

The result of these visits is a handbook containing more than 150 tables of statistics as well as chapters dealing with the geography, agriculture and industry of the country. It is similar in format to the author's study of Saudi Arabia, and is abundantly illustrated.

The chapter on agriculture covers nearly all crops and techniques; not surprisingly, certain items, such as cooperatives and higher agricultural training, are only fleetingly treated. Analysis in some subsections tends to be brief, as well. Criticism of the government's land reform policy is muted: presumably the author found it difficult to criticise a government which advocates socialism in its Pancasila principles for not running state plantations along more capitalist lines, especially when the memory of colonialism is so fresh.

The chapter on industry is similarly conventionally handled. The PERTAMINA blunder, which has reaped criticism from all sides, is given adequate coverage in the author's criticism. In contrast to the chapter on agriculture, where the author benefited from government links and thus obtained statistics not generally available, most of the data here are from government publications and not ministerial archives.

The author's own projects in West Sumatra are described in detail in Chapter 4. As a whole, he subscribes to the Indonesian development concept he helped formulate. He found, however, that agricultural development growth was slower than anticipated, whereas industrial growth was faster than expected. One of the central points in the course of his argumentation is his statement that though reclamation of new land is getting more and more expensive, land resources still exist in Indonesia. Thus Dequin does not find it necessary to implement a land reform policy by means of confiscating the large estates and distributing them among the poor and landless people. For him investments in new land reclamations projects would solve the problem.

It is so be hoped that this comprehensive country study will fill a gap in German libraries.

Ria Gondowarsito

FRITZ VAN BRIESEN: Grundzüge der Deutsch-Chinesischen Beziehungen. (Grundzüge, Band 32). Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 1977, 206 pages.

After Bodo Wiethoff's two books (reviewed in Vol. 9 (1978), Nos. 3/4, p. 409 f.) this is the third interesting volume of the series "Main Features" dealing with China. There are 33 short chapters, a chronological table, eleven carefully selected documents, a handy and useful bibliography, as well as an index.

Altogether they make up a book that is easy to read and presents the subject in a summarized fashion, at the same time shedding light on numerous important details, such as, for example, the destiny of German Jews in Shanghai. While describing Sino-German relations, the author strives to place them within the larger context of international relations, thus showing correlations and historical perspectives. He mentions foreign arrogance towards China, but also helps to balance sometimes biased assessments of the role of German missionaries, schools, and economic interest in China.

There are a few minor inaccuracies. China's last emperor died in 1967, and not in 1969. Although Otto Braun (alias Li Teh) and Mao were fellow-travellers during the Long March the German communist instructor did not really side with the Chinese Chairman (p. 165).

In his effort to shorten the text for the reader, van Briessen sometimes has not enough space to elaborate. Therefore, the persons actively involved become somewhat blurred and are referred to as "Germany", "China", "Russia", or "the Japanese", etc. But it is certainly more difficult to make a long story short and synoptical than to fill countless pages and dwell lengthily upon a chosen subject. Fritz van Briessen found the adequate compromise and wrote a book that very well meets the needs of the interested general reader.

Werner Pfennig

WILLY KRAUS: *Wirtschaftliche Entwicklung und sozialer Wandel in der Volksrepublik China*. Berlin, Heidelberg, New York: Springer Verlag, 1979. 738 pages, DM 148. -

This is the first comprehensive survey of China's economic development and social change in the German language since Dr. Bernhard Grossmann, the founder of the Institute of Asian Affairs in Hamburg, published his monograph covering the first decade of the People's Republic of China (*Die wirtschaftliche Entwicklung der Volksrepublik China*, Stuttgart: Gustav Fischer Verlag, 1960).

Professor Kraus of the Ruhr University in Bochum has left no stone unturned in order to give as full an account of China's achievements as available data permit. He has covered the three decades since the communists came to power. The author lists well over a thousand sources, and his text is supported by almost 4,000 notes and some 126 statistical tables. A good many references are taken from ephemeral accounts in newspapers, where an official Chinese