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THE KAIKOSHA. ("JAPANESE OFFICERS' CLUB.")

*Translated from the "Kaikosha Kiji" (Officers' Club Journal)
By Captain E. F. CALTHROP, R.F.A.*

Communicated by the General Staff.

The Kaikosha: General Description.—The word "Kaikosha" is usually translated "Officers' Club," but the latter term is somewhat misleading. The three characters which form the word Kai-ko-sha have the sense "Together-going-society or institution"; and it is, in effect, a co-operation for the purposes of mutual assistance or research.

While naval officers are eligible as members, the existence of a similar institution in the Navy practically confines membership to officers of the Army. Membership is not obligatory, but all officers, practically without exception, belong.

Kaikosha are established at all the headquarters of divisions, and one has recently been established at Port Arthur. Branches are also former in officers' messes in regiments. The head-quarter Kaikosha is in Tokyo.

The organisation of Kaikosha, while officially established and recognised, is quite independent of any War Office department. The scope of the Kaikosha is as follows:—

1. The promotion of military knowledge and study by the publication of a Journal and other military works, lectures, prize competitions, etc.
2. As a distributing agency for material and articles of uniform.
3. The conduct of a benefit society.
4. A place for recreation, entertainment, and meetings.

The magazine issued by the Tokyo Kaikosha is the only officially recognised military journal. There are no regimental magazines. Translations from foreign magazines form the greater part of the contents. Contributions from the General Staff, as reports from officers studying abroad; commended essays of students of the Staff College; lectures delivered at the Kaikoshas, members' private contributions, Army Orders, and official notices occupy the remaining space. Foreign language and tactical competitions also form a feature of the Journal.

No payment is made for contributions.

The serge and articles of uniform are obtained in bulk from the Government factory.

All Kaikosha members on the active list are obliged to belong to the Benefit Society.

Kaikosha Regulations, February, 1907.—1. Kaikosha are established in the principal home stations, and are called after the name of the station.

2. Members are limited to naval and military combatant and non-combatant officers, and civilians in Army employ of kotokwan (commissioned) rank.

3. Persons desirous of joining will apply in writing to the office of the local Kaikosha, stating their employment, rank, name, and address.

The various local Kaikosha will inform the Tokyo Kaikosha monthly of the names, etc., of members who joined during the previous month.

Members are not permitted to retire without sufficient cause. This, however, does not apply to unemployed officers.

4. Persons living in places where there is no Kaikosha may join the one nearest to them.

5. The Tokyo Kaikosha will publish a monthly Journal and other military matter of importance, distributing them to all the members. The mode of publication is laid down elsewhere.

6. Members will send to the office of the Tokyo Kaikosha, essays, inventions, etc., dealing with military matters as material for the Journal. The question of their insertion will be decided at the office of the Journal.

7. A benefit society is established in the Tokyo Kaikosha; regulations and details are published elsewhere.

8. The Tokyo Kaikosha undertakes to supply uniform serge and articles of officers' service equipment to all members on demand. List and prices will be advertised in the Journal.

9. Members are free to bring their families and friends to the Kaikosha, and to play billiards or chess at will.

10. One president for all the Kaikoshas will be elected from among the general officers residing in Tokyo by the members in Tokyo. The president's term of office is not fixed and a new election will take place in the same way. An officer elected president is not permitted to refuse the appointment.

11. The president will strive for the welfare of the Institution, and have general control over all the Kaikoshas.

12. An office will be established in each Kaikosha under a manager and suitable staff for the conduct of the business of the Kaikosha. The rank and name of the manager will be reported to the president after an election.

13. Members will pay a monthly subscription to their respective Kaikosha; the amount to be fixed by each Kaikosha.

14. A member is free to enter any Kaikosha, and has all the privileges of a local member while travelling, temporarily stopping or when seconded to any garrison. He will, however, continue to pay his subscription to his own Kaikosha.

15. When a member changes his station he will subscribe to the Kaikosha of his new station from the month following that for which he subscribed to his former Kaikosha. The office of the latter will inform the other when the last subscription was paid.

16. Presents of books, instruments, money, etc., will be accepted, and the donor's name inscribed in the "Contribution book" as a permanent record.

17. In addition to the accounts of the Journal, benefit society, books, etc., for which special rules are laid down, the accounts of each Kaikosha are independent of each other.

18. Each Kaikosha will render a report of its affairs in June and December of each year to the president.

19. These regulations will be strictly observed by all Kaikoshas. Details may, however, be regulated to suit local requirements.

20. When an alteration in these regulations is considered necessary, a committee meeting of the Tokyo Kaikosha will be held, and its decision, after being ratified by the president, will be communicated to the various Kaikoshas.

21. These regulations to take effect from June, 1897.

22. The serge and other articles referred to in para. 8 may be sold to warrant officers and N.C.O.'s and men in regimental employment. Mode of sale is laid down elsewhere.

The Tokyo Kaikosha: Minor Regulations.—1. Persons who possess the qualifications mentioned in para. 2 of the Kaikosha regulations and who come under the following heads are eligible as members:—*a.* Persons residing in Tokyo; *b.* Persons stationed where there is no Kaikosha, the nearest being the Tokyo Kaikosha.

2. Members will pay their subscriptions for the month not later than the 7th of the month following. Subscriptions will be according to rank, as follows:—Generals, 4 yen 20 sen (100 sen = 1 yen = 2s. 0½d.); lieut.-generals and officers ranking as such, 2 yen 80 sen; major-generals and officers ranking as such, 2 yen 20 sen; colonel and officers ranking as such, 1 yen 60 sen; lieut.-colonels and officers ranking as such, 1 yen 20 sen; majors and officers ranking as such, 90 sen; captains and officers ranking as such, 50 sen; lieutenants and officers ranking as such, 30 sen; 2nd lieutenants and officers ranking as such, 20 sen.

3. The subscription rates of the following will be 1/120th of their monthly pay:—*a.* Lieut.-generals drawing the service pay of generals; *b.* military officers drawing the pay of civil officers; *c.* Medical, veterinary and intendant officers below general rank, drawing special pay; *d.* officers of the military band section; *e.* civil officers of kotokwan (commissioned) rank.

4. Half-pay, suspended, reserve, and retired officers will pay subscriptions as follows:—Generals, 1 yen; lieut.-generals and officers ranking as such, 80 sen; major-generals and officers ranking as such, 60 sen; colonels and officers ranking as such, 40 sen; lieut.-colonels and officers ranking as such, 35 sen;

majors and officers ranking as such, 30 sen; captains and officers ranking as such, 25 sen; lieutenants, 20 sen; 2nd lieutenants, 15 sen.

5. Members will pay the whole of the subscription for the month during which they joined.

6. Retiring members will pay no subscription for the month during which they leave, but members who retire during the same month as which they joined will forfeit that month's subscription.

7. On promotion, members will pay the fee of their new rank from the month following the step.

8. The income derived from subscriptions and other sources will be devoted to the cost of publication of the Journal and other printed matter, salaries, fees, prizes, house maintenance, etc., etc.

9. The accounts will be balanced monthly. The yearly accounts—from April to the following May—will be published in the Journal at the commencement of the new financial year.

10. A manager and committee will be selected from among the members. Standing members of the committee may, however, be taken from non-members of the Kaikosha.

11. The manager will be a general officer, who will superintend and promote the affairs of the Kaikosha in accordance with the wishes of the president.

12. If the manager considers an alteration in these minor regulations to be necessary, he will call a meeting of the committee and report its decision to the president.

13. The committee will be chosen from officers of general's rank, field officers, captains, or lieutenants. The work of the committee will be distributed as follows:—General business section; publishing section; financial section.

14. The business section will consist of one general officer and ten members, and will have charge of the general business, correspondence, circulars, and list of members.

15. The publishing section will be in charge of one general officer and sixteen members, who will carry out the publication of the Journal and other works, and the receipt, issue, and care of maps, papers, etc.

16. The financial section will be in charge of one field officer and six members (captains or lieutenants), who will conduct money transactions, purchase of instruments and stores, and repair and maintenance of buildings.

17. The senior officer in each section will superintend the business of the section, and be responsible for the same to the manager.

18. In addition to the regular committees, a certain number of standing members will be appointed from reserve or retired officers. The standing members will be paid.

19. Standing members will be under the senior member of their section and carry out the daily routine and ordinary business.

20. The manager will be elected by the votes of the majority of the members. The appointment will last for one year, and election will take place in March. A manager may be re-elected.

21. Committees will be elected by the votes of the majority of the members or on the nomination of the manager. They will serve for one year. Election will take place yearly in March and September; half of the committee retiring at each election. Members will not be re-appointed to the committee within six months of the completion of a previous appointment. Officers of general's rank will be appointed to the committee by nomination of the president only. Officers so appointed will be in addition to the fixed number.

22. Standing members of the committee will be engaged by the manager. Their term of engagement will not be fixed.

23. Officers appointed manager or to the committee cannot refuse, nor while in Tokyo are they permitted to resign on account of promotion.

24. In addition to the manager and committee, a steward, clerks, messengers, and waiters will be hired:

25. The manager may temporarily employ persons to assist in publication or translation, in addition to the staff laid down.

26. The manager will call a meeting of the committee once a month, at which important matters and the work of each section will be considered.

27. Except matters put forward by the manager or committee, the agenda of committee meetings will usually be drawn up by the standing committee.

28. The standing committee will be responsible for the carrying out of the resolutions of the committee meetings, in the absence of orders to other effect from the manager or other responsible authority.

29. Corresponding members will be appointed for every office, unit, or body; their names and ranks will be submitted beforehand to the Kaikosha office.

30. Corresponding members will transmit Kaikosha notices, collect and forward subscriptions and cost of Journal, books, etc., from the members in their jurisdiction.

31. Members not belonging to any body and non-members in receipt of copies of the Journal will themselves undertake the functions named in the last paragraph.

Miscellaneous Rules.—32. A library is established, and books, newspapers, magazines, etc., stored for the benefit of members. Billiard tables, go and shogi boards and other means of recreation are maintained. Members will pay for their amusement should any expense be involved.

33. In the case of loss or damage to Kaikosha property, members may be required to make good the amount according to the circumstances of the case. Except in the case of books or materials, special regulations for the loan of which exist, nothing whatever may be taken away from the Kaikosha.

34. Persons, other than naval or military officers, recommended by a member, who use a Kaikosha room for a meeting will pay 15 sen per head as a contribution to the upkeep of the Kaikosha, if the meeting is over five in number. The president of the meeting will forward the amount.

35. Application for the use of a room for a meeting will be made several days beforehand to the office, giving date, time and numbers expected to attend. Application need not be made on each occasion in the case of fixed periodical meetings if notice is once given. Persons requiring refreshment will order it from the canteen. Bills will be settled at the time.

36. The Kaikosha was founded on the 15th of February, 1877. The anniversary of the Russian campaign is on the 10th of March. To celebrate both events, a general meeting will be held yearly on the 10th of March.

37. If a general meeting is required other than that mentioned in the last paragraph, the question will be decided at a meeting of the committee, and at least a week's notice given.

Regulations for Issue of the Tokyo Kaikosha Journal and other Publications.—1. The Journal will contain matter considered to be of value in advancing military knowledge, and—subject to the wishes of the military office concerned—official publications, regulations, notices, statistics, with notes, explanations, etc.

2. The Journal will be issued at least twice a month.

3. One copy of each issue will be sent to every member throughout the country. A member requiring more than one copy will be supplied at the fixed price.

4. The Tokyo Kaikosha will print by subscription, or in other ways, matter of military value, and will supply members throughout the country on demand.

5. Contributors will send matter for the Journal, or manuscripts of works directly to the publishing section of the Tokyo Kaikosha. Postage should be prepaid.

6. Manuscripts must bear the contributor's rank and name; but if the contributor does not wish his name to appear in the Journal, pseudonym should be affixed.

7. In manuscripts that contain translations, the title of the original work, name of the author, date of publication, and other known facts in connection with it should be stated.

8. The head of the publishing section will select the matter for publication in the Journal, and the other works to be issued.

9. The Journal will be supplied at the fixed price, and other books on demand, to reserve and retired combatant, non-combatant officers, and probational officers; also to warrant officers, N.C.O.'s, probational officers and candidates on the active list, although non-members. This limit does not apply to matter distributed to officers.

10. The price of a single copy of the Journal is at present fixed as follows:—Tokyo, 6 sen; District Kaikosha, 7 sen; places where there is no Kaikosha, and single persons, 8 sen.

11. The nature of subscription works, price, cost of delivery, date of publication, etc., will be previously advertised in the Journal.

12. In the case of members of the Tokyo Kaikosha, the price of the Journal is included in the club subscription. Other Kaikosha members will forward their subscriptions for the Journal to the publishing section of the Tokyo Kaikosha.

13. Subscriptions to the Journal for the month will be paid by the 15th of the following month.

14. The price of subscription works will be paid within 50 days of date of receipt.

15. All moneys will be collected by the different Kaikoshas (where there is no Kaikosha, by corresponding members) and transmitted to the Tokyo Kaikosha publishing section with the names of the senders and a form of remittance. Single members will themselves go through the same procedure.

16. Form of making out money orders :—

17. Receipts for moneys are not sent other than to the different Kaikosha or corresponding members, except in the case of single members.

The Kaikosha Benefit Society.—1. The object of this society is the assistance of deceased members' families and of members who retire on account of age or infirmity.

2. Except those persons permitted to retire from the society or who do not belong under these regulations, members of the Kaikosha are, *ipso facto*, members of the society. On leaving the Kaikosha, unless special application be made to the contrary, a person ceases to belong to the benefit society.

3. Members on the active list or reserve officers in employment will pay monthly subscriptions as follows :—Generals, 8 yen; lieut.-generals, 5 yen 40 sen; majors, 4 yen 20 sen; colonels, 3 yen; lieut.-colonels, 2 yen 30 sen; majors, 1 yen 50 sen; captains, 80 sen; lieutenants, 50 sen; 2nd lieutenants, 40 sen.

4. Members who come under the following heads will pay 1/60th of their monthly pay :—*a.* Lieut.-generals receiving the same service pay as generals; *b.* military officers drawing civil officers' pay; *c.* officers of medical, veterinary, and intendant service drawing extra pay; *d.* colonels and colonels in command of regimental districts; *e.* officers of the military band section; *f.* civilians of kotokwan rank.

5. Subscriptions of half pay and reserve, one-third of the amounts in para. 3; suspended officers, one-fourth. . . .

8. The deposits will be invested in public securities, and the interest derived will go to supplement the grants. A certain sum will, however, be placed in a reliable bank for current expenses.

9. When members de cease, the following sums are paid, according to length of membership :—De cease in the first year of membership, 150 yen; second year, 175 yen; third year,

200 yen; fifth year, 250 yen; sixth year, 300 yen; seventh year, 350 yen; eighth year, 400 yen; ninth year, 450 yen; from tenth to fifteenth year, 500 yen; after fifteen years, 600 yen.

10. Members who retire on account of wounds received in action or in the public service receive sums according to the scale laid down in para. 9.

11. Members who retire from the service, reserve, or unemployed officers, and kotokwan civil officers who resign their posts with over fifteen years' membership are permitted to retire, if they are not in a position to continue as member. These members receive the whole of their deposits plus one-fifth. They are not, however, permitted to rejoin the society. Reserve and unemployed officers and civil officials with less than fifteen years' membership who leave the society on ceasing to be members of the Kaikoshā receive the whole of their deposits. Should they again become members of the Kaikoshā, they cannot rejoin the society. The moneys named in paras. 9 and 11 will, for the present, be paid with form of the society's bills. Names are inscribed on the bills, and they realise a yearly interest of 5 per cent., and are redeemed in order of number before 31st December, 1911.

12. In calculating length of membership, the month of joining is counted as a whole month. The month during which retirement or decease takes place does not count.

13. Members who lose their rank on account of a criminal conviction, and whose names are withdrawn in consequence, receive no benefit.

14. Members who, without cause, fail to pay their deposits for one year cease to belong to the society. They may re-enter the society, but the sum of money paid during the previous membership does not count.

15. If the president of the Kaikoshā considers an alteration in these regulations to be necessary he will call a general meeting of the committee of the Kaikoshā to carry it into effect; but no alteration is permissible which will decrease the advantages of members already belonging to the society...

16. These regulations will take effect from July, 1898.

17. Para. 9, relating to members died in action or in the public service, and para. 10, too, holds good from June, 1894.

18. A certain portion of the deposits may be used as capital for the purchase of articles of officers' equipment, or lent to assist in building Kaikoshas at the headquarters of divisions. Mode and amount of loan to be fixed at a general committee meeting of the Tokyo Kaikoshā.