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Japan Economic Foundation
 Editorial Section

Japan SPOTLIGHT

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JAPAN SPOTLIGHT SALES AGENT: **Maruzen Co., Ltd.**

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SPOTLIGHT

Editor's postscript

We learn from our mistakes

Human resource development and innovation, the themes of this issue, are important challenges at present not only for Japan but for any other country in order to maintain competitiveness as a nation. As I consider how I can humbly contribute to them around me, I am inclined to believe that one idea is probably to "praise and nurture" people. When I come into contact with young people at a workplace or school, I always take a look at their positive aspects and pay tribute to them. They will then show a "can-do spirit" and aggressively take up the challenge of their work.

Humans certainly make mistakes. I refrain from criticizing young people when they fail in their work and give them high marks for courageously confronting a difficult task. I help them to take on a renewed challenge. I am of the view that creativity and ventures will not thrive in a society strictly against human errors. Furthermore, I believe it is important for us to direct those who make slip-ups to exert their own energies and think what made them fail. There is nothing shameful in being unsuccessful. Rather, I think it good if they learn it is more disgraceful to make the same mistake without tracking down the cause of the error or become depressed as a result of the mistake. Such "tacit education" has taken root over time in Silicon Valley, the cradle of venture businesses. **N.H.**

Answer a questionnaire & get a gift!

We need your suggestions to help make our magazine a better publication. Please fill out the questionnaire inserted in the current issue and send it back by fax (+81-3-5565-4828) or by e-mail (japanspotlight@jef.or.jp). For e-mail correspondence, either scan the paper and attach it or just write all question numbers and your answers. Both Japanese and English answers will be accepted.



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