

SOCIAL EVENTS

Buffet Dinner at Chinzanso

On the evening of July 11, Monday, the participants attended the buffet dinner given by the President of the Science Council of Japan at Chinzanso Restaurant. More than 130 persons from abroad, including wives and dependents, and 186 participants from Japan gathered at this famed Tokyo restaurant to enjoy various types of food, both Western and Japanese, in the spacious garden. The occasion provided a fitting surrounding for participants to mingle among the groups to become better acquainted with one another.

Dinner at Ginza Tokyu Hotel

On the evening of July 15, Friday, the participants attended the dinner at the Ginza Tokyu Hotel which was given jointly by the Chairman of the Organizing Committee and the President of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute of America. 127 participants, including wives and dependents, from overseas and 62 participants from Japan including wives attended this dinner. On this occasion, Dr. K. Muto and Dr. G.W. Housner addressed the gathering as hosts. This was followed by Dr. T. Naito who chanted a Japanese song (utai) to welcome the guests. An outstanding feature of the evening was that one delegate from each country spoke in his native language giving his impressions of the Earthquake Conference. This was followed by a few words of greeting from Mrs. K. Muto which concluded the memorable dinner and the sessions in Tokyo.

Gion-Festival and Sight-seeing in Kyoto

The last social events of the Second World Conference on Earthquake Engineering were held in the historic City of Kyoto, which had been the Capital of Japan for ten centuries.

Most of the one-hundred-and-ten foreign participants arrived in Kyoto from Tokyo on July 16 after a delightful and scenic trip of six hours on the beautiful new express train, the Kodama. They lodged at most modern western style Miyako and Kyoto hotel.

The following morning the delegates were fortunate enough to witness one of the three famous festivals held yearly in Japan, the Gion Matsuri. In the afternoon they were taken a sight-seeing bus trip of Kyoto. They visited famous beautiful and historic places:

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the Nijo Castle, the Heian Shrine, the golden Kinkakuji temple to mention a few intriguing sights of this very ancient center of Japanese culture.

On Monday, July 18, a significant display of photos of old Japanese representative wooden structures such as a pagoda and a temple was erected in a lobby of Kyoto Kaikan where the Closing Session was held.

Dinner at Mt. Hiei Hotel

Mr. Kanoh, the President of the Association Supporting the 2WCEE, gave a reception for the delegates in the beautiful garden of Mt. Hiei Hotel. The reception began at 6 o'clock in the evening with a talk by the president. The delegates cemented feelings of fellowship and good will during the two hour reception.