Preface

This volume is the result of a conference held 20-24 August 1973 at the University of Washington's Lake Wilderness conference center outside Seattle. The Conference on Japanese Industrialization and Its Social Consequences was one of a series of five international conferences planned under the auspices of the Joint Committee on Japanese Studies of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council. Funds for the conference series were provided by the Ford Foundation in a grant to the Social Science Research Council in 1969.

The conference, and this volume, benefited from considerable lead time, extensive planning, and the cooperative efforts of a number of persons. The main work in determining specific themes, identifying potential paper-writers, and selecting other participants was done by the planning committee, consisting of John W. Bennett, Washington University; Solomon Levine, University of Wisconsin; Kazushi Ohkawa, Hitotsubashi University; Henry Rosovsky, Harvard University; Koji Taira, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Tsunehiko Watanabe, Osaka University; Kozo Yamamura, University of Washington; Yasukichi Yasuba, Kyoto University; and myself as chairman. The committee encouraged collaborative research where feasible and desirable; four of the twelve papers in this volume are the result of intensive collaborative efforts. The conference budget contained very limited funds for research support; these nonetheless were particularly helpful in making three papers possible. John Creighton Campbell of the Social Science Research Council aided substantially in these preparatory stages.

The participants in the conference were twenty-five economists, sociologists, and anthropologists from the United States, Japan, England, and Israel. They were John W. Bennett, Washington University; Tuvia Blumenthal, Tel-Aviv University; Martin Bronfenbrenner, Duke University; Masayoshi Chūbachi, Keio University; Robert E. Cole, University of Michigan; Ronald Dore, University of Sussex; Hiroshi Hazama, Tokyo Kyoiku University; Solomon Levine, University of Wisconsin; Ryoshin Minami, Hitotsubashi University; James Nakamura, Columbia University; Chie Nakane, Tokyo University; Hiroshi Ohbuchi, Chuo University; Kazushi Ohkawa, Hitotsubashi University (emeritus); Akira Ono, Seikei University; Hugh Patrick, Yale University; William V. Rapp, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company; Henry Rosovsky, Harvard University; Gary Saxonhouse, University of Michigan; David L. Sills, Social Science Research Council; Michio Sumiya, Tokyo

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University; Koji Taira, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Ken'ichi Tominaga, Tokyo University; Tsunehiko Watanabe, Osaka University; Kozo Yamamura, University of Washington; and Yasukichi Yasuba, Kyoto University. Susan B. Hanley, University of Washington, capably and effectively took care of all local arrangements, as well as serving as a rapporteur. Larry Meissner, Yale University, was the main rapporteur; John Wisnom, University of Washington, assisted both in their responsibilities.

The original drafts of the twelve papers contained in this volume provided the foci for the conference discussions. Participants were expected to have read the papers in advance, so it was not necessary for authors to present them. Instead, two or three discussants presented prepared comments on each paper; the author was given the opportunity to reply; and a general discussion followed. The discussions were extraordinarily frank, direct, friendly, critical, and interdisciplinary. All participants—paper-writers and discussants—took an active role in making the conference a success. It was not a meeting in which most Japanese participants took one position and most American participants took another. Americans criticized Americans and Japanese; Japanese criticized Japanese and Americans. I believe the fine rapport was achieved both because of the high level of professionalism of the participants and because most of them already knew one another. Others have pointed to the virtually continuous Ping-Pong game outside meeting hours as both a highly integrative and competitive force.

The conference discussions subjected each paper to thorough analysis, which resulted in substantial revision by the authors for inclusion in this volume. To that has been added extensive editing, particularly by Larry Meissner who has done a job beyond the call of duty.

Louise Danishevsky has, as always, efficiently handled the retyping and duplication of edited manuscripts and a myriad of other small but essential details. To all who have contributed so much to make the conference a success and this volume possible, I offer my thanks.

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