

## **The Capricious Robot**

by Hoshi Shinichi

“This is the best robot I have ever made,” the doctor explained proudly.  
“It can do anything. There can be no better robot for humans than this.”

“Then please sell it to me,” the wealthy Mr. N. replied. “I’m thinking of going to my place on a remote island for a while and I want to use it there.”

“All right, since it’s you. I’ll sell it. It’s very useful,” said the doctor.

Mr. N. paid a large amount of money for it and set off for his island place. He thought that for a whole month there wouldn’t be another boat going there.

“Now I’ll be able to take it easy and rest. I won’t have to read letters or business papers or answer any phone calls. Well, I think I’ll have a smoke.”

At these words the robot immediately produced a cigarette, and lit it.

“What a splended piece of machinery! By the way, I’m feeling hungry.”

“Very good, sir,” answered the robot, and immediately preprared a meal and served it.

Mr. N. ate the food.

“This is fine. I have to admit I’ve got a splendid robot.” *(190 words)*