

## 英語の辞書・百科事典のあやまりについて (1)

山 岸 直 勇

## Mistakes in English Dictionaries and Encyclopedias (1)

Naotoshi YAMAGISHI\*

(昭和56年9月11日受理)

## 略 語 表

COD	The Concise Oxford Dictionary New Edition 1976
Collins	Collins Dictionary of the English Language 1979
EB	The New Encyclopaedia Britannica 1974
Encyclopedic World	Encyclopedic World Dictionary 1974
NOID	The New Oxford Illustrated Dictionary 1978
OALD	Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English 1980
PED	The Penguin English Dictionary Third Edition 1979
RHCD	The Random House College Dictionary 1975
RHP	The Random House Dictionary (paperback) 1978
SOED	The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary 1975
Web Bio	Webster's Biographical Dictionary 1972
Web Geo	Webster's New Geographical Dictionary 1972
WNCD	Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary 1973
WNWD	Webster's New World Dictionary Second College Edition 1976
W3	Webster's Third New International Dictionary 1966
W20	Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary 1966
WoBD	The World Book Dictionary 1974
WoBE	The World Book Encyclopedia 1972

(1) **Thanksgiving (Day)** set apart for giving thanks to God, usu. fourth Thursday in November in U. S. — COD. usu. を削除する。 **last but not least**, last in order of mention or occurrence but not of importance COD. 重要なことを最後に言うが決して軽いことではないのだが、の意を表わすには、この説明では無理ではないのか、Editor である Dr. Sykes は The correction at *Thanksgiving* has already been ordered for the next edition of the Concise Oxford Dictionary, following your previous suggestion of it. There is indeed a certain ambiguity at *last*, where the intended meaning was 'but not last in order of importance'. I will try to think of a way of avoiding this difficulty. **ronin** (Hist.) Lordless wandering samurai. [Jap.] — COD. 江戸時代の浪人は、主家の禄を離れた者。江戸中期以後の浪人は手習い御匠や傘張り、揚枝けずりなどの内職や賭場の用心棒をして生計を立てる者も多かった。Dr. Sykes は I will take note

of your description of *ronin*, although clearly it cannot all be accommodated in the Concise Oxford Dictionary.

(2) **Nara**, a city in Central Japan, on S Honshu : the first capital of Japan (710-784) — Collins. 古代にあっては死者のあった家をいみ、あとつぎは新居を建てる習慣があり、都は一代限りであったが、中国朝鮮より高度の文明の移入もあり、政務の拡大繁雑化したにより、代々都を変えるのは不可能になった。the first permanent capital が正しい。Managing Editor である W. T. McLeod は I am grateful to you for your interesting information on the constant changing of capital cities in connection with the entry on Nara, which I have noted for consideration when the time comes for a revised reprint. **dan**, Judo. any one of the 12 black-belt grades of proficiency. — Collins. 柔道の段は初段にはじまり十段にと進む、一般に有段者は黒帯。十二段は誤り、六段から八段までは赤白のまんだら、九段と十段は赤色であるが、ふつう六段以上も黒帯を用いている。W. T. McLeod は Thank you for your comments on the various grades in Judo. We will bear your remarks in mind when the time comes for a revised edition. **Lords Spiritual**, the Anglican bishops of England and Wales in their capacity as members of the House of Lords. — Collins. the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York も Lord Spiritual である。the Anglican archbishops (大主教) and bishops (主教) が正しい。W. T. McLeod は The definition of LORDS SPIRITUAL clearly needs re-wording, since only 24 bishops and 2 archbishops are members of the House of Lords. **washboard**, a board having a surface, usually of corrugated metal, on which clothes are scrubbed. — Collins. 洗濯板の定義は、電気洗濯機・コインランドリーの普及した今日… on which, especially formerly, clothes were scrubbed とすべきでないか W. T. McLeod は I think you are probably right in saying that the use of a WASHBOARD for scrubbing clothes is obsolescent, at least in urbanized societies. **harakiri** or harikari (in Japan) ritual by suicide by disembowelment with a sword when disgraced or under sentence of death — Collins. (formerly in Japan, among the warrior class) に改める、刑罰としての切腹は上級武士を対象、改定律例 (1873年) により刑罰としての切腹は廃止。 **kana**, the Japanese syllabary, which consists of two written varieties. See hiragana, katakana. [c 18: from Japanese, literally: false letters; compare kanji, which are regarded as real letters] — Collins. かたかな、ひらがなのほかに万葉がながある。かなは false letters でなく、借名 (borrowed letters) 又は仮名 (provisional letters) である。W. T. McLeod は Thank you for your comments on the Japanese terms HARAKIRI and KANA, both of which we have noted. **samovar** (esp. in Russia) a metal urn for making tea, in which the water is usually heated by charcoal held in an inner container. — Collins. charcoal で熱するものは現代のソ連では下火、電気式が一般に用いられている。 **solicitor** (in Britain) a lawyer who advises clients on matters of law, draws up legal documents, prepares cases for barristers, etc. Compare barrister — Collins. solicitor は法廷外の弁護士事務に当たる 事務弁護士、但しある種の裁判所へは出られる。W. T. McLeod は SAMOVAR — I agree that the definition could be improved and have asked that this be noted for consideration when the time comes for a revised edition. Similar for SOLICITOR. **ronin** Japanese history, a lordless samurai, esp. one

reduced to banditry by the death of his lord — Collins. 浪人, 主として主君の死により食禄を失ない強盗を働く, とあるが, これは例外, 切取強盗武士のならない. より来たものらしい, 手習い師匠, 傘張り, 揚枝けずり, 賭場の用心棒などをして生計を立てた. **soy sauce**, a salty pungent dark brown sauce made from fermented soya beans, used esp. in Chinese cookery. — Collins. 醤油は pungent でない, 今日日本で普通に使っている Worcestershire sauce (ウスターソース) が pungent. 主として中国料理に使用するとあるが, 日本料理でも多に使用している, 原料は小麦と大豆とで作った醤油麴と食塩水. **skimmia**, any putaceous shrub of the S and SE Asian genus *Skimmia*, grown for their ornamental red berries and evergreen foliage. [c 18 New Latin from Japanese (mijama-) skimmī, a native name of the plant.] — Collins. 語原説明の (mijama-) skimmī は誤りで, (miyama-) shikimi が正しい, しきみは仏前にそなえるものであるが, 英米では常緑木であり, 赤い実がなるので鑑賞用である. W. T. McLeod は Thank you for another series of helpful comments on Japanese terms. I have asked that all of them be noted in our files for consideration when the time comes for a revised edition.

(3) **big business**, powerful financial or business resources, esp. considered collectively — Encyclopedic World. しばしば悪口的, を添える必要がある. **ace**, a fighter pilot officially credited with shooting down five or more enemy aeroplanes — Encyclopedic World. これを (英) a fighter pilot who has shot down a large number of enemy aeroplanes (米) a fighter pilot officially credited with shooting down five or more enemy aeroplanes に改める. **Thanksgiving Day**, U.S., an annual festival in acknowledgement of divine favour, usually held on the fourth Thursday of November — Encyclopedic World. usually を削除する. **Oireachtas**, the parliament of the Republic of Ireland, consisting of the Dáil Eireann and the Seanad Eireann — Encyclopedic World. これを consisting of the President, the Dáil Eireann and the Seanad Eireann に改める. **white slave** 1. a white woman who is sold or forced to serve as a prostitute, esp. outside her native land. 2. a person held as a slave in some condition resembling slavery — Encyclopedic World. それぞれ 1. a woman who is sold or forced... 2. a white person held as a slave... に改める. Editor の John Bailie は Thank you for your letter about the entries in *The Hamlyn Encyclopedic World Dictionary*. We shall give serious consideration to your proposed amendments when we come to revise the Dictionary. **Mont Blanc**, a mountain on the French-Italian border — Encyclopedic World. 頂上はフランス領, 大山塊はフランスとイタリアにまたがり, その北東部は少しスイスに入りこんでいる. **washboard**, a board or frame with a corrugated metallic or other surface, on which clothes are scrubbed in the process of washing — Encyclopedic World. これを on which, especially formerly, clothes were scrubbed... に改める. **table**, Parl. Proc. a. to place (a proposal, resolution, etc.) on the table of an assembly for discussion b. U. S. to shelve or postpone. — Encyclopedic World これを a. (英) to submit for discussion b. (英・米) to shelve or postpone に改める. John Bailie は I have note of your comments about the entries *Mont Blanc*, *washboard*, *table* and I will ensure that we make the necessary corrections in any revised edition of the *Encyclopedic World*

*Dictionary.*

(4) **soy**. Sauce for fish etc. made, chiefly in Japan, China, and India, from soya beans pickled in brine — NOID. 醤油は日本では Sauce for fish, meat, vegetables, made from soy beans, usually mixed with wheat, fermented in brine であり、すき焼、さしみ、煮物、汁物、照焼等を使用。Editor である Miss E. Rogerson は Thank you for your most interesting letter about *shō-yu*. You made me feel quite hungry! **obi**, Japanese woman's bright-coloured sash. — NOID. 帯は Japanese man and child もしめる。男性用の帯は地味である。 **station**, in Australia, sheep- or cattle-run with its buildings — NOID. in Australia and New Zealand とする。 **washboard**, corrugated board on which clothes etc. may be scrubbed. — NOID. corrugated board on which, especially formerly, clothes etc. were scrubbed とする。 **Mont Blanc**, Mountain in France on Italian border — NOID. しかし The mountain lies in both France and Italy and the summit is in France and a tiny part of the north-eastern end extends into Switzerland. である。Editor である Miss E. Rogerson は Thank you very much for your letter and its suggestions for improvements to definitions of *obi*, *station*, etc. in the *New Oxford Illustrated Dictionary*. They are duly filed for consideration before a new edition is prepared.

(5) **in one's own right**, because of a personal claim, qualification, etc. not depending upon another person: She is a peeress in her own right, i e not only by marriage. — OALD. not by marriage が正しい。 **white slave**, white girl who is forced to be a prostitute, esp one who is tricked into going to a foreign country by promises of employment — OALD. これを 1. girl who is forced to be a prostitute,... 2. white person held as a slave とする。 **Thanksgiving Day**, day set apart each year for giving thanks to God (usu the fourth Thursday in November). — OALD. usu を削除する。 **sound... sound in wind and limb**, (colloq) physically fit — OALD. **wind... sound in wind and limb**, in excellent physical condition — OALD. いずれが正しいか。General Editor の A. P. Cowie は **in one's own right**. I agree with you that the gloss should read 'i. e. not by marriage to a peer'. **white slave**. This is not regularly used in a literal sense, so that your second proposal couldn't be adopted. With regards to girls being tricked into prostitution, I take your point that this traffic is not confined to girls who happen to be white, whether in such cases one would also use the idiom *white slave* I simply don't know. **Thanksgiving Day**. You are quite right about the date *invariably* being the fourth Thursday in November. **sound in wind and limb**. Strictly, this means 'physically fit and healthy'. I assume that there is a difference between health (absence of illness or physical injury) and fitness.

(6) **netsuke**, Japanese belt-ornament of carved ivory or wood — PED. かつて、印籠や巾着、煙草入れなどの紐の端につけ、腰帯にはさんで落ちないようにした小彫刻。現在日本人は着用していない。国際的に関心が高まっている。 **Thanksgiving Day**, (US) annual day of holiday in thanksgiving for the harvest, usu fourth Thursday of November — PED. usu を削除する。Pelican Books の Chief Editor である Peter Wright は I am very grateful to you for your letter which my colleague Jacqueline Warner

has passed on to me. I am giving a copy of it to the author of the dictionary who will bear it in mind when the time comes for further revisions.

(7) **paycheck** 1: a bank check given in lieu of cash as salary or wages 2: salary or wages — RHP. U. S. の label をつけてはどうか. **blessing**, grace said before a meal — RHP. grace said before or after a meal でないか. **sen**, a money of account of Japan, the 100 th part of a yen, equal to 10 rin — RHCD. **rin**, a money of account of Japan the thousandth part of a yen or the tenth part of a sen: removed from circulation in 1954 — RHCD. 銭・厘の硬貨は 1954 年の小額通貨通用禁止令により使用禁止, 但し銭は外国為替のレート・ダウ平均株価・日歩計算に使用されている.

**community center**, (in the U. S. and Canada) a building in which members of a community may gather for social, educational, or cultural activities. — RHCD. in the U. S. and Canada を削除してはどうか. **fez**, a red cap, shaped like truncated cone, with a black tassel, worn esp. by men in the Near East. — RHP. トルコ共和国の初代大統領のケマル・パシヤは 1924 年トルコ人イスラム男子教徒のトルコ帽着用を禁止した. 現在ではエジプト人イスラム教徒男子が着用している. Executive Editor の P. Y. Su は **paycheck**: Your proposal for adding a U. S. label to this entry is valid, and will be implemented in the future. **blessing**: Strictly speaking, people *ask a blessing* before a meal and give thanks after a meal. However, this usage of blessing may not be too rigidly adhered to in actuality. We would propose to rewrite the definition to read: "a brief prayer for God's favor said at a meal, usually before eating". **sen**: In accordance with your suggestion, we would insert "formerly" between "yen" and "equal to." **rin**: Also in line with your observation, we would insert "former" between "a" and "money of". **community center**: We would agree with you that the usage designation "(in the U. S. and Canada)" is no longer valid and should therefore be deleted. **fez**: This was brought to our attention in your letter back in late 1976. Although it was not commented on by us at that time, we have since made an appropriate note of a revision, along your lines, for future use.

(8) **moped** British. a heavily built bicycle with an auxiliary engine, used in England and other parts of Europe — WoBD. British 及び used in England and other parts of Europe を削除する. **status symbol**, something that is supposed to indicate or represent a desirable status in society: Owning a car has become a status symbol of the successful American family — WoBD. 米国における status symbol はすくなくとも two cars, digital watches, CB radios, an automatic food processor, an oil well を所有することでないか. **rin**, a Japanese money of account, worth 1/10 sen. — WoBD. 厘の硬貨は 1954 年の小額通貨通用禁止令により使用禁止, 計算の単位にも使用されていない. **road show** U. S. A traveling theatrical show — WoBD. U. S. を削除する. **paycheck**, check given in payment of wages or salary — WoBD. U. S. の label をつける. **decade** 1900 to 1910 was a decade. — WoBD. 1900 は 1901 とすべきである. **mesa** U. S. a small, isolated, high plateau with a flat top and steep, rocky sides, common in arid regions of the western and southwestern United States — WoBD. U. S. と of the western and southwestern United States を削除してはどうか. Editor の Clarence L. Barnhart は In our 1976 edition we introduced many changes and

updated many definitions. For example, the British label was removed from *moped*, the sentences about “owning a car” was removed from *status symbol*, and the definition of *rin* was revised to “a former Japanese money of account, worth 1/10 sen. The rin was removed from circulation in 1954” We will be glad to introduce into WBD your suggested corrections for *road show*, *paycheck*, and *decade*. Your suggestion to broaden the application of *mesa* will be considered for the next revision, since it will require some research to determine if the term is applied to other than the American plateaus. **Liberty Bell**, U. S. a bell in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, regarded as a symbol of liberty. It was rung July 8, 1776, to announce the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress — WoBD. Liberty Bell は現在 Independence Hall の北にある Liberty Bell Pavilion にある. **coffin nail**, U. S. Slang, a cigarette. — WoBD. U. S. を削除する. **yeah**, U. S. Informal. yes — WoBD. U. S. を削除する. Barnhart は You are quite right about the Liberty Bell, of course; however, in our 1976 revision we deleted the entry, since it is fully covered in the World Book Encyclopedia. In the same revision we deleted the “U.S.” label from *coffin nail*. I agree that the “U.S.” label under *yeah* should be deleted.

(9) **sen** 1: a Japanese monetary unit equal to 1/100 yen 2: a coin representing one sen — W3. **rin** 1: a Japanese monetary unit equal to 1/10 sen 2: a coin representing one rin — W3. 銭・厘の硬貨は1954年の小額通貨通用禁止令により使用禁止、但し骨董の価値はある。銭は外国為替のレート・ダウ平均株価・日歩計算に使用されている。 **Hideyoshi, Toyotomi**. 1536–1598. Japanese general and statesman; son of poor woodcutter... chose Iyeyasu as his successor. — Web Bio. 秀吉はまずしい木こりの息子でない、足輕木下弥右衛門の子である。家康を後継者として選んでいない、後継者秀頼の将来を心配して、死ぬ前に諸将に秀頼をよく守り育てよう遺言し起請文をとりかわさせた。編集部の Michael G. Belanger は Most of your observations concerning *sen* and *rin* cannot properly be included in a dictionary, but a couple of the points are well-taken. We are making note of the fact the sen coin is no longer used and that the rin is no longer used either as a monetary unit or as a coin. Your remarks will be taken into consideration the next time these entries are revised. Your biographical sketch of Toyotomi Hideyoshi will be recorded. If and when a major revision of Webster's Biographical Dictionary is undertaken, the editor will have your article at his disposal.

(10) **Hojo**. Family of Japanese nobility of Taira origin that succeeded the Minamotos as rulers of Japan (1219–1333)...; overthrown by Ashikaga shogun Takauji (1333) — Web Bio. 後醍醐天皇は全国の反幕勢力によびかけた結果、北条高時 (1303–1333) は部下の足利高氏にそむかれ、新田義貞ら朝廷側武將の鎌倉攻めにあい、自害した。これで北条氏は滅亡。 **Inukai, Ki Tsuyoshi**. 1855–1932. Japanese journalist and statesman... — Web Bio. 犬養毅、いぬかいき 又は いぬがいつよし、である。 **Hitotsubashi**. Also known as **Yoshinobu** and by Chinese form **Keiki**. 1837–1902... on death (1866) of shogun Iyemochi, chosen (1867) as his successor, but resigned a few months later, after Mutsuhito had been chosen emperor. — WebBio. after Mutsuhito had ascended

the throne に改める. In 1860, he was named crown-prince and when his father died, 1867, he succeeded him. であるから. **Enomoto** Viscount **Buyo**. 1839?-1909... negotiated treaty with Russia (1874) exchanging southern half of Sakhalin for Kuril Islands — Web Bio. 日本は1875年樺太全島をロシア領とし千島18島を日本領とする, 千島樺太交換条約をロシアと結んだ. 1874年, 樺太南半, は誤り, 榎本武揚 (1836—1908) が正しい. **Iyemitsu** 1604-1651. Japanese shogun of the Tokugawa (1623-51), son of Hidetada... Closed Japan to all foreign trade; ...confined Dutch and their trading (1641) to island of Deshima in Nagasaki harbor... — Web Bio. オランダ貿易のほか, 長崎の唐人屋敷の中国人による中国貿易, 対馬の宗氏による朝鮮貿易が行なわれた. 編集部は I have made notes on all of your observation of misleading of mistaken statements in entries in our Biographical Dictionary, and as soon as our editorial and manufacturing schedules permit these entries will be closely examined for possible revision. Thank you again for helping us make the Biographical Dictionary a more accurate and informative reference work.

(11) **Blanc, Mont** or Ital. Monte Bianco. Highest mountain of the Alps, Savoy Alps, Haute-Savoie dept., SE France, on Italian border... — Web Geo. 頂上はフランス領, 大山塊はフランスとイタリアにまたがり, その北東部は少しスイスに入りこんでいる. 編集部の Michael G. Belanger は The company geographer tells us that you are quite right about the massif lying in Italy and Switzerland as well as France. Our definition refers to the principal peak, which lies in France. To avoid possible confusion, rewording of the definition will be considered when editorial and manufacturing process permits.

(12) **Ronin**. [Jap.] In feudal Japan, a lordless wandering samurai. — SOED. 浪人. 古代においては戸籍のある土地を離れ他国を流浪するもの. 鎌倉室町時代には主人を失った武士. 江戸時代 (feudal days) には主家の禄を離れた武士. **bonze** [-Fr. bonze or Pg. bonzo (mod. L. bonzus, bonzius), prob. -Jap. bonzō...] A term applied by Europeans to the Buddhist clergy of Japan, and occas. of China, etc. — SOED. bonzō は bonsō の誤り, 梵僧. **Zori**. Also sori. A Japanese straw sandal with a thong between the big toe and the small toes. — SOED. straw の草履はごく一部, 現在はビニール製が広く使われ, 高級品には牛皮・トカゲ皮・牛皮のろうけつ染め, 晴れ着用にはつづれ織り製品がよく用いられる. 心にはコルクを使う, 下級品はボール紙心. **Ginseng** 1. A plant of two species of the genus Araliid or Panax, found in Northern China, the eastern United States, and elsewhere. 2. The root of the plant; a preparation of this as a medicine. — SOED. 朝鮮人参は中国東北部および朝鮮が原産地で, 我が国へは享保年間 (1716—35) に朝鮮から種子が伝わり, 現在長野・島根・福島県などで栽培されている. 白参は四〜六年へたものの皮をむき, 日ぼしにしたもので, おもに中国に輸出されている. 休戦会談の行なわれた開城の特産物である紅参白参は中国へ多く輸出されている. Editor の Mrs. L. S. Burnett は Thank you for your comments on *ronin*, *ginseng*, *bonze*, and *zori* for the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* These will be kept carefully for future reference.

(13) **GINKGO**, or MAIDENNAIR TREE, is the only surviving species of an order (group) of plants that lived millions of years ago. It was discovered growing in

temple gardens in China... The male forms of the ginkgo, which do not bear fruit, are often planted as ornamental trees in various parts of the United States. — WoBE. イチョウ、中国の原産といわれている、古くからわが国に渡来して神社・寺院・庭園・並木などに植えられている。 **MIKADO**, was the ancient title of the Emperor of Japan... Recent emperors and their reigns are called by a name selected for them. The Emperor Hirohito is known as the *Showa Tenno* or *Showa Emperor*. — WoBE. 日本では現天皇の崩御後、昭和天皇。 **PEDICAB** is a type of three-wheeled vehicle used as a taxicab. It is built like a bicycle, but it has two rear wheels instead of one... Pedicabs are used widely in the Orient, especially in China and Japan, where they have almost entirely replaced jinrikishas. — WoBE. 日本に於て輪タクは第二次世界大戦直後に生産がはじまり営業用として使用されたが、1950年末期にはほとんど生産されなくなった、現在輪タクは日本では見られない。 **YEN** is the chief unit of Japanese money. It has five values, each in a different metal. They are the 100 yen (silver), 50 yen (nickel), 10 yen (bronze), 5 yen (brass), and 1 yen (aluminum). The *sen* and *rin*, smaller denominations of the yen, were removed from circulation in 1954. But they are still used as units for calculation. — WoBE. 100円は白銅貨 S41.9.30. 4.8 グラム。50円も白銅貨 S41.9.30. 4 グラム。10円青銅貨 S34.1.5. 4.5 グラム。5円黄銅貨 S34.6.1. 3.75 グラム。1円アルミニウム貨 S30.3.16. 1 グラム。銭は外国為替のレート・ダウ平均株価・日歩計算に使用されている。銭・厘の硬貨は骨董の価値がある。紙幣には1万円、5千円、1千円、500円がある。 Senior Editorial Researcher の Robert Hamm は Once again we sincerely appreciate all the helpful suggestions you have so kindly sent us, and will keep on file your remarks about the “Ginkgo” and “Mikado” articles. Fortunately, one of our researchers also noticed that the information in “pedicab” is outdated and has already suggested to our editors that it be changed, along the same lines you recommended in your letter. Finally I am happy to tell you that, as a result of one of your previous letters, our editors have rewritten the “Yen” article for our next edition. The article will enumerate the various denominations in which the yen is minted and printed. I see from your letter that our editors will also now need to add a further clarification regarding the *sen* and the *rin*, and I will suggest this to them. **Liberty Bell** is a treasured relic of the early days of American independence. It was rung July 8, 1776, with other church bells, to announce the adoption of the Declaration of Independence... It is now in the first floor Tower Room of Independence Hall in Philadelphia. — WoBE. 自由の鐘は現在 Philadelphia の Independence Hall にない。Independence Hall の北の Pavilion にある。 Robert Hamm は As for the World Book “Liberty Bell” article, several years ago our editors revised the text book and our artists added a picture of its new location.

(14) **pesthole**, a place infested or likely to be infested with an epidemic disease — WNWD. Americanism の label は付けられぬか。 **sen**, a copper or bronze coin of Japan equal to 1/100 of a yen. — W2O. **rin**, a small copper coin of Japan, valued at one tenth of a sen. — W2O. 現在銭・厘の硬貨は流通していない、但し骨董の価値はある、銭は外国為替のレート・ダウ平均株価・日歩計算に使用されている。 Associate



Editor である Mrs. Ruth K. Kent は You may be right in surmising that *pesthole* is an Americanism. We will query our consulting editor on Americanisms, Dr. Mitford M. Mathews. It seems a little doubtful that the term is used in any but a figurative sense nowadays. Thank you for the comprehensive information about the present status of the *sen* and *rin* in Japan. The entries for these terms in *Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary* will be adjusted when it is feasible to do so.

**Liberty Bell**, the bell of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, rung on July 4, 1776, to proclaim the independence of the U. S. — WNWD. **Liberty Bell**, the bell of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, which was rung when the Continental Congress announced the Declaration of Independence in 1776. — W2O. 自由の鐘は現在 Independence Hall の北の Pavilion にあり、その鐘は7月8日に鳴らされた。wash 8. [Brit. Collop.] to withstand a test or examination [an alibi that won't wash] — WNWD. Brit. を削除してはどうか。Mrs. Kent は We changed the date of the ringing of the Liberty Bell to July 8, 1776 in the 1978 printing of *Webster's New World Dictionary*, Second College Edition. We have put a note in the file about the British label at *wash*, sense 8 of the verb. Our citation file indicates you are probably right in saying it is used a fair amount in our own country now.

(15) **come down**, U. S. Informal. to become ill (with) — WoBD. U. S. Informal を削除してはどうか。Editor の Clarence L. Barnhart は In our latest major revision (1976) we deleted the restrictive label under *come down with*, just as you suggest.

**Seppuku**, Japanese. hara-kiri: The Japanese hara-kiri or seppuku... was formerly confined to nobles and warriors. — WoBD. 切腹は武士が行なった。刑罰としての切腹は上級武士、公卿 (nobles) には切腹がなかった。Barnhart は The information on *seppuku* is more interesting and useful. We removed the reference to the nobles under *seppuku*. **washboard**, U. S. a board having ridges on it, used for rubbing the dirt out of clothes. — WoBD. U. S. を削除し、...on it, esp. formerly used... としてはどうか。 **soap opera**, U. S. a daytime radio or television drama presented in serial form, usually featuring emotional domestic situations. — WoBD. U. S. を削除してはどうか。Barnhart は Since the 1976 edition of WBD the entry *washboard* no longer carries the label U. S. The entry *soap opera* still does, but since the term has now passed into British English we shall delete it in our next revision.

(16) **black**, served without milk or cream — WNCD. **black**, of coffee: served without cream or milk and sometimes also without sugar. — W3. いずれが正しいか。

**washboard**, a corrugated rectangular surface that is used for scrubbing clothes — WNCD. ...that was, esp. formerly, used for... でないか。 **washboard**, a corrugated rectangular surface (as of zinc or glass) in a wooden frame on which clothes are rubbed in washing — W3. ...on which, esp. formerly, clothes were rubbed でないか、洗濯板。 **nagami kumquat** or **nagami** [nagami of unknown origin]: a kumquat (*Fortunella margarita*) having oval fruit and a persistent style base — W3. ナガ・キンカン。語原は naga long + mi fruit である。 **mebos** [Afrik mebos, prob. fr. Jap umeboshi preserved plum] Africa: a confection of salted and sugared dried apricots — W3. 語原の plum は Japanese apricot の誤り。編集部の Michael G. Belanger は

The more complete definition for the coffee-related sense of *black* is the one from Webster's Third New International Dictionary: "served without cream or milk and sometimes without sugar." The Collegiate certainly is not wrong, and it reflects the most common usage. It is an abbreviated definition for an abridged book. Your suggestion regarding *washboard* appears sound. As far as we can tell, washboards are not in laundry use and have not been for some time. In the interests of completeness and accuracy "formerly" should be added to the definition. Your etymologies for *nagami* and *mebos* have been recorded and will be added to our etymological files. They will be available to the company etymologist for future revisions and editions. We appreciate the information. *sumi*, soot of burned plants and glue into solid cakes and used esp. by Chinese and Japanese artists for black-and-white paintings — W3. soot of burned plants mixed with diluted bone glue... paintings and calligraphy に改め, 墨をするにはすずりが必要であり, 毛筆を使用し, 書家は画家と同じように評価されていること. *bonseki* [Jap. tray-landscape]: a landscape constructed of sand and stones on a tray; also: the art of constructing such a landscape — W3. 語原は [lit., bon tray + seki stone] である. *bugaku* usu cap [Jap. lit., dancing, music]: stately classical Japanese dance orig. introduced from China — W3. 語原は lit., bu dancing + gaku music である. 編集部の Michael G. Belanger は We have considered your statement on *sumi* and we may be able to incorporate part of what you say in a future revision of the entry. The rest of what you say is very interesting, and undoubtedly correct, but the information is suitable for an article in an encyclopedia. We could never incorporate all that information in a dictionary definition. Our etymologist does not have at this time the resources necessary to evaluate thoroughly your proposed etymologies for *bonseki* and *bugaku*. Your information has been forwarded to the etymology file. It will of course be reviewed by an editor for future revisions and editions. *pesthole*: a place liable to epidemic disease — WNCD. *pesthole*: a place subject or liable to epidemic disease — W3. U. S. の label をつけてはどうか. *paycheck* 1: a check in payment of wages or salary 2: wages, salary — WNCD. *paycheck* 1: a check in payment of wages or salary 2: wages, salary — W3. U. S. の label はつけられないか. 編集部の Michael G. Belanger は *Pesthole* and *paycheck*, as far as we are able to determine, are used chiefly in the United States. However, since our dictionaries are written from the American viewpoint, we do not label words *U. S.*, even if their usage is confined to this country.

(17) *koto*, a Japanese 13-stringed board zither with movable bridges... It is played by plucking the strings with the thumb and first two fingers of the right hand, either bare or with ivory attachments [tsume, "plectrum"]. The left hand, in traditions after the 16th century, may alter the pitch or ornament the sound of each string by pressing or manipulating the strings on the other side of each bridge. — EB. 琴は普通13絃である. bare は誤り, 三味線の爪弾きはあるが, 琴の爪弾きはない.

*pedicab*, three-wheeled bicycle with a hooded carriage body balanced on two of the wheels... Pedicabs are the successors to rickshas and are used in China, Japan, Vietnam, and other Asiatic countries... — EB. 輪タクは現在日本では使用されてい