

O.A.R.S. Director Visits Japan

(*Mr. R. J. Kidney)

(*Mr. R. J. Kidney, Director, Offenders Aid & Rehabilitation Services of South Australia Inc. Mr. Kidney recently completed a visit to Japan and which was made possible by a financial grant made available to him by the Australia-Japan Foundation of Sydney, N.S.W. His visit took place between 4.7.78 to 22.7.78. Mr. Kidney's report covering this visit and prepared for the Australia-Japan Foundation is reproduced hereunder.
Ray Kidney is an Organisational Member and Representative of O.A.R.S. on the Australian Crime Prevention Council and is the immediate past Hon. Secretary of the South Australian Branch of the Council. He remains the official contact person for the Council in South Australia whilst that Branch remains in temporary recess.)



My visit to Japan was made possible by a grant of \$1500 (AU) made available by The Australia-Japan Foundation of Sydney.

The itinerary for my visit was kindly arranged by Mr. Yoshio Suzuki, Director of the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders. Professor Matsumoto of the Institute was assigned as my adviser during my stay. (I appreciated the assistance given by the Ministry of Justice and various voluntary rehabilitation organisations).

I arrived in Tokyo on Flight 001 Japan Air Lines from San Francisco at 1815 hours on 4th July and was accommodated at Keio Plaza Inter-Continental Hotel, 20201, Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo 160. On the evening of 4th July I was visited and briefed by Professor Matsumoto concerning my itinerary.

On Wednesday 5th July I was called for by Professor Matsumoto and we travelled via Railway and Taxi to Edogawa, a suburb of Tokyo to attend the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Tokyo Hogoshi Association. Prior to the meeting, I was entertained at lunch (Japanese style) by leaders of the Movement. The Meeting was attended by 1300 people and is held in July as part of Crime Prevention Month activities. The meeting proceeded with formal speeches and presentations including greetings read from the Empress. The meeting was nearly two hours in duration — I was welcomed and afforded the privilege of making the following greeting duly translated by Professor Matsumoto.

"His Excellency, the Honorable Governor of Tokyo Metropolis, the Head Man of Edogawa Ward, Director General, Rehabilitation Bureau, of Ministry of Justice, Chief Justice of Tokyo Family Court, other distinguished guests, Members of Hogoshi, ladies and gentlemen:

"It is my great pleasure and honor to attend the Tokyo Hogoshi Conference held by Tokyo Hogoshi Association. My name is Ray Kidney, Director of Offenders Aid & Rehabilitation Services of South Australia. I come from Australia, located on the opposite side of the earth and where it is now winter. I have just attended International Prisoners' Aid Meetings in Vienna, Austria and visited Egypt, England and the United States.

"On this happy occasion, I express a deep feeling of gratitude. Allow me to inform your members of Japanese Volunteers of International Conference of Voluntary Welfare Workers in Correctional Institutions, that we have the Conference of Volunteers, in my city Adelaide, South Australia, prior to the United Nations Congress which will be held in Sydney in August, 1980. I know that Japan is one of the leading nations in the programme of collaboration between statutory authorities and voluntary organisations, in crime prevention and treatment of offenders. It is important for Japan to have a significant representation at the Conference. I therefore sincerely invite you to Adelaide and Sydney, Australia in August, 1980.

"Finally, I should like to end these words of thanks with earnest prayer for the great success of this Conference. "Hogoshi. Taikai. No Seiko O Inorimasu Arigato."

To gain public interest in crime prevention the Probation Office and its co-operative and voluntary associations has for 20 years organised a nationwide Crime Prevention Campaign under the auspices of the Minister of Justice. In July it is given special emphasis. The campaign, literally translated means "The Movement to enlighten the Society". As in Australian society, there is prejudice towards the offender, so not only is public education towards crime prevention in its strict meaning, but citizens are urged to help and accept offenders and thus prevent their relapse into crime. This is the function and philosophy of Offenders Aid & Rehabilitation Services of SA and other Prisoners' Aid Movements.

In brief, preventive activities in Japan are efforts directed towards community involvement. The Probation Agency thus encourages the Rehabilitation Service Promotion Association, Women's Association for Rehabilitation Aid and Big Brother and Sister Movements to appeal to community groups along these lines. In July 1973 (latest figures I could get):

Type of Programme	No. of Programme	No. Participating
Public Lecture: round table discussion	2646	198,499
Inter Organisation meeting	1633	59,206
Films shown	512	76,215
Ad Hoc. Counselling centre for parents	597	3,363
Group Visits to Correctional Institutions and Halfway Houses	488	15,593

Also the media carried stories of offenders striving for rehabilitation (with protection of confidentiality). These amounted to 273 on radio and 400 on TV with 3517 reports in newspapers and journals. Ten million pamphlets were distributed and posters and signs numbered 531,000.

Such effort contributed by volunteers in the Japanese community must surely play a large part in the achievement of a reduction in crime in that country.

COMMUNITY TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS IN JAPAN

Rehabilitation in Japan is under the administration of the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Department of Justice.

Parole:

A National Parole Board (also known as National Offenders Rehabilitation Commission) recommends pardons to the Minister and makes judgement on parole complaints, e.g. where parole has been revoked. Regional Parole Boards in eight regions make decisions to release from training schools and prisons, revoke parole, terminate treatment (discharge before the expiration of a prescribed period) and extend parole periods.

Probation:

This is organised with 50 probation centres throughout the nation. These centres are responsible for supervision — all ages. Work with prisoners' families, applications for pardons, and promotion of crime prevention facilities. The Dept. of Justice employs approximately 800 probation officers.

Volunteer Probation Officers:

There are approximately 50,000 of these. Some expenses are paid by the Government e.g. travel. There appears to be some social prestige attached to this office and I suspect this could be the motive for involvement in some cases. The qualifications of a voluntary probation officer in the law is:

1. Confidence and recognition in the community with respect to his personality and conduct.
2. Enthusiasm and time for such work.
3. Financial stability.
4. Good health and activity.

Halfway House — The Rehabilitation Aid Association:

Surprisingly these have operated in Japan since 1880. There are said to be over 100 of these houses run by non-government bodies under authority of the Minister of Justice. Of these 94 were in operation before the war. Present capacity is over 3000 with facilities ranging from 9 to 100. Ex-prisoners can seek accommodation within six months after release. From figures examined it would seem that occupancy on a daily average basis is about 50%.

Volunteer Organisations:

1. Volunteer Probation Officers Association.

It was my privilege to attend and give a greeting at the annual meeting of this organisation. On this occasion about 1300 delegates attended.

2. Rehabilitation Service Promotion Association.

There are over 50 of these. They do not handle offenders directly but assist voluntary probation officers and half way houses by providing text books, lectures and other facilities.

3. Big Brother and Sister Association.

This is for people 17 to 30 years. For details see the account of my visit to the 31st annual conference of this organisation.

4. Women's Association for Rehabilitation Aid:

There are nearly 1000 groups in eight regions. The women assist public and voluntary bodies engaged in prevention of crime and rehabilitation of offenders, including the welfare of offenders' families.

Nationwide crime prevention campaigns have been organised annually for over 20 years. "The Movement to enlighten Society", especially during July.

As one would expect with such a vast volunteer system, things don't always operate as smoothly as would be anticipated. This was evident in some of the problems aired at the conferences I attended. However, despite problems, I believe the involvement of public volunteers in corrections is the only resource that, in the long term, can be the most effective. After all, it is to the community that the offender must return and it is also the most economic resource available.

BIG BROTHER, SISTER MOVEMENT — JAPAN

The BBS Association of Japan is a movement for young people between the ages of 17 and 30 years with the objectives of befriending juveniles and public education on the prevention of crime. There are local groups affiliated with 50 Prefectural Federations throughout the Country. These form eight regions which form the National Federation. Members assist professional and volunteer probation officers in providing friendship to the juvenile under supervision.

Sometimes cases are referred through the Family Court, the police, schools or other institutions. As part of the movement's crime prevention work recreational programmes for children at risk are organised as well as partaking in general crime prevention publicity campaigns. For example, July is Crime Prevention Month and there is much publicity given through the media as well as literature distributed.

It was my privilege to attend the 31st Annual Big Brother Sister Conference of delegates which was held at the Ministry of Justice Hall, Tokyo between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday 8th July. Approximately 300 delegates from all over Japan attended. The opening ceremonies were performed in the presence of the Minister of Justice and heads of Departments involved in the Criminal Justice System. It was revealed that there are 540 local groups with a membership of 7699 — a decrease on previous years. Concern was expressed that in the past year only 960 members were actively involved in Juvenile Case Supervision. A five year programme was launched to increase membership by 50% and case supervision to at least 50% of the membership.

The morning was taken up with a speech by the Minister which was followed by Commendation Ceremonies and responses. I was introduced as a visitor from Australia and as one involved in rehabilitation and having experience as a former Probation Officer.

After a short recess a case study was presented prior to the lunch break. At 1 p.m. the assembly divided into three groups which discussed the subjects:

1. **Case Supervision — befriending.** During this discussion, some problems of finding time in a very busy work week — a good volunteer had to make this time available. The reasons for low case supervision were discussed and it was seen that the potential of BBS is not being fully mobilised. Some problems with probation officers, statutory and volunteers, was cited. The need for BBS to get to know probation officers personally to gain their confidence was seen.
2. **How to administer Crime Prevention activities.** Crime Prevention activities are too often organised by and attended by "the professionals" and do not reach those for whom they are designed and those who stand to benefit most e.g. families at risk.
3. **How to Maintain Membership.** Need to establish a complete National Register so that Probation Officers can be advised should a BBS move into their area. Training should not be just for its own sake — but be put to action. Realisation that BBS not only helps others, but its own members are enriched and prepared to be better parents themselves. Programme of BBS needs to be attractive and innovative to gain and hold the interest of its membership.

This movement has much to commend it and a similar organisation could do much in the Australian scene whether under the auspices of the Australian Crime Prevention Council or simply a Younger Set of an organisation like OARS.

For a National perspective, it would be best sponsored by Australian Crime Prevention Council Australia wide.

UNITED NATIONS FAR EAST INSTITUTE

It was my privilege to visit in July 1978 at Fuchu — Tokyo, Japan the UN Asia Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders. The Director of the Institute, Mr. Yoshio Suzuki kindly arranged an itinerary for my visit to Japan assigning Professor Masaru Matsumoto as adviser during my stay.

UNAFEI was established in 1961 to promote regional co-operation in the fight against crime. The Institute has conducted research projects and 49 International Seminar and Training Courses, in which over 1000 people from 37 countries have participated.

I was fortunate in being present for the conclusion of the 49th Course and had opportunity to talk with most of the delegates. 28 participants came from the following countries.

Probation Officer, Bangladesh; Prison Superintendent, Hong Kong; Probation Superintendent, Indonesia; Youth Training Superintendent, Iran; Dep. Prison Superintendent, Malaysia; Gaol Superintendent, Pakistan; Rehabilitation Officer, Singapore; Chief Education Officer (Corrections), Thailand; Instructor Training Home, Japan; Prison Chief — Classification, Japan; Two Probation Officers, Japan; Sociologist, India; Law Adviser, Brazil; Prison Superintendent, India; Prison Warden, Iran; Dep. Director Corrections, Korea; Section Officer, Police & Gaol, Nepal; Police Inspector, Philippines; Prison Superintendent, Sri Lanka; Prison Reception Officer, Tonga; Two Public Prosecutors, Japan; Two Asst. Judges, Japan; Secretary Rehabilitation Bureau, Japan; Counsellor, Japan; Candidate Law School, USA.

Distinguished visiting experts for the Course were: Dr. V. N. Pillai, Sri Lanka; Professor I. Drapkin, Israel; Dr. E. Silverman, USA.

I was invited to attend the presentation of Certificates and later a party to celebrate the conclusion of the Course.

VISIT TO KANTO MEDICAL REFORM & TRAINING SCHOOL (7.7.78)

This school (one of 50 Training Schools) administered by the Japanese Ministry of Justice is situated at 1.17.1 Shinmachi, Fuchu, Tokyo.

The School was opened as a Juvenile Institution in April, 1949, and in January 1951 was approved as a hospital, conforming with the requirements concerning medical treatment. The school functions as a reform and training school accommodating juvenile delinquents committed there by the Family Courts.

Both males and females between 14 and 20 years, committed to reform and training school, are admitted who have defects, physical or mental, requiring hospital treatment. Inmates from other reform schools who become sick or injured may be transferred to the School, for medical treatment and correctional education. Also juveniles no longer requiring this attention may be transferred to other schools for further training.

In this school accommodation for juveniles can be extended beyond 20 years and up to 26 years if extended treatment is required. Among the inmates in residence were two delinquents being treated for tuberculosis, four with serious personality problems, some being treated for the effects of petrol sniffing, drugs of addiction, and alcohol, psychopaths, epileptics, five feeble minded, other psychiatric problems and injuries from traffic accidents and internal diseases. At completion of treatment, cure or recovery, young people from Kanto are transferred to other juvenile institutions.

The School has a capacity for 192, but at present has 61 inmates with a staff of 61 which includes six full time medical doctors, one pharmacist, dentist, one X-ray specialist, six nurses, one psychologist, 20 instructors and other staff. The School has a Superintendent (medical doctor) with a Dept. Superintendent (Instructor). For operational purposes the school is divided under four administrative sections.

1. General Affairs: Personnel affairs — accounting — supplies.
2. Medical Care: Surgical, internal and Psychiatric, gynaecological, dental, X-ray examination, Bacteria investigation, Nursery care.
3. Educational: Academic vocational, recreational, physical training, living guidance, custodial.
4. Classification: Classification of inmates, parole, treatment.

VISIT TO NAKANO PRISON B.37.1 ARAI NAKANOKU — TOKYO

Nakano Prison is an old brown coloured brick building which had repairs completed in 1931 after 1923 earthquake. It is in a heavily populated area amidst pleasant surroundings near the heart of Tokyo.

(My Guide and Interpreter: Prof. Katsuyoshi Oyama.)

It has three important roles: (1) Classification centre of the Tokyo correctional system; (2) A Vocational Training Centre for young first offenders, and (3) A Research Centre to develop new techniques of treatment. It has aimed to establish scientific correctional procedures and to serve as a model institution for Japan. Since 1965 it has received traffic offenders and in 1969 received prisoners on remand, mainly members of violent student groups. The prison has 11 sections run by five departments and committees, staff participation is encouraged.

As a classification centre, Nakano Prison receives prisoners under 26 years old with sentences of more than one year. The classification period is 55 days divided into three phases. In the first 15 days psychological tests, and behaviour is observed. After careful interviewing and tentative treatment, a plan is suggested. Traffic offenders are given several kinds of driving aptitude tests such as a speed estimating test, and reaction test. An orientation test preparing for institutional life is also given. After the initial classification period, observation is continued in a workshop for 30 days. Work skills can be observed on a closed circuit TV. Cases are submitted to the classification committee and recommendation regarding treatment and transfer are discussed.

As a vocational centre, Nakano enrolls inmates in one of three courses: Woodworking, Printing (Litho and offset), Laundry and Dry Cleaning. After training an inmate is eligible for the national examination to obtain a licence. Workshops are well equipped and quality of work in furniture and printing is of a high standard. Laundry and dry cleaning is done under contract for outside agencies. Other workshops including men under classification, are paper folding, bags, cardboard, electric components assembly, felt pen production — an impressive array of work on contract from outside industry. Men work 44 hours per week in meaningful jobs. Furniture produced includes wardrobes, dressers, cupboards and dining sets. The printing course is divided into typesetting, machine operation and book binding. The equipment includes the latest in offset machines with plate making equipment. Practical work is supported by theoretical classes in these subjects.

After the prescribed course, a ceremony is held and a diploma is presented by the Superintendent. A certificate of vocational training is also presented by the Minister of Labour for woodworking, printing and typesetting courses.

Individual and group counselling is conducted regularly, inmates are encouraged "to be spontaneous and gain an independent attitude" as opposed to what could result from being institutionalised. Physical education, support and group activities are available, prisoners take part in committees, e.g. food committee, recreational, broadcasting (for prison radio station), library, publishing. Club activities include art, music, English-speaking, book keeping, poetry, braille, Bible study, Buddhism study. Religious services are also conducted according to inmates' religious faith. Prisoners can receive a volunteer visitor should they want additional help. On Saturdays and Sundays, shows and movies and lectures are presented in the auditorium. Interest in flowers is encouraged, inmates can cultivate flowers in the open and in hot houses.

Visits from family and friends start at once a month increasing to as often as treatment progresses. Inmates from this in-

stitution are paroled. On the day of discharge, Supt. Parole Officer and family members gather with the inmate to be discharged.

The prison is well equipped with medical, dental and diagnostic equipment, X-rays and E.E.G. and has its own hospital section. There are 1000 inmates and 250 staff at the institution. Officers are trained in judo, fencing and self-defence. They join inmates in fire drill periodically.

My visit included a guided tour of the whole institution, an audio-visual presentation and interviews with the Warden, Mr. K. Hanada and a psychologist. For vocational training and prison industry, it was among the most impressive I have seen anywhere in New Zealand, Canada, U.S.A. and Australia.

Post Release Houses in Japan: and a visit to Keiwaen Rehabilitation Aid Hostel at Nakano-ku Tokyo on 21.7.78.

My guide on this tour was Professor K. Suzuki of UNFEI from whose paper "Halfway Houses in Japan" I quote History, information and Statistics (Tables 1-17) (May 1978).

I was surprised to find that the first post release hostel established by private individuals was in Shizuoka in 1888 (one year after P.A.A. commenced in S.A.). It is interesting that shelter care provided by prison authorities from 1873 was abolished in 1889 because it was believed "that aftercare services for discharged Offenders would better be carried out by voluntary and charitable individuals and organisations".

"In 1891, two halfway houses were opened by separate individuals in different districts, and the number of hostels increased year by year, reaching 26 hostels in 1900, 61 in 1910, and more than a hundred in 1920. The pioneers in the hostel movement of Japan were, for the most part, men of religion belonging to Christianity, Buddhism of various sects and Salvation Army, a majority of whom had deeply been involved in the treatment of prisoners as a prison chaplain. In other instances, prison wardens, local politicians and businessmen with strong humanitarian orientations played a leading role in the establishment and maintenance of hostels." The Government began to grant subsidies as early as 1907. However, despite the subsidies most of the funds came from private sources.

In 1950 legislation clarified the role of government and voluntary organisations in the running of halfway houses.

TABLE 1

Year	Number of Hostels	Total Authorized Capacity	Average Daily Population	Accommodation Rate (%)
1958	150	3921	2900	74
1959	158	4130	3061	75
1960	156	4122	3120	76
1961	151	4076	3089	76
1962	152	4153	3016	73
1963	148	4114	2780	69
1964	144	4106	2560	64
1965	137	3721	2325	60
1966	132	3464	2215	61
1967	130	3374	2122	63
1968	127	3510	1946	56
1969	125	3545	1765	50
1970	121	3389	1675	50
1971	114	3322	1557	47
1972	113	3303	1466	45
1973	108	3178	1407	45
1974	104	3072	1354	45
1975	103	2972	1449	49
1976	103	2856	1456	50

Decrease in number of residents is said to be attributed to economic growth from late 1950's to early 70's and increasing job opportunities for offenders.

From observation at the house that I visited which was meant to house 20 but now only had 10, it would seem that as the standard of living has improved in Japan, that 10 was a more reasonable number to be living in the space and using facilities provided — that is if compared with Australian standards of housing and space provided per person.

Naturally the decrease in numbers has resulted in difficulties for the management. The Probation office pay 1191 Yen per day for room and board (\$5.17) per person living in a hostel. With full occupancy this could cover operational costs. Some hostels have closed because of difficulty in finding public minded successors to take on responsibilities. This is particularly so where a dedicated founder who used to provide funds and has now died leaving only the land and building for use of the hostel.

TABLE 2

Authorized 10 or Capacity under	11-20	21-30	31-50	51-70	71-80	Total
Number of Hostels	3	51	23	17	7	3
						104

It has been agreed that smaller numbers permit closer interaction with staff and residents.

POPULATION OF HOUSES

TABLE 3

	Male only	Female only	Male & Female	Total
Adult only	28 (762)	1 (10)	1 (20)	30 (792)
Juvenile only	7 (211)	—	—	7 (211)
Adult & Juvenile	59 (1751)	5 (69)	3 (82)	67 (1902)
Total	94 (2724)	6 (79)	4 (102)	104 (2905)

Figures in brackets show the total capacity of the corresponding houses.

It is said that houses mixing different categories of Offenders have experienced a "family like atmosphere" and has given elder residents a sense of responsibility.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

TABLE 4

Physical facilities	1960	1967	1972	1977
Wooden house	96.5	69.1	36.3	30.3
Concrete block building	1.4	9.3	8.7	11.6
Concrete steel building	2.1	21.6	55.0	58.1
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Total floor space (sq.m)	69.044	59.649	64.734	60.908
Floor space per authorized capacity	15.9	15.6	19.4	20.8

Improvements have been made possible by donations from large public foundations and companies.

"It is common for houses to have rooms of 9.9 square metres or six Tatami mats space for three residents." Prof. Suzuki is of the opinion that physical conditions can be further improved, to provide single rooms and central heating for houses, especially in northern areas.

STAFFING

TABLE 6

Kinds of staff members	Number	Average age	Average monthly pay
Director	57 (36)	63.3	142,549
Director concurrently			
Chief guidance worker	46 (22)	59.5	153,321
Chief guidance worker	58 (29)	59.3	126,624
Guidance worker	126 (42)	52.8	110,264
Clerical staff	46 (7)	50.4	88,512
Cook	89 (5)	54.3	73,916
Vocational instructor	24	47.6	231,005
Total	446	55.4	117,109

TABLE 7

Former professional Career	Director	Director Chief Guidance Worker	Chief Guidance Worker	Guidance Worker
Police officer	7	6	2	5
Court or Prosecutors' office officer	2	0	0	0
Correctional institution	14	10	19	21
Probation Service	6	9	3	5
Education	3	4	1	4
Social Welfare	0	1	1	2
Others	25	16	32	89
Total	57	46	58	126

"The average age is rather high and the average monthly pay is rather low." Enthusiasm for the work varies with workers, but it is generally felt that workers are underpaid and that workers make self sacrifice.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNT

(Annual financial account of an average house derived from the aggregated account of all Rehabilitation Aid Hostels in 1976)

TABLE 8

Expenditure		Income	
Personnel	45.9	National government subsidy	51.1
Aid services, foods and Workshop expenses	41.1	Workshop income	17.9
Office expenses	7.3	Donation and local government subsidy	14.4
Depreciation	2.9	Property dividend	7.0
Construction Repair	2.8	Resident contribution	8.0
Deficit	0.6	Others	1.0
Total	100%	Deficit	0.6
		Total	100%

POST RELEASE HOUSES

Accommodation at houses is at the request of the Offender or at least their consent without coercion.

Courts, Parole and Probation Officers do not have authority to order a stay, even special conditions of parole cannot require a specified period in a post release house.

This is seen as a weakness in the present law, because the use of houses with treatment is thus limited.

CATEGORIES OF OFFENDERS ACCOMMODATED

TABLE 9

Category of offenders	Number of offenders
Parolees from prisons	4482 (43.5)
Adult probationers	430 (4.2)
Parolees from training schools	215 (2.1)
Juvenile probationers	216 (2.1)
Offenders released on expiration from prisons	3982 (38.6)
Offenders discharged on suspended prosecutions	584 (5.7)
Offenders discharged on suspended sentences	399 (3.8)
Total	10,308 (100%)

In addition approximately 1000 Juveniles were referred from the family Court.

Research has been done on adult parolees, ex-prisoners and those discharged on suspended prosecutions who entered houses from January 13th to March 15th 1975 and non residential parolees released in the same period.

TABLE 10

Age	Hostel residents	Non-residential parolees
20-29	17.6	49.5
30-39	35.8	36.3
40-49	32.2	8.5
50-59	11.3	4.7
60-69	3.0	0.9
Total	100%	100%

TABLE 11

Number of prison commitments	Hostel residents	Non-residential parolees
non	5.5	—
1-2	38.6	77.8
3-4	21.5	14.6
5 or more	34.4	7.5
Total	100%	100%

TABLE 12

Total terms served in prison	Hostel residents	Non-residential parolees
6 months or under	6.1	0.9
1 year or under	6.4	6.2
5 years or under	42.3	70.6
10 years or under	25.1	14.7
more than 10 years	20.2	7.6
Total	100%	100%

"Hostel residents generally are older than non-residential parolees and have had longer periods of imprisonment. Most of them have no wife or children. Some of them have made complete or limited divorces while others have no marriage experience. There are many residents who have repeated one or more kinds of such crimes as petty theft, fraud, assault or bodily injuries. In short, a majority of the hostel residents might be said to be inadequate, insecure persons."

The main purpose of the Post Release Houses in Japan is to provide shelter rather than treatment, some however, have provided work shop enterprises which have been a source of funds for some physically and mentally retarded offenders who find it hard to get employment.

House rules cover rising and going to bed at certain times, meal time and cleanliness. Allowable use of alcohol varies from very strict to drinking in bedrooms provided disturbances are not caused.

The treatment of drinkers is a problem for workers. House staff sometimes go to prison to collect new residents. Group meetings are held in the houses. Probation officers play a big part in treatment and administrative matters at the house as well as assist residents with their problems. This however, is restricted, because of heavy case loads.

RESULTS

TABLE 13

Having stayed in the hostels for —	Number of offenders
under 4 days	1083 (14.7)
5 to 9 days	713 (9.7)
10 to 19 days	892 (12.1)
20 days to less than 1 month	901 (12.2)
1 month to less than 2 months	1,488 (20.2)
2 months to less than 3 months	846 (11.5)
3 months to less than 6 months	934 (12.7)
6 months to less than 1 year	354 (4.8)
1 year and over	166 (2.1)
Total	7377 (100%)

TABLE 14

Having left the hostels —	Number of offenders
with consent of the hostels	5013 (68.0)
without notifying to the hostels	1608 (21.8)
by being forced on account of misconducts	315 (4.3)
by arrest or in custody	272 (3.7)
by other reasons	169 (2.2)
Total	7377 (100%)

TABLE 15

Having left to reside in —	Number of offenders
Family's or relative's home	1972 (26.7)
Lodging prepared by employers	1765 (23.9)
Rented lodging	1015 (13.8)
Social Welfare Institution	211 (2.9)
Others	782 (10.6)
Unknown	1632 (22.1)
Total	7377 (100%)

TABLE 16

Working at the time of leaving as —	Number of offenders
Craftsman and production process worker	1597 (21.6)
Unskilful laborer (navvy, construction worker, etc.)	2632 (35.7)
Technician and specialist	399 (5.4)
Service worker (cook, waiter, guard, janitor, etc.)	365 (4.9)
Worker in transport and communication	276 (3.7)
Sales worker	180 (2.4)
Clerical worker	50 (0.7)
Farmer, Fisherman	33 (0.4)
Others	202 (3.1)
Unemployed	1643 (22.5)
Total	7377 (100%)

A large number of short term residents were en-route to another destination, others find jobs where accommodation is included.

It would seem there are many who were not satisfied with hostel life and conflicts with other residents or staff and so left without notice.

Two-thirds of residents leave in a satisfactory manner, this is noteworthy in view of the high proportion of offenders with advanced criminal tendency.

1975 Research — Recidivism Rates

TABLE 17

Categories of offenders	Elapse of time				
	1 week	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year
(aid group)					
full-termers	5.1	12.0	24.0	33.1	44.0
suspended					
prosecution	2.9	8.7	18.4	25.2	34.0
parolees	1.2	4.1	11.6	23.8	32.0
(non-aid group)					
parolees	0.5	1.9	3.3	9.4	17.5

"Individuals in the aid groups were not altogether accommodated to the hostels, but 98 per cent of parolees and nearly 80 per cent of full termers were actually accommodated, so that the Table 17 would give us some rough figures on the recidivism rates of major categories of hostel residents. Compared with the non-aid parolees, hostel residents revealed rather high recidivism rates. This does not necessarily mean the ineffectiveness of the hostel programs, but rather shows natural outcomes of the fact that the hostel residents composed of comparatively inadequate offenders with adjustment problems."

Keiwaen — meaning "respect and harmony" was opened 20 years ago as a post release Hotel for 20 adult male offenders. Today it accommodates male and female juveniles and adult males. At the time of my visit there were four females, six males with another two expected.

The house director Mr. Kanji Ishikawa is one of the few younger Directors of Post Release Houses. He also holds position of Chief Guidance Worker, is assisted by the widow of the former Director, who has her three children living on the premises, a female cook, and the Director's wife and their two children aged two and three years.

Mr. Ishikawa has had experience in the Navy, has studied law and was a senior high school teacher before getting involved with this kind of work. While teaching he became interested in the problems of young people who "dropped out" of high school and through his involvement as a Big Brother Volunteer he was brought into contact with the work of another hostel where he became Guidance Officer. After two years there he was appointed to his present position which he has occupied for 3½ years. He feels 10 is a good number to handle.

The residents work in varied jobs ranging from Apprentice Cook, Assistant Driver, Tailoring, Waitress, Carpenter, Book Binder and wood craft.

The timber-frame house is in three sections—rooms for females and two sections for males. At night passage doors are locked between these sections. A dining room serves as TV and music room, some bedrooms have two occupants and others have a room to themselves. According to Japanese custom rooms are small and have no furniture other than an "on floor" dressing table. Mats put away during the day are spread at night for sleeping. The third section, in the back yard, is an ex-US army prefab building which is used by the Director and family and some male inmates upstairs.

The yard is rather small for young people, but there are no problems with neighbours or the wider community who are indifferent to the hostel. In front of the building is a sheltered workshop and nearby on the side a TB Sanatorium, so the hostel is one of three institutions in the area.

On weekdays residents usually spend evenings at home and meaningful programmes are arranged, or there is TV, music, discussion group or guitar or visits from BBS members (Volunteer Movement Big Brothers and Sisters). Residents go to the public bath nearby together and on Saturdays there are often outings with BBS members — such as bowling and on Sundays they like to go shopping.

Mr. Ishikawa impressed as the kind of person who would relate well with young people and the staff appeared friendly and close knit as a "family" in the work together.

TOKYO — FAMILY COURT

My visit to Tokyo F.C. took place on 20.7.78 and included a short discussion with the Senior Judge — an extensive tour and explanation of the facilities — covering eight floors of the building and finally a two-hour discussion with three judges, a family Probation Officer — Court Clerk and interpreter, a Professor from UNFEI — all seated in our relevant positions in a Court room.

The Family Court in Japan deals with family and juvenile cases. Each Prefecture has a Family Court — some more than one, making a total of 50 Courts plus 242 branch offices and 96 sub-branch offices throughout the nation.

At the time of my visit to Tokyo Family Court 50 rooms including Juvenile Courts, reconciliation rooms, all informally set up, were in use and only one was being presided over by a Judge.

The Family Court and Juvenile Cases

The Juvenile Division has cases involving delinquent young people under 20 years and adults charged with having the welfare of juveniles.

All criminal cases concerning minors come before the Family Court for investigation and hearing, if the Judge feels the case warrants criminal action it is referred to the Public prosecutor for normal criminal procedures. Children under 14 committing offences are normally handled by the Child Guidance Centre unless referred to the Family Court by the Centre.

The Family Court and Adult Criminal Cases

The Court deals with adults who violate laws covering the welfare of juveniles, e.g. sexual acts, cruel treatment, labour standards etc.

Family Affairs Division of the Court

The Court has broad jurisdiction covering disputes within the family and related domestic affairs of legal significance.

The Law divides these into three categories.

1. Matters needing a Court Judgement — "declaration of incompetence", "declaration of absence or disappearance" or "correction of the family registers".
2. Divorce and "dissolution of the adoptive relationship".
3. Distribution of property on divorce or inheritance. Family affairs are sought to be settled by conciliation procedure — if this fails then by the determination process.

IPAA MEETING 1980 — JAPANESE INVOLVEMENT

On Thursday 6th July I had luncheon and a two hour meeting at Top Hat Restaurant (top floor of newest building in complex here near the Keio Plaza Hotel, Tokyo — restaurant only opened in June). An impressive new building of 50 storeys.

I was called for by Mrs Kyoko Tsunekawa, Assistant Chief Research and Liaison Officer, Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice. She took me to have lunch with Mr Shoichi Kuwana, Executive Manager of Japan, Rehabilitation Aid Association (formerly Chief of Probation for Tokyo before retirement) and Mr Masayuki Tanaka, Executive Manager of Japan Federation of Volunteer Probation Officers. The purpose of the meeting was to give information and to answer questions concerning forthcoming meetings of the International Prisoners Aid Association being held in Adelaide and UN meetings on the prevention of crime and treatment of offenders in Sydney August 1980. Through interpretation by Mrs Tsunekawa a presentation was made as follows, with use of map and travel brochure:

Adelaide: date 20th August, 1980
Venue: Festival Theatre and Education Centre
Sydney venue: Opera House — UN Congress
Climate in August — Kind of accommodation available.

Adelaide Programme:

It would be a conference for volunteers with a difference, anyone attending would have the opportunity to participate. The SA Government had promised use of the facilities for the Conference. It would be backed by strong local support and registration fees would be kept to a minimum by involving our own volunteers e.g., in preparation of conference meals. Concurrent sessions would be held at the Education Centre.

Suggested topics for the Commissions being established:

1. Hostels and Halfway Houses — including visits to houses operated by Offenders Aid and Rehabilitation Services of SA
2. Forms of aid to offenders: a. sponsors — prison visitors
b. voluntary probation officers etc.
3. Client participation — How can the ex-offender be involved.
4. Prisoners' families — a sub culture?
5. How else can volunteers be used: a. their selection
b. training
c. supervision
6. Religion in the treatment of offenders — man has more than material needs. The Chaplaincy: lay people and movements such as Prison Fellowship USA.

Discussion:

Problem of six simultaneous groups with Japanese involvement and interpreter services.

Desirability to have interpreter versed in the criminal justice system
Possibility of some of Japanese participants being involved as interpreters.

Japanese do not want to come all the way to Adelaide to be kept to themselves in one Japanese speaking group.

The problem of involvement of delegates at the UN Congress afterwards if say 100 came to Adelaide, there would be a limit on the number who would be permitted to participate in Sydney.

We could arrange an on-going Conference in Adelaide as an alternative.

The idea of involvement of grass roots volunteer in preference to "experts" giving addresses and their papers discussed by two or three people was favoured.

They indicated same problem with Japanese organised conferences.

People who came could well afford to pay, but would want to know all the costs beforehand and what they have paid for. Would like a price with accommodation plus other expenses and excluding accommodation, so that they know what their travel agents are quoting. They like the idea of lunch being provided at the sessions, so that conversation can continue over the meal.

No problem raised with say \$50 AU (Y12,700) registration fee for conference. Felt also \$40 AU (Y10,160) per day was reasonable for accommodation. They did express the wish not to be offered graded accommodation, but would prefer to be all offered the same. Stressed that they would like all costs budgeted beforehand — did not want to come to find extra costs. They realise however, that those wanting tours etc would have to pay extra. Interest was expressed in aborigines and it would be good to include meeting OARS aboriginal staff etc.

Mr M. Tanaka would act as liaison and future contact person. It was suggested that information be sent to all three people and Mr Tanaka would be responsible for circulating information, after translation, through their monthly magazine which has a circulation of 50,000.

Impression:

That the invitation was very favourably received and that they were interested in sending a delegation. From previous conferences mentioned viz USA, a delegation of 100 or more was possible. There is a definite interest in visiting Australia, with the opportunity being taken to visit New Zealand, Adelaide and Sydney.

With future negotiations being handled in a precise and business like manner, I feel confident that this would be a very successful venture to develop greater understanding and co-operation between our countries. Suggestions were made that both parties could attempt to study languages of each other's country in the intervening two years.

The involvement of students in our SA Schools, studying the Japanese language, with this party, could be of value also.

Subsequent Meeting:

On the evening of 21.7.78 I was entertained at dinner by Mr Ken Nakazawa, President of International Planning Incorporated with Professor Matsumoto of the UNFE Institute and Mrs K. Tsunekawa of the Ministry of Justice also present.

Indications were that the Adelaide invitation had been favourably considered and that plans would go ahead to send a delegation. In view of the large numbers expected to be interested, it was important that Professor Matsumoto and Mrs Tsunekawa and other English speaking people accompany the delegates.

It is considered important to the success of the Conference that the Japanese be integrated with all the sessions and be asked to participate as widely as possible.

I believe that they have much to offer in corrections and the use of volunteers in after care. Films are also available in English on the correctional system in that country.

Mr Nakazawa has promised to have further discussions regarding Adelaide 1980 when next in our city, possibly November this year.

VISIT TO ASAKA

Five days of my stay in Japan was with Mr and Mrs Brook and family of 17-9 2 Chome, Higashi Benza, Asaka Shi, Saitama Ken 351, Japan. David Brook, a contemporary of mine, coming from the same suburb, has been working in Japan for 23 years as a Missionary Pastor. His wife Dorothy is Canadian, they have two boys, Peter 15 and John 10. They adopted two Japanese girls from babyhood. Megumi 18 and Naomi 12 and are all well integrated into Japanese life style and language. I accompanied them on city visits to Chiyoda-Ku, Suginami-Ku, Shibuya and Daizawa areas.

On Saturday 15th I visited Nikko with Mr Brook, visiting the Kusaki Dam enroute. Also on the way at Ashio we visited the home of Mr and Mrs Iwatsuki, Japanese pastor where Mrs Brook used to stay when working in the area 22 years ago when Ashio was a thriving copper mining town of 20,000 people. Today the population is approximately 2000. Reaching Nikko we enjoyed the beautiful mountain scenery and the ascent to Lake Chuzenji, on which we enjoyed a launch trip. Later a visit to Kegon Falls and temple area in Nikko township completed a very happy visit. One must pay tribute to the

skill of the engineers who build the ascending and descending roads in the Nikko area. The treatment of the many hairpin bends enabling easy negotiation by all kinds of vehicles is an achievement of which any engineer should be proud. Likewise the new car tunnel, 2.8 kilometres long which eliminates many curves experienced on the old Nikko road.

On the return journey we stayed over night at Kiruy a city of about 120,000 about 60 miles from Tokyo. We stayed at the Japanese style Western Kiruy Inn. The attention received on arrival was such that one could be excused for thinking that we were the first guests ever to be accommodated. The welcome was friendly, with cool drinks and tea being served on arrival in our room. A bath was prepared and I enjoyed my first experience of taking a bath Japanese style appropriately dressed in a Yukata. It was quite an experience to soap up and wash sitting on the small stool and later relax in the lovely tiled deep bath in the corner of the bathroom. Sleeping on an 8 mat floor and using Japanese style toilet and sitting on the floor to dress by a low dressing table was quite an experience for me, not to forget the evening meal and breakfast that were served. Returning from our evening meal the bed mats with bedding were laid out in position on the floor. It was a little unusual to get used to the rather small and hard pillow stuffed with long pieces of rice straw.

On the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Mr Brook had been invited as guest preacher at the Kiruy Christian Church. I had opportunity to greet the congregation on both occasions and to speak briefly about the work in which I am involved and to provide organ music for the people. To my surprise this was well received and after the second service I was invited to play more. 49 Japanese people attended this service. The church had been established in approximately 1925 by a Miss Burnet, who founded the Central Japan Pioneer Mission. It was interesting to see how the order of service had retained some Anglican features introduced by the founder. There was the recitation of the Creed and Catechism with notices and offering at the end of the service. It was a privilege to enjoy lunch with the pastor's wife and the man who had taught Mr Brook Japanese, Mr Eisaka Iwashita. The meal of soup noodles and meat and salad was enjoyed, after which Mrs Mura presented Mr Brook and I with ties that her brother had made. After driving Mr Iwashita to Yabutsuki we were entertained in his home where his wife served us drinks, tea, corn on the cob, home made sweets and biscuits in the perfect style of Japanese hospitality. Mr Iwashita showed us a commendation that he had recently received in an English Language competition. His entry was graded A++ and highly commended and quoted verbatim in a magazine entitled Business English. This is quite an achievement for a man of 68 years who had no formal education in the subject.

Mr Iwashita graciously presented me with a tapestry of Mt Fuchi, together with a Japanese New Testament, through which book his life had found and expressed real purpose for many years.

On the return journey we visited a silk worm farm to observe how the silk worms are cultivated. Mulberry leaves are grown in abundance in the area, the trees being kept pruned very small so as to ensure fresh leaves.

CUSTOMS AND EXPERIENCES.

Going in and out of Japanese homes and businesses one has to get used to some customs which are strange to our way of doing things. For example, I don't think I've ever taken my shoes off and put them on again so many times in a day before. Actually, it has its advantages. It's nice to leave your shoes at the front of the house and feel cool and relaxed as you walk in socks or barefoot. But this can only happen among friends. It is usual to exchange your shoes for a pair of slippers to be worn in the house. At the Inn this process was followed with an addition — slippers which were to be left outside of your room. However, on leaving the bedroom to go to the bathroom or toilet just across the hall, one should put on slippers and then leave these outside the toilet door, by exchanging for a pair labelled W.C. which are in turn worn into the toilet. The advantage of this, is that by looking to see whether house slippers or W.C. slippers stand outside the toilet door, one can tell whether the toilet is occupied, or not — not a bad idea, especially if there is no lock on the door. The Inn proprietor is able to tell, by looking at the collection of shoes at the front door just how many guests are in at any particular time — not a bad idea!

I confess that I carried my slippers from the bedroom and placed them outside the toilet door and put the W.C. slippers inside — if slippers are used to indicate occupation, perhaps a better idea would be an IN and OUT sign outside the toilet door. However, I'm sure the floors must be kept cleaner, by leaving the dust of the street on shoes at the front door. Another confession, I often found myself in the bedroom with my shoes on — habits do die hard. I wonder what will happen when I return home?

Tokyo has a very fine railway system and I did quite a lot of travelling this way. Travelling in rush hour can be quite an experience. People everywhere. It was no problem just to get swept along into the train by a sea of people. Packed like sardines, to my way of thinking, another six were gently pushed in by people still in the queue. I didn't

experience any violent shoving, it is done in a helpful kind of way. With nothing to hold on to, I was kept in position by those around me and gently swayed by the movement of the train as it sped through the underground. On other occasions during the day when trains are slightly less crowded, it felt strange to be the only European in the carriage.

My travelling one morning from Shinkuku Station involved buying a 100 yen ticket from a machine and to get on the right platform for a train to Ikebukuro where I was to change to the Tojo line for Asakadai. I found the right platform by showing a piece of paper with the word Ikebukuro to a young man who escorted me to the platform and joined the train and told me when to get off. With a ticket for Asakadai I found the right platform but what I didn't know was that I caught an express that didn't stop at my station. Finding myself near-Iink Kawago, seven stations too far, I found a student on the train, reading the English newspaper, and fortunately for me he was a Uni student majoring in English Literature and had spent time in USA. When the train stopped, he insisted on getting off with me and taking me back to Asakadai. I eventually managed to convince him that I would be able to find my way alone, so he set out careful instructions for me. After seeing me on the train he waited for the next train to continue his journey. It was then that I realised that the first student I had asked to show me the way, had travelled with me to see that I reached Ikebukuro. This kindness to foreigners is unbelievable.

Prices in Japan, are at least 50% higher than most places. A smorgasbord hotel dinner cost 4000 Yen or more than \$17 AU while overnight hotel accommodation bed only was in excess of \$45. With essential food expensive, this is to be expected. Seeing US Cherries, 250Y for 100 grammes, I asked for some. To my surprise I received 11 cherries which worked out at 9 cents each. Needless to say I chewed each cherry 30 times and sucked the stones to get value for my money. Going to the service stations for petrol was quite an experience.

Most stations dispense petrol from fillers suspended from the roof — this gives more ground space to the garage. On driving in, four driveway attendants immediately descended on the car and appeared to take things apart, as well as serve petrol. The inside mats even, were given a good shake — not to mention windscreen, under the bonnet and dirt wiped off the vehicle. Sale with service completed in comfortable time the attendants bowed, walked to the street and indicated by signals when it was safe to proceed into the main stream of traffic. While on his premises the proprietor seemed keen to demonstrate his concern for the safety as well as the importance of his customer. To our Australian way of thinking we might feel entitled to all this service with petrol at nearly \$2 per gallon in Japan.

Courtesy is the keynote of the Japanese, politeness and thanks is expressed in numerous bows on leaving the meal table. It is customary for the lady host who has served the meal to remain on her knees and bow graciously as the guests, while expressing their thanks, leave the table (or should I say the floor). She would also make her entry and exit to and from the room from this position, while serving the meal. Soup can be slurped, if one desires, it is not considered impolite. Also noodles may be drawn into the mouth from the chopsticks with accompanying noises, if one desires.

Hearing an attractive tune coming from a street truck I immediately exclaimed "That sounds like Mr Whippy — 'Let's buy an icecream' " — I was sadly disillusioned by my host however, when he said "That's the garbage collector in the street — the music is just reminding us that our bin should be out and that he'll be at our place soon."

I was able to spend 1½ hours with Japanese people (two men and two women) sitting in on their English lesson, being conducted by my friend with the use of 'Intensive American English Conversation Drill revised'. It was interesting to hear their response to exercises "The mountain climber is slipping" "The neighbours are moving" etc. I enjoyed the opportunity of speaking during class about my work.

Spending a few days in the homes of Japanese one can learn more about the people and their customs, than is possible by staying several weeks in a western style hotel. One can only be impressed by the friendliness of the Japanese people.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

I appreciate the assistance of Mr P. J. Hocker, Executive Director of the Australia-Japan Foundation for making this Tour possible.

Thanks to Mr Y. Suzuki, Director of U.N. Far East Institute and Professor Matsumoto and other members of the Institute Staff.

Mrs K. Tsunerawa of the Ministry of Justice and members of Voluntary Rehabilitation Organisations and staff of institutions who did much to assist me during my visit.

ITINERARY

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| 3.7.78 | Boarded Japan Airlines Flight No. 001 from San Francisco |
| 4.7.78 | Arrival Tokyo — Kio Plaza Hotel
Briefing by Professor Matsumoto (UNFEI) |

- 5.7.78 Professor Matsumoto — (a.m.)
Entertained at Luncheon by officials of the National Federation of Volunteer Probation Officers.
Attended Annual Meeting of Organisation (Hogashi)
Addressed meeting of 1300 in presence of His Excellency the Honorable Governor of Tokyo Metropolis, The Head of Edogawa Ward, The Director General of the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice, the Chief Justice of Tokyo Family Court and other distinguished guests.
- 6.7.78 Discussions including luncheon with:
Mr M. Tanaka, Executive Director of the National Federation of Volunteer Probation Officers.
Mr S. Kuwana, Executive Director Japan Association for Rehabilitation Aid.
Mrs K. Tsunekawa, Assist. Chief Research and Liaison Section, Rehabilitation Bureau, Ministry of Justice.
To extend an invitation to Japanese delegates to attend meetings of the International Prisoners Aid Association meetings in Adelaide — August, 1980, preceding UN Congress on Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders in Sydney.
Participation of Japanese delegation.
- 7.7.78 Visit to UN Far East Institute where 49th UN Training Course was being held — talked to delegates.
Luncheon with Director of Institute Mr Y. Suzuki and Dr and Mrs Pillai — visiting experts from Sri Lanka.
Visit to Kanto Medical School for Juvenile Offenders.
Attended session of 49th UN Course.
Evening: Party at Institute for delegates. Had conversation with the 28 participants.
- 8.7.78 Attended all day Conference of Big Brother and Sister Organisation (accompanied by Mrs K. Tsunekawa, Ministry of Justice).
Visited Ministry offices — met staff and director.
- 9.7.78 Visited friends at Asaka (working in Japan 23 years).
- 10.7.78 Visited T.E.A.M. Mission Headquarters. Meeting with Missionaries.
- 11.7.78 Professor K. Oyama — later visit to Nakano Prison.
Mrs K. Hanada, Warden — watched audio visual presentation, then inspected prison — workshops, assessment, recreational, hospital and all other areas.
- 12-13.7.78 Tokyo — Imperial Palace and other areas.
- 14.7.78 To Asaka
- 15.7.78 To Nikko — visit to Ashio. Lake Chuzenji, Keyon Falls. Stayed Kiruy overnight — Japanese Inn.
- 16.7.78 To Asaka — staying with Brook family who have worked among the Japanese for 23 years. I was able to learn much about customs — also visited several Japanese homes — had meals at two.
- 17.7.78 Tokyo Christian College — Christian Academy in Japan, New Life League (Printers), Japan Sunday School Union.
- 18-19.7.78 Local shopping — learning more about Japanese lifestyle.
- 20.7.78 Tokyo Family Court — Inspection of Court with UN Professor. Two hour discussion with 2 Judges and Family Court Probation Officers.
Dinner and Evening given by Mr Ken Nakazawa, President International Planning Inc. Professor Matsumoto and Mrs Tsunekawa also attended Discussion, concerning the participation of 100 delegates likely to visit Australia in 1980.
- 21.7.78 Visit to Kiewaen Post Release Hostel for ex prisoners.

Evening Meeting with Professor Matsumoto.
To Narita Airport — for departure.

☆ ☆ ☆

OARS? WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

'Why do you bother to help Crims?' I am often asked. 'They got themselves into trouble'. 'Why don't you let them get out of it the best way they can'. 'They should have thought of the consequences before they did wrong'. 'True' I agree, 'but what if it was a person close to you, wouldn't you like someone to be interested, to offer the helping hand up'. 'Besides, what if no one helps the offender, surely his return to crime and prison will be the quicker.' If this happens society is going to have yet another victim. But think what happens when the offender is intercepted and urged to change his attitude and seek a new life. Not only does the ex-offender find benefit from being assisted, but the whole community benefits twice, first by being spared further crime and by receiving a person capable of contributing to the work force and paying taxes.

Offenders Aid and Rehabilitation Services of S.A. Inc. assists offenders, visits prisons, and helps people on release to re-enter society.

One such person assisted, had spent many years in prison at great expense to taxpayers — his crime, armed robbery, on several occasions, in fact this man held the dubious distinction of being the first to hold up a T.A.B. agency in S.A. — Employed in 1972 by the Association to train as a printer and to establish our Halifax House print shop he left in 1975 to train for the ministry of the Church — today he is an assistant minister of a suburban church. A man turned from crime to usefulness and service of others.

To engage in its work of rehabilitation, the Association employs welfare staff. In addition, volunteers, known as sponsors, visit prisons to show 'friendship' and 'that someone' out there 'really cares'. With this rehabilitation inmates can share experiences with the visitor and responsible attitudes towards the future and society develop.

On the 'outside' prisoners' families are materially assisted, encouraged and counselled. Outings, holidays and camps are arranged for the children with community help, through 'Clancys Club'.

Twelve houses provide post release accommodation for men, juveniles, and women who have no one to whom they can go on release. Living as an extended family in this caring situation residents come to grips with their problems and receive good advice and are introduced to new ideas about living. The support of these homes in a critical time of getting re-established in a job and generally settling down, has helped many to 'make it' and stay out of prison.

With the idea of preventing youths from going to prison later on, The Homestead, Youth Aid and Shaftesbury Citizenship Course work to assist young offenders.

For rehabilitation to be effective, community involvement is essential — after all offenders are members of society and the majority of their problems are experienced by others. In our kind of work it is easy to feel that you're battling against great odds with very little support. In a way this is true, considering with only approximately 3,000 financial members in our Association. I often dream what could be done if every working adult in South Australia donated only one cent a day towards this work — surely one cent a day is not too much to help solve one of the greatest community problems — the increase in crime. We often need financial resources, even clothing, goods and furniture, to help men, women and families re-establish, but material help, important as that is, is not the sole answer to the deeper needs of life.

Despite the difficulties, disappointments and frustrations we have our rewards when someone discovers that by God's Grace they can find freedom of conscience, liberation from a past and hope for the future.

This is real rehabilitation for the offender — and crime prevention for the community — will you become a part of this exciting enterprise — The Association would like to hear from you.

R. J. KIDNEY
Director

