

THE INDUSTRY AND TRADE OF JAPAN

S. UYEHARA

P. S. King & Son, Ltd.,
Publishers.

Established in 1849
PARLIAMENT STREET.

Orchard House,
Westminster, S.W.1.

January 13th. 1927.

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**.THE INDUSTRY AND
TRADE OF JAPAN**

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BY
S. UYEHARA, M.Sc.

LONDON
P. S. KING & SON, LTD.
ORCHARD HOUSE, 14 GREAT SMITH STREET
WESTMINSTER
1926

X:54·42·N26

FG

5216

Printed in Great Britain at
The Mayflower Press, Plymouth. William Brendon & Son, Ltd.

PREFACE

THERE are many books on Japan. For a long time, however, the world knew her only as the land of artists and of the quaint people portrayed in stories such as "Madame Chrysantheme." It was not until recent years that Japan became recognizable to the outside world in political and economic affairs. Many books relating to these affairs have been published in English and read with keen interest. Nevertheless, there is a lack of authoritative information regarding the economic development of present-day Japan, who is so much over-estimated by some and under-estimated by others owing to the lack of proper information.

Japan's future lies along commercial and industrial lines. The purposes of Japan are peaceful, and look to the development of markets and the employment of her ever-increasing population.

The object of this thesis is to provide an authoritative account of the industry and trade of Japan for the past half century, during which period Japan has achieved remarkable progress. I have tried especially to lay stress on the industrialization of Japan and also to emphasize the present industrial stagnation.

The difficulty of collecting material for the work was not small. Fortunately the official year books of the Departments of Finance and Commerce of the Japanese Government, which are kept in the library of the Imperial Japanese Consulate-General, London, and the *Oriental Economist*, one of the best economic journals in Japan, rendered me great service in compiling the thesis. All statistics, other than those which are otherwise referred to, are taken from the Teikoku Tokei Nenkan (Imperial Year Book of Statistics).

It must be added that a great part of the section on "Representative Industries" was suggested by various articles in the *Oriental Economist*.

At best the thesis must be considered as a rough one, to be improved and enlarged later not only on the subjects which are principally dealt with, but also on such topics as labour and agricultural conditions of Japan. Nobody can be more aware of omissions and faults than myself. But as it stands, I venture to claim that this thesis provides an account of Japan's industrial and trade development during the last fifty-seven years which is not otherwise readily obtainable.

S. UYEHARA

20, BASSETT ROAD,
NORTH KENSINGTON, LONDON, W. 10.
July 5, 1925.

INTRODUCTION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY BARON HAYASHI,
JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES

IN his preface the author has set forth the motive which actuated him in preparing for the benefit of British readers this exhaustive account of the development of Japanese industry and trade since the Restoration of 1868. But he has modestly omitted to mention a further object which he might have claimed with good reason to have accomplished. He has said nothing of the good work he has performed in endeavouring to increase the mutual understanding and goodwill which has so long existed between the island nations of the East and the West. For to my mind this purpose is admirably served by the provision of information such as the author has here collected. To know a friend's difficulties and struggles is to appreciate his achievements or to commiserate his failures. It is for this reason that I particularly commend Mr. Uyebara's record of my country's economic development to the sympathetic perusal of the British public.

HAYASHI

LONDON,
July 22, 1925.

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BOOKS TO READ

Chinese Coolie Emigration to Countries within the British Empire. By PERSIA CRAWFORD CAMPBELL, M.A. (Sydney), M.Sc. (London), British Fellow Bryn Mawr College, U.S.A., 1922-23. With a Preface by Hon. W. PEMBER REEVES, Ph.D. Demy 8vo. 240 pp. 10s. 6d.

"Miss Campbell's book, though an exposure—incidentally a terrible exposure—is not an attack. It is a statement of a mass of facts. . . . The arguments for various forms of the coolie traffic are fairly quoted and set out. . . . the chief merit of the book, apart from the evident industry displayed, is the resolute persistence of the authoress in getting to the bed-rock of fact."

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BOOKS TO READ

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CONTENTS: The Forerunners of Co-operative Societies in Japan—The Mujin—The Hofokusha: A Japanese Co-operative Credit Society—The Modern Co-operative Movement in Japan—Credit Societies: Marketing Societies—Purchasing Societies—Machinery Societies—Associations of Consumers—Review of Co-operative Progress in Japan with Special Reference to the Forms of Co-operation Absent in Japan—Appendix—Bibliography.

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State regulation of wages through Wages Boards and Arbitration Courts has become an important feature of industrial organisation in many parts of the world. It is the purpose of this book to make available the experience which has been gained in wage regulation in Europe, Australasia, the United States and Canada.

Some Problems of Wages and their Regulation in Great Britain since 1918. By **ALLAN G. B. FISHER**, Ph.D., of the University of Otago, New Zealand. Demy 8vo. 300 pp. 12s. 6d.

This study aims at an historical presentation of some of the more important wage problems that have arisen since the War, with special reference to their interactions with the opinions of the several parties to wage negotiations, and to the principles which have been applied in each case.

Cotton Growing Countries Present and Potential. Edited by **JOHN H. HUBBACK**, Technical Adviser to the Statistical Bureau of the International Institute of Agriculture, Rome. Royal 8vo. 317 pp. 12s. 6d.

It is sought in this volume to deal with every one of the 79 countries included by means of separate chapters, embodying under each heading the special circumstances influencing the cotton crop in that particular country, while recording a series of details common to many of them. The basis of the work is statistical, therefore the data of areas under cotton and of annual production lead the way. These are furnished, where available, for the past twelve seasons, with averaged figures for the five pre-war years from 1909 to 1918.

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