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る中小企業問題の否定的評価などであるが、このよう
 な傾向に対しても、今後積極的に対応していく必要があ
 る。第四に、全体を通して本書は、問題に対する視
 点が明瞭であるのに反して、分析方法に明確さを欠き、
 実証性が不十分である。それは、もちろん、中小企業問
 題そのものに根ざした困難な課題であるが、今後もつ
 と取り組んでほしい点である。(新評論, 1972年刊, 四六、
 351頁, 900円)

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Changing Problems of the Structure of Workers' Life in the Last 100 Years

by Masayoshi Chūbachi

The Japanese personal consumption expenditure in 1880 would be 100 yen (20 yen in current prices), if calculated on the bases of 1934-36 average. This level of expenditure was kept fairly constant up to the time of the outbreak of Chino-Japanese War; it increased to 130 yen after the war and it was kept there up to the time of World War I; it increased to 180 yen the year just before the occurrence of the Kanto Great Earthquake (1923); this level was constant up to the time of great depression. It went down once rather low, but it increased as high as 200 yen level, during the time of World War II, it continued decreasing, and went down to the 100 yen, the same level as of 1880.

About 1880, the majority of the Japanese people were occupied in farming by the families, which consisted of their direct members. These direct members were also engaged in industries and commerce in town. The supply conditions of wage workers for modern industries varied according to different districts. The rough estimate of the living standard of the family of 5 was 9 yen in terms of the current prices then, 50 percent of which was spent for staple food and over the 70 percent, if added with that for subsidiary food and fuel. These people, therefore, should cut down these expenditure for the above, if they had to spend their income for the things other than those just mentioned, in other words, they had to depend on the scraps of food in slums.

The living standard of the Japanese family of 4 went up to 14 or 15 yen, and to 18 yen in case of the family of 5 in the beginning of the 20th century, with the very little change in the percentage of the each items of expenditure per family.

Coming into the decade from 1910 to 1920, where male adult workers became to settle down in big industries in town, and the family living expenditure was 25 yen for the family of 4, the 40% of which was spent for staple food, 50 percent for all the foods inclusive, 15 or 20 percent for house rent and 30% for clothing and miscellaneous spending.

Comparing the period from 1910 to 20 to the beginning of the 20th century, the real standard of expenditure went up as high as 47 percent, but the actual amount per person for food was not at all improved as the percentage for food decreased as low as 50 percent. This means that the living standard of factory workers was raised above that of the slums, as they had to maintain the life style of town dwellers at the expense of the expenditure for food.

With the end of World War I, the wages for skilled workers fairly improved. Their living

注(4) 今井他『現代経済学2 価格理論II』70頁(岩波書店, 1971年)。

expenditure for the family of 4 was 70 yen and for that of 5 was 80 yen. The level of real expenditure increased by nearly 20% in a few years after the War. Looking over its contents, we find that the increase in income was spent for the improvement of eating habits, mitigating the restriction on them mentioned before. This trend of increasing expenditure is in agreement with the improvement in the per capita real personal consumption.

This fact, however, means that the living conditions of slum dwellers or the workers of smaller enterprises were left behind the general trend of the improving per capita personal consumption.

Also, it should be noted here that the town workers who were born in city slums or in country get employed in big town factories, are married and raise family, living as nuclear family in the prime of their lives. But after about 40, they quit working at big factories, establishing themselves as small independent enterprisers.

After World War II, their consumption level went down to that of 1880's. In ten years, however, this low level restored its 1920's standard, and at the same time the system to guarantee the living of their productive period was also reorganized.

Coming into the 1960's, there increased the number of people who will work in town throughout all of their lives. Masakichi Ando succeeded in 1935 in calculating the living cost of the town dwellers of the sort, setting the amount to be 144 yen per family of 5.

In this connection, we should know that the real consumption level was beyond this Ando's calculation in 1960's, and that in 25 years after the end of World War II, it soared as high as the 6 times of the 1945's. In spite of such a salutary condition of things, the system to guarantee the living of workers remained as the 1920's level. Here we are confronted with the same problem as before World War I.

The Land Tax Reform and Change in Village Structure

by Ryuzo Takayama

This paper is devoted to the examination of change in village structure in the course of the land tax reform. Under the Tokugawa regime the land tax was paid nearly everywhere in kind. And nowhere did the lord undertake to levy taxes on individual peasants. Villages allocated and collected their own taxes, and made up any deficit that might occur in the payment of individual peasants. The magistrate normally did little more than help assess villages for taxes and receive their payments.

The Meiji government made substantial change in the land tax in July 1873. The old payment in kind was abolished and a money payment established instead. The assessed valuation of taxable land was substituted as the base of taxation for crop yield. The rate of taxation under new system was fixed at 3 percent. The land tax accounted for 78 percent of ordinary revenues from 1868 to 1881. However, it did not represent an increase over the Tokugawa period.

Under the new land tax system the Meiji government laid tax directly on private land owners. Village function as an unit of tax paying was disrupted by this system, and that is one of the great consequence of the land tax reform.

The Effects of the Homestead Act

by Yasuo Okada

The Homestead Act is one of the most important laws in American history, but its evaluation is still fluctuating. The purpose of this paper is to consider the democratizing and developmental effects of the Homestead Act in order to understand the significance of the act. The opinion of public land historians with respect to the performance of the Homestead Act has been largely negative. Textbook writers have shown that the law was a distressing disappointment and pioneer settlers benefited from it only slightly. It is true that the Homestead Act had many weaknesses in both form and administration, and it was grafted upon the land system to which it was incongruous. But, many of the critics seem to have been unduly severe, at least as the law operated in the area east of the hundredth meridian down to about 1880. This paper presents an example where the Homestead Act had beneficial effects in both democratizing and developmental issues.