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were some, like Eire, that became perfectly independent countries separated from the Commonwealth, while others, such as India and Pakistan remained in the Commonwealth as newly established republics. Accordingly, the Commonwealth changed its characteristics, and Queen Elizabeth II, at the time of her coronation in 1953, obtained respective titles concerning the countries that were members of the Commonwealth. However, the word "Commonwealth" was applied in common to her titles of Queen of respective countries. Thus the Commonwealth was formally recognized and completed. As compared with the case of the union of republics under the Soviets, in the British Commonwealth each country, though a member of a loose federation, maintains its complete independence. This federal character is something peculiar to the Anglo-Saxons.

The writer has attempted to explain the foregoing points in his article classifying the contents as below :

1. What is the Commonwealth?
2. Transformation from the British Empire to the Commonwealth.
3. Development in Britain of the Titles of King or Queen.
4. Origin of the term Commonwealth.
5. Development of Commonwealth including Empire.
6. Dominions in the making.
7. Relations of the Imperial Conferences and the Commonwealth.

## The Ordinances of 1311

—A Study in Administration  
in the Reign of Edward II—

Keiichiro MORIOKA

The Reign of Edward II has attracted a great deal of attention from the administrative and the constitutional standpoints. Many aspects of this reign have received

consideration by eminent scholars. But unfortunately although many scholars have presented their conclusive views on this reign, it can hardly be said that they have come to any substantial agreement, even in their interpretations of the place of this reign in the whole course of English constitutional and administrative history. Especially on the reform movement of the Lords Ordainers of 1311, four principal investigators have adopted views that cannot be thought to be compatible with each other.

The safest way of approaching this problem is, the writer thinks, to examine closely as much of its sources as possible. After careful examination of these sources, he describes how the Lords Ordainers were led to impose the Ordinances of 1311 upon Edward II and tried to analyse the contents of these Ordinances.

His conclusion is that the Lords Ordainers did not attempt to establish a kind of "Ministerial" System of government in place of so-called "Household" System, but they intended only to expel the self-seeking advisers from the royal government. Therefore, this baronial reform movement was the same as those of the thirteenth century in its aims.

## Leibniz and the Problem of "Historicism"

OSAMU YONEDA

In this article, I studied Leibniz from the point of view of "Historicism". An attempt to consider Leibniz in relation to "Historicism" is seen in Meinecke's, where "Historicism" is regarded as a sort of dynamic "*Denkweise*". I insisted, in contrast to Cartesian school, the dynamic "*Denkweise*" in Leibniz's thought as Meinecke had once done. According to my interpretation, Leibniz's thought is of a dynamic "*Denkweise*" in its basic character, while that of Descartes belongs primarily to a static "*Denkweise*".