

and upon going to the pastors of the Lutheran churches of which they were members, the news was received with the warmest interest.

The same plan was tried the following fall and an increasing membership resulted. In the fall of 1892 our educational committee decided to organize a class in free hand drawing and designing for the carvers in the furniture factories. Circulars in Swedish and English were distributed and the class had an enrolment of forty, and was one of the best attended of any held. The membership steadily increased until May 1st last, out of a total membership of 428 in the senior department, there were 150 Swedish and Swedish American young men. Cases of conversion are not infrequent and we meet constantly the cordial sympathy of the Swedish pastors. The Swedish churches are represented on our board of directors, and we now have on our membership roll nearly every secretary from the furniture factories. We find them an earnest, progressive, appreciative class to work for, and undoubtedly they are the most readily reached of any foreign speaking nationality.

Japanese Young Men in Frisco.

THE only Young Men's Christian Association in this country for Japanese young men exclusively is that in San Francisco. This organization has passed its seventh birthday and is in a very flourishing condition.

San Francisco probably has the largest Japanese population (2,000) of any American city and naturally the work for young men, peculiar to the Young Men's Christian Association, first began there. It was in

1886 that twenty-eight Japanese young men organized themselves into an association. A good many difficulties confronted this organization in the early days of its history, not the least of which was the raising of nearly \$100 a month to pay its expenses.

But the association has grown strong as the years have gone by, until now it has more than a hundred members. It is entirely out of debt and occupies convenient and well appointed rooms. The library has over 1,000 volumes—and they are largely used. Four branch-



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es are taught in evening educational classes, three of them being languages, the fourth higher mathematics.

A well equipped gymnasium furnishes means for physical training. Thus the Japanese young men of San Francisco have all the essentials for the training of the mind, body and the social nature.

Of course the association recognizes the main feature which should characterize any work in behalf of young men; therefore a systematic religious work is carried on.

The man who has given the Japanese department in San Francisco much intelligent direction is G. A. Ishikawa, a native of Japan who has been educated in this country, not only in English studies, but in

association work and methods. Mr Ishikawa is a graduate of the Springfield training school, graduating in 1892 and immediately taking charge of the Japanese association. The facts above given are from a paper read by Mr. Ishikawa at the exercises of the seventh anniversary of this organization. The portrait presented herewith was specially engraved from a photograph for publication in this paper.

Suggestions for Current Topic Club.

1. Form a list of members of the association who will devote themselves to such club for three or four months.

2. The literary committee to name chairman, vice chairman and secretary as officers of the club.

3. To also appoint an executive committee of three, the chairman of which shall be the chairman of the club, who will have charge of the affairs of the club, such as programs, etc.

4. The officers of the club and the executive committee shall be responsible to the literary committee for the faithful performance of duties.

5. Topics for study may be along the following lines:

FIRST SERIES.

Review of Magazine Articles	Discussing the latest issues.
Selections from recent literature.	Examining merits of magazines. Giving digests of articles.

SECOND SERIES.

A newspaper topic.	An association topic.
A book topic.	A literary society topic.
A magazine topic.	

THIRD SERIES.

A social question.	An economic question.
A political question.	A commercial question.
A religious question.	

FOURTH SERIES.

The world above us.	The world around us.
The world beneath us.	The world within us.

FIFTH SERIES.

City items.	Section items.
County items.	Continental items.
State items.	World items.

LITERARY FEATURES.

Discussion of an article.	Take-off in gesture.
Review of a book.	Debate.
Opinion of an author.	Mock congress.
Subject quotations.	Expression of opinion.
Essays.	Original poem.
Paper.	Biographical sketch.
Dialogue.	Elements in composition.
Declamation.	Book lore.
Reading.	Society newspaper.
Impersonation.	Association addresses
An address.	Subjects for discussion.
Mock trial.	Battle of words.
Impromptu speeches.	Soliloquy.
Parliamentary practice.	Sallies of wit.
Position in speaking.	Recital of stories.

Helpful Hints.

The injunction "Write a letter home to mother," appears on the paper furnished for use on the public correspondence table of the Indianapolis association.

The Dayton, O., association advertises its educational work in the local daily papers. One "ad" was a double-column display announcement five and one-half inches long.

Secretary Jamison of Terra Haute, Ind., proposes to hold a consecration meeting for the delegates who will go from that association to the state convention. It's a good scheme.

A secretary writes to say that he has found Edison's mimeograph to be of great service in lessening the labor of sign-writing for announcements; it is a great saver of printer's ink. He also says that Willson's gummed letters, made like postage stamps, can be used on glass, cardboard, etc., to make very artistic permanent or temporary signs. Having made these contributions to "Helpful Hints," he asks others to send their suggestions for the benefit of all.