only a few months ago, "Hara-kiri". This is a very fine historical drama, with tense and harrowing moments and some of the most fantastic swordsmanship ever seen on the screen. A "must" for those who haven't seen it and a sure second, or third, for those who have. We ask all members who possibly can to support this showing of a unique film, obtained at enormous expense and to bring as many guests as they can. Usual refreshments, a small charge will be made to cover the cost of the film.

JANUARY MEETING

Melvin Grey will give a lecture demonstration on methods of photographing Japanese art objects. It is suggested that members might like to bring any photographs of their own for discussion.

FEBRUARY
MEETING

General discussion meeting on methods of blade polishing, what has been done and what can be done. Hilt binding and how to do it. Members please bring their own blade polishing examples, hilt bindings, etc.

MARCH
MEETING

It is hoped to show the "Gate of Hell". It is also hoped to show this in a small commercial cinema. Members are invited to bring guests, early applications are advisable because tickets will be limited. Please send a post card to the Secretary, stating number of tickets required; price will not exceed ten shillings.

EXHIBITION

Members - Please let us know soon what you have for the Exhibition in October 1967. Photographs, if possible, and details. Envelopes marked EXHIBITION. Think about it now - October is not too far off and there is a lot to be done.

NEW MEMBERS

We have pleasure in welcoming the following new members:

Charles W. Arnold,
275 Eastcourt Road,
Oakville,
Ontario. Canada.

D.G.Fern,
4 Henschman Street,
London, W.12.

Lt.Col.C.J.Smith (Ret.),
c/o M.Oswald,
60 Bd. du Montparnasse,
Paris XVe, France.

A.R.S. Kirby,
"Swinley Cottage",
59 Hornby Street,
Wigan, Lanes.

Dr. Rino Tamanini,
Via Cagliero 8,
Milano,
Italy.

SWORD GLOSSARY

- JI or JIGANE The surface of a blade between the hamon and the shinogi, on a normal shinogi-dzukuri blade. On other types of flat blade the area between the hamon and the back ridge. The part of the blade where the damask (see below) is to be seen.
- JIHADA The forging pattern of a blade, the damask, in the area defined above. Also shortened to HADA.
- JITETSU The blade steel, more or less the same as above, the steel of the JI (HADA).
- JIGOSHI Strongly defined damask in the same area.
- JIJAKUSHI A faint damask.
- JINIYE Small mirror-like particles, that is niye, found on the JIGANE area of the blade.
- JUKA-CHOJI Double "choji", a style of hamon developed as the name suggests from the normal choji yakiba.
- JIZO-BOSHI The outline of tempering on a boshi which resembles the figure and head of the divinity Jizo.
- JIBA A term found in Japanese texts. The "work" in a blade.
- JIYUBA Described as looking like a string of rosary beads on the yakiba, or a row of half circles. Limited to Shinto blades and a speciality of Nagasone Kotetsu.
- JIKEI The same as CHIKEI, both sometimes show as darker lines of martensite on the jihada.

ARMOUR GLOSSARY

- HODŌ-HAIDATE** A type of thigh guard having three or four rectangular sections hanging from the lower edge of the main sections. Its name suggests a likeness to the sacred flag HODŌ-BATA.
- HOKO-GATA** Lit: "Halberd shape" A decorative device found as decorative plates overlaying helmet bowls, pierced through plates or repaussi. The shape is similar to the ancient halberd, HOKO.
- HON-MABISASHI** Regular peak. A peak of standard form.
- HORO** A wide strip of material which was attached to the shoulders and waist at the back of a warrior which filled with air when the wearer moved at speed; its function was that of entangling arrows and in this way adding to the defence of the back. In later periods the cloth was stretched over a framework and sometimes stuffed.
- HORO-BUKURO** The bag in which the cloth of the HORO was stored.
- HORO-GINU** The cloth of the HORO.
- HORO-GUSHI** A shaft worn at the back of an armour to support the HORO.
- HORO-KAGO** The framework over which the HORO-GINU was stretched in the later examples.
- HOSHI-BACHI** A helmet bowl having the rivet heads protruding above the surface of the bowl. These may be large and rounded or small, conical and quite sharp.
- HOSHI-JIRO** A helmet having the rivet heads silvered or gilded.
- HOSHI-KABUTO** The complete helmet having a bowl of HOSHI-BACHI form.
- HŌSHU** A sacred jewel also called TAMA usually represented as being rather onion-shaped having a pointed top. The shape often appears in armour.
- HŌTOKE-DŌ** A cuirass of either one piece for the breast, or if of multiplate construction, having the exterior lacquered to present a smooth surface.
- HOTTE-SAKI** The lowest plate on the front of a DŌ. HOTTE (waist).
- HYŌTAN-GANE** A gourd shaped plate most often seen on sleeves and a prominent feature of type called ODA-GOTE.