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Integration and Participation

by Yoshimatsu Aonuma

Workers say that the job given them is so simple that not at all interesting. Some of them quit because they feel no commitment to it. Simply stated, they have an extreme dislike of being a mere tool in someone else's schemes. Reflecting management's awareness of this problem, one business leader remarked that it is the responsibility of the corporation to give them a meaningful existence in the workshop. If the urgent need is not met, the corporation will be unable to maintain sufficient members in its work force.

Workers to-day are no longer satisfied merely to earn wages. They are increasingly eager to realize their full potentiality as human beings. They want a sense of participation in feeling that they are doing worthwhile work. It is their insistence that management should listen the opinions of workers before making decisions. They feel dissatisfied with decisions in which they did not participate. Of course, there is a strong likelihood that the participation of inexperienced people in management decisions might lead to calamitous results. Viewed in short term, therefore, it may not be a good thing. But in the long run, the experience they gain will prove highly beneficial.

The participation in decisions is not an option of management. It is a requisite. An able and privileged elite organized once a mass of people for industrialization. But times have completely changed. The feudal maxim that "One should not know, one should follow" relates to a different world. Worker's participation in management will contribute to the integration of individual and organization.

A Critical Note on Foreign Investment and the Long-run National Advantage

by Michihiro Oyama

The purpose of the present paper is to reexamine some "paradoxical" propositions on optimal foreign investment derived and discussde by Negishi (1965) and long (1973) in the context of

steadily growing international economies. It demonstrates the following rather critical conclusions: first, the paradoxical appearance of Negishi-Long propositions stems essentially from the requirement of growth equilibria rather than from that of optimality; second, one of the paradoxes, attributable to Long (but not to Negishi), is at best a characterization of local optimum and therefore completely misleading as a policy recommendation; and thirdly, appropriate change of standard of references dissolves Negishi-Long paradoxes to shed light on a neglected true paradox of the model.

References

- Long, N.V. (1973), "On a Paradox in the theory of International capital Movements," *Economic Record*, Vol. 49 (September), 440-446.
- Negishi, T. (1965), "Foreign Investment and the Long-run National Advantage," *Economic Record*, Vol. 41 (December), 628-632.

Consumption Function in the Mid-nineteenth Century Suo Oshima

by Hiroya Akimoto

Although an accurate analysis requires knowledge of the pre-industrial society, only recently have quantitative study made significant contribution to our understanding of Japanese economic history.

This paper is one in a series of research reports in the Pre-industrial society on consumption function. This will clarify the farm family consumption behavior in Tokugawa period. As is widely known, the government of Choshu han kept many records on the population, taxes and other very detailed information about economic conditions toward the end of Tokugawa period in the han. These records included the Chushinan (1842) which the following discussion uses. Using the cross-section-data from Chushinan as a basis, attention will be focussed mainly on income elasticity for rice, cereals, bean paste, sake, soy, tobacco, tea, light and heat, clothing, housing, utensils and other miscellaneous expenses.