

Some Answers From The Past

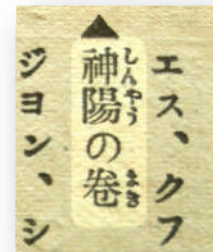
By Professor George Arrington

On a recent visit to the home of George Freedman, son of Emil “Curley” Freedman, one of Professor Okazaki’s early black belts, I was able to photograph an old copy of The Hawaii Bunen newspaper. The newspaper, shown at right, was written almost entirely in Japanese and was dated Wednesday, May 28, 1941. The main article in this edition was a report on the seventh anniversary graduation exercise of the Kodenkan Dōjō of Professor Okazaki.

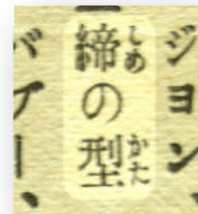


One section of the article details a series of public demonstrations that were performed by Professor Okazaki’s students. Three of these settle some previously disputed translations:

1. The highlighted section at right reads: “Shinyō No Maki” 神陽の巻 and is translated as “positive spirit scroll”. Most important about this section is that the character 神 is used for “Shin”. This character (also pronounced, “Kami”) means “god” or “spirit” and is the same character as in Shintō.



2. This selection reads, “Shime No Kata” 締の型. The interesting thing about this one is that it shows another character that is sometimes used for “Shime”. While the character 絞 is normally seen, but the character 締 means essentially the same thing and is sometimes used.



3. Some practitioners have never heard of this part of Danzan-Ryū. The highlighted section reads, “Mohan Shiai No Kata” 模範試合の型. This is loosely translated as “exhibition match form”.

