

Tastes the same, says Japanese exchange student

McDonald's cost more in Japan

McDonald's hamburgers taste the same in Japan as they do here, but in Japan, they cost more. That is the observation of Teruyo (Terry) Hayashi, who likes them in either country. The 18-year-old arrived in Cass City Aug. 27 as an exchange

student through the Youth for Understanding program. She is spending the year with the Ronald Nicholas family at their N. Seeger Street home, and will be returning home in July. At home, Miss Hayashi eats American and Chinese

food in addition to her native Japanese, but declares, "I like American food best." In addition to hamburgers, her other favorites are French fries and cake.

There are McDonald's restaurants in Japan, which is where she got her first taste of their hamburgers. (A plain one costs the equivalent of 75 cents there, compared to 39 cents here.) They also have cake there, but nowhere near as many varieties as they do here.

The basic staples in Japan are lots of fish and rice.

Teruyo is the oldest of three children. A sister is 16 and her brother is 11. Her father is somewhat akin to an extension agent here, but in a unique form of agriculture. He advises silkworm farmers and also does research in silkworm agriculture.

The family lives in Atsugi, a city of about 100,000 about an hour away by train from Tokyo.

THERE IS ONE significant difference between Japanese society and here, Miss Hayashi has noticed.

In her country, a woman's place is very much in the home, although that is slowly changing.

Still, it is very rare to find a married woman working outside the home, she explained, and very, very rare to find a married woman with children working. Traditionally, when a working woman gets

married, she quits her job. And at home, she better not ask her husband for help with the dishes. Husbands over there don't do that sort of thing.

"I was surprised here, my father makes coffee and sometimes when mother (Mrs. Nicholas) is not here, he cooks by himself," she said.

WHEN TERUYO RETURNS home, she will have two terms to go before graduating from high school. There are three terms in the Japanese school system, from September to December, followed by two weeks vacation, January to March (10 days vacation) and April to July (then 40 days vacation).

Students attend school 5 1/2 days a week. Teruyo attends a public school for all girls with three grades, 160 in each grade. There are 40 students in each classroom and the teachers move from room to room, not the opposite.

In Japan, she was studying mathematics, English (for five years), French, Japanese (in the same way American students study English), old Japanese and old Chinese (for reading only), chemistry, biology, music, world history, Japanese history and physical education. Not all subjects are studied each day.

AFTER HIGH SCHOOL, Miss Hayashi is hoping to go to college to study English so

that she can become a translator or an airline stewardess.

Getting into college, however, is very difficult. It requires passing an examination which takes two days initially, then another one or two days later.

To pass the examination requires LOTS of studying, the exchange student explained, as expressed in the Japanese saying, "If you

sleep four hours a day, you can go to college. If you sleep five hours, you can't go."

Students who fail the examination can attend a preparatory school for a year, then try again.

At Cass City High School, Teruyo is studying math, home economics, typing, history, communications and physical education this

semester. The second semester, she will study English and creative writing in place of the home economics and physical education, with the rest of her courses staying the same.

Activities for Japanese teenagers outside of school are similar to ones here, with favorites being going to movies and bowling. One difference is Japanese teens don't have cars. For a "night on the town" or for shopping, Teruyo and her friends like to take the train to Tokyo. (The train runs every five minutes.)

SHE HAS DONE QUITE a bit of traveling since she came to this country. She has been to Niagara Falls, going through Canada, Indiana and Florida. The latter trip was made with the Erwin Hall family of Deford, whose daughter, Karen, is presently a Rotary

Exchange student in Japan. Teruyo has also had taste of the rural life while here. Until December, her host family was living on the side of Deford on Gift Road.

In order to qualify as a Youth for Understanding exchange student, she has to pass a test of her English abilities. YFU helped pay for her trip through fund-raising from some corporations; her parents paid the rest.

One aspect of her stay here she doesn't care for is winter, even though it has been a mild one so far.

Winters are even milder in Japan. It snows in Atsugi where she lives, but only in February and very little, the white stuff comes down.

"It's pretty looking from the inside," she said on a day when there was snow on the ground, "but it's too cold from outside."

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TERUYO (TERRY) HAYASHI

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Casual to formal

They're suitable for informal kitchens, formal dining rooms or as connecting doors between the two.

They function especially well as kitchen, bath, laundry and closet doors where they permit the free flow of air to circulate, helping to combat heat and humidity, odors, stale-ness and mildew.

Louver doors are available as folding or sliding units, which makes them ideal for closets in narrow foyers or hallways where floor clearance space is limited.

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