

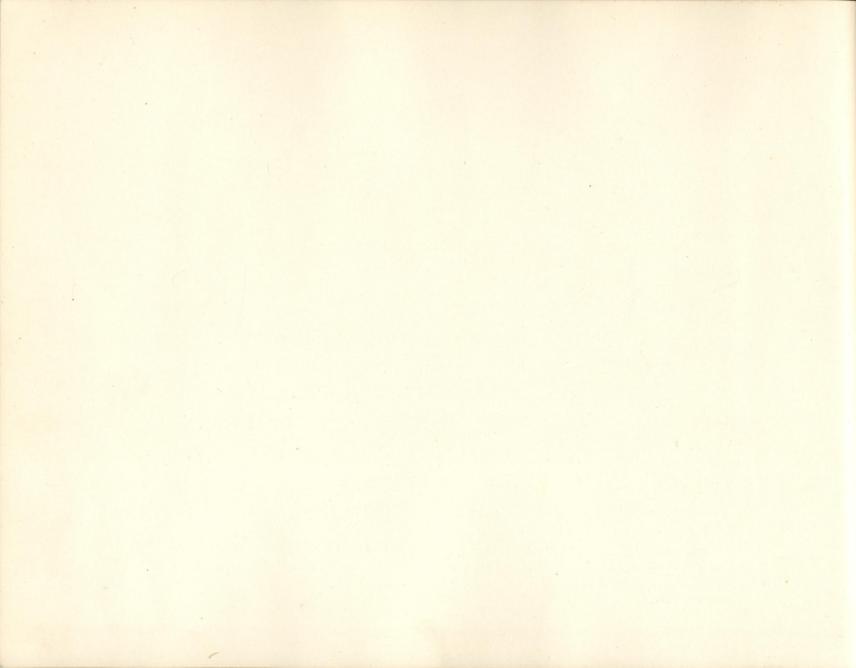
## Pastimes Cirls' Japan.

O Hina Sama:—Dolls to represent the Emperor and Empress. These are the chief dolls that occupy the place of honour in every collection shown at the time of the Girls' Festival. Those here portrayed are made of paper and have been treasured for hundreds of years.



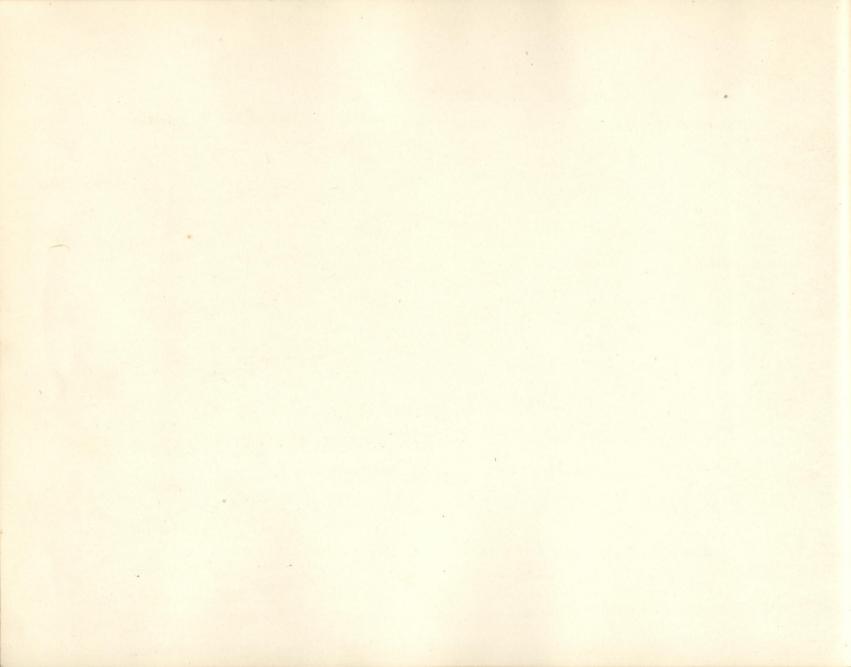


On the veranda, sits Umeko San (Miss Plum,) a young girl of good family. Her morning toilet is accompanied by happy thoughts. She looks out upon the bright sunshine with keen anticipation, for she is invited to spend the whole day at the house of Yoshiko San.



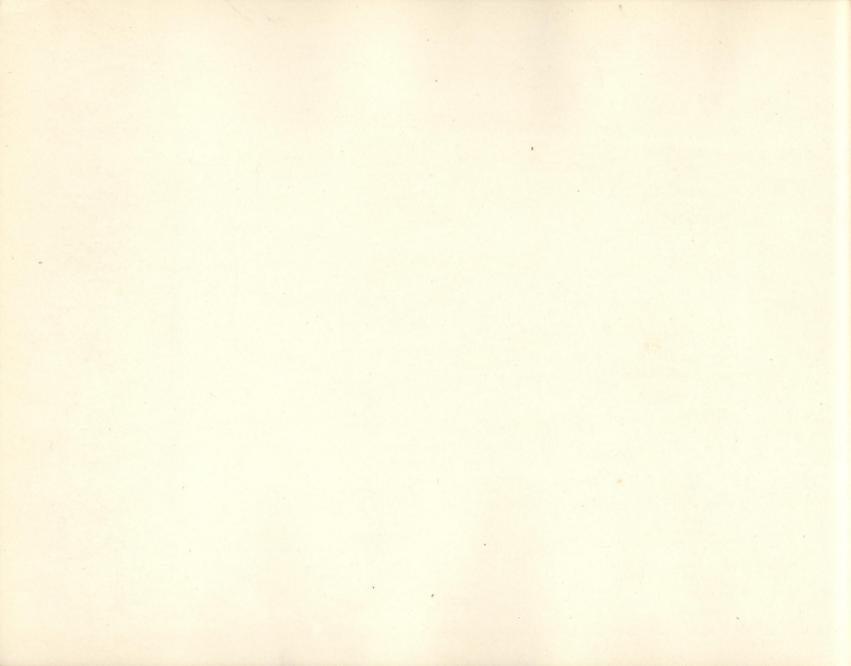


Haruko San (Miss Spring,) is dressing her sister's hair. They also are invited by Yoshiko San.





The children next door are donning their best attire. Patiently, little sister sits watching the arranging of the beautiful obi (sash,) over Chiyoko San's kimono.



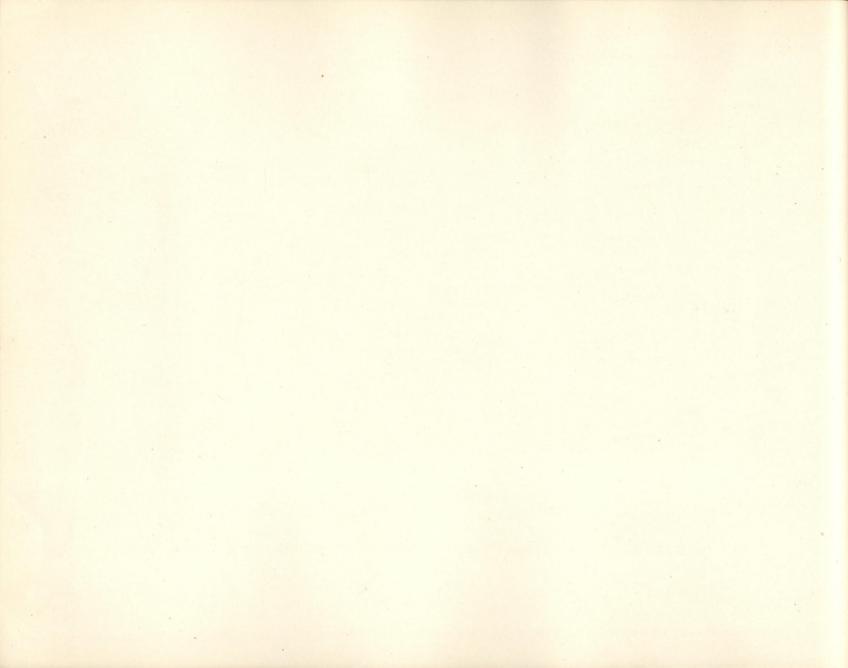


At the gate, Yoshiko San receives her friends.



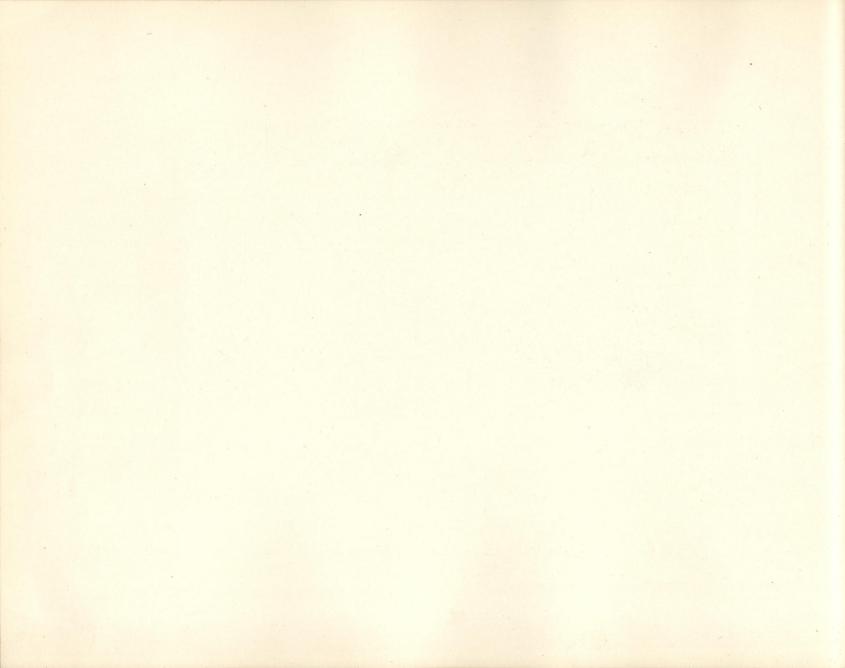


On arrival at the entrance to the house, the visitors are welcomed with profound bows by Yoshiko San's sisters.



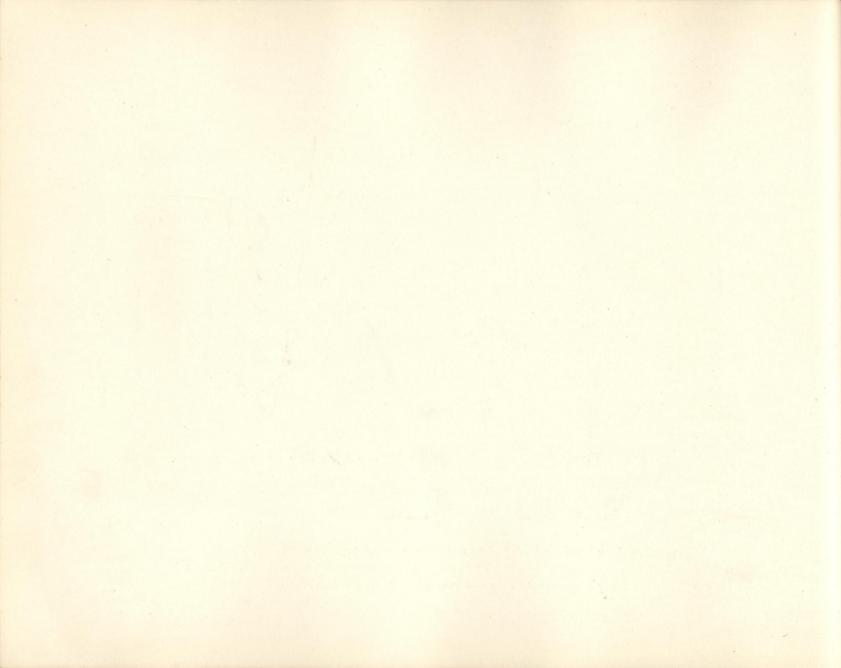


In the drawing-room, Yoshiko San and her sisters serve the guests with tea.



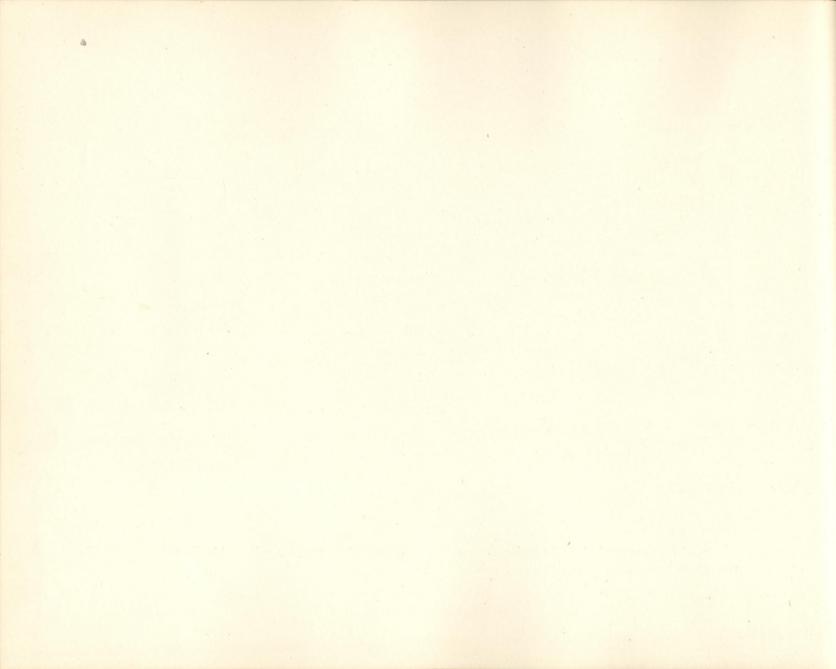


The attraction of the day is the display of dolls and their miniature house furnishings. Many of these articles are heirlooms of great value. Some are gifts received year by year on the day of the Girls' Festival. How delightful the dainty feast eaten from those tiny lacquer cups or porcelain dishes!





In a large room over-looking the garden, three of the visitors entertain the company with music. The trio of koto, samisen, and kokyu is much enjoyed.



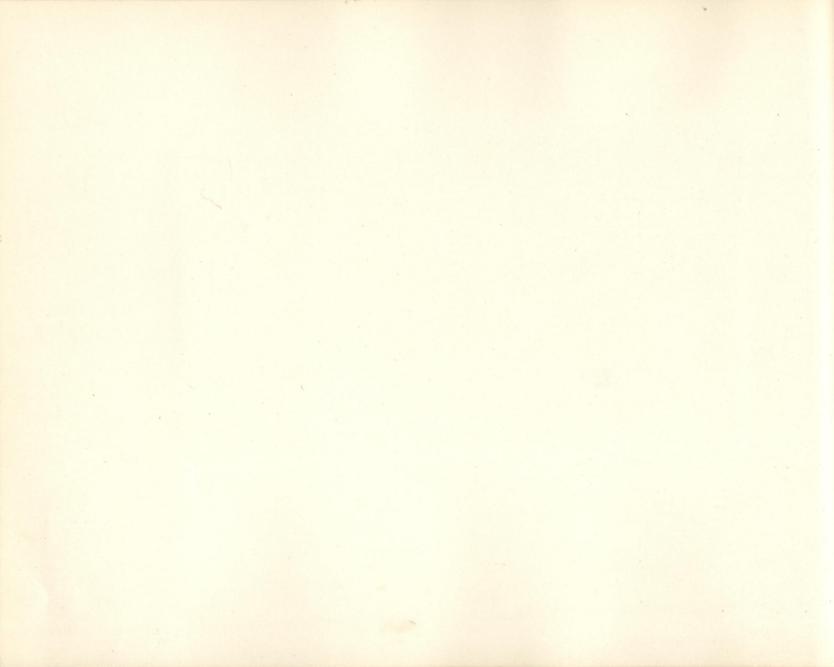


Dear little Okiku San (Miss Chrysanthemum,) the youngest, and pet of all, now gives her prettiest dance.



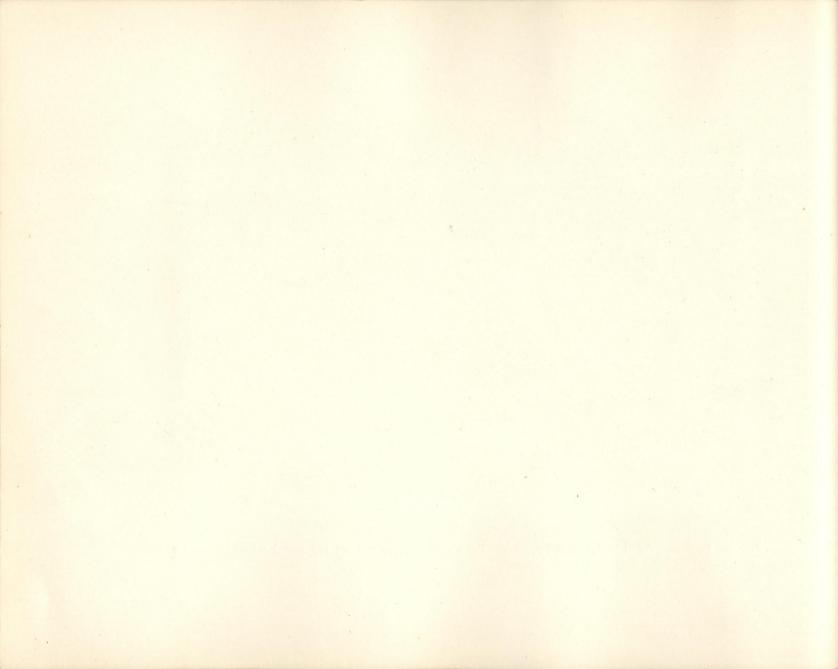


Games follow. The first is throwing a fan at the gay toy on top of the box.



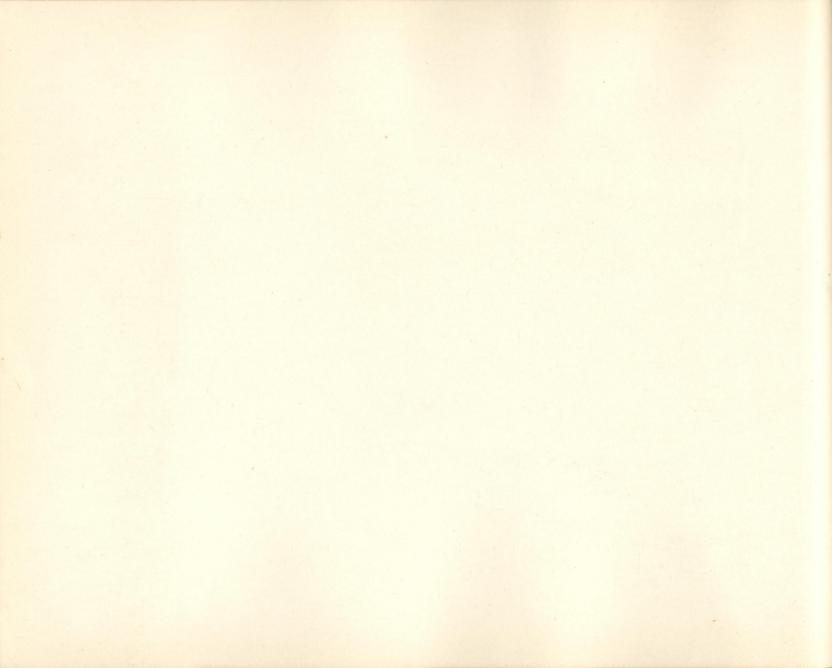


In groups, the girls play on the veranda. Bean-bags of many colours are tossed up and balls are bounced upon the floor.



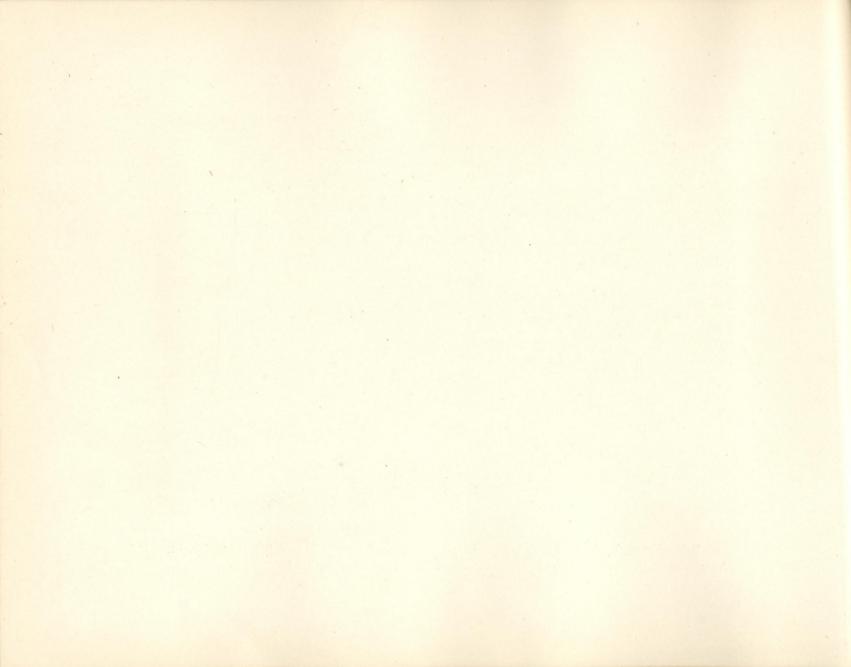


See how skillfully the girls send the bean-bags high up into the air. They will catch them before they touch the ground.





Before dinner, the girls wash their hands. Chiyoko San pours the water from a little bronze dipper. An unceasing supply of clear water flows into the stone laver. How refreshing it is!



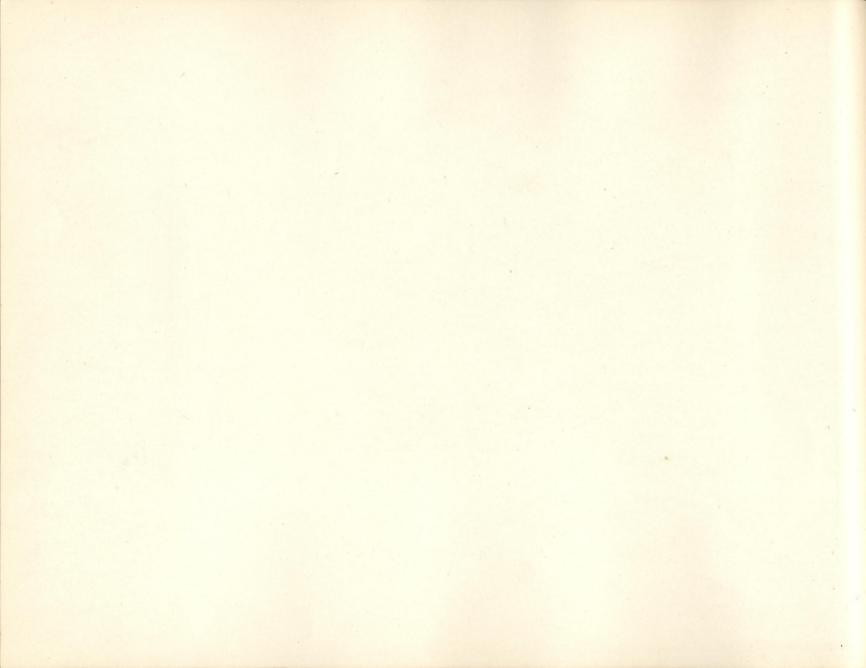


Dinner.



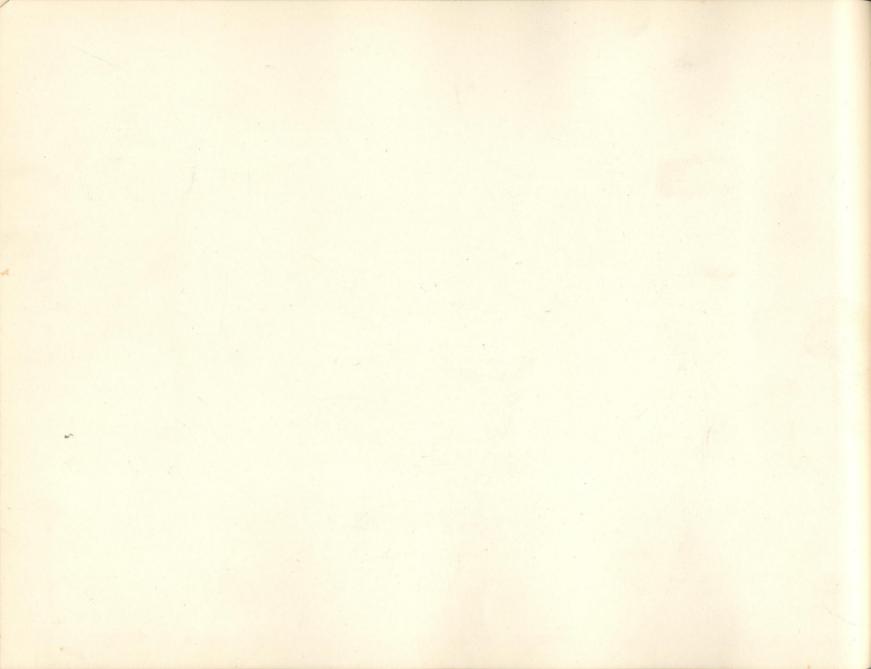


After dinner,—a walk in the garden.



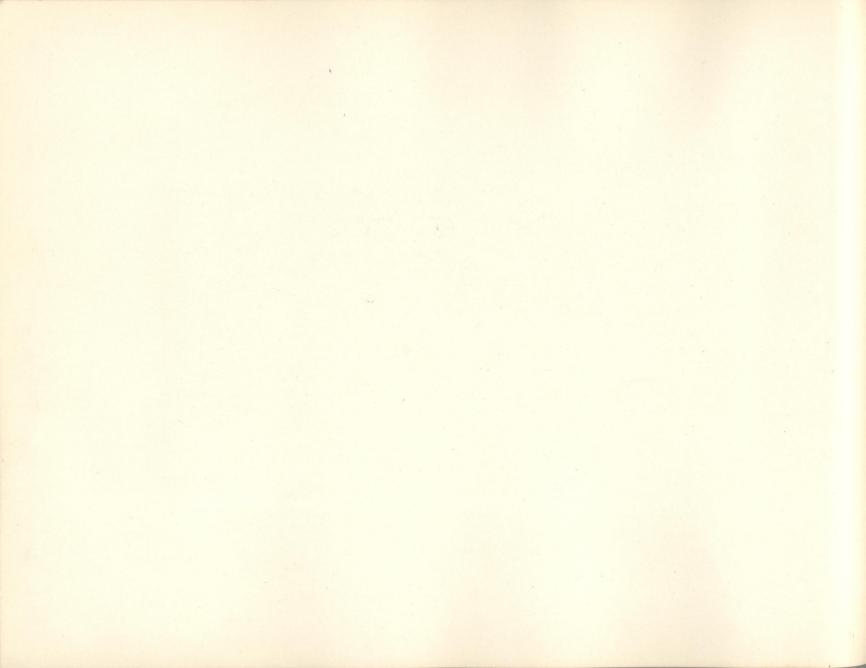


Battledoor and shuttlecock.





Blind man's buff.



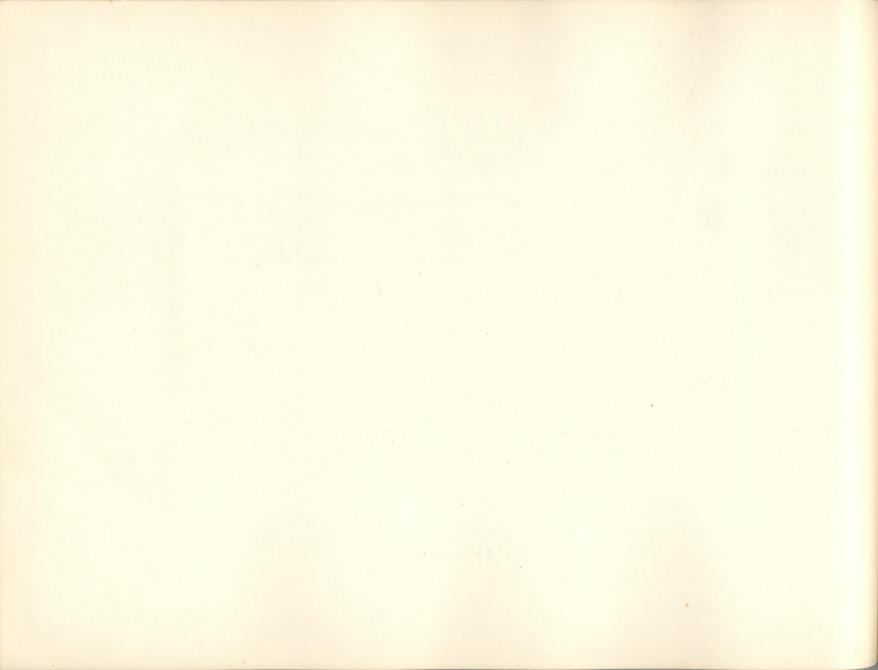


Swiftly round and round goes the water-wheel in the Yodo river. Like the water of a cascade we circle round.





A game of tag.



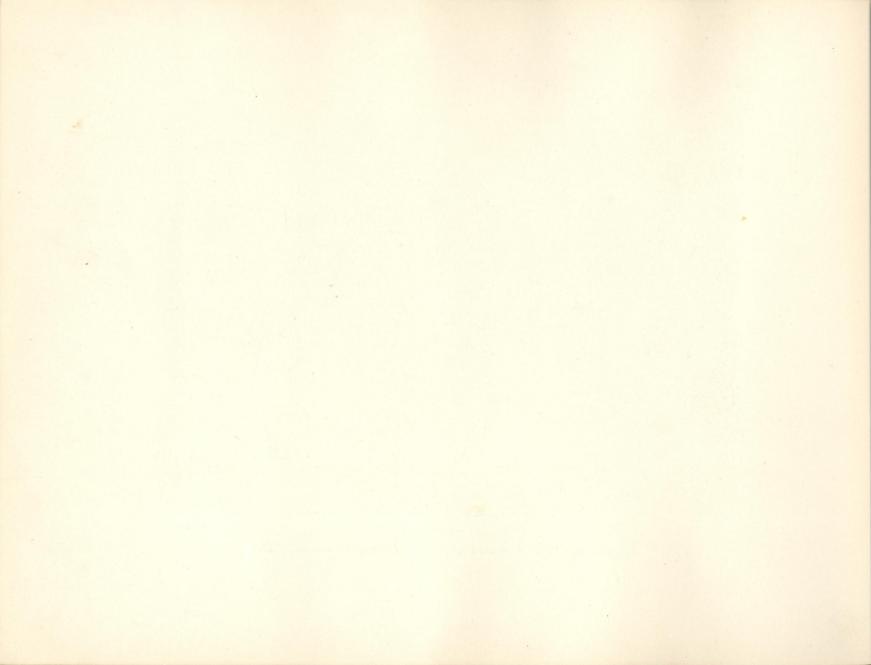


The last child is to be caught by the girl who is alone. It is not easy, because the smallest girl is protected by all the others in front of her.



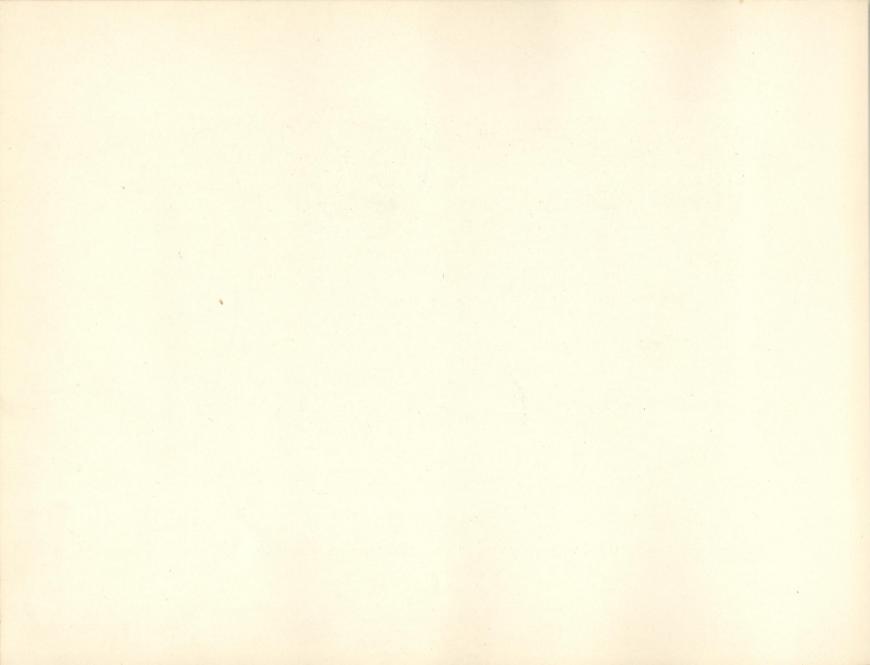


Skipping rope when one wears sandals on the feet requires care and skill.





It is such fun to play "house" and to do cooking on the veranda.



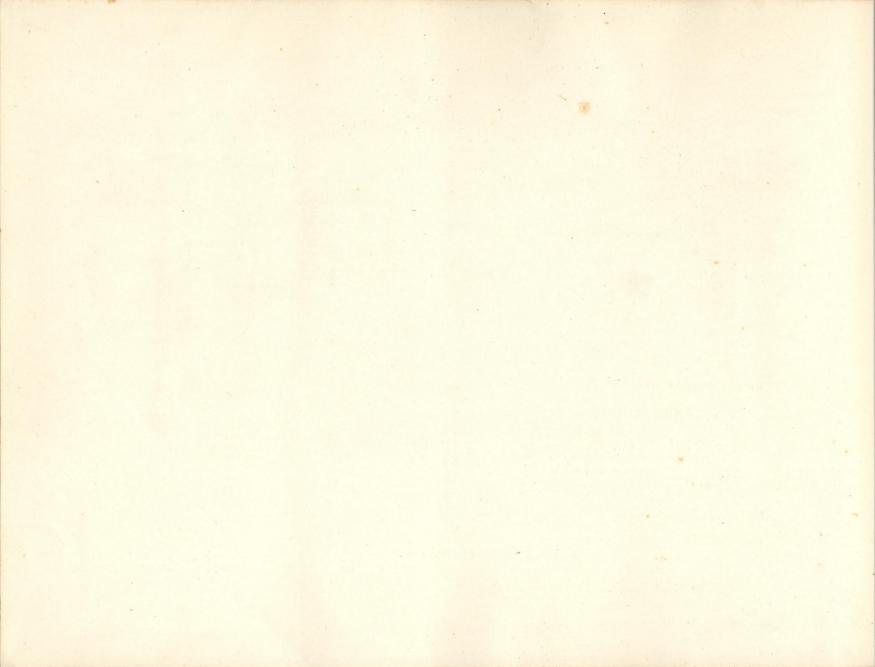


Afternoon tea in the garden.





The end of a happy day.



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