ON THE PUBLICATION OF THE ENGLISH VERSION
OF THE SOCIETY OF SCIENTIFIC
PHOTOGRAPHY OF JAPAN

President of Society of Scientific Photography of Japan.

Ryosuke NISHIMURA

Six years after suffering total defeat, the result of waging an unprofitable war, Japan is to-day slowly moving towards recovery. According to our New Constitution, we have vowed never to take up arms again and a peaceful Japan now desires to join the world in good fellowship and is eagerly looking forward to the signing of the Peace Treaty.

Owing to an influx of population in this limited area and with the land so unproductive, there is no other means of livelihood but for us to boost our overseas trade. To produce goods of high value for export from the little raw material at hand, would be extremely profitable and in this, the photo industry, including cameras, lens, sensitized materials etc., is very well situated. From this point of view the photo industry of Japan must reach the world level and from precedence there is much hope that we can attain it. But the photo industry, though using a small enough quantity of raw material, is strict in its choice of quality. Therefore, Japan which is so poor in raw material must compete with European and American countries with higher standards in scientific and technical fields.

The Society of Scientific Photography of Japan has a history of 25 years standing. With 700 members it is an influential organization. There is a meeting monthly to report on research, held chiefly in Tokyo, a Tokyo big meeting in May and a Kyoto, big meeting in October besides issuing quarterly publications. In these Research Report sand lectures there are many points that would be of good to the world but it is to be regretted that a Japanese publication is difficult for a foreigner to read and understand and so is limited to our country only. To counteract this difficulty and so present our research for mutual profit, it has been decided to publish a part in English. Most of us, members, have been able to read English, German and French publications and it is pleasant to know that a hitherto one-way street will now be open both ways.

Last year when I was in America I met many scientists and technicians and felt more than ever the need for a publication in English. This first publication is indeed a joyful event.