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The Study of Political Economy and Social Policy Association in the Pre-War Period of Japan (2)

—On the Theory of Social Policy of Kumazo Kuwata—

by Kanae Iida

Noburu Kanai who played a brilliant part in the foundation of the Social Policy Association of Japan and its activity got very high reputation as a pioneer of the study of labour problem and promoter of social policy, mainly as a planner and an introducer of the factory laws. Kumazo Kuwata, the co-operator of Kanai who did contribute for the development of this association having been unduly neglected or even ignored is very tragic for having been regarded as a by-player of Kanai. In this essay the writer tries to follow the works of Kuwata and reappraise his performance. Kumazo Kuwata was born in Tottori in 1868, and graduated from faculty of jurisprudence, Tokyo University in 1893. In 1896 he went abroad and staying in England, Germany and France for about three years, came home in 1898. Soon after returning from Europe, he participated in establishing the Social Policy Association. On behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Trade, he was engaged in researching work of factories and workshops as preparing the factory acts. In 1904 he got Ph. D degree by accomplishing the essay, entitled "Silk Industry and Social Problem".

In 1916, he observed the social and political condition of Imperial Russia which had been confronted with the revolutionary crisis, and thereafter published "The Trend of European Labour Problem", and "The Labour Problem Europe in the Recent Times". He who was neither so-called professional politician nor genuine academician endeavoured to apply the theory of economics to practical world throughout his life.

When we reflect about Kuwata's system of social policy, we find the following two stages. The first period is from the foundation of the Social Policy Association to the end of the First World War in which his theory on social policy had very swiftly grown mature. The second half is the end of the Great War to the last stage of his life. On the one hand, he distinguished himself as the prominent anti-socialist after the World War, on the other hand he co-operated with the left wing of the Social Policy Association that is, Iwasaburo Takano, Tokuzo Fukuda and

Kiichi Horie at the time. In this essay the writer tries to trace the development process of social policy from 1900 to the end of the First World War.

The contents as follows.

- (1) Introduction.
 - (2) Kumazo Kuwata and his Recognition of Social Policy Thought.
 - (3) "The Conditions of Working and Artisan Classes in Japan", by Ministry of Agriculture and Trade and its Background.
 - (4) The Evolvment of Kuwata's Social Policy Thought.
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The Policies of the Occupation in Japan

—An Introduction to a Thesis on Postwar Capitalism in Japan—

by Kiyoko Imura

Contents:

Introduction

Section 1 Characteristics of the Administrative Methods used by the Occupation.

Section 2 The Initial Policies of the Occupation.

Section 3 "Change" in Occupation Policies.

Japan was occupied by the Allied Occupation forces—in effect, the U. S. Occupation forces—for 6 years and 8 months from August 30, 1945 to April 28, 1952, an unusually long period for an occupation following an unconditional surrender.

During the Occupation, Japan recovered rapidly from the destruction and disorder that resulted from defeat, completely restoring her capitalistic system and laying down firm foundations for her future development. The role played by the Occupation was extremely important because it built the framework for Japan's capitalistic restoration and development.

This essay intends to clarify the way in which the Occupation provided both the fundamental impetus and the framework for the subsequent development of capitalism in postwar Japan at the very beginning of her postwar recovery.

In so doing, it aims to provide an introduction to a further analysis of how capitalism has

developed in Japan since the war. It covers the period from the beginning of the Occupation to the end of 1949 when the Dodge Line was put into effect.

Subsequent essays will provide an analysis of the development of postwar capitalism in Japan from the Korean Conflict onwards.

Hilferding on Money and Credit

by Hiroyasu Iida

There are two view points in the system of the credit theory of Rudolf Hilferding's "Das Finanzkapital" (1910); credit relation as the economy of money (cash) and as the economy and allocation system of capital. We have already considered the monetary phase of his system. In this paper we shall treat the latter point mainly from the standpoint of the formation of fictitious capital and its movement.

In his main work, he distinguishes between *Zahlungskredit* and *Kapitalkredit*. In the latter credit form we can find out not only the core of his theory, but also a reflexion of german credit system—*Kontokorrentkredit*—to his theoretical system. In short, we must understand his *Kapitalkredit* theory as the theory of the movement of interest bearing capital on the money market, inclusive capital market.

The Functions and the Persistence Factors of the Little Firms in the Engineering Industry

by Yukio Watanabe

This paper is an analysis of little firms in the engineering industry in Jōnan, one of the typical

industrial areas in Tokyo. Between 1960 and the mid-1970s these firms grew in ways that appeared striking to both entrepreneurs and researchers. In this paper special attention is paid to a group of self-employed subcontractors in the area, with whom I often interviewed. Information obtained from these interviews helped analyse questions as to how these firms functioned and why they were persistent in recent years.

What I have clarified is; first, these self-employed subcontractors acted themselves, in practice, as skilled workers and, second, being connected each other through 'Nakama-Torihiki' (inter-trading among them), they formed a group. Third, by subcontracting some parts of production processes to the group, large and middle firms were able to secure both the flexibility of their managements and lower costs. Finally, the self-employed subcontractors in Jōnan could earn higher incomes than those in rural areas.

On the Contradiction between Production and Consumption

— Analysis using Marx's Schema of Reproduction —

by Yoshio Mizutani

Introduction Basic Viewpoint

Section 1 The Contradiction and the Schema of Reproduction

— Basic Categories —

Section 2 Analysis of the Contradiction (1)

— "Unbalanced Expansion" between Department I and Department II when the organic composition of Capital is constant —

Section 3 Analysis of the Contradiction (2)

— "Unbalanced Expansion" between Department I and Department II when the organic composition of Capital is rising —

The capitalistic enlargement of reproduction brings about two strongly opposing tendencies—the tendency towards absolute and unlimited enlargement of production and the tendency towards narrowly limiting consumption by the proletariat. These tendencies, from which the Contradiction between Production and Consumption springs, provide the "ultimate cause" of crisis. Therefore

in order to study the process of the industrial cycle, it is essential to analyze how the capitalistic enlargement of reproduction aggravates the Contradiction. The diagrammatical analysis of reproduction, which K. Marx first presented in *Das Kapital*, is still the basic tool for this.

This essay intends to review some arguments concerning the diagrammatical analysis of the Contradiction. It also aims to clarify that, of the two kinds of "unbalanced expansion" found, "the unbalanced expansion" which occurs when the organic composition of Capital is constant represents the basic structure which aggravates the "Contradiction".