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Regional Income Accounting of Mitajiri Saiban in Mid-Nineteenth Century Chōshū, Part II

by Shunsaku Nishikawa
and Shōko Ishibe

Various non-agricultural activities in Mitajiri were salt production, cotton weaving, artisans, sea and surface transportation, commerce, and numerous services. Non-agricultural income received by the inhabitant reached at the approximately same value of agricultural income. Similar share has been estimated in T. C. Smith's study of Kaminoseki saiban, also based on *Bōchō Fudo Chūshin-an* (JEH, 1969).

More significant finding common in both studies is the fact that those non-agricultural activities were to a large extent undertaken by those members of farm family, namely by by-employment of farmers and their families. The division of labor had certainly proceeded on and some activities such as commerce except *petit* trade, artisans such as carpenters, blacksmith and thacher, and salt production were done by the skilled and/or specialist workers. However semiskilled and unskilled salt workers and transportation workers were mainly those by-employees. Cotton weaving was also a night side-work of wives and daughters of farmers. We estimate about 30% of farm family income (after tax) was thus earned through those non-agricultural by-employment, and observe elsewhere that the prevailing unskilled non-agricultural wage was very closely equal the estimated marginal productivity in agriculture. (See Akimoto and Nishikawa, 1975, in Japanese)

Table 18, 20, and 22 in the text are our alternative estimates of regional income and expenditure of Mitajiri saiban. The first is the one obtained without any adjustment (except the one supplementing an apparent lacuna in non-food consumption in one of two *machi*. See the figures in the parentheses.) In the second, which reproduced on next page for ease of reference, an adjustment is made as to home production and/or consumption on several items. The residual is still incredibly large in the Table. A further adjustment is tried in the third, where stipend of *samurai* (warriors) and net revenue of worship services by *sō-shajin* (Buddist and Shinto priests), and their consumption are added to the both side of the account. (Half of *samurai* income is guessed, without any more factual ground, to be transferred from *han*-government revenue, namely taxes.)

There remains a lot of residual. We conjecture that substantial portion of it was spent on either maintaining or building houses. Nevertheless, even if a half is presumably spent on net investment and re-investment for residence, the other half, about 10% of regional product is able to invest any other ("productive") purposes. Suppose that capital-output ratio is 5 at the

Table: Estimated Regional Income Account (2)

(*kwan in han-satsu*)

A. Income	10,281	C. Personal Consumption	5,719
Net Agr. Product	5,318	Food Expenditure	3,339
Non-Agr. Income	4,963	Non-Food Exp.	2,380
		T. Taxes	2,519
		S. Residual	2,043
B. Gross Regional Product (=A+D)	10,419	D. Depreciation Allowances	138
G. Gross Domestic Product (=B+E)	11,330	E. Factor Payment Outside the Region	911

dawn of modern industrial development, a potential rate of growth in the region is to be calculated 2% per annum. No data are available concerning import from and export for both other *saiban* and other fiefs, except coal import for salt production which is however excluded throughout the tables.

It should be reminded that since Mitajiri (and also Kaminoseki) was the most urbanized and developed district among others, per capita income was undoubtedly higher and accordingly in all probability some saving were possible. However in some agricultural and less developed districts (for example, Mine and Tōshima) a preliminary observation tells that no saving was possible.

The Industrial Relations of Japanese

Iron and Steel Industry in 1930's:

—The Labour Management in Yawata Steel Works and the "Rationalization"—

by Shigeki Aoyama

Japanese economy which was hard hit by the world economic crisis in 1929, became prosperous soon and expanded rapidly after 1931. Also, Japanese iron and steel industry grew up rapidly. However, it faced some serious contradictions. The Government and the Military Authorities demanded the increase of the iron and steel production to Japanese iron and steel industry, in particular, Yawata Steel Works, because of the preparations of the coming war. But, then the rate of growth of the iron and steel production in Yawata Steel Works was going to decline, and the industrial relations faced the difficulties, e.g. the intensification of the contradictions in the casual labour system, the increase of the ratio of the unexperienced or unskilled workers, and the rise of the industrial dispute.

Therefore, Yawata Steel Works carried out the "rationalization" of the labour management through the adoption of the line and staff organization and the practice of the time and motion study etc.. But it cannot succeeded enough in the "rationalization", for there were many unfavorable conditions in the world war II, e. g. the insufficient mechanization, the delay of the time and motion study, the remarkable decrease of the skilled workers.

An economist argues that Yawata Steel Works carried out the "rationalization" of the management only owing to the mechanization, experientially spontaneously, and unintentionally. But it is not true, because the "rationalization" was carried out quite intentionally after the planning rather owing to the intensification of the contradictions in the industrial relations than owing to the mechanization.