

## The Bachelor's Soliloquy

To wed, or not to wed? That is the question  
 Whether't is nobler in the mind to suffer  
 The pangs and arrows of outrageous love  
 Or to take arms against the powerful flame  
 And by oppressing quench it.

To wed — to marry —

And by marriage say we end  
 The heartache and the thousand painful shocks  
 Love makes us heir to — 't is a consumption  
 Devoutly to be wished! to wed — to marry —  
 Perchance a scold! aye, there's the rub!  
 For in that wedded life what ills may come  
 When we have shuffled off our single state  
 Must give us serious pause. There's the respect  
 That makes us Bachelors a numerous race.  
 For who would bear the dull unsocial hours  
 Spent by unmarried men, cheered by no smile  
 To sit like hermit at a lonely board  
 In silence? Who would bear the cruel gibes  
 With which the Bachelor is daily teased  
 When he himself might end such heart-felt griefs  
 By wedding some fair maids? Oh, who would live  
 Yawning and staring sadly in the fire  
 Till celibacy becomes a weary life  
 But that the dread of something after wedlock  
 That undiscovered state from whose strong chains  
 No captive can get free, puzzles the will  
 And makes us rather choose those ills we have  
 Than fly to others which a wife may bring.  
 Thus caution doth make Bachelors of us all,  
 And thus our natural taste for matrimony  
 Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought.  
 And love adventures of great pith and moment  
 With this regard their currents turn away  
 And lose the name of Wedlock.

Anonymous

# Fame and Fortune in Japan

By Paul King  
 Canadian University Press

A 1959 graduate of the Ryerson Institute of Technology, Toronto, Paul King went to Japan last year to see for himself the Land of the Rising Sun. Although not a student in Japan, he has been in some contact with students.

Japan is a complex country, still torn between traditional attitudes and beliefs and the post-war western influences. There is much poverty and wealth. There is much beauty and ugliness: Mount Fuji, a dirty cone of black lava ash in which you sink to your ankles in dry weather and to your knees in mud when it's raining is an inspiring sight from a distance.

### Student Riots

From what I have seen of student life in Japan, it's active, to say the least. Although not having been in personal contact with the body of it, I have been exposed to some interesting facets of its actions. The newspapers frequently play up the student riots and picket lines. One recent event involved a 60-student picket line posted by the university to keep out four teachers branded as pro-communist. The teachers were later discharged.

A fellow office-worker and I sat down one day and tried to determine the major differences between students here and back in North America. We noted the complete lack of social activities in Japanese schools as one of the differences. Fraternities, dances and other social activities are almost non-existent, although English speaking students do have sports clubs.

Baseball is another of the strange items here in Japan. Every school has a baseball team and the annual match between Waseda and Keio Universities is the equivalent of the Army-Navy football game in the U.S.

Academically, the Japanese universities teach 20 to 30 subjects simultaneously. Each one is continued throughout the four years,

and one lecture per week per subject is the norm.

My Texan friend also noted that most universities are private. The seven national colleges are highly esteemed and have space for eight to ten per cent of the applicants each year. Tuition in private schools costs from \$100 to \$800 a year, high for Japan.

Individualism, which is condoned on most North American campuses, is very much frowned upon here. I recently attended a party wearing a bright red vest and shocked everyone. Everyone here wears the same black uniform, and on graduating, buys the same suits, ties, overcoats, shoes and shirts. Same style, same color for all.

### On Fame and Fortune

Fortune for a foreigner is far more accessible than fame. Japan is a fertile land of opportunity for the English speaking journalist.

After a few weeks of famine came the feast. I started writing a weekly entertainment column for the 5,000,000-circulation Mainichi Daily News; became technical advisor on English-language programs for a TV network; began teaching English at three large Japanese companies; and became English copywriter for the largest Japanese advertising agency.

Any student with a yen for travelling (pun intended) can succeed in business without really trying.

I abhor, or pity, the travellers who fly to Japan, spend three days in the potted lobby of the Imperial Hotel, gazing with unabashed admiration and curiosity at fellow tourists, and return home with glowing, ecstatic accounts of Japan. I have talked with one or two of these starry-eyed wonders and their statements invariably start with: "The Japanese are all so. . ."

No one who has not spent at least a night in a Zen Buddhist temple, slept on the floor of a Japanese inn, enjoyed a Japanese bath, taken a Tokyo taxi ride, eaten Sushi (raw fish) with a village farm family, taken a train from Nara to Kobe, attended a festival in Kyoto, visited the Shrine at Miyajima to pay homage to the gods, worked in a Japanese firm, visited the bomb sites in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, gone to a Geisha party, or climbed Mount Fuji, can possibly start to claim a knowledge of Japan.

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