

Life improvement program after World War II in Japan, “ Better life without Mosquitoes and Flies”

Courtesy to;

Dr. Seki Naomi

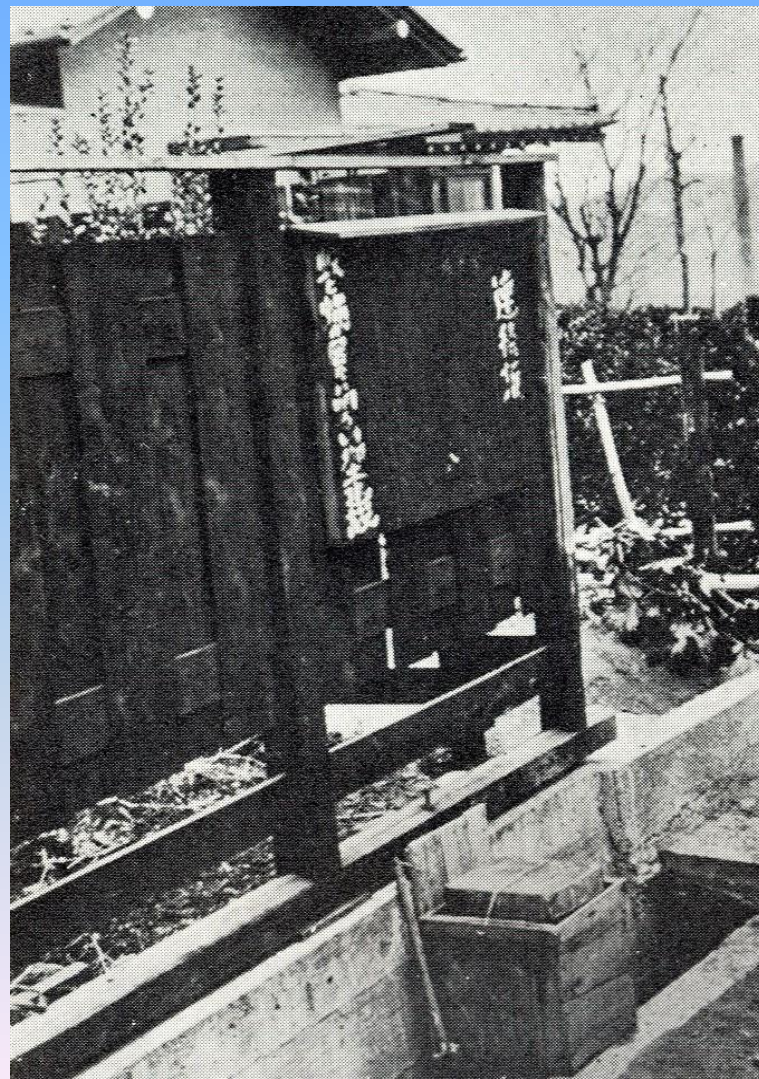
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(former Tokyo Quarantine Station, MOHLW)

1945 ended the World War II

1947~ System of vector and nuisance control program was introduced in local and middle level government, supervised by GHQ.

1955~ National movement for 3-year plan as “Better life without Mosquitoes and Flies.”



Features of vector and nuisance control measures

- All residents regardless of gender or age can benefit.
- Effective when conducted simultaneously in community
- Experts evaluated residents' participation and provided guidance and advice.

Activities of residents' organizations

- Discovered and fostered by **life improvement promotion workers***.
 - * a front line administrative officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry who work directly with residents.
- Enforced and became independent through intensive advise
- Fulfillment of basic needs and sense of achievement
- Voluntary activities with the objectives decided by residents themselves
- Relationship with **sanitary inspectors and sanitary team officers in public health center that is a front line institute of the MOHW**

Participation of entomologists, etc. from universities and research institutions

- They participated in response to approaches from prefecture government,
- Provided scientific guidance based on the actual conditions, but
- Were not directly involved in the development of residents' organizations.

Roles of administrative bodies

- Administrative officers in direct contact with the public : discovering human resources and fostering organizations
- Administrative officers of each prefecture: performing a role as a bridge of technical support, guidance and advice
- Administrative officers of the central: national standardization and authentication of the activities



Examples of houses built through the life improvement program
(加藤 陸奥雄 著「ハエ・カの発生源と生活改善」厚生省環境衛生部監修. 1960,
日本環境衛生協会(現環境衛生センター)発行より)



生活改善運動によって作られた家屋の実例

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Keys to success

- Division of functions among “residents organizations,” “professionals” and “administrative organizations”
- Support system in accordance with the maturity level of the administrative bodies and the residents organizations
- Target setting and guidance/advice respecting their independence
- Approach as comprehensive as possible