

Comparison of year end metals prices 2015-2016

Staple prices of major metals

There was no obvious change at the market prices of major practical metals, steel, aluminum and copper, between in the end of 2015 and 2016 on a yen basis. The prices showed an increase of ten per cent in US dollar, but the yen went up ten percent against US dollar. Accordingly, the prices in yen were almost unchanged after all.

The movement of metals' market has been affected by the energy prices' change, however today, Chinese over production capacity and its operation rates with the government policy are big factors on the market changes.

Outlook in 2017

Trump new president's the U.S. government is going to start in New Year. During the president election, he insisted a protective trade policy clearly and powerfully. Consequently, the new government will part from the traditional principal of free trade.

When the import of industrial products are reduced, or raised by the higher import tax, U.S. citizens' life will be strained necessarily. At the same time, the most export countries will be shrunk by smaller buyer.

Everyone in the world watches this big U.S. turnabout in breathless suspense.

Note for the table on page one

(1) primary aluminum (2) zinc diecast alloy (3) copper listed (4) lead listed
(5) zinc listed (6) tin (7) nickel (8) steel bar (9) steel sheet (10) steel scrap
(11) aluminum scrap TENSE <US cent/lb> (12) fuel oil <yen/liter> (13) gold
<yen/gram> (14) yen/US dollar

Unit: yen/ton except (11), (12), (13) and (14).

Our winter holidays

We are pleased to announce that our winter holidays are as follows.

December 30 (Friday) ~ January 5 (Thursday)

The 33rd New Year Praying Meeting is held

It is recently announced that the 33rd New Year Praying Meeting will be held on January 20 at the Kira Kanko Hotel in Mikawa Bay National Park, where the 80 of delegates from scrap suppliers are invited.

At first, President Takashi Amano will have a talk entitled "New Year random talk" at the hotel, and then all attendants are going to visit Kannon Temple on the top of Mt. Sangane by bus.

The Praying Meeting for business prosperity and traffic safety in the New Year will be held solemnly at the temple, and then a grand New Year party will open in traditional Japanese fashion at the hotel. Since it has been one of the biggest events of Asuka, every arrangement is going on powerfully.

The photo on page two is the Kira Kanko Hotel.

Yearend comment

Future of TPP

Hisashi Amano, Chairman

New international circumstances

The recent prominent power to toward conservation in the U.K. and in the U.S. brings a chaotic state to world politics and economy. I understand that this movement of two big countries' anti-globalization means a denial of international commonsense "Big states must aid small states.", and its start is caused by their economic stagnation and growth slowdown.

Today, it is too difficult to estimate that what changes this nation-state policy would give both citizens' life in the U.K. and the U.S. and the international business.

TPP

TPP is short for Trans Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership, which made an agreement with southern Pacific four countries, New Zealand, Chili, Singapore and Burunei, about the abolishment of tariff and the liberalization money and labor in 2006 at first.

Then Peru, Vietnam, Australia, Malaysia, the U.S. and Japan participated, and the final agreement was going to be concluded in the near future. However, coming president Mr. Trump declared the nonparticipation of the U.S. distinctly, which gives a great shock against other nine countries today.

Japan and TPP

After the U.S. worked out of TPP, the participating countries are almost agricultural states, whose the biggest expectation to Japan would be the open-door policy of agricultural products and livestock products.

It is unnatural and silly that Japan, one of the biggest economy states, insists the free trade of industrial products and closes door for agricultural and livestock products, I think.

The target of TPP is the pursuit of citizen's abundance, and every country always should keep this slogan, I believe.

(comment: increase of citizen's abundance = decrease of national bond)

Two happy events are held in Gifu and Wakayama

Mr. Jun Sugimoto, President of Mino Industry Co., Ltd., was recently decorated a Medal with Blue Ribbon for a great achievement. On 28 October at the You Green Golf Club in Nakatsugawa City Gifu Prefecture, a generous congratulatory party was held, where Mayer of Nakatsugawa City, members of Nakatsugawa Chamber of Commerce and Industry and business concerns, 230 people celebrated his honor as the photo on page three shows.

Celebrating both the 50th anniversary of Acro Nainen Co., Ltd. (President, Mr. Masato Katsumoto) and the publication of "A man under a lucky star" written by Mr. Kiichi Katsumoto, Chairman, a grand party was held at the Hotel Kinokuni o on 4 November, where Governor of Wakayama Prefecture, Mayor of Wakayama City and 120 business concerns celebrated.

Both companies are the biggest diecasters in each prefecture, and President Takashi Amano was invited as one of honored visitors.