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At 6h. 29' A.M., March 7th, 1927, the province of Tango in the Kyoto Prefecture has experienced a severe earthquake. The damage was enormous, next to that of the great Kwanto earthquake of 1923. According to the official reports, 14,405 houses were entirely destroyed or burnt and 2,908 persons fell victims of the catastrophe. Economic losses were also incalculable, for the region was well known for its silk industry, especially as one of the principal places of the production of fine crêpes. Following is a synopsis of our studies in the field with a special reference to the morphology of the disturbed regions.

In the centre of Honshu or the main island of Japan and along the coast of the Sea of Japan there is an embayment of Wakasa, a remarkable depressed basin, which breaks not a little the general monotony of the coast of that sea. The shore of this large bay is crenelleted again with many coves and peninsulas, and these afford every evidence of subsidence of the land in this region. Moreover, very conspicuous is the development of many faults in land around the bay. There are two types of them, which run in two ways, one in radial and the other in concentric direction. The radial faults are very remarkable in the district to the southeast of the bay, where the land tract between the bay and the Lake Biwa is traversed by a number of rift valleys. The long Bay of Tsuruga, a branch of the Bay of Wakasa, is also a remarkable example of the depression of this kind with considerable fault scarps along the eastern and western sides of the bay. On the other hand there is a large peninsula of Oku-Tango, which projects to the west of the Bay of Wakasa. The most conspicuous fault of the radial type runs along the southeastern shore of the peninsula extending further southwest into the land, where it makes a typical rift valley of the River Kurahashi. Another valley of the same type, that of the River Maruyama, may be seen some kilometers west of the peninsula, along which the Tai fault was formed in the earthquake of Tajima of
1925. The Oku-Tango Peninsula is traversed also by some faults of the concentric type. One of them makes the rift valleys of the Rivers Takeno and Fukuda in a line, where many small towns and villages with their flourishing silk industry are located. Another fault of the same type runs through the centre of the peninsula, and makes a gap between the mountains with the height of 5-600 meters and the hills of 2-300 meters in altitude.

As a result of the recent blocking movement two distinct seismic faults have been formed on this peninsula, which are called the Gō-mura and the Yamada fault respectively, named after the villages where they are well developed. The Gō-mura fault made its appearance in the western part of the peninsula. Near the village office it runs through paddy fields in the direction N. 15° W. to S. 15° E. and cuts across a country road, making very distinct horizontal and vertical displacements, 2.5 meters and 0.56 meter respectively. The block of land to the west of the fault has been elevated and shifted southwards. To the north the fault extends further to the shore of the Sea of Japan. Instead of a crack or fracture it makes here sometimes wavy swelling of the ground. The level plane of paddy fields tilted very gently, leaving a part of their rectangular surface uplifted and dry, while the other parts were depressed and have collected the water. Near a small
isolated rocky mound called Otoko Benten the surface of land exhibits an interesting disturbance, forming a very complicate combination of fault and flexure. Reaching the seashore the fault makes a huge crack cutting deep into the layer of volcanic agglomerate on the precipitous bluff. Turning to the south of Gō-mura the fault pierces into the granite hill of Ikunouchi and manifests a remarkable slickenside on the fault plane of the rock, such instance being rarely met in this country. The fault zone may be traced further southwards to the south of Kuchi-Ōno. Very noteworthy this, Gō-mura fault is not a single continuous rift but makes a zone of a series of several subparallel cracks of certain lengths, large or small, running side by side, one after the others, and forms a characteristic arrangement of échelon. The width of this fault zone is 600 meters, while its total length measures about 18 kilometers. The trend of this fault zone coincides with that of the old tectonic line, which makes the valleys of the Rivers Takeno and Fukuda at present. The significance of the upheaval of the land block in the west of this fault is well made out, not only by the apparent elevation along the fault zone, but also by the emergence of the beach line along the shore of the Sea of Japan in the west of the fishing village Iso. The maximum amount of the absolute elevation measures 0.8 meter in Hamazume.

Another fault, called the Yamada fault, is found just along an old fault scarp in the southeastern side of the Oku-Tango Peninsula. Its general trend is S. 55° W. to N. 55° E. In the village Yamada the fault appears across a highway and cultivated lands forming a remarkable flexure instead of a steep rift. It seems that the land in southeastern side of the fault has been depressed and shifted to the southwest, with the vertical and horizontal displacements of 0.7 meter and 0.8 meter respectively. The fault, however, makes a fracture cut deep into granite, which forms the ground rock and exposes near the entrance of a railway tunnel on a hill called Shiro-yama by the side of the highway. Many other huge cracks have been formed on the flank of the hill. The main fault extends then northeastwards along the railway and the bank of the River Kurahashi, manifesting various forms of disturbance, until it reaches the shore of the Bay of Yosa. The paddy fields in the villages of Iwataki and Otokoyama are traversed by several cracks, and tracts of land in the southeastern side of the fault are partly submerged into the bay. A new hot spring made its appearance also near the fault in Yumiki. The southern extension of the Yamada fault passes through the village of that name crushing all houses into pieces and reappears in the mulberry fields in the west end of the village,
where it makes many large rifts. The total length of this fault measures 7.5 kilometers.

In short, the great earthquake of Tango of March 7th., 1927, took place by the blocking movement, which was repeated in the old dislocated block of the Oku-Tango Peninsula. Two remarkable faults were formed in accordance with old dislocation lines, which run in radial and concentric directions with reference to the great depressed basin of the Bay of Wakasa. The peninsula did not moved as a single block, but some blocks bordered by those lines have undergone their respective movements, which accompanied the main and after-shocks of this great earthquake.