

“Tokyo - Kaijyō Building(TMIB.)”

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on Gyōkō - Dori (Palace Mall)

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Like as the Imperial Palace be enclosed by the great stone-wall, so the entry to the Palace Mall must be defined by definite structure as **TMIB.**

“Little London(Itchō -London)”, the elegant street of brick buildings once so praised, has gone long, and the charm of the buildings followed, like “Marunouchi-Building”, have now all gone as well, but **TMIB.**, solidly rooted at the place, is still there. The building such as this should not be gone, and must be looked after by all of us.

Whenever I make towards the Tokyo station from my Hongo office, I go down the Hibiya Ave, and turn left at the corner where this building stands, as the definite pivot-axis, then the view to the station opened, fully and marvelously. This moment is one of the greatest excitement for us living in Tokyo. The distant view of the station from the Wadakura-mon is always moving because of the exquisite balance of the horizonlity of the station with verticality of **TMIB.**

TMIB. is visual delight in its simple profile from distant veiw, and also in its rich details given at close look. Red-brown exterior wall, covered

with ceramic tiles in deep joint, has expression, heavier than brick - wall, and lighter than conventional plastered wall, which creates peaceful stability for the people working inside of it. All the four sides of the building are composed regularly with the grid of post and beam, and windows are set in its depth. How delightful it is to look up these windows, expressing powerfully and peacefully the joy of people working there.

TMIB. has its own personal character, and proud of itself. Those who are working in it must be happy. And we, standing by and looking up, are also made happy.

A building as this should be standing there for good and all.

The question frequently asked : what sort of building should be preserved. Answer may be varied one by one. One may say it should be, because it is old, or say because it is a masterpiece and so forth. Whatsoever I believe, there is one solid and fundamental answer, that is, to say, because it is a good building.

TMIB. is a good building. And we need a good building for the place, and for the city of Tokyo. Hence, it must be cherished. I want it be there and be preserved. I hope so with all my heart.