

Japanese friends

by Daphne Rogers

March 1980 Mandate

Friends gathered for an evening of celebration in Japan. Some were former United Church scholarship students in Canada.

Yoko Kojima, lower left, studied social work in Toronto and New York receiving her master's degree from Columbia. Later she returned to the United States to earn her doctorate from Wisconsin. Besides being professor of rehabilitation at Japan Women's University, she works on national and international committees presenting papers at seminars, conferences and consultations in many different countries. She looks forward with excitement to an international rehabilitation conference in Canada next summer (1980).

On the lower right is Haruko Araki who worked for the Japanese ambassador in Ottawa for three years. We met when she returned to Japan and taught at Toyo Eiwa Girls' School where I am now. She has since retired and is busy

teaching privately at home.

At the back left is Yasuyo Nakagomi Saito whom I met on my first furlough at what is now the Centre for Christian Studies. Like Yoko she came on scholarship and studied in Toronto. Later she earned her master's degree in linguistics in Edmonton. We taught together at Kofu when she returned to Japan. Now she is married with a son and daughter and teaches English full-time at the Tokyo Women's Christian University Junior College.

Next to Yasuyo is Akiko Wakabayashi Yagi with whom I lived during our days at the former United Church Training School. With her scholarship, she earned her master of social work degree in Toronto. Married and mother of two young sons, she is in charge of a nursery school.

Beside Akiko is Motoko Yuasa Yoshioka, a master's graduate of International Christian University

in Tokyo. She taught English in our junior-senior high department and later at our Junior College. Now she is on staff at her alma mater, I.C.U. You may have met her when she and her architect husband visited Canada.

Kyoko Shiba is another Toyo Eiwa scholarship student who studied in Toronto and the United States. She met a number of United Church people at summer camps. At present she is in the kindergarten teacher department of our Junior College.

These are remarkable people indeed. The scholarship committees knew what they were doing when they chose such leaders!

The United Church of Canada's Division of World Outreach provides almost \$120,000.00 a year for student scholarships in addition to supporting many educational projects in overseas countries.

