

TOURS

Trip to Nikko

On the third day of the conference, July 13th, one day excursion to Nikko was arranged. Number of participants in the trip amounted to approximately 120, among which more than two thirds including twenty ladies were the people from other countries than Japan.

Nikko enjoys an international reputation for architectural wonders of the Toshogu Shrine and for lovely scenery of nature. The participants left Asakusa Station, Tokyo, by Tobu Railway express train for Nikko in the morning, enjoying rural scenery en route and international exchange of goodwill. After two hours they arrived at Nikko, but there due to heavy rainfall they had to stay at Kanaya Hotel until luncheon time.

In the afternoon, motor-coaches took them to the fabulous Yomeimon Gate and Inner Shrine of Toshogu in the rain, where they enjoyed the colorful Japanese architecture built originally some three hundred years ago. Then excursion by motor-coach was made to Kegon Waterfall having the height of 330 ft., via the "Irohazaka" Driveway, which runs uphill with thirty hairpin curves on the way, and Lake Chuzenji, 4194 ft. above sea-level.

The participants returned to Tokyo around 7.00 p.m. in the same way as going. To their regret the excursion was harassed by rain, but they might find some taste in the paper-umbrellas and in the majestic aged trees in wet condition.

Post-Conference Tours

After the international conference, July 19, the delegates divided into two groups for further touring. One group went on a three day trip to Nara and Osaka. In Nara where the most ancient wooden structure in the world located, the sightseers were interested by buildings seen earlier only in pictures. From there they travelled to Osaka, the industrial center of Japan. Here the delegates showed particular interest in the sinking ground around Osaka Bay, a problem of concern to Japanese geologists and structural engineers.

The other touring group besides covering this same territory, continued on to Toba, the cultured pearl center of the world. They enjoyed seeing the processes used in this Japanese developed industry and selecting choice pearls. From there they proceeded to Kashikojima where they embarked on an evening excursion of strikingly beautiful Ago Bay.

Tours

Continuing towards Tokyo, the group visited Nagoya, Gifu, Hakone, Kamakura and Enoshima. Cormorant-fishing in Gifu attracted great interest. The beautiful views and hot spring of Hakone made some sorry to leave the area. The tremendously large Daibutsu, Great Buddha statue, in Kamakura indicated the great artistic ability of ancient Japan. After a short side trip to Enoshima, the group arrived in Tokyo, tired but content and happy to have seen so much of this beautiful island country of the Rising Sun.