

The Cooperative Policy of the Nanjing Kuomintang Government :
An Aspect of Agricultural Policy

by Saiichi BENNOU

As the scissors discrepancy became more severe and population in the cities became more concentrated, funds flowed out from the villages to the cities. The fund shortage in the villages became especially extreme in the first half of the 1930's because of several facts : a sudden fall in the price of agricultural products influenced by the world economic depression and China economic panic which followed in 1931 ; successive bankruptcy and closing of the rural pawnshops ; and the United States purchase of Chinese silver beginning in 1934. Thus an unprecedented critical condition appeared in the rural economy. It was the cooperative policy's goal to get out of such a critical condition and reconstruct the rural economy to exterminate Communist power in the village area. But the cooperative policy has been negatively assessed up to this time, because the policy didn't hit landlords and rich peasants, and its political intention was anti-Communist.

Nevertheless we should recognize that it had a certain significance in the economic history of modern China. Credit cooperatives basically relieved the fund shortages in the villages and played a certain role in maintaining productive agricultural activities. Marketing cooperatives promoted the rationalization of merchandise currency, while production cooperatives developed peasant side jobs and rural industry by giving technical guidance. Although utilization cooperatives couldn't resolve the fundamental land problem, preutilization cooperatives quickly renewed farming in the areas destroyed by the battles between Nationalist and Communist Forces. The development of cooperatives generally increased peasant income by helping their productive activities to bring a certain profit, thus contributing to the reconstruction of the rural economy.

However, the fact that the Nanjing Government couldn't practice a more comprehensive agricultural policy which included measures that resolved the land problem highlights the limitations of the Nanjing Government. Such limitations restricted the economic efficacy of the

cooperative policy.

2.28 Incident and the Mass Media : With References to "*Hua Shang Pao*" (華商報)

by Ting KUO

The archive materials concerning the outbreak of the 2.28 Incident in Taiwan in 1947 are still unreleased by the Kuomintang authorities. Consequently, the applicability of newspaper material from that time becomes an important method of research, which can be utilized to investigate the incident from the periphery. However, criticism, analysis and comparison must be added for an overall disposition. Otherwise, this material will lack value as a historical source.

I selected "*Hua Shang Pao*" (printed in Hong Kong) as research material and analyzed articles pertaining to the 2.28 Incident. Henceforth, the articles were compared to the progressive newspapers under the authority of the Chinese Communist Party. Reports pertaining to this incident in "*Hua Shang Pao*" were comparatively detailed, and as for the social environment of the era and for future research of this topic, it was decided to use this newspaper as a historical source. Also, since "*Hua Shang Pao*" was under the guidance of the Chinese Communist Party underground organization, at least one perspective of the CCP on this incident can be seen.

As a summary, it can be stated that "*Hua Shang Pao*" reported the 2.28 Incident as a nation-wide anti-Chiang Kai-shek movement.

On Candide Xu's Biography by Phillipe Couplet

by Toshihiko YAZAWA

The biography of Candide Xu, granddaughter of the famous minister Xu Guang-qi (徐光啓) of the late Ming dynasty written by Father phillipe Couplet is a very interesting document which describes the life