

Pacific Affairs

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NEW I.P.R. PUBLICATIONS

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THE FOLLOWING announcements of recent books and pamphlets issued under the auspices of the National Councils and International Secretariat are limited to studies already published. Full details regarding number of pages, prices, and publishers cannot always be given, but will be listed as soon as they are known to the Secretariat. Orders for publications may be placed with the Secretariat Publications Office at 129 East 52nd Street, New York, or with National Councils responsible for the publications in question.

RECENTLY ISSUED

STUDIES IN THE I.P.R. INQUIRY ON THE FAR EASTERN CONFLICT

Published by the International Secretariat, Institute of Pacific Relations, New York

Japanese Industry: Its Recent Development and Present Condition. By G. C. Allen. pp. xiii + 124. \$1.00.

Australia's Interests and Policies in the Far East. By Jack Shepherd. pp. xiv + 212. \$2.00.

German Interests and Policies in the Far East. By Kurt Bloch. pp. xiv + 75. \$1.00.

New Zealand's Interests and Policies in the Far East. By Ian F. G. Milner. pp. xii + 131. \$1.00.

American Policy in the Far East—1931-1940. By T. A. Bisson. pp. xii + 162. \$1.25.

The Problem of Japanese Trade Expansion in the Post-War Situation. By Miriam S. Farley. pp. xii + 93. \$1.00.

The Emergence of a Modern State in Japan. By E. H. Norman. About pp. xvi + 254. \$2.00.

British Relations with China: 1931-1939. By Irving S. Friedman.

The Chinese Army: Its Organization and Efficiency. By Major Evans F. Carlson, United States Marine Corps, Recently Resigned.

OTHER STUDIES

Inner Asian Frontiers of China. By Owen Lattimore. American Geographical Society (Research Series No. 21). Also Oxford University Press, New York. 1940. pp. 600. \$4.00.

America Holds the Balance in the Far East. By Robert W. Barnett. New York: American Council, Institute of Pacific Relations. 1940. pp. 44. 25¢.

Deadlock in China. By Lawrence K. Rosinger. New York: American Council, Institute of Pacific Relations, 1940. pp. 32. 25¢.

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The Editors cannot undertake to return unsolicited manuscripts unless accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes or International Reply Coupons.

RECENT TRENDS IN JAPANESE POLITICAL THOUGHT

CHITOSHI YANAGA

JAPAN today is in the throes of a spiritual readjustment and reorientation necessitated by internal conflicts in ideals, thoughts, and policies which have arisen chiefly from a too hasty Westernization and modernization, achieved in the too brief span of less than three quarters of a century. During the last three decades of the nineteenth century, the nation was exposed to all the political, social, and economic doctrines, ideas, and experiences which it had taken the West centuries to digest. Of these Japan borrowed freely, but so hastily that maladjustments were inescapable. The system of parliamentary government itself was launched so suddenly that the people were scarcely prepared for the responsibilities it entailed, while the legal system and even the Constitution were put into effect more to impress the Western Powers as a preliminary step to insure success in the revision of the unequal treaties than to fulfill the urgent needs of the nation. Liberty, equality, and natural rights were espoused prematurely by a people to whom the ideas were quite alien.

It is small wonder that in a country where there has been no tradition of democracy, liberalism, and individualism, the people could not readily understand the new concepts and the brief space of 50 years hardly sufficed for thorough assimilation. Inconsistencies, conflicts, and maladjustments were to be expected. In spite of their recognized national genius for assimilating alien cultures and syncretizing them with indigenous elements, the Japanese are now passing through a most trying period of readjustment. Economic difficulties, vexing political problems and delicate international situations have immeasurably accentuated the gravity of the situation.

Since the last quarter of the nineteenth century, changes in Japan have been rapid and turbulent. From a feudal hermit kingdom the nation was transformed almost overnight into a modern state with

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