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OOI CELEBRATIONS
CONVENTIONS, EXPOSITIONS, FAIRS, MEETINGS ETC.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1.	14 May 47	Lecture Meeting Concerning Labour Problems
2.		Gion Matsuri (Festival)

File July
1945

001

GION MATSURI (Festival)

The Gion Matsuri Festival is also familiarly known as Kon-chiki-chin, from the sound of the hammers hitting the bell cymbals which furnish the music for the occasion.

It is celebrated annually in Kyoto from 16 July to 24 July, and is one of the four main festivals in Japan, the others being the Kanda Festival in Tokyo, the Tenjin Festival in Osaka and the Suwayama Festival in Miyajima.

The celebration is one of the observances of the Yasaka Shrine, more popularly known as Gion San, at which many of the Geisha girls of Kyoto and vicinity pay homage.

The Gion Festival grew out of the old custom of casting off the evils from one's body, throwing them all into a basket and dumping the contents thereof into the river. By so doing, a person would be rid of ills and evils for the following year.

Some 900 years ago, there was a terrible epidemic raging in this area. In an attempt to alleviate it and for protection from the pestilence, the Emperor ordered the people to pay homage to the Yasaka Shrine. As a part of the ritual, the priests and their followers paraded through the streets, carrying long spears to frighten away the devils.

As time went on, these two ceremonies merged and the basket became a beautifully decorated palanquin, which was surmounted by a long spear. Later, for economical reasons, this float developed into a semi-permanently constructed Festival Tower, as will be seen today.

At present, there are 28 dismantled Festival Towers in Kyoto, each belonging to a section of the former Gion Village and other areas in the city. As formerly celebrated, these Festival Towers formed into a parade which proceeded through the city streets to Teramachi where the towers were slightly tipped as a symbol of the dumping of the evil spirits in the river, after which the Towers were withdrawn at a lively pace to the accompaniment of lively music, so that the evil spirits could not overtake it.

During the parade, specially made rice cakes were thrown from the towers, and those spectators fortunate enough to catch and retain one were assured protection from evils and pestilence.

Because of the great height of the Festival Towers, it was necessary to employ a special battalion of workers to cut the electric and tramway lines and guy wires to permit passage of the Towers and to restore the systems after the parade had passed.

The Gion Festival is celebrated today for the first time since before the war. This year but two Festival Towers have been reassembled and decorated for the occasion because of the large expense involved. These floats will be seen on Shijo Street near I Corps Headquarters.

(2)

GION MATSURI (Festival)

The Gion Matsuri Festival is also familiarly known as Kon-chiki-chin, from the sound of the hammers hitting the bell cymbals which furnish the music for the occasion.

It is celebrated annually in Kyoto from 16 July to 24 July, and is one of the four main festivals in Japan, the others being the Kanda Festival in Tokyo, the Tenjin Festival in Osaka and the Ima Kuchim Festival in Miyajima.

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KMT file copy

773 013

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Lecture Meeting Concerning Labour Problems

1. Date: 10.00 A.M., May 14th, 1947.
2. Place: Seicho in Kyoto Prefectural Government.
3. Participant:
 - A. Kyoto Prefectural Government Officials (10 persons)
 Kimura (Governor), Nakanishi (Chief of Labour Administration Division) and other 8 persons belonging to the said Division.
 - B. Regional Labour Committee in Kyoto Prefecture.
 (15 persons)
 - C. Representatives from the main labour Unions.
 (57 persons)

Names of the said 57 representatives are contained in the annexed table.

57
 15
 8
 10

 90
 + 25 Shiga

Shimbansho

①
25

Table of Participants on the Part of Labour Unions

Name	Labour Union	No. of Union members	Post of participant in his Union
Sen Ikegami	Central Office belonging to Nippon Rodo Kumiai Sodomei	13,520	vice chief
Hironosuke Ogawa	-do-	-do-	manager
Teiichi Kosasa	Kyoto Branch of Osaka Gas Rodo Kumiai	399	finance examiner
Tsuruzo Nishida	Kyoto Branch of Senbaikyoku Rodo Kumiai	1,348	
Shigemitsu Hiroyama	Kyoto Insatsu Rodo Kumiai	882	chief of Printing Section
Masataka Fujita	Furitsu Idai Shokuin Kumiai	706	chief
Ushinosuke Tanaka	Yamato Boseki Kabusikikaisha Maizuru Kitakojo Rodo Kumiai	498	vice chief
Katsumi Kurauchi	Miyazaki ^{MOKUZAI} Rodo Kumiai	105	committee
Jyunichi Sakaguchi	Yayoi Jidosha Rodo Kumiai	186	chief
Ichiro Chinzai	Iwataki Kojyo Jyugyoin Kumiai in Heiwagomu Kabushiki Kaisha	227	chief
Unosuke Kishida	Nippon Denchi Rodo Kumiai	2,140	chief
Goro Kondo	-do-	-do-	doctor
Yoshiaki Fujimoto	Nippon Yusoki Rodo Kumiai	657	chief
Naoki Sugimura	Yoshida Kinzoku Rodo Kumiai	74	chief of advertisement section
Hiroshi Yoshida	Maizuru Zosen Rodo Kumiai	2,690	executive committee
Sadao Ota	Mitsubishi Kyoto Kikiseisakusho Rodo Kumiai	2,977	-do-
Asao Kitagawa	-do-	-do-	-do-
Chiyotoshi Kajisaki	Tojishikenjyo Shokuin Kumiai	103	chief
Toshiichi Saito	Kyoto Branch of Zenkoku Senbaikyoku Shokuin Kumiai	160	-do-
Yonezo Fujiwara	Kyoto Branch of Zenkoku Zaimu Shokuin Kumiai	600	-do-
Kiyoshi Uno	Kyotoshi Hichikuyakusho Shokuin Kumiai	1,000	-do-

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Takaaki Morita	Kyoto Branch of Zenkoku Shokuin Kumiai		chief
Shimeo Kanno	Kyotoshi Kyoin Kumiai	3,500	-do-
Teruhiro Nakagawa	Kyotoshi Shokuin Kumiai	3,138	-do-
Shigeru Komori	Kyotofu Shokuin Kumiai	1,166	-do-
Tadaichi Hirai	Kyoto Kotsu Rodo Kumiai	3,209	-do-
Yoshio Kinoshita	-do-	-do-	committee
Toshiaki Umemoto	Kokutetsu Rodo Kumiai KYOTOFU KYOGIKAI	4,000	chief
Sadao Muratsu	-do-	-do-	committee
Toshi Uchida	Chuo Denwa Shibu of Zentei Jyugyoin Kumiai		chief
Takeo Tsuyama	Zenteishin Kanihoken Shibu	1,377	-do-
Fumio Uski	Kyoto Chokinshikyoku Shibu of Zentei Jyugyoin Kumiai	1,215	-do-
Yoshiji Mitsuoka	Zenteishin Kanihoken Shibu	1,377	committee
Kaoru Hamada	Zennippon Sangyobetsu Rodo Kumiai	20,320	chief
Hyokichi Nakaoka	-do-	-do-	chief clerk of Zennitsu
Seiji Kisa	Nippon Denkisangyo Rodo Kumiai	2,440	committee
Jyuzaburo Inoue	Inoue Bunkai of Zendenko Kyojishibu	637	-do-
Kaisei Fukumori	Kyoto Tekko Rodo Kumiai	51	vice chief
Shinobu Yamagata	Furitsuidai Jyugyoin Kumiai	63	chief
Tsuruo Mafui	Kyoto Branch of Dainippon Insatsu Shuppan Rodo Kumiai	291	chief of education section
Katsuma Hamada	Nijyo Branch, Zennitsu Rodo Kumiai	3,024	chief clerk
Tomihiko Nishibashi	Shimazu Seisakusho Rodo Kumiai	2,024	chief
Masao Tsujisaka	-do-	-do-	standing committee
Akira Kawaguchi	Kyoto Kikai Rodo Kumiai	774	chief

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Shoki Nakagawa	Nisshin Denki Rodo Kumiai	559	chief
Shoichi Shirakata	Mitani Shindo Rodo Kumiai	257	vice chief
Harasaburo Shimizu	Kotobuki Jyukogyo Shichijo Rodo Kumiai	171	chief
Gen-Ko-Sei	Kotobuki Jyukogyo Honsha Rodo Kumiai	903	vice chief
Hideo Ashida	Nikkoku Kogyo Kamikyo Rodo Kumiai	230	committee
Norio Kishida	Kyoto Branch of Nippon Yakin Jyugyoin Kumiai	183	chief
Shinichi Ouchi	Yamashina Seikoshu Rodo Kumiai	244	-do-
Kiyotaro Yamano	Kyotofu Daikugino Rodo Kumiai	115	-do-
Toshiaki Inoue	Nippon Race Jyugyoin Kumiai	686	chief
Jiro Miki	Kanefuchibosaki Yamashina-kojyo Jyugyoin Kumiai	884	vice chief
Tatsuto Chiba	Gunzeseishi Jyugyoin Kumiai	5,755	
Tatsuo Endo	-do-	-do-	
Koichi Shibata	Daimaru Kyotomise Jyugyoin Kumiai	800	committee
Masaichi Yao	Kyotofu Kamotsujidosha Unyu Rodo Kumiai	615	chief
Toshihiko Yamashita	Kyoto Branch of Matsushita Sangyo Rodo Kumiai	656	-do-