

Father, son advise Japan on U.S. ways

Labor system overseas can teach us a lot



Theodore Sachs
labor lawyer

Editor's note: Theodore Sachs of West Bloomfield, a leading labor attorney, and his son Jeffrey Sachs, a professor of economics and international finance at Harvard University, spoke on their areas of expertise during separate initiatives to Japan last month.

Following are stories on their messages to the Japanese, as well as their impressions of the country's labor and economic systems. The senior Sachs, 56, was interviewed in The Eccentric Office; the younger Sachs, 29, was interviewed by telephone.

By Karen Hermes Smith
staff writer

Layoff is a well-known word in America. Many U.S. laborers either have lost their jobs, and know the anguish of

being unable to adequately feed their families and pay their bills, or they have been threatened by layoff during periods of economic strife.

But in Japan, layoffs are almost non-existent. In an address last month before the Japanese Institute of Labor, Theodore Sachs, labor lawyer and West Bloomfield resident, had to use an interpreter and Japanese law professor to define the word. "They don't know the term or the concept," he said.

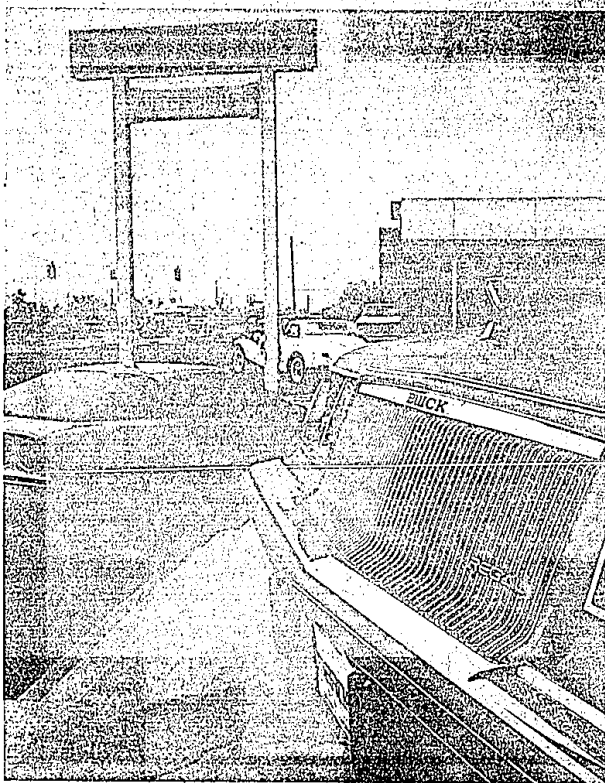
Sachs was invited by the labor institute, a private non-partisan organization of labor leaders and economists, to speak on what U.S. businesses do with their workers when they go bankrupt or suffer financial difficulties.

"They're picking our brains a little to see what can be found," Sachs said. "They are very much involved in our economy (investing in and building factories in the U.S.) and will become increasingly involved."

SACHS HAS dedicated his career to protecting the worker. He is the author of the Michigan Employment Relations Act and Police Officers and Firemen's Arbitration Act, has represented the UAW and AFL-CIO and has successfully argued a number of cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. During his visit abroad, Sachs noted the legal and cultural differences between labor relations in Japan and America.

Japanese businesses, out of a sense of responsibility rather than a legal obligation, hire their workers for life. "When an employee begins, he's assured until retirement age that he will be working," Sachs said, adding that the employee, in turn, is loyal and committed to his employer.

When the economy sours in Japan — as in the 1970s during the oil crisis —



GARY CASKEY/staff photographer

The Japanese are becoming increasingly involved in the American economy, as evidenced by the sale of both Japanese and U.S. cars by some dealerships. As the Japanese continue to build and invest in

factories here, they want to know more about how business is conducted in America — and they're finding out by talking to the experts.

Weaker yen curbs global competition

By Karen Hermes Smith
staff writer

Competition problems between Japanese and American automobiles lie not with the Japanese, but with the United States.

That's the opinion of Jeffrey Sachs, professor of economics and international finance at Harvard University. Sachs is the son of leading labor attorney Theodore Sachs of West Bloomfield.

Sachs, who addressed Japanese economists last month on the topic of a coordinated economic policy between the United States and their country, said Japan doesn't deserve the blame it gets.

"It's easy to find a scapegoat in complicated financial issues, but most experts agree it's a dollar problem, not a yen problem," Sachs said.

THE DOLLAR

recently has been strong. Sachs said. "The main thing we have to do is change our own economic policies, close the budget deficit and be somewhat more expansionary in our economic policies." This will help lead to a reduction in the value of the dollar and make exports more competitive, he said.

Japan could respond with a more expansionary economic policy as well, and greater import of U.S. goods, he said.

Sachs, who's business-oriented, said he and his pre-labor father don't always see eye-to-eye. "I'm in favor of lots of things unless I see where we differ. I worry unless I see price themselves out of the market. I think that's happened in many sectors of the economy."

SACHS, WHO was invited to Japan by the Ministry of Finance and Bank of Tokyo, said Japan, the United States and other countries could benefit from a coordinated economic policy.

After the second oil crisis, he said, many countries took anti-inflationary steps, sending the world into a much deeper recession than expected.

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— Jeffrey Sachs
economics professor
Harvard

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INSIDE ANGLES

Know someone doing something notable? Let us know. Write: Inside Angles, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Darren Murray, one of the captains for Our Lady of Sorrows lacrosse team, for outstanding athletic ability in the sport of lacrosse. Darren has played lacrosse for the past two years. This year Our Lady of Sorrows repeated in becoming champions of the Michigan Scholastic Lacrosse Association Tournament for middle schools. Darren scored 38 goals and 36 assists in 14 games. Darren's natural athletic ability overcomes his handicap of being born without a right hand. Next year his skills will be tested as an incoming freshman at Catholic Central High School.

NORMA LOHAN was honored recently on her 10th anniversary as Welcome Wagon Hostess in Farmington Hills. Norma was awarded a pearl-studded Welcome Wagon insignia pin. In a letter of commendation, Barbara Marshall, president of Welcome Wagon International, expressed appreciation for her ten years of outstanding service to Welcome Wagon and her community. On behalf of local sponsoring businesses, Norma greets new movers. As a public service, she also distributes literature for various government agencies and civic and cultural groups.

MICHAEL JOSEPH FITZSIMONS, son of John and Maria Fitzsimons of Farmington, graduated from Southwestern School of Law in Los Angeles and will be taking the California bar exam in July. Michael is a graduate of Bishop Borgess High School and Michigan State University.

YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING International Student Exchange today announced that Robin Trager of Farmington Hills won acceptance to spend a summer as an exchange student in Switzerland. The 3,000 high school students selected from across the United States to participate in YFU's programs in 24 different countries will live with specially selected host families and, if they are spending a year abroad, will attend highly competitive academic high schools in their countries, gaining another language and first-hand experience in a different culture.

DAWN PIENSON, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pierson of Farmington Hills, was one of several Allison College students completing internships this year under the liberal arts program in professional management. Dawn, a sophomore, worked in the cost accounting department of De-

troit Diesel Allison Division of Detroit. The title of her internship paper is "Inventory Valuation: LIFO versus FIFO."

BRIAN HASKIN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Haskin of Farmington Hills, and Jill Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donn Anderson of Farmington Hills, was awarded a scholarship to Hope College for academic achievement.

AS PART OF a celebration to mark the opening of 12 new stores, Perry Drug Stores Inc. will give away a 1984 Ford Ranger pick-up truck and hold a chain-wide grand opening sale during the month of June. In addition to a drawing for the 1984 Ford Ranger, Perry will also give away Sunbeam gas grills, Kodak Disc cameras, Mr. Coffee coffee makers, Alcoa Cordless telephones and other prizes. Entry blanks for the drawings, which are available at all Perry Drug or Auto Works stores, must be returned to Perry by midnight June 30. Winners will be selected by random drawing and notified by July 23.

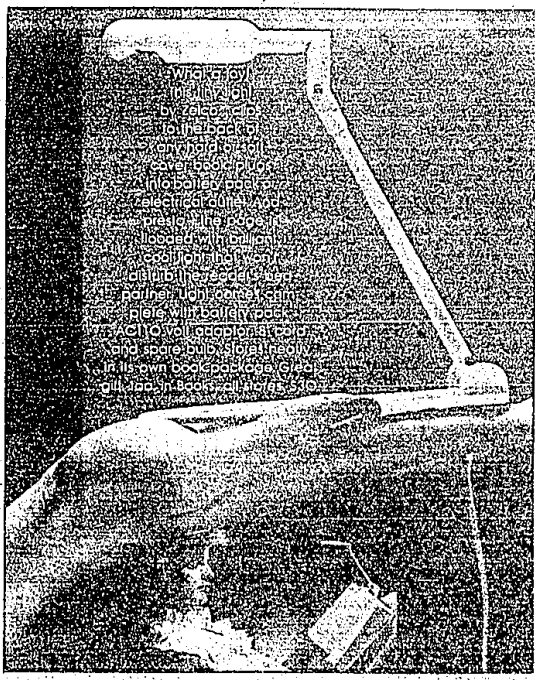
YOUNG GOLFERS will get a chance to "put their stuff" at the tenth Annual Junior Golf Invitational at Springfield Oaks Thursday and at White Lake Oaks Friday. The tournaments include classifications for golfers ages 19 and under, and will draw golfers of all abilities, according to Jim Mansfield, tournament director for Oakland County Golf Courses. Entry fee is \$10 for those age 11 and under and \$21 for age 12 and over. Pre-registration is required prior to June 28. For details, call Springfield Oaks at 625-2640 or White Lake at 692-2190. Springfield Oaks Golf Course is on Andersonville Road at Hall Road in Davidsburg. White Lake Oaks is on South William Lake Road, at M-49, near Pontiac.

SUZANNE M. DeLONGCHAMP, daughter of Allen DeLongchamp of Farmington Hills, entered the U.S. Air Force June 4 upon graduation from six-week basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, she will receive technical training in the general aptitude area and be assigned to an Air Force duty station. Suzanne is a 1981 graduate of Harrison High School.

BUDDY'S PIZZA and McFrock's will be sponsoring balloon rides Tuesday and Wednesday with proceeds going to the March of Dimes. Rides at Buddy's will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and at McFrock's at 4 p.m. Tuesday. Cost for the ride is \$4.

MICHAEL NUGENT, son of Mrs. James Nugent of Farmington and a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School, has been named to the dean's list at Hillsdale College during the second semester of the 1983-84 school year.

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