

of its time and was grounded in statutory law rather than the common law traditions of England and the United States.

DURABLE DOCUMENT

The Kades constitution has been remarkably durable, a point Kades offers to support his contention that it reflected substantive input from those who would later live under it. "I don't think it could have lasted 50 years" had it been forced on the Japanese, he says. Another reason for its durability, he says, is that there are enough groups such as women, labor unions, and local government entities who could stand to lose protection if the constitution were tampered with.

"Women have more rights under the Japanese constitution than in the U.S.," Kades says.

Whenever the idea of revision is raised, all these groups band together to forestall it.

The strongest push to revise the constitution came out of the Gulf War in 1990.

One of the most unusual aspects of the Kades document is Article 9 which prevents Japan from having an army other than a minimal self-defense force. This is the basis on which the Japanese say they are precluded from participating in multi-national military operations like Desert Storm.

REVISIONS PUSHED

A leading Tokyo newspaper, Yomiuri Shimbun, (not the same paper that published the unauthorized copy of the draft constitution 49 years ago) is pushing to revise the Kades constitution so as to allow the Japanese to increase the strength and scope of its armed forces. A think tank associated with that newspaper has even drafted a revised constitution.

Partly as a result of this controversy, Kades has become a much sought after interview subject in recent years. Television crews from England, Australia and the U.S. in addition to several from Japan have come to his home. He estimates that he has given 60 interviews in the last several years.

He was invited to Japan where he was interviewed by a documentary film crew. He also appeared on the equivalent of one of our Sunday morning political talk shows on which two leading politicians debated the issue. He has also been sought out by journalists and scholars seeking comments on aspects of the post-war occupation about which he has no particular expertise such as educational reform and civil liberties. Study of the occupation "is a whole industry in Japan," Kades says.

Out of these experiences, Kades has learned that anything he says about current debates can be distorted. Statements he has made in his home in Heath, he says, have resulted in "indignant" phone calls from half way around the globe. Even if his statements aren't distorted, he says, he feels he simply isn't competent to be involved in current controversies.

To make it easier for him to stick to his self-imposed rule not to talk about potential revisions of his constitution, he keeps next to his phone a typed message that he took from a speech by former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance saying that "outsiders should keep their hands off" Japan's internal affairs.

One of the people most interested in Kades' comments was Kikuro Takagi, a senior editor of Yomiuri Shimbun—the largest circulating newspaper in the world. Takagi lives in New York City and he is among those who trekked to Heath to seek a comment on the new draft constitution his newspaper is promoting. Kades refused to even read it in his presence.

MODEL FOR PEACE

Reached in New York, Takagi says he thinks Kades opposes the revisions and that

he shares the view of one of his former assistants, Beate Sirota-Gordon. She maintains that the Japanese have undergone remarkable political and economic development for 49 years under the old document that precludes all but a minimal defense force. "Article 9 is really a model for peace that should not be amended, rather it should be copied by other countries . . . changing Article 9 would be a very sad thing," says Sirota-Gordon who, at the age of 22, drafted the women's rights section of the Kades constitution.

Sirota-Gordon gives Kades a lot of credit for what she considers to be a shining moment in world history. "It is an unusual situation when an occupation force is inclined to do something beneficent rather than vengeful," she said in an interview from her home in New York.

When pressed on Kades' reactions to attempts to update the constitution Takagi said, "he gave us a very delicate reply." Takagi said his paper didn't publish Kades' thoughts because "we are trying to push up our revision to our leaders . . . this is a very delicate political and psychological issue so we are holding on to Mr. Kades' reply for now."

After the war, Kades returned to the relative obscurity of a New York City lawyer. He bought the house in Heath in 1967 as a summer residence and moved there full time when he retired in 1978. He lives there now with his wife Phyllis.

Asked what he likes to do when he isn't fielding questions about the Japanese constitution Kades smiles and says, "drink beer." Then he adds, "in the summer time I have to take care of some of the grass around here." He also likes to read about current events and he keeps up on the books that come out about Japan. He has been to the Far East sometimes visiting the children of people he knew when he was there during the occupation. One of them took him to the office where he and his team wrote the constitution. It now houses the Dai Ichi Insurance Co.

Reflecting on the heady days 49 years ago, Kades looks briefly into the fireplace warming his living room and says matter of factly, "it certainly has changed my retirement."

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, before discussing today's bad news about the Federal debt, how about another go, as the British put it, with our pop quiz. Remember—one question, one answer.

The question: How many millions of dollars in a trillion? While you are thinking about it, bear in mind that it was the U.S. Congress that ran up the enormous Federal debt that is now about \$12 billion shy of \$5 trillion.

To be exact, as of the close of business Friday, January 19, the total Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$4,988,397,941,589.45. Another depressing figure means that on a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$18,934.39.

Mr. President, back to our quiz—how many million in a trillion?: There are a million million in a trillion, which means that the Federal Government will shortly owe \$5 million million.

Now who's not in favor of balancing the Federal budget?

HONORING LAUZON MAXWELL FOR HIS WORK ON BEHALF OF THE MID-CONTINENT LIBRARIES

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, today I rise to salute the tireless efforts of a Missourian who has worked and given of his time, and himself for one of our country's most precious resource, our libraries. The Mid-Continent Public Libraries serve Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties in the Kansas City, MO, area and provide a valuable service to the community.

Lauzon Maxwell was selected as building manager for the Mid-Continent Public Libraries in 1985, after the library was given authority to oversee its own building projects. In the next 8 years, Mr. Maxwell oversaw the task of building and remodeling 25 facilities, many times having between three and five projects under construction at the same time. Most projects were completed under budget. These projects translated into an additional four branch libraries, four expanded buildings, and a warehouse for the Mid-Continent Library system totaling an additional 381,769 square feet of new or remodeled facilities between 1985-95.

Through his hard work and leadership in the Mid-Continent Library's expansion project, the libraries have provided better library services to their clientele in the Kansas City area. Our libraries are an investment in our communities, and the outstanding services of Mid-Continent Libraries are a credit to their communities. I commend Lauzon Maxwell for his outstanding service and dedication in the leadership of the building projects of the libraries of Kansas City. They are noteworthy and exemplary.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE TOM GARTH

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, the new year started out sadly for the members, friends, staff, and alumni of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America when the president of that organization, Mr. Tom Garth, passed away.

What is today the Boys & Girls Clubs of America can trace its history back to 1860, when the first Boys Club was opened in Hartford, CT. The streets of America's cities during that period were not friendly places, they were often dirty, crowded, and dangerous. The establishment of Boys and Girls Clubs gave young men and women not only a safe haven from the temptations and evils of urban settings, but also allowed them to pursue activities that developed their minds and bodies.

While our Nation has grown and changed in many ways in the last 136 years, much remains the same. Contemporary America is a place with an abundance of obstacles for our youngest citizens. In our cities, drugs and gangs present a deadly lure to urban children; and in our suburbs, teenagers are easily bored by the stale environment which monotonous suburbs create and juveniles are often enticed into