

## 英語の辞書・百科事典の誤りについて(Ⅲ)

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## Mistakes in English Dictionaries and Encyclopedias (3)

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## はじめに

英語の辞書・百科事典は誤りなきものと考えられている。しかし Alexander Pope (1688-1744) の言う如く *To err is human*. 世と申し上げたい。誤りのない英語の辞書・百科事典はない。

日本の事物についての誤った説明は、日本及び日本人について誤解を生むこととなるので遺憾である。約27年前英語辞書にある誤りに関心を抱いた、例えば London の Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd. 発行の *The Universal Dictionary of the English Language* (1952) にある *the Japan Seas* の *s* である。編集部に訂正を求めて文通を開始してより約17年が経過した。この小論には以下6社の編集部よりの比較的最近の返信を記載しある。

## A

Webster's New World Dictionary, Second College Edition (1976), Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A. の見出し語につき Associate Editor である Mrs. Ruth K. Kent の回答は以下の通り。

(1) **ginseng** 1. any of several perennial plants (genus *Panax*) of the ginseng family, with thick, forked, aromatic roots, esp. a Chinese species (*Panax schin-seng*) and a N. American species (*Panax quinquefolius*). 2. the root of these plants, used medicinally by the Chinese 1. 薬用人参は中国・北アメリカだけでなく、朝鮮 (休戦会談のあった開城が有名)、日本では島根・長野・福島県などで栽培されている。日本での栽培は朝鮮より種子が輸入された18世紀に始まる。2. 強壮剤として中国だけでなく朝鮮・日本・西洋諸国で愛用されている。cf. C(9), E(2).

Thank you for the information contained in your letter about ginseng. The use of the plant has an interesting history. I looked at the ginseng in a nearby health food store and found two or three brands imported from Korea and one from Siberia. シベリア産の薬用人参とは初耳。

(2) **sugar loaf**, a conical mass of crystalized sugar.

円錐状に固めた砂糖。これに *now rarely sold* をつけ加えてはどうか。

(3) **wheat cake**, a pancake made with whole-wheat flour. パンケーキ, whole を

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削除してはどうか。

(4)**karate** [Jap., lit., open hand (<*kara*, empty+*te* hand)] a Japanese system of self-defense characterized chiefly by sharp, quick blows delivered with the hands and feet. 空手. 語源について open hand を empty hand と改め, これに in the sense of "weaponless" をつけ加えてはどうか。

(2)(3)(4)につき Your suggestions about entries for sugar loaf, wheat flour, and the etymology of karate are thought-provoking. The contention that a wheat cake is an ordinary pancake rather than one made from whole-wheat flour, was met with general agreement on the part of the staff here, and a couple of our cook books agree, too. The addition to the etymology of karate (to say, "in the sense of weaponless" in regard to empty hand) looks worthwhile. And it is true that the sugar loaf is rarely sold. Sometimes a decision about adding such a piece of information depends on space to spare on a given page. Space in the dictionary is always at a premium. We will keep all of your suggestions on file.

(5)**bonsai** [Jap., lit., tray arrangement] 1. the art of dwarfing and shaping trees and shrubs in shallow pots by pruning, controlled fertilization, etc. 2. *pl.* bonsai such a tree or shrub. 盆栽. 語源につき tray arrangement は誤り [*bon*, pot+*sai*, to plant] とする。

We thank you for the help with the origin of the word *bonsai*. It is good, of you to give us the information for this etymology.

(6)**developer**, a person or thing that develops; specif. a) a person who develops real estate on a speculative basis. 宅地造成業者. on a speculative basis (投機的) を削除してはどうか。

(7)**raccoon**, a small, tree-climbing, chiefly flesh-eating mammal (*Procyon lotor*) of N. America, active largely at night and characterized by long, yellowish gray fur, black marklike markings across the eyes, and a long, black-ringed tail. あらいぐま. chiefly flesh-eating は誤り. omnivorous (雑食の) mammal である. raccoon の食物は frogs, crayfish, turtles, and other fresh-water animals, all berries and other fruits, corn である。

(8)**Autobahn**, in Germany, an automobile expressway. in Germany を in Germany and Austria と改める。

(6)(7)(8)につき Your observations about the definitions of the terms *developer*, *raccoon*, and *Autobahn* are well taken.

(9)**handicraft** 1. expertness with the hands : manual skill 2. an occupation or art calling for skillful use of the hands as weaving, pottery, etc. 1. 手先の熟練 2. 手芸 3. として articles made by hand (手芸品) を加えてはどうか cf. Nara sends a daily stream of commuters, agricultural products, cotton goods, and handicrafts. これに対して,

Handicrafts as the articles made by hand is not familiar to me, but I have no doubt that you are right. I will watch for citations for the term used in that way. 次の手紙では To go back to an earlier subject in another letter, I have indeed picked up a considerable number of citations for the word *handi-*

*crafts* as meaning articles made by hand. I found several within a short period of time.

(10) **for (or on) sale**, to be sold : offered for purchase これを **for sale**, to be sold: offered for purchase. **on sale**, (1) to be sold : offered for purchase (2) at a reduced price とてはどうか。

Your comments on the idiomatic phrase-for (or on) sale are astute. Separation into two phrases sounds like a good idea.

(11) **sushi** [Jap] a Japanese dish consisting of thin stripes of raw fish wrapped: about cakes of cold cooked rice. にぎりずしは thin stripes of raw fish on cakes of cold cooked rice であり, 巻ずしは dried and pressed seaweed wrapped about cakes of cold cooked rice, with vegetables or raw fish in the middle of them である. cf. B (3)

The change you have suggested for the entry for *sushi* is appreciated. I am studying to eat at a Japanese restaurant.

(12) **Greenwich Village**, section for New York City, on the lower west side of Manhattan: noted as a center for artists, writers, etc. について, formerly, noted as a center for artists, writers, etc. と formerly をつける. 現在では SoHo が noted as a center for artists, writers, etc. である. cf. C (7), D (2), E (1)

The point that you make about Greenwich Village is well taken. We do have an entry for *SoHo*.

(13) **out-Herod**, to surpass in excess, as in violence or cruelty, usually in the phrase out-Herod Herod, Hamlet's reference to the usual characterization of Herod Antipas in the old mystery plays. Herod Antipas は誤りで Herod the Great が正しいのでないか. Herod Antipas は Herod the Great の子, 洗礼者ヨハネを死刑にした. Herod the Great は幼児のキリストを殺害しようと Bethlehem の幼児全部の虐殺を命じた残虐な王. cf. B (17)

(14) **seven seas**, all the oceans of the world. これに the Arctic, Antarctic, North Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Pacific, South Pacific, and Indian Oceans をつけ加えられないか。

(13)と(14)につき We are pleased to have you share with us your observations about the term *out-Herod*. I daresay any addition to the entry would depend upon what room we might have to spare. That is also true as to giving the names of the seven seas. Space is always at a premium, for new words are being added to the language all the time.

## B

World Book Dictionary (1979) の見出し語につき Editor である Mr. Clarence L. Barnhart の回答は以下の通り。

(1) **Soroban**, the type of abacus used in Japan : The Japanese start using the abacus or soroban in the fourth grade and develops a concrete familiarity with numbers (Scientific American).

the fourth grade より, は誤り. 昭和55年よりの教育課程では小学校第3学年よりそ

ろばんの授業があり、そろばんによる数の表わし方を知り、そろばんを用いて簡単な加法及び減法の計算を出来るようにするのが目標となっている。正確迅速なそろばんの計算指導は商業高校又はそろばん塾で行われている。develops a concrete familiarity with numbers については、小学校1年の算数で行われている。

Apparently the quotation from Scientific American *Soroban* is no longer factually accurate. I have made a note of it and in our next major revision we will try to replace it with a more current one.

(2)**nori**, a red, marine alga eaten in Japan especially in the form of a paste, with soy sauce. これは瓶詰つくだにのりの事である。巻のり等に使用するのり (a kind of edible seaweed sold in thin purple-black sheet, dried and pressed) を加えねばならぬ。

Our definition of *nori* needs to be revised, to indicate that it is eaten especially in pressed, dried, and roasted form rather than in the form of a paste. The emphasis on paste must have been influenced by the literal meaning of *nori*. paste 糊 (のり) を、海苔 (のり) と間違ったのである。Thank you also for the correction and new information concerning *nori*.

(3)**sushi**, a Japanese and Hawaiian dish of cold cooked rice, fish, and vegetables, rolled in pressed seaweed. すし。この定義は巻きずしである。にぎりずしを加えねばならぬ。又ちらしずし等もある。cf. A (11)

*Sushi*, too, must be revised, as it is narrowly defined considering that there are various kinds of sushi and only one kind is rolled in nori.

(4)**Nichiren**, a militant and nationalistic Buddhist sect in Japan. [**Nichiren**, a Japanese teacher of the 1200's, who founded it] 日蓮 (1222—1282) は日蓮宗の開祖。安房国小湊に生れた。1253年南無妙法蓮華經の第一声を発し、その後かかずの法難にあった。teacher でなく Buddhist priest である。

(5)**Shin**, a Japanese Buddhist sect that practices Amidism. [**Japanese Shin (shū)** <*Shin* faith + *shū* sect.] 語原につき浄土真宗 (True Pure Land Sect) 略して真宗であるから [...*Shin* (true) + *shū* sect.] が正しい。faith では信宗ということになる。漢字知識の欠乏の一例。cf. D(6)

(4)(5)につき The story of the priest *Nichiren* is very interesting, as are your remarks on *Shin*.

(6)**habu**, a poisonous pit viper related to the rattlesnake, found in the Ryukyu Islands and certain other areas of Asia. ハブ。沖縄諸島・奄美大島・徳の島に住む、但し沖のえらぶ島にはいない。

(7)**soy** Also, soy sauce, A salty, brown sauce made from fermented soybeans, used especially in Chinese and Japanese cooking to give flavor and color, as to meat and fish. 醤油。日本では...fermented soybeans and wheat...to meat, fish, and vegetables である。

(6)(7)につき Thank you for the corrections and new information concerning *habu* and *soy*.

(8)**momme**, a Japanese unit of weight, equal to 3.75 grams : Everybody else in the world was weighing pearls in momme, the traditional Japanese unit,

while Japan was determinedly using the gramme (*New Scientist*). 勿、日本では1959年以後は特別な用途に供する場合を除いてすべてメートル系単位に統一され尺貫法（勿もこの中にはいる）は用いてはならぬことになっている。しかし養殖真珠は *momme*、天然真珠は *grain* が、日本を含み世界中での計量の単位となっている。

Unfortunately we cannot do anything about the quotation from the *New Scientist* under *momme*, since our policy is to leave quotations alone. The purpose of the quotation is to show the word being used in an actual source. We do not take responsibility for the accuracy and currency of the information given in it, although we do try to give quotations whose content is factual. The quotation under *momme* is linguistically a useful one and close enough to the facts about this unit of weight to make us want to keep it until we can find a suitable substitute.

(9)**bonze**, a Buddhist monk, especially of Japan, but also of China, or other countries of the Far East. [*Portuguese bonzo*, Japanese *bonzō* < Chinese] 仏教の僧。Japanese *bonsō* (梵僧) が正しい。

The etymology needs correction.

(10)**Akita**, any of a breed of medium-sized dogs of Japan. with a sharp nose and pointed ears. [*Akita* a city in northern Japan]. *Akita* a city (秋田は市) を *Akita* a prefecture (秋田は県) に改める。秋田犬は秋田県大館市が本場である。

Changing "city" to "prefecture" in the etymology of *Akita* is more of a problem because our definition of *prefecture* does not cover the use or meaning of this term in Japan. I have filed a note to have the definition of *prefecture* expanded. cf. *prefecture*, the office, jurisdiction, territory, or official residence of a prefect—World Book Dict. これに (in Japan) the jurisdiction of a governor (知事) を加えるのであろう。

(11)**Bushido** or **bushido**, the moral code of the knights and warriors of feudal Japan : Japanese chivalry. knights を削除する。

(12)**heimin** (in Japan) the common people : the working class. 華族・士族・平民の制度は昭和22年(1947)廃止。(formerly in Japan) と改める。

(13)**fuji** 1. lightweight. close-woven, silk fabric used especially for blouses or shirts 2. a Japanese wisteria. [*Fuji*, a mountain in southern Japan] 1. 富士絹であるからこの語原説明でよいが 2. は藤であり、同じ *fuji* であっても使用する漢字が異なるのである。

(14)**kyogen**, a dance drama or comedy performed during intermissions of the classical no drama of Japan. [*Japanese kyōgen* play, drama] play, drama を comic play or comic drama に改める。

We shall then also review our definitions of *Bushido*, and *heimin*, and the etymologies of *fuji* and *kyogen*.

(15)**yellow pages**, U.S. a telephone directory or a section of it, printed on pages of a yellow color, in which the names are classified according to types of business, services, and professions.

U.S. の label を削除してはどうか。 *Yellow pages* : the term has indeed spread

to Britain and the label U.S. should be deleted.

(16) **Xmas** (kris'mas), =Christmas これに (eks'məs) という発音を加えてはどうか。

And eks'məs should be a variant pronunciation of *Xmas*.

(17) **out-Herod Herod**, to outdo Herod (represented in the old mystery plays as a blustering tyrant) in violence. この Herod は Herod Antipas でなく Herod the Great であると思うがどうかと尋ねて見た cf. A(13), D(4).

In reference to the entry at *out-Herod Herod*, you are of course right that this describes Herod the Great, but when Shakespeare used the phrase in *Hamlet* he was clearly referring to the character of Herod represented by actors in the old mystery plays, not to Herod himself.

(18) **zori**, a flat sandal, usually made of woven straw, leather, or rubber.

[<Japanese *zori*] 語原につき zōri である o に macron が必要。及び with a thong (緒) を加える。

(19) **tempura**, a dish of seafood or vegetables fried in batter. fried in batter を coated in batter and deep-fried に改める。

(20) **tatami**, a mat made of rice straw, used as a floor covering in a Japanese house, ...rice straw, ...を ...rice straw covered with a fine layer of woven rush, ... に改める。

(21) **sake**, an alcoholic beverage made from a fermented mash of rice, popular in Japan. It somewhat resembles a still white wine and is drunk by the Japanese in slightly warmed porcelain cups. slightly warmed porcelain cups について、酒を少しあたためたちょこに入れるのではなく、燗をした酒をちょこに入れるのである。(18)(19)(20)(21)につき

Your comments on *zori*, *tempura*, *tatami*, and *sake* are much appreciated. I have made copies of your suggested changes in the World Book Dictionary entries and will refer to them in our next major revision of the dictionary.

## C

Random House Dictionary (1970) 略 RHD, Random House College Dictionary (1980又は1982) 略 RHCD, Random House Dictionary, Concise Edition (1980) 略 RHP, Random House Inc., New York City の見出し語につき Executive Editor である Mr. P.Y. Su の回答は次の通り。

(1) **wallpaper**, a decorative paper for covering the walls of a room—RHP. 壁紙及び天井紙であるから...for covering the walls or ceiling of a room としてはどうか。

For the definition of *wallpaper* in the RHP we will certainly insert "or ceiling" between "the walls" and "of a room".

(2) **play possum**, U.S. Informal. a. to feign sleep or death. b. to dissemble or pretend ignorance—RHD. U.S. の label を取ってはどうか。

*possum*, play : As you rightly point out, we will delete the label U.S.

(3) **kanji** 1. a system of Japanese writing using Chinese—derived characters 2. any one of these characters [<Jap. equiv. to *kan* Chinese+*ji* ideograph]—RHD. **kanji** 1. a system of Japanese writing using Chinese—derived characters 2. any

one of these characters. [ $\langle$ Jap=*kan* Chinese+*ji* ideograph]-RHCD (1980). 漢字, *kan* Chinese を *kan* a dynastic name of ancient China としてどうか。

*kanji* : It is true that Chinese is used by people ethnically called the Hans, which is the name of an ancient dynasty, but for the present we will not introduce that fact into the etymology without ample explanation.

(4) **telecourse**, a course of study conducted over television.-RHD. これを a course of televised lectures offered for credit by a college or university としてはどうか。

*telecourse* : You are right that our definition is too skimpy. We will change the word "conducted" to read "offered" and, after the end of the definition, add "for credit by a university".

(5) **party line**, a telephone line connecting the telephones of a number of subscribers by one circuit to a central office-RHD & RHCD (1980) 電話の共同加入線。これを…the telephones of two or more subscribers…としてはどうか。two subscribers は親子電話である。

*party line* : The phrase "of a number of" surely implies a little too many parties, so we will change it to read "for two to four", and add the following supplementary information " : now rarely available except in some rural areas," which is what the local telephone company now informs us.

(6) **genro** (often cap.) the elder statesmen of Japan. [ $\langle$ Jap : lit. ; old men]-RHD. **genro** (often cap.) (formerly in Japan) a group of elder statesmen that advised the emperor. [ $\langle$ Jap : lit., old men]-RHCD(1980). 元老。語源の old men を principal elders に改めてはどうか。

*genro* : We went through this back in 1968, but unfortunately the etymology still remains uncorrected. I will make sure that "old men" will be changed to read "foremost elders" in our future editions.

(7) **Greenwich Village**, a section of New York City, in lower Manhattan : frequented by artists, writers, and students.-RHD, RHCD (1980). これは Greenwich Village used to be frequented by artists, writers, and students. It has been replaced by SoHo in the same city. でないのか。cf. A(12), D(2), E(1)

*Greenwich Village* : As you rightly pointed out, the Village is now not as significant a center for artists, writers, and students as it was in the 1920's. We agree that the change should be reflected in our definition of *Greenwich Village*, vis-a-vis *SoHo*.

(8) **Murasaki Shikibu**, Baroness, 978 ?—1031 ? : Japanese poet and novelist. -RHD & RHCD (1980) Baroness を Lady に改めてはどうか。cf. D (1)

*Murasaki Shikibu* : Our inconsistency is showing in the definition of *Tale of Genji* (def. 1) : in any case, as we wrote you on December 15, 1974, we will change *Baroness* to read Lady in the future. cf. *Tale of Genji*, The 1. a novel (1001—20?) by Lady Murasaki, dealing with Japanese court life.-RHD.

(9) **ginseng**, either of two araliaceous plants,, *Panax Ginseng* (*Schin-seng*), of China, Korea, etc. or *P. quinquefolium*, of North America, having an aromatic

root used in medicine by the Chinese.-RHD.

薬用人参は享保年間(1716-35)に朝鮮より種子が伝わり、長野県、島根県、福島県などで培養されている又 *used in medicine by the Chinese* を *by the Chinese, Koreans, Japanese, and Western people* と改める. cf. A(1), E(2)

*ginseng* : We have read with interest your lengthy account of *ginseng*. It is true that *ginseng* is available in health-food stores here, but its use by Americans is not yet widespread. For the time being we would settle for changing "the Chinese" to read "people in East Asia".

(10) **ten-gallon hat**, a man's broad-brimmed hat with a high crown, as that worn in the western and southwestern U.S. : cowboy hat. cf. sombrero. [so called from its size]-RHD. **ten-gallou hat**, a man's broad-brimmed hat with a high crown, worn esp. in the western and southwestern U.S. [so called from its size]-RHCD (1980) カウボーイのかぶるつば広帽子. [so called from its size] について, **gallon** は容量の単位ではなく, スペイン語の *galón* (=英語の *braid* リボン) に由来するのではないかとの間に対し cf. D(5). *ten-gallon hat* : There is evidence that what you claim may be right. I will let our etymology editor straighten it out.

(11) **judoka** 1. a contestant in a judo match 2. a judo expert. [*Jap*=*jūdō* JUDO +*-ka* n. suffix]-RHCD (1980) 柔道家. n. suffix を expert に改める.

You are perfectly right about this : *ka* of course means "expert".

(12) **kabuki**, popular drama of Japan, characterized by elaborate costuming, highly stylized acting, music, and dancing, and by performance of both male and female roles by male actors.-RHCD (1980). 歌舞伎は男性が女性の役を演じるとある, しかし女性が女性の役を演じることもある.

*kabuki* : We will be on the alert for any continuing trend in kabuki female roles being occasionally played by actresses.

(13) **wire service**, a press association that syndicates news by wire to its subscribers. Also called wire agency.-RHD. **wire service**, any agency or business organization that syndicates news, the latest stock-market prices, etc., by telegraphic wire to its subscribers or members-RHCD (1980). ニース通信社. by wire 及び by telegraphic wire を by telegraphic wire or electronic means に改めてはどうか.

*wire service* : You are quite right that our definitions of its term in both RHD and RHCD are too primitive and not up to date. However, you are perhaps aware that we have formation in RHP, along which lines the future revised definitions of the same term in RHD and RHCD will be based. cf. **wire service**, a business organization that gathers news and news photos for contribution by various means to its subscribers, esp, newspapers : so called from the original transmission of news by telegraph wire-RHP.

(14) **sundowner**, Australian. a tramp or hobo, originally implying arrival at a station near sundown in order to avoid having to work in exchange for food and shelter. -RHD. 浮浪者. originally implying arrival at a station について, **sundowner** は日没頃に農牧場 (station) に着き宿と食物を乞うた. 19世紀の末ごろまで



は見られたが、今日のオーストラリアでは存在しない。RHCD の *originally one who arrived*…が正確である。cf. D(8). *sundowner* : The point you raise has been made in the definition in RHCD and should be followed in RHD. cf. *sundowner*, Australian, a hobo, originally one who arrived at a station near sundown in order to avoid having to work in exchange for food and shelter.-RHCD (1982).

## D

Webster's Third New International Dictionary (1971) 略 W3, Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (1979) 略 WNCD, Webster's New Geographical Dictionary (1977), Webster's Biographical Dictionary (1980), G. & C. Merriam Company, Springfield, Massachusetts の見出し語につき編集部に見て、回答は以下の通り。

(1) **Murasaki**, Lady. Full Jap. name Murasaki Shikibu, Japanese writer of 11th century ; author of *Genji Monogatari*, or the Tale of Genji (trans. by Arthur Waley, 1925-32), -Biographical Dictionary. Murasaki, Lady Full Jap. name Murasaki Shikibu を Murasaki Shikibu, Court lady (式部) に改める。

**Murasaki** Baroness 11th cent. Murasaki Shikibu Jap. novelist-WNCD, Biographical Names. Murasaki Shikibu を Murasaki Shikibu, Court lady 11th cent. Jap. novelist に改める。cf. C(8) Michael G. Belanger の返書は

Your point concerning Murasaki appears to be well-taken. Identifying her as a baroness seems curious at best. The latest edition of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* identifies her as a "court lady". Notes to both the Collegiate and the Biographical Dictionary will be sent so that the appropriate change can be made.

(2) **greenwich village** usu cap G & V [fr. Greenwich Village, bohemian section of New York City] : the bohemian quarter of a city.-W3. 語原につき formerly, the bohemian section of New York City であって現在では SoHo が bohemian section of New York City でないか。

**Greenwich Village** Formerly a village on Manhattan I., now a part of Manhattan borough, New York City, bounded approximately by W 14th St., Spring St., Broadway, and the Hudson river, long frequented by authors, artists, and students.-New Geographical Dictionary. long frequented by authors, artists, and students を used to be long frequented by authors, artists, and students に改めてはどうか、現在では SoHo is frequented by authors, artists, and students. である。cf. AC(2), C(7), E (1). Michael G. Belanger の返信は

What you say about Greenwich Village is true to some extent. That part of Manhattan is not as bohemian as it once was, having become quite middle class in large sections. It is, however, still frequented by people in the arts and students. As for Soho, there are those in New York who will tell you that it is not what it once was and that the affluent professional class has once again driven out the indigent artists. The newest outpost of Bohemia is called TriBeCa (triangle below Canal). How long this area will remain bohemian is questionable. It may have gone middle class by the time you receive this letter (dated Feb.1, 1982). With a rapidly changing social picture, it is probably best for us

not to make parenthetical observations. In any event, we commend you on your intimate knowledge of New York.

(3) **door-key child** : a child who because his parents are absent from home all day carries the door key of the home to school and goes home to an empty house or roams the streets-W3. 鍵っ子. 今日では door-key child より latchkey child の方が普通でないか. latchkey child の見出し語は W3 になし. Michael B. Belanger 氏の返信は

You are correct in asserting that today *door-key child* is not as common as *latchkey child*. The term *latchkey children* was added to the 1981 Addenda to Webster's Third New International Dictionary. While the definition at *door-key child* will have to be amended, the revision must wait for the next full scale edition of the International.

(4) **out-Herod** [out.+Herod Antipas, depicted in medieval mystery plays as a blustering tyrant] : to exceed in violence or extravagance-usu. used in the phrase out-Herod-WNCD. out-herod usu cap H [out.+Herod Antipas died about A.D. 40 ruler of Judea at time of Christ death who was depicted as a blustering despot in medieval mystery plays]...W3. John the Baptist を死刑にした Herod Antipas ではなく, 幼児のモリストを殺害しようと Bethlehem の幼児全部を虐殺した Herod the Great でないか. cf. A(13), B(17)

Michael G. Belanger の返信は You are correct about the etymology of *out-herod*. It should be Herod the Great. The etymology has been correct in recent printings of Webster's Third New International Dictionary, and it will be correct in future editions of Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary.

(5) **ten-gallon hat** [fr. its great size] : cowboy hat-WNCD. **ten-gallon hat** [so called for its great size] : cowboy hat-W 3.

この gallon は容量を表わすのでなくスペイン語の *gálon* (=braid リボン) から来たのでないか cf. C(10). Michael G. Belanger 氏の返信は

The connection between the Spanish word *gálon* (=“braid”) and *ten gallon hat* has been made before. People have long noted that these hats were ornamented with braids. The connection between the Spanish *gálon* and the English *gallon* was drawn way back in 1939 by A.L. Campa in *American Speech*. Noting the Texans' capacity for overstatement, he wrote : The additional descriptive 'ten' was simply a relative term used to designate a hat of greater size. It may not be too farfetched to note, in this connection, that the largest milkcan used on ranches is of the ten-gallon capacity. Our own etymologist is of the opinion that the original word was *gálon*, that it was Anglicized and became, by association and folk-etymology, *gallon*, any event, the salient point is that the *ten* was added to indicate great size, and that the hats never literally had ten braids or held ten gallons.

(6) **Shin** [Jap, lit., belief, faith] : a major Japanese Buddhist sect that emphasizes salvation by faith in exclusive worship of Amida Buddha-WNCD. **Shin cap** [Jap, lit., belief, faith] : a major Japanese Buddhist sect growing out of

Jodo that emphasizes salvation by faith alone, has a married clergy and holds to the exclusive worship of Amida Buddha-called also Shin-shu,-W3. cf. B (5)

語原説明の *belief, faith* は誤り。浄土真宗, 略して真宗であるから [Jap., lit., true] である。W3の *has a married clergy* について, 開祖親鸞は妻帯し真宗所属の僧もそれにならった。他宗はこぞって非難攻撃した。しかし現在日本の殆んどすべての僧侶は妻帯している。Michael G. Belanger 氏は *Your remarks concerning the etymology of Shin have been sent to our etymologist. He will consider the case anew and recommend any changes necessary for future printings of Webster's Third New International Dictionary and Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary.*

(7) *hara-kiri* [Jap *harakiri*] : suicide by disembowelment practiced by the Japanese samurai or formerly decreed by a court in lieu of the death penalty-WNCD. *ritual suicide* とし, 又 *a court* を *the feudal court* と改める。 *hara-kiri* also *hara-kari* [Jap *harakiri*, f. *hara* belly + *kiri* boring, cutting] : suicide by disembowelment formerly practiced by the Japanese samurai or decreed to one of its members by the feudal court in consideration of his social status in lieu of the ordinary death penalty-W3. 語原の *boring* を削除する又 *ritual suicide* とする。

Michael G. Belanger 氏は *Your comments on hara-kiri appear to be valid. We checked the article in the latest edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. The article describes in graphic detail the precise and elaborate rituals of hara-kiri. The word ritual (or perhaps ritualistic) should be incorporated in the definition. Accordingly, a note recommending this emendation has been sent to Webster's Third New International Dictionary and the abridged dictionaries. Your suggestion regarding the etymology also appears to be to the point. The encyclopedic article states that hara-kiri literally means "belly cutting", and certainly to translate kiri as "boring" in this context seems misguided. In our office we have one or two dictionaries that transliterate Japanese into the Roman alphabet, but these were of no help. (At present we do not have a staff member expert in Japanese.) Your other remarks on hara-kiri agree in the main with the encyclopedic article, and that is just where such a detailed discussion belongs-in the encyclopedia. Even an unabridged dictionary cannot afford to elaborate at such length.*

(8) *sundowner* [fr. his habit of arriving at a place where he hopes to obtain food and lodging too late to do any work] Austral : hobo, tramp-WNCD. 仕事をしなくてもすむよう, 日没時に農牧場に着き, 宿泊と食物を乞う習慣は19世紀の末ごろまで存在したが今日ではみられない。cf. C(14). Mr. Michael G. Belanger は

*You also have a valid point regarding sundowner. The original sundowners were a product of nineteenth century Australia and disappeared with that era. The word remains, however, and is still used in Australia as a general term for any sort of tramp or hobo. The etymology in the Collegiate entry does give the mistaken impression that the original sundowners still exist. We will recommend that etymology be changed to indicate that this was former practice.*

(9) **judo** [Jap *jūdo*, fr. *jū* weakness, gentleness+*do* art] : a sport developed from jujitsu that emphasizes the use of quick movement and leverage to throw an opponent.-WNCD. 語原の *weakness* を削除し, *art* を *way* に改める. **judo** [Jap *jūdo*, fr *jū* weakness, gentleness...+*do* road, art...] : a modern refined form of jujitsu utilizing special applications of principles of movement, balance and leverage-W. 語原の *weakness* を削除し *dō* の *road, art* の代りに *way* を入れる. Mr. Michael G. Belanger は

According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica article on *judo*, *judo* does indeed literally mean "gentle way". A note on this will be sent to the files in order that in the future an etymologist knowledgeable about Japanese can reexamine the question.

## E

Encyclopaedia Britannica, Chicago (1979) の記事につき Editorial Assistant の Mr. Lars Mahinske の回答は以下の通り.

(1) **Greenwich Village**,...after 1910, it became a rendezvou for nonconformist writers, artists, students, and intellectuals. しかし現在では SoHo in New York City が a rendezvou...intellectuals ということになっている. cf. A(12), C(7), D(2).

(2) **ginseng**, either of two herbs of the family Araliaceae, *Panax quinquefolium* and *Panax chinseng*, or their roots, used as a drug in China, as a stimulating tea...

薬用人参, 中国だけでなく朝鮮・日本・米国・英国等でも使用されている. 朝鮮では開城が名産地. cf. A(1), C(9). (1)(2)につき I agree with your suggestion to amend the Micropaedia entry on Greenwich Village to note that many of the artists once living in the Village have also moved to SoHo. I shall also change the entry on ginseng to mention that, as stated in the entry on the city of Kaesong, this herb has been cultivated in Korea since ancient times.

## F

Random House Encyclopedea (1978) の記事につき Editorial Director の Mr. John O.E. Clark の回答は以下の通り.

(1) **Inland Sea** (*Seto-naikai*), arm of the Pacific Ocean between Japanese islands of Honshu (N), and Shikoku and Kyushu (S), connected to Pacific by Straits of Akashi (NE), Naruto (SE), Bungo (SW), and Shimonoseki (W),...瀬戸内海. 紀淡・鳴門海峡は紀伊水道により太平洋に, 豊予海峡・豊後水道は, 太平洋に通じている. 但し下関海峡は日本海に通じている. 明石海峡は大阪湾と播磨灘とを分けている.

(2) **black belk**, in Judo, grade given to those who have proven certain fighting ability. There are five black belt ratings progressing 1st to 5th Dan (degree), 柔道着の帯の色は, 6段から8段までは赤白のまんだら, 9段と10段は赤色であるが, ふうつう6段以上も黒帯を用いている.

(3) **Chikamatu Monzaemon** (1653-1725). Japanese dramatist...The Love Suicides at Amijima (1703) and The Battle of Coxinga (1715), which are still per-

formed today. 近松門左衛門. 没年1725は1724の誤り. 心中天網島は *The Love Suicides at Ten-no-Amijima* であり, 国性爺合戦は *The Battle of Kokusenya* である.

(4) p.1210 **Japan** 1185–1868 Following his victory at Sekigahara, Iyeyasu relegated his enemies to outer provinces and concentrated his allies in central Japan. 徳川家康は関が原の戦の戦後処理として, 敵方の石田三成・小西行長らを捕え死刑とし, その他の大名も流罪・減封・転封の処分をした. 豊臣秀頼は摂津・河内・和泉60万石の一大名に落された. 徳川家の近親(親藩)を最重要の地に, 関が原の戦以前から徳川家の臣(譜代)であったものを, 重要な地に, 関が原戦に味方し又はその後臣従した大名をそれ以外の地に封じた.

(5) p.2423 **Nara**...capital of Nara prefecture,...It was the first capital of Japan, under Emperor Jimmu (710–84), site of first Buddhist temple, Horyuji (7th century). 奈良 became the first permanent capital of Japan, under Empress Gemmei (元明天皇)で, それまでは都は一代限りであった. 奈良の都は710より84年まで. 法隆寺は奈良県生駒郡斑鳩町にあり, 奈良市にはない.

(6)**Japanese**...Written Japanese uses both Chinese ideographs, known as kanji and syllabic characters, known as *kana*. The latter of which there are two types—hiragana and katana—each consisting of 50 characters.

現在かなは46字, 50字は誤り, 50音図の50の影響か.

(7)p.1211 **Japan** 1185–1868 Iyeyasu's successors suppressed Christianity and restricted foreign trade in the interest of political stability. A few Dutch and Chinese merchants resided at Nagasaki, no Japanese were permitted to travel abroad.

no Japanese were permitted to travel abroad について, 幕府の許可を得て, 宗氏(対馬)の藩士は朝鮮の釜山浦に出向き交易を行なった. 日本は銀や銅を輸出し, 見返りに薬用人参や工芸品を輸入した.

Several of the improvements to the Random House Encyclopedia which you suggest cannot, unfortunately be incorporated in full detail for reasons of space. We hope and believe that this necessity for stringent editing does not lead to any misleading lack of clarity for the reader. But it does mean that we are unable to include more detailed information on the topics you mentioned. For example, we cannot, within the space available, expand the account of Iyeyasu's treatment of allies after his victory at Sekigahara (p.1210), or of the background and history of Japanese capital cities leading to the establishment of Nara as the first permanent capital (p.2423). On the subject of Japanese trade, in the Seventeenth century (p.1211), the So clan of Tsushima were in some sense not really abroad by going to Korea, as they were in the unique position of living halfway between Japan and Korea. Even if this is taken to constitute travelling abroad, it is at most a minor exception to the rule that "no Japanese could go abroad" and, as such, too detailed for inclusion.

### Summary

English dictionaries and encyclopedias are thought to be accurate. But I

should say that to err is human, as Alexander Pope (1688—1744) said. There are no English dictionaries and encyclopedias free from error.

It is regrettable that the misrepresentations of things Japanese result in the misunderstanding of Japan and her people. About twenty-seven years ago I became interested in mistakes in English dictionaries, for example, the Japan Seas in the *Universal Dictionary of the English Language* (1952), published by Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd., in London. Seventeen years or so have passed since I began to correspond, for correction, with editorial staffs.

In this paper, the comparatively recent replies are from those of the *Websters' New World Dictionary* ; *World Book Dictionary* ; *Random House Dictionaries* ; *Webster's Third New International, New Collegiate, New Geographical, Biographical, Dictionaries* ; *Encyclopaedia Britannica* ; and *Random House Encyclopedia*.

Your emendations and suggestions will be gladly received.