

Japanese College Men Prefer 2-yr. College Women as Wives

Alaska Methodist University's sister in Japan, Nagoya Gakuin University, has sent Dr. Shutato Matsushita, Professor of Economics, as their first exchange faculty member to Alaska.

The spry, 73-year-old Matsushita, arrived in Anchorage last weekend for a week of sightseeing and vacationing before taking on his teaching duties in the last half of the summer session.

From July 21 through August 29 Dr. Matsushita will teach a special course in International Economics, Trade and Finance, dealing, he says, with "Japan's post-war economy and public finance." The course is scheduled to meet Mondays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 10 p.m. on the AMU Campus.

In a recent interview, the exchange professor elaborated on the Japanese attitude toward university education, as he sees it.

Nagoya Gakuin, he stated, is "primarily a school of economics and business" and has only 45 woman students at present among its total 2,000 students, a

substantial increase over last years enrollment. "Women enroll more at schools of literature and education," he explained.

Dr. Matsushita, who speaks impeccable English, remarked that more junior colleges are being built in Japan, and that two year college education is becoming increasingly popular with Japanese women.

"Two years education for women," he explained, "does not put too much of a burden on the parents . . . and men would rather choose two year graduates as wives than the four-year graduates. That way, by the time a girl is marriagable at 22 or 23

she has been attending the junior college, and still has been able to go to special schools teaching the essential subjects for housewives—cooking, sewing, and flowersetting."

He added with a smile that a junior college graduate can understand what her husband, a college graduate, is talking about, "but she will not know enough to argue with him."

Dr. Matsushita's first week in Alaska will include a trip to the Talkeetna homestead of Dr. Leonard Freese, AMU Professor of Biology. When classes begin on Monday, he will take up residence on the AMU campus.