

The Statistics Committee, under the chairmanship of C. Tietze, does not try to estimate the annual incidence of induced abortions precisely but is content to say that the annual number of induced abortions in this country falls somewhere between 200,000 and 1,200,000. The lower estimate is based on a ratio of 3.1 induced abortions per 100 pregnancies found by C. Kiser and P. K. Whelpton for their Indianapolis sample and also by D. G. Wiehl and K. Berry for a New York City sample. The upper limit is based on a ratio of 18.9 induced abortions per 100 pregnancies reported by the staff of the Institute of Sex Research from their analysis of 5,293 women.

The appropriateness of the upper limit is placed in doubt by an appendix in which Tietze analyzes the representativeness of the ISR respondents in relation to estimates of 1945 distributions for urban white women in the United States. Tietze concludes that the ISR respondents are usefully representative but his tables contradict this conclusion by showing not only gross differences with respect to age, education, and marital status, but also and more important, tangible differences with respect to age-specific marital fertility.

Other appendices include: (a) a digest of present state laws on abortion and contraception; (b) a brief discussion of abortion in Japan, Germany, U.S.S.R., and Finland; (c) a short bibliography; and (d) an index.

ROBERT G. POTTER, JR.

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THE POPULATION OF JAPAN¹

THIS volume represents a prodigious amount of work. There are approximately 390 pages of text and accompanying tables, each containing about three times the printed matter found in the usual octavo volume. There are in addition four pages of *Appendices*, sixty pages of *Bibliography*, and five pages of *Index*. Length is, of course, no guarantee of quality,

¹Taeuber, Irene B.: *THE POPULATION OF JAPAN*. Princeton, New Jersey, Princeton University Press, 1958, 461 pp. \$15.00.

but the reviewer is happy to be able to say that in his opinion it is an excellent piece of work throughout. Moreover, the amount of repetition is quite small and probably is necessary if the lay reader is to follow the author in her analysis of the broad social significance of Japan's population changes in modern times. The demographic analysis is both adequate and competent but this book is far more than a mere demographic analysis. It is also a sociological study which is couched in terms quite understandable to the interested lay reader.

To begin with there is an historical section (Part I) which provides an excellent background for the understanding of the population changes which have taken place during the past century. This survey is primarily sociological in character, i.e., it portrays the cultural features of Japanese life which in a large measure determined the population changes, but it also makes it clear that these population changes exerted an important influence on the social, political and economic developments both currently and in the later period in which interest centers. To the reviewer this historical approach seems absolutely indispensable to the understanding of the development of Japan's population in modern times. Moreover, it provides a preview of the broad type of analysis which is found throughout the book. To the reviewer this Part seems to contain a maturity of thought and a breadth of knowledge which is well maintained throughout.

Part II, *The Transition, 1852-1918*. Here the author shows great familiarity with the data which became available during this period and displays equal competence and discrimination in their use. This is no mere demographic or statistical analysis. An effort has been made to show the intimate relation between the population changes and the changes taking place in all aspects of Japanese culture during this early modern period. In the reviewer's judgment this effort has been highly successful within the limits imposed in even a work of this size.

Part III, *The Changing Population, 1920-1955*. This is the heart of the demographic analysis as the data are, on the whole, abundant and quite reliable. But to speak of this as the heart of the demographic analysis is not to imply that the broad analysis of culture in relation to population change has

been discarded. It has not, but there is now abundant evidence in demographic data to show clearly many of the important relations between population and cultural changes in the development of Japanese society.

Although *Migration* is treated in a separate Part (iv), it might very well have been entitled Internal Migration and treated as a Section of Part III, for it shows very clearly that Migration was one of the most important dynamic means in bringing about the redistribution of Japan's population which accompanied and was effected by her modern industrial and social development. This migratory movement provides clear demographic evidence of a new period of social and cultural development in Japan. But it is recognized as primarily a manifestation of deep-lying social change, and in turn as requiring many and highly significant cultural changes.

Part v, *Expansion*, treats of the extension of the Empire from the Restoration (1868) to the invasion of China and the migration of Japanese into the expanding area under Japanese control, and also of their movement into foreign countries. This movement had been relatively small prior to the establishment of Manchukuo. It gained considerable momentum towards Manchukuo after 1931 and the reviewer cannot cease wondering why even the power-mad military clique did not postpone the further expansion onto the continent until the industrial base of Japan had been broadened and strengthened by another decade of development in Manchukuo.

Part vi, *Natural Movements*, consists of a detailed study of fertility, mortality, and natural increase. This is well done and the accompanying analysis shows clearly the intimate organic relations between these natural movements of population and the all-pervasive cultural changes which are involved in modern industrialization and urbanization. It is made clear that these natural movements undergo changes which may be considered a part of the effort, to a considerable extent unconscious, to adjust population to the changing social and economic environment. Unfortunately, these changes in the natural movements had not been sufficient to prevent a steady rise in the feeling of population pressure which could be rather easily exploited by the ruling cliques.

One may wonder why the discussion in this Part did not precede Part III, *The Changing Population, 1920-55*, since it provides the explanation of the changes in population. However, this is not a matter of great importance and the reviewer would be the last to argue that the logical development of the study of Japan's population demanded a specific order of treatment.

Part VII, *Demography in Peace and War*. The reviewer finds himself at a loss to characterize this final Part in a few words. It is not a summary of what precedes in the usual sense of that term; but in one form or another it makes use of all the careful social and demographic analysis that precedes. It not only provides a careful marshalling of the information one would expect under this title, but it also again demonstrates beyond question the value of combining competent demographic analysis with broad cultural study if one would understand past population changes and would also wish to look ahead a little to the probable changes in the near future.

The reviewer not only believes that this excellent study "will prove to be a landmark of demographic analysis" as Dr. Notestein says in his *Foreword*, he believes it goes far beyond demographic analysis as this term is generally understood. It is a study in social and cultural development in which demographic facts are given a central place but in which they are always treated as integral elements in a larger social situation. It should also be said that the interested layman will find here a discussion of Japan's population which he can understand. It is carefully written and it carefully avoids the use of the technical jargon which mars so much good work in the social sciences. The reviewer hopes that this book will become more than a standard reference source of information on population changes in modern Japan, and that it will be widely used as a good example of the way in which demographic knowledge can contribute to social analysis.

It would be quite possible to point to some minor inconsistencies in different portions of the book, also to a few errors and a number of repetitions. But let him who is without sin in these respects cast the first stone. In the reviewer's judgment it is quite a remarkable study of which not only the author

and those who have aided her may well be proud, but also one which should enhance the status of the study of population as a science.

WARREN S. THOMPSON