

**On the British Education System
and
The State Schools in Cambridge (XIII)**

Minoru SHIGETA*

In the preceding essays (Vol. XII), I mentioned the school event called “Field Studies Week” in part because of limited space. In this essay I will tell you about the rest of the school event.

In addition to the school letters, we were required to fill up “Personal and Medical Information and Consent Form.” The form consists of two pages. One is for writing down the health condition of each child, such as anti-tetanus protection, allergies, drugs / medication to be taken, etc. The other is for consenting each child taking part in the educational field trip in accordance with the agreements which have been explained to the parents, and acknowledge receipt of the “Information for Parents” leaflet. For reference, I will transcribe the form here :

MILTON ROAD JUNIOR SCHOOL

“DISCOVER INDUSTRY” RESIDENTIAL FIELD TRIP
(15th — 19th JUNE 1987)

PERSONAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION and CONSENT FORM

SURNAME

FORENAMES

* 宇部工業高等専門学校英語教室

ADDRESS

.....

PHONE NUMBERS: Day Night

DATE OF BIRTH RELIGION

NHS NUMBER

NAME & ADDRESS OF FAMILY DOCTOR

.....

..... Surgery Phone No.....

ANTI-TETANUS PROTECTION — up to date? YES / NO (Please delete)

ALLERGIES TO PENICILLIN OR OTHER DRUGS (Please state)

.....

DRUGS / MEDICATIONS TO BE TAKEN (Please ensure full instruc-

tions are given on the container and / or are en-

closed).....

.....

.....

OTHER INFORMATION (including any dietary requirements due to

medical, religious or moral reasons)

.....

.....

.....

(Please turn over)

CONSENT FORM

Ithe father / mother / guardian

of have consented to my child

taking part in this educational field trip from 15th to 19th June 1987 in ac-

cordance with the arrangements which have been explained to me, and ac-

knowledge receipt of the "Information for Parents" leaflet.

I authorise the leader of the party, or any other member of the School Staff

who may be present, to consent to such medical treatment (including inocu-

lations, blood, transfusions, surgery or the use of anaesthetics) which in the

opinion of a qualified medical practitioner may be necessary during the course of the field trip. (Any instructions at variance with this authorisation are attached by me in writing to this form.)

I further agree :

1. to pay for any damage which may be occasioned solely through the misconduct or carelessness of my child to the person or property of any other party or parties ;
2. that I will not hold the Head, Party Leader or field trip Members of Staff or any of them responsible for any loss of personal effects or money I incurred by my child during this visit where reasonable steps have been taken to safeguard such effects and money ;
3. that I will indemnify him / her / them in respect of any expenses reasonably incurred in consequence of any accident to or illness of my child, such expenses being beyond those for which insurance cover has been effected.

I further consent to my child travelling by coach, and by any other form of transport as part of or necessary during the field trip.

Dated

Signed

On 27th January, '87, we received a school letter informing us of "Jumble Sale" for Junior School Field Trip by Milton Road Schools' P.T.A. Jumble Sale means sale of a mixed collection of old or second-hand articles, usually, for charity. The aim of this jumble sale is that as the educational field trip to Midlands on the theme of studying industrial sites costs £70 per child, and that it will help those children whose families are not able to take them to those places, and that this fund is used only for this trip. My wife and I were much surprised and deeply moved to see the letter, because it was not conceivable in Japan for other parents to support those children

whose families could not pay for the cost. I remember donating £10 or so by cheque approving of this initiative. Now I would like to show you the copy of this jumble sale, adding that this kind of jumble sale is often held by schools, colleges, and social communities.

27 JAN 1987

J U M B L E S A L E

Junior school field-trip

14 February, 2pm

Dear parents

As you may all know that fourth year class has been doing an educational field trip to midlands on the theme of studying industrial sites. The trip is one of the most exciting event for these two classes. The class teachers put lots of efforts on it. The trip costs £70 per child.

Most families in our school can meet this cost even if it requires a lot of sacrifice and and planning for some families. This year we are offered the facilities to pay by installement which is a great help. But despite this offer some families may find it impossible to save that amount of money. There isn't any provision in the education budget to cater for this need. We don't seem to be able to use PTA money either. Therefore we, some parents felt that this trip should be made available especially to those children whose families are not able to take them to those places. For this we need to raise at least £200.

Please support this initiative by helping with the Jumble sale (books, clothes, nearly new, bric-a-brac, toys etc) or simply donating money.

All donations may be sent to school in an envelope addressed to Bethan Hayward, who is now the treasurer of this account: "Milton Rd Junior School Field trip fund" Funds to be used only for this trip and for the reason stated above.

Please phone Saime to offer help for the Jumble sale

Saime Timms
20 Metcalfe Rd
Tel: 353768

Bethan Hayward
15 Chesterton Hall Crec.
Tel 312923

In the meantime, on 10th June, 1987, we got a school letter called “final instructions” with “check list for Monday 15th June” consisting of two pages. In the check list, the teachers gave us minute check points, such as health conditions, clothing / equipment list, and the clothes for extra activities, and so on. I will write down the main points here :

PRE-TRIP CHECK LIST

THURSDAY 11th JUNE

1. Have you returned the Personal and Medical Information / Consent Form?
2. Send up to £15 (in one pound coins if possible) in a strong sealed envelope, with your child's name on it, to school tomorrow (Friday).

SATURDAY / SUNDAY, 13th / 14th JUNE

Prepare luggage, etc.

- One medium sized suitcase and one piece of hand luggage, named inside and on luggage labels outside.
- Child's name and name of school must be on all clothing and other possessions.
- List of items packed — stuck in lid of case.
- 1st class stamped postcard.

CLOTHING / EQUIPMENT LIST

General

- Underwear, Socks, Nightwear, Toilet Bag
- Towels — 2 (1 large / 1 small or 2 large)
- Pen / Pencil (A notebook will given out on Monday)
- Pillow case (optional) Pillow (optional)
- Camera & Film/s (optional)

Daytime

- Two changes for visits
- Outdoor walking shoes (not open-toed)

Kagool-type jacket — showerproof

Extra Activities

Swimming kit

Tracksuit (old) or trousers / cords (old)

Sweater (warm and old), Shirt / T-shirt, Shorts

Trainers / Plimsolls (will get very wet & muddy)

Wellingtons, Disco clothes (optional!)

Bin Liner, large plastic (for wet clothes)

Check List for MONDAY 15th JUNE

1. If your child suffers from travel sickness, administer any tablets before leaving home. (Journey time = 8 hours approx., including lunch in the grounds of Tutbury Castle and a visit to the nearby glassworks.)
2. Put medicines, etc. for use during the week (other than an inhaler which your child would normally carry), together with full written instructions, in a sealed and named envelope / plastic bag ready for handing to Mr Phipps or Mrs Russon on your arrival at School.
3. Check that luggage contents are correctly listed and the two pieces are labelled — one PGL label accompanies this letter but you will need your own for the other item.
4. Include a first-class stamped postcard — and don't forget to check that all clothing and possessions are correctly labelled.
5. Prepare a packed lunch (plastic bag, not in a lunch box).
Include a non-fizzy drink, also in a disposable container.
6. If you wish, allow your child up to £2 pocket money for Monday's visit.

7. ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

(i) Children should arrive at School between 7.55 and 8.05 am. (no later please). For everyone's safety, please do not stop your car on the double yellow lines outside or opposite the Schools;

(ii) Check in with Mrs Gates outside the Craft Room and leave luggage there (inside the Craft Room if it is raining!) — children should retain their small item of hand luggage;

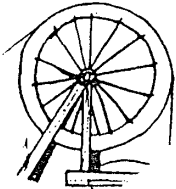
(iii) Children should then go straight to Mrs Russon's classroom and remain there until we leave.

8. The coach will depart as soon as we have loaded up — this will be around 8.30 am. Its arrival at Boreatton Park will be indicated by Mr. Ellis putting a large notice in the window of the School facing Gilbert Road. Our approximate arrival time at Boreatton Park is 5.00 pm.

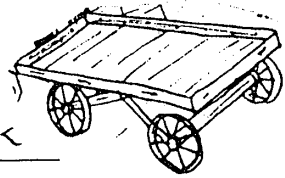
As for my daughter, she was given task sheets for the educational field trip and worked in accordance with each sheet, as she did in "My Body Project." And the teacher gave the children the responsibility to hand in their work every week for marking. In my daughter's file, she divides contents into 8 chapters : 1) Beginnings 2) Revolution 3) Iron and Steel 4) Potter and Glass 5) Canals 6) Coal 7) Finishing Off 8) Field Studies. As in "My Body Project," my daughter puts forward her work according to the task sheets, and her file amounts to 90 pages.

At any rate, I am sure My daughter, staying in Midland and Wales for a week, had a very good time. Most probably this educational field trip will never fade out of her memory. Lastly I will finish this essay, adding to some of the task sheets and her work, some photographs, and a certificate of P.G.L. As to the miscellaneous things in which my family and I took great interest, I will mention them on another occasion.

(平成 7 年 9 月 25 日受理)



TASK SHEET
FIELD STUDIES WEEK



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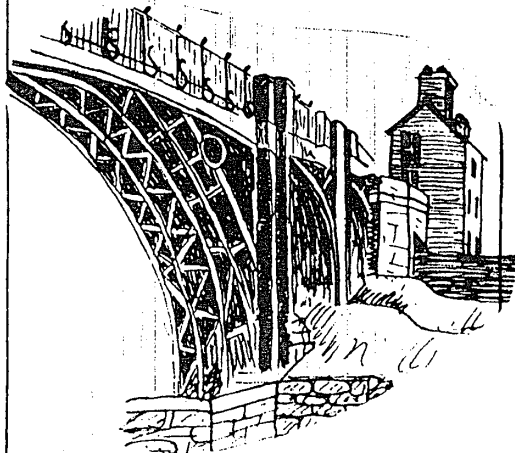
- ① Make an illustrated chapter heading for your STUDY week:
e.g. "MIDLANDS WEEK"
"OUR FIELD TRIP"
"CAMBRIDGE"

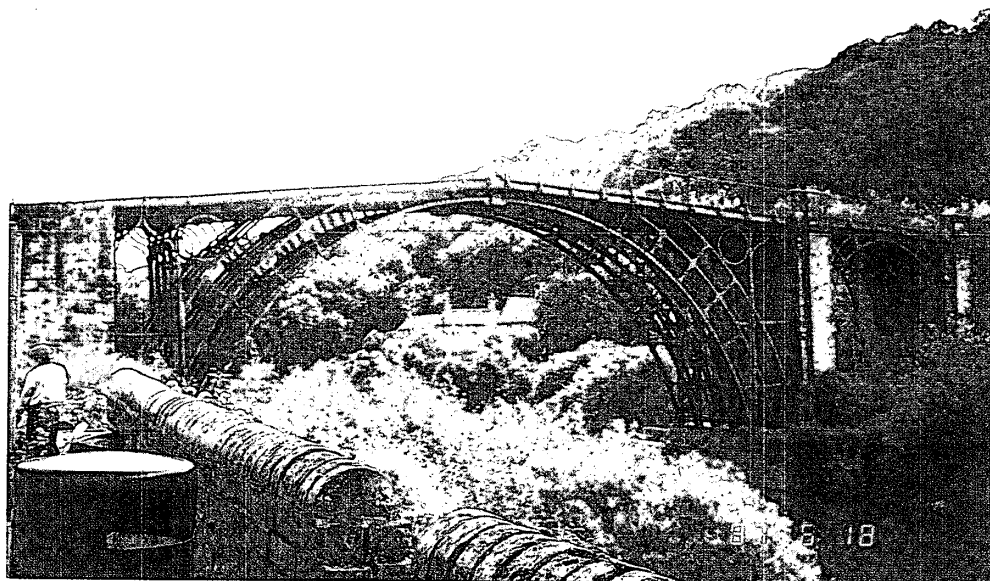


- ② Write up your diary for the week. Don't forget your illustrations and to include any postcards / leaflets etc. You should write at least $\frac{1}{2}$ a page on each day which should include information about your visits, thoughts and other activities. (Midlands group - don't forget your evening / morning activities!)

- ③ Check that your INDUSTRY topic is really finished.

- ④ TOPICS TO BE HANDED IN FOR GRADING ON TUESDAY, 30TH JUNE (9 AM)





The Ironbridge (The Heart of the Industrial Revolution)



PGL Activities

24

30th April

New invention

The textile industry was soon to change. The inventions listed below those shown in the diagram revolutionized the manufacture of woollens, cottons and silks. The handloom weavers, like those in Hogarth's drawing, weren't able to compete with the factories. For a time the domestic woollen industry (cloth made at home) carried on alongside the factory industry. But water power, and later steam power, enabled factory owners to make cloth much more cheaply. By 1850 the domestic industry was nearly extinct.

Landmarks in the textile industry

- 1719: Thomas Lombe built a silk mill in Derby which used silk spinning machines turned by a water wheel.
 1733: John Kay invented the flying shuttle which made it easier to weave cloth.
 1767: James Hargreaves invented

