

fects of quantitative economic growth in the economic, social and human spheres". Since a short review of the lectures held was published in "Internationales Asienforum" 5.1974, p.102 f., the following review need not elaborate on all the papers, some of which have lost their of relevance in the light of the events in the one and a half years since that seminar. (It can be mentioned in passing that the proceedings of earlier seminars have appeared twice as quickly and more than three times cheaper.)

The paper by Kraus on "Japanese Post-War Development as seen from Germany" (p.296-332) is interesting, whereas the corresponding lecture by Tsuchiya on "Economic Development in the Federal Republic of Germany as seen from Japan" does not give an adequate picture of the different views on German development in different Japanese circles. The longest article in the collection (p.65-114), by Simonis, on the impact of trade expansion on the "Quality of Life" in Germany stimulating is. Simonis seems rather pessimistic, but - as is correctly pointed one in the "Comments" by Triesch (p.116 f.) - some of his findings do not support such pessimism. In this and other cases, a report on the actual discussions at the seminar would have been helpful and informative.

The methodical approach of most of the papers seems homogenous: an inductive approach of verbal explanations (on a non-Marxian basis) is preferred to stringent deductions on the basis of econom(etr)ic models, an approach that also seems to be preferred at similar Japanese-American seminars. This methodical homogeneity may be partly due to the fact that the same authors have already been together in the earlier seminars, but further seminars could gain from the participation of (Japanese) Marxian economists and/or econometricians.

The publisher of the book has done a poor job: the book contains many misprints and mistakes (e.g. parts of p.190 f. should be inserted on p.184; p.211 corrects parts of p.133), and - contrary to the proceedings of the seminar in 1969 - it does not contain an index, something which is indispensable in a volume like this.

Siegfried Lörcher

Johannes Siemes, Die Gründung des modernen japanischen Staates und das deutsche Staatsrecht. Der Beitrag Hermann Roeslers. (Schriften zur Verfassungsgeschichte, Band 23). Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 1975, 168 pages, DM 39.60.

The author, professor at Sophia University, the best known

Roman Catholic university in Japan, gives a systematic and very readable account of the life and work of the German legal philosopher Hermann Roesler. The extent to which his book "Hermann Roesler and the Making of the Meiji State" (Tokyo 1968) is identical with the German edition, is not stated.

S. regards Roesler, who became legal advisor to the Foreign Office in Japan in 1879 and who worked in Japan for a total of 15 years, as the most influential German advisor and also for a while as the chief foreign advisor to the Japanese government. According to S. he was also the only foreign advisor to go to Japan while at the peak of a distinguished academic career. In spite of his considerable contributions not only to the founding of the Japanese constitution, but also to various areas of economic and social law, foreign policy and education, Roesler has still remained relatively unknown. The main reason for this is that the process of the founding of the Japanese constitution was kept almost completely secret.

Siemes' intention is to make the importance of Roesler clear to non-Japanese readers, to present Roesler's academic work before his activity in Japan to Japanese readers, and for readers of both groups he tries to reach a re-evaluation of Roesler's thought and actions. He analyses Roesler's academic work in Germany, his contribution to Japan's modernization, and especially to the making of the Meiji constitution, his position in comparison to other forms of German influence on Japan at that time, and also sketches Roesler's private life.

The author emphasises that Roesler is unjustly regarded today as a reactionary monarchist. Being not only an authority on law, but also an economist, he viewed law as social law, whose job it is "to recognize the moral disposition which lies in the Nature of Man and which requires law". In the monarchy he saw a social force which would act as a balance between particular interests and also contribute to the welfare of the people. He was an opponent of the Prussian State, and in fact took many of his ideas from the Bavarian constitution, but in Japan he advocated a stronger position for the Emperor than was to be expected from his academic works in Germany. In his arguments Siemes constantly underlines his sympathy with Roesler's philosophy. The often unreasoned protestations of the rightness of Roesler's opinions contrast with the otherwise clear analyses. He views the constitution, and thus the chief work of Roesler, however, as a political failure, firstly because Roesler overestimated the extent to which

the Emperor's rule could be really political, and secondly because the Japanese people, and in particular its leading classes, lacked the consciousness of "social freedom", such as there was in Christian humanism.

In spite of this longing for a Christian monarchy the book offers a worthwhile introduction to the world of ideas in Germany and in Japan, which was fashioned by the politics of the Meiji era and the constitution of 1889.

Ulrich Teichler

Heide u. Udo Simonis: Japan. Wirtschaftswachstum und Soziale Wohlfahrt. Studien zur sozioökonomischen Entwicklung, Herder & Herder, Frankfurt/Main 1974.

As the title indicates, Japan is not the only subject of this collection of studies. For the careful reader the book becomes almost a manual of critical analysis of the social disequilibrium, induced by economic growth in many industrial societies. It is left to the curiosity of the reader to confront other social systems, such as France, the U.S.A. or Western Germany, with those questions which the Japanese example proved to be crucial. But apart from that, what really are the findings of the researchers, mostly Germans, in the Japanese field?

Japan has changed fundamentally in the last two decades because of the spectacular economic growth of her industry. Growth was promoted by the import of technological know-how (Ruprecht VONDRAN). But its price was an increasing disequilibrium within Japanese society itself, as well as with regard to its international relations. This collection of studies shows this clearly by analysing the different effects of the process of economic growth: a) a deadlocked powerstructure, which does not allow any kind of participation at all and which is subservient to a nationalistic growth ideology (Tschongnae SONG); b) growing economic concentration - Mitsubishi and Mitsui as examples of a specific type of trust which has gained key functions in the Japanese economy as a whole (Max ELI); c) a growing imbalance in foreign trade relations (U.E. SIMONIS); d) a gradual decrease in the quality of the education system (Ulrich TEICHLER).

However, the most important negative aspect of this forced growth-process is also the least known; it is the general decline in the quality of life for the great majority of the population. This decline is particularly striking if one regards the deficit of capital for social purposes in relation to the standard of living of the people, and