

Mr. Minoru Kondo 51st Asuka Seminar's speaker

It has been revealed that the 51st Asuka Seminar is going to be held on October 3 and 4 at the Kira Kanko Hotel, and recently the speaker and the subject of seminar were fixed and released as follows.

speaker Mr. Minoru Kondo

President, Nishio Shinkin Bank

subject Functions of financial system for small and medium enterprises

The Nishio Shinkin Bank were established in Nishio City, and have just 100 years history. Today their 45 branches open throughout Aichi Prefecture, and do business very actively and firmly. Mr. Minoru Kondo has an excellent insight on business management, and all we expect his informative views.

After the seminar, a grand party in traditional Japanese fashion will be held to interchange business views frankly among guests, and at the same time to enjoy an autumn night soaking a hot spring thoroughly.

The second day, a golf competition is arranged at the Kira Country Club in the morning for golf devotees. Right now we are accepting the registration and expect many players will attend and enjoy the competition,

The photo on page one is the Kira Kanko Hotel.

Aluminum market still strong

In the end of July the aluminum market price at London Metal Exchange rebounded and marked \$2,000s, the highest in 17 months, and then the market keeps at \$2,000 – something in August.

They say it is due to the fact that the major primary aluminum refiners reduce their production, because it is unprofitable. However we think the market is afraid for the lookout of Ukrainian disturbances. Day by day, the economic embargo against Russia is escalating.

In fiscal 2013, Japan imported 210,474ton of primary aluminum and 277,763ton of secondary aluminum from Russia, both which occupied very big parts in our imported materials. We believe that the spiral increase of reciprocal actions on world trading has not any profit against any country.

Aluminum diecast production firmly in June

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry recently revealed the production of aluminum cast and diecast in June. According to the report, the production of aluminum cast decreased 0.1% from a year earlier to 35,231 ton, and that of aluminum diecast rose 5.6% to 84,019 ton.

The production of aluminum cast was almost same level compared with the previous year, but that of diecast improved favorably. Its major demand, for automobile and motorbike, mounted. In the chart on page two, from left June, May and comparison with a year ago. From top, cast totals, machines, cars, others, diecast totaled, machines, electric appliances, automobile, motorbike and others,

Mr.Katsumoto's big celebration party is held

In spring Mr. Kiichi Katsumoto, President of Akuro Nainen Limited, Wakayama City, had the distinction of being presented the Emperor and was awarded Sun Rising Medal.

He has strived to improve local industry and society intensely for a long time, and gained such a glory. His celebration party is going to be held on September 26 at the Hotel Granvia in Wakayama City very grandly, and so many guests will celebrate his great feat.

The AkuroNainen Limited is one of the oldest Asuka's customers, and all of Asuka congratulate him on his honor.

Hawaiian Festival at Kira Waikiki Beach

On August 25 ~ 30, the Hawaiian Festival was held at Kira Waikiki Beach Nishio City, where Hawaiian pro dancers team from Polynesian Culture Center performed their proper Hula, and at the same time 1,000 dancers of Japanese pro and amateur enjoyed Hula performance themselves with so many spectators to the full.

The photo on page four is the stage of Hula shows.

Company news

On July 28 ~ 31 we received two students for internship from Nishio Kakujogaoka High School. Mr. Akihide Kimura, right in the photo on page three, and Mr. Takuro Sugino, left, experienced various actual job trainings at each section with us

The Japan of today Births fell 2.7% in first half Of 2014

The number of babies born in Japan in between January and June dropped 2.7 per cent from a year earlier to 496,391, suggesting the annual figure might slip below the 1 million mark for the first time on record, government data shows.

Although the number of births tends to be brighter in the latter half of the year, the figure in the first six months was 13,980 fewer than last year's 510,371, the health ministry said on August 26 in a preliminary report.

The number of babies born in June was almost flat compared with last year, but the figure was 2,000 to 3,000 less in each month from January to May, it said.

Lifting casino ban could be dangerous gamble

Japan is moving closer to legalizing casinos. A bill calling for lifting the ban on such gambling establishments, proposed by a cross-partisan group of lawmakers, may be approved by parliament in autumn, and many local governments have expressed strong interest in bringing in slots and tables.

Proponents say casinos would reinvigorate the economies of host areas and attract foreign tourists. Anticipating that the proposed legislation will be approved, the central government plans to draw up a concrete plan to have casinos up and running in time for the 2020 summer Olympics in Tokyo.

But opponents warn of the dark side of casinos. Such places, they say, give rise to gambling addiction, have a negative influence on younger people, attract gangsters and facilitate money laundering. Most Japanese must have a great concern.