

INSTITUTE FOR THE RESEARCH OF  
POPULATION PROBLEMS  
IN JAPAN

HISTORY, CONSTITUTIONS AND  
ACTIVITIES



TOKYO  
c/o HOME OFFICE, BUREAU OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
KOJIMACHIKU  
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### 1. A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR THE RESEARCH OF POPULATION PROBLEMS IN JAPAN

At the twelfth conference of the Special Commission of the Commission for the Investigation of Problems of Population and Food, February, 1928, Inazō Nitobe, member, pointing out the permanency of population problems and emphasizing the necessity of a permanent organ for investigation, proposed "to establish and encourage an organ to make scientific researches concerning population problems."

Since then, proposals for the establishment of a permanent organ to make researches concerning population problems were made several times from managers of the Commission, Tōru Nagai, member, and others. In 1929, a memorial of the same object was presented to the Government from Messrs. Eiichi Shibusawa and Masaji Inoué representing the League of Nation Society.

On the twenty-third day of January, 1930, the said Special Commission approved "the original draft of a proposal for the establishment of a permanent investigation organ concerning population problems." On the twenty-seventh day of March of the same year, the proposal having been referred to the fifth general meeting of the Commission, passed the same meeting and was presented to the Government, which says: "The solution of population problems in our country will lose its course and mistake the standard of counter-measures and may not unlikely to fall into deplorable state unless the problems shall be always investigated and researched, and counter-measures shall be taken at any time when necessary.

The present Commission for the Investigation of Problems of Population and Food gives advice to consultations of the Government, but the Commission is not proper and fit to pursue investi-

gations and researches. The population problems, moreover, require, from their nature, consideration from the international standpoint and connection with international organs.

The Government, therefore, at this moment, are requested to establish an institute as a permanent research organ concerning population problems and to attach to it a committee as a consultant organ."

Based upon those proposals, the Government laid the Budget before the Diet for the establishment of an organ for research of population problems drafted by the Bureau of Social Affairs, Home Office; but the Budget for the sixth fiscal year of Shōwa (the fiscal year of 1931) though consented, was not executed owing to a Ministerial change and other reasons.

Economic depression, however, became severer year after year, and the present-day circumstances emphasize the important nature of population problems. In view of the research of population problems is one that calls for immediate attention, on the twenty-first day of November, 1932, by a proposition of the Bureau of Social Affairs, Home Office, there assembled officials and non-officials interested in the problems who were the members of the Commission for the Investigation of Problems of Population and Food, where a decision for the establishment of the Institute for the Research of Population Problems was made.

As a result of their effort for realization of the decision and with the donation from a prominent private Foundation, on the twenty-seventh day of October, 1933, the Institute for the Research of Population Problems (an foundational juridical person) was established.

## 2. OBJECTS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTE

The problem of population is one of the fundamental subjects connected with the well-being of a nation; for that reason, there-

fore, it calls for immediate attention.

The Government, sometime ago, setting up the Commission for the Investigation of Problems of Population and Food, obtained general principles regarding to problems of population and food. In view of their complicated nature, such problems, however, can not be solved by any hastily-devised scheme, more especially as, since the date of the setting up of the Commission, Japan, in common with most other countries, has experienced the result of the world-wide business and financial depression, with a natural repercussion on the problem of an ever-increasing population. The tendency towards over-population, if left to itself, must inevitably result in a crisis with a deplorable issue, and it is for this reason that it becomes of urgent necessity to investigate intensively and continuously the nature of this problem and to frame a policy to cope with it.

In order to find the right solutions to the population problem, we must look at it not only from the point of view of domestic policy but also from that of foreign policy. If we are to consider possibilities of transplanting our surplus population abroad, it is important for us to envisage the problem from an international standpoint and to associate ourselves with world conferences on population and emigration.

It is because we realize the bearing of the problem on national safety and social expansion we deem it absolutely necessary to have in cooperation with the government, established the Institute for Research of Population Problems.

## 3. CONSTITUTION

### Chapter I. Denomination

Article I. This Institute shall be denominated the Institute for the Research of Population Problems. (Zaidan-Hōjin Jinkō-Mondai-Kenkyū Kwai).

## Chapter II. Objects and Activities

Article II. The objects and activities of the Institute shall be to carry on various scientific research and studies for the purpose of contributing to the solution of the population problems in our country, and to make effort to keep in contact with organizations for the study of problems of population, and to promote all measures necessary for population policy.

Article III. This Institute, with a view to attain the objects provided for in Article II shall carry out the following activities:

1. Investigations and researches concerning population problems,
2. Collection and arrangement of materials concerning population problems,
3. Connection with international organizations for the study of problems of population, and researchers of the same problems,
4. Connection and exchange of materials with organizations for the study of problems of population abroad,
5. Publication of the results of investigations and researches concerning population problems,
6. Proposal of opinion or giving of advice to questions submitted by the Government, and
7. Other activities necessary to attain the objects of the Institute.

## Chapter III. Office

Article IV. The office of the Institute shall be in the Bureau of Social Affairs, Home Office, Tokyo.

## Chapter IV. Membership

Article V. The membership of the Institute shall consist of special members, life members, and ordinary members.

Special members shall be persons who rendered service to the Institute or men of learning of established reputation, elected by the Board of Directors.

Life members and ordinary members shall be persons who approve the objects of the Institute and shall pay fixed dues.

By-Laws concerning admission, withdrawal, and payment of dues shall be provided for by the decision of the Board of Directors.

## Chapter V. Officers, Staff and Advisers

Article VI. The Officers of the Institute shall be a President, a number of Directors, two Inspectors, and a number of Trustees.

Article VII. The President shall be elected by the Board of Directors by mutual vote.

The President shall represent the Institute and exercise general control over the affairs of the Institute.

In case of the incapacity of the President to act on any occasion, the President shall designate the Managing Director to act as President.

Article VIII. Directors shall be elected by the Board of Trustees by mutual vote.

Article IX. A number of Managing Directors shall be designated by the President among Directors.

The Managing Directors shall manage the affairs of the Institute under the direction of the President.

Article X. The Inspectors shall inspect and audit the activities and the state of assets of the Institute.

Article XI. The Inspectors and the Trustees shall be appointed by the President.

Article XII. The term of the Officers shall be three years. They may be eligible for reëlection.

The term of officer assumed office by a by-election shall be remaining period of the predecessor's term.

Article XIII. In case of expiration of the term of Officers they shall attend their official duties until successors shall assume the post.

Article XIV. The Staff of the Institute shall be a number of research members, a number of assistants, a number of secretaries, and a number of clerks.

Article XV. The Research Members shall engage in researches and investigations.

The Assistants shall assist the Research Members in researches and investigations.

Article XVI. The Secretaries directed by the President shall manage general affairs and accounts of the Institute.

The clerks directed by the higher officers shall engage in general affairs and accounts of the Institute.

Article XVII. For the researches and investigations concerning population problems and for the guidance of Research Members a Director-in-charge and a number of Vice-Directors-in-charge shall be appointed.

The appointment shall be made by the President of Directors and Trustees.

Article XVIII. A number of Advisers may be appointed. The Advisers shall be appointed by the President on a decision of the Board of Directors.

#### Chapter VI. Board of Directors

Article XIX. Matters to be decided by the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

1. Items concerning matters to be referred to the Board of Trustees,
2. Items concerning researches and investigations of population problems,
3. Items concerning supervision and disposition of property,

4. Items concerning acceptance of donation,
5. Items concerning amendments to the Constitution and amendments to and enactment of the By-Laws, and
6. Other items which the President deems it necessary.

Article XX. The Board of Directors shall be called by the President in case of necessity.

The Board of Directors shall be called by submitting petitions from more than one third of Directors presenting the object of the meeting.

The call may be substituted by vote by letter when the President deems it necessary.

Article XXI. The chairman of the Board of Directors shall be the President.

In case of the incapacity of the President to act, a proxy shall act as the chairman.

Article XXII. Proceedings of the Board of Directors shall be decided by majority present. In case of a vote equally divided the chairman shall decide.

#### Chapter VII. Board of Trustees

Article XXIII. Matters to be decided by the Board of Trustees shall be as follows:

1. Items concerning the estimate,
2. Items concerning the settled account and reports of activities, and
3. Other items which the President deems it necessary.

Article XXIV. The Board of Trustees shall be called once a year. Provided that the Board may be called at any time when the President deems it necessary.

The Board of Trustees shall be called by submitting petitions from more than one third of Trustees presenting the object of the meeting.

Article XXV. The provisions of Articles XXI and XXII shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Board of Trustees.

#### Chapter VIII. Assets and Finance

Article XXVI. Assets at the time of the establishment of the Institute are as per annexed paper of inventory.

Article XXVII. The Institute shall hold funds.

Methods of accumulation, supervision, and disposition of the funds shall be determined by a decision of the Board of Directors.

Article XXVIII. The fiscal year of the Institute shall be from the first day of April to the thirty-first day of March of the succeeding year.

Article XXIX. Expenditure of the Institute shall be defrayed out of the following resources:

1. Properties excepting the funds,
2. Subsidies,
3. Contributions,
4. Dues, and
5. Other incomes.

#### Chapter IX. Supplemental

Article XXX. The By-Laws necessary for carrying out business of the Institute shall be determined by the decision of the Board of Directors.

Article XXXI. Agreement of more than two thirds of Directors shall be necessary for amending this Constitution.

Article XXXII. The Directors of the Institute at the time of establishment are as follows:

Count Yasutoshi Yanagisawa  
Baron Yoshirō Fujimura  
Tōru Nagai

Shiroshi Nasu  
Tadao Yamakawa  
Hiroshi Shimomura  
Zenjirō Horikiri  
Isao Kawada  
Takeo Hasegawa  
Shigeru Yoshida  
Aijirō Tomita  
Shichirō Niwa  
Masaji Inoue

#### 4. OFFICERS AND ADVISERS

President	Marquis Yukitada Sasaki, Member of the House of Peers
Managing Directors	Hisatada Hirose, Director-General, Bureau of Social Affairs, Home Office Masaji Inoue, Ex-Member of the House of Representatives: Managing Director, The South Seas Association
Directors	Tōru Nagai, Doctor of Economics Hiroshi Shimomura, Doctor of Laws, Member of the House of Peers Shiroshi Nasu, Doctor of Agriculture, Professor, Tokyo Imperial University Tadao Yamakawa, Member of the House of Peers Shigeru Yoshida, Member of the House of Peers Zenjirō Horikiri, Member of the House of Peers Takao Hasegawa, Director, Bureau of Statistics, Imperial Cabinet Isao Kawada, Member of the House of Peers Teijirō Ueda, Doctor of Laws, President, College of Commerce

Shunzō Yoshizaka, Councillor, Bureau of Social Affairs, Home Office

Shigeru Hazama, Director, Sanitary Bureau, Home Office

Iwao Yamasaki, Director, Social Welfare Division, Bureau of Social Affairs, Home Office

Inspectors: Teizaburō Sekiya, Member of the House of Peers  
Tsuneta Yano, President, The First Mutual Life Insurance Company

Advisers: Hiroshi Ikeda, Councillor, Bureau of Investigation, Imperial Cabinet

Eijirō Honjo, Doctor of Economics, Professor, Kyōto Imperial University

Teizō Toda, Professor, Tokyo Imperial University

Minoru Oka, Doctor of Laws, Director, Ōsaka Daily Press

Kumao Takaoka, Doctors of Laws and Agriculture, President, Hokkaidō Imperial University

Yasuma Takada, Doctor of Arts, Professor, Kyōto Imperial University

Iwasaburō Takano, Doctor of Laws, Director, Ōhara Institute for Social Research

Hisomu Nagai, Doctor of Medicine, Professor, Tōkyō Imperial University

Kiyoshi Nakarai, Governor, Kanagawa Prefecture

Tadao Yanaihara, Professor, Tōkyō Imperial University

Mieno Yamamoto, Doctor of Laws, Professor, Kyōto Imperial University

Kanjū Kiga, Doctor of Laws, Professor, "Keiōgijuku" University

Gitō Teruoka, Doctor of Medicine, Director, The Japanese Institute for Science of Labour

Isoo Abe, Member of the House of Representatives  
Count Yoriyasu Arima, Member of the House of Peers

Tomoharu Akagi, Ex-Vice-Minister, Home Office

Kannosuke Miyajima, Doctor of Medicine, Professor, "Keiōgijuku" University

Shōtei Shiozawa, Doctor of Laws, Professor, "Waseda" University

Yasumaro Shimojō, Doctor of Economics, President, Bureau of Decorations

Shigeyoshi Hijikata, Doctor of Economics, Professor, Tōkyō Imperial University

## 5. ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE

### I. Investigation and Research

The Institute has a research staff that, under the guidance of the competent Directors of the Institute, makes researches into problems concerning population. The Directors, besides affording that guidance, also have their own subjects of research.

The subjects of investigation and research are as follows:

#### No. 1. Fundamental Investigation concerning Population:

##### 1. Composition of Population.

Population by Sex, Age, Race, Occupation and Social Class.

##### 2. Investigation concerning the Distribution of Population:

a) Population by Locality and Industry, and Its Internal Migration.

b) Concentration of Population in Towns and Cities.

##### 3. Investigation into the Growth of Population:

a) Natural Increase of Population.

b) Birth-rates and Death-rates.

c) Marriage-rates and Divorce-rates.



4. Investigation into Other Miscellaneous Phenomena of Population.
- No. 2. Investigation into Population Problems and Measures to be Taken for Their Solution:
  1. Investigation concerning Surplus Population:
    - a) Surplus Population.
    - b) Relations between Surplus Population and Unemployment.
  2. Investigation concerning the Control of Population:
    - a) Emigration and Immigration, both Domestic and Foreign.
    - b) Birth-control.
    - c) Eugenic Study of Population.
  3. Investigation into General Measures to be taken for the Solution of Population Problems.

Among the above-stated subjects, some of the investigations concerning "Population by locality and industry, and its internal migration" have been completed and the results have taken shape in a publication entitled "Map of Density of Population in Japan, 1934".

The results of some of the investigations concerning "Natural increase of population" have recently been published with the title of "The Trend of Increase of Population in Japan and Its Quantitative Fluctuation".

Besides the above-mentioned subjects of investigation, the Institute is always interested in current thoughts regarding population problems both domestic and foreign. As for other important matters, they are referred to specialists or proper organizations for further investigation and research.

## II. Collection of Materials and Information

The Institute makes effort to collect and preserve materials concerning population problems both domestic and foreign.

## III. Coordination Activity

In order to maintain contact among organizations and individuals interested in population problems and thus to promote cooperative researches, the Institute holds meetings of specialists in population problems. (The meeting is called "Jinkō-Mondai Dōkōsha Kaigō".) Since November, 1934, up to March, 1937, seven meetings were held.

In the current fiscal year the Institute intends to arrange a congress in order to consider concrete plans for the solution of our population problems.

## IV. Connections Abroad

The Institute makes effort to keep in contact, and to exchange materials, with the International Union for the Scientific Investigation of Population Problems and other organizations and individuals in foreign countries interested in the investigation of population problems.

## V. Public Lecture-Meetings

For the purpose of diffusing knowledge on population problems and to accelerate the adoption of population measures, the Institute from time to time held public lecture-meetings in Tōkyō and in other places. Since December, 1933, up to December, 1936, seven lecture-meetings were held.

## VI. Collection of Essays by Prize Contest

For the purpose of advancing the study of population problems, the Institute in 1933 invited prize essays on the subject of "Policy for the Solution of Population Problems of Our Nation". Of 122 essays which were received, three obtained second, and four, third prizes.

## VII. Publication of Literature

The Institute publishes not only the results of its own investigations and researches, but also other important data regarding population problems.

The names of publications published or intended to be published are as follows:

- No. 1. Collection of Lectures on Population Problems, Vol. 1.
- No. 2. Map of Density of Population in Japan.
- No. 3. Policy for the Solution of Population Problems of Our Nation: A Collection of Prize Essays.
- No. 4. Collection of Lectures on Population Problems, Vol. 2.
- No. 5. Some Materials concerning the Congress of the International Union for the Scientific Investigation of Population Problems, Rome 1931.
- No. 6. Collection of Lectures on Population Problems in Commemoration of the Centenary of *Malthus'* Death, Vol. 3.
- No. 7. Photographic Album of the Exhibition concerning Population Problems in Commemoration of the Centenary of *Malthus'* Death.
- No. 8. Collection of Literature on *Malthus*.
- No. 9. Investigations concerning the Population of the North-Eastern Provinces.
- No. 10. Basic Map of the Land and the Population of the North-Eastern Provinces.
- No. 11. The Industries and the Population of the North-Eastern Provinces: A Record of the Second Meeting of Specialists in Population Problems.
- No. 12. Collection of Lectures on Population Problems, Vol. 4.
- No. 13. The Trend of Increase of Population in Japan and its Quantitative Fluctuation.
- No. 14. Studies in the Population Problems in Japan.
- No. 15. Agricultural Population by Prefectures and Its Age

Distribution: A Report by Dr. *Teijirō Ueda*, Director of the Institute.

- No. 16. Study of the Problems of the Chinese Population, written by *Mosaburō Iida*.
- No. 17. Problems concerning Urban and Rural Population. (Record of the Fourth and Fifth Meetings of Specialists in Population Problems.)
- No. 18. National Health Problems viewed from the Standpoint of Population Problems. (Record of the Sixth Meeting of Specialists in Population Problems.)
- No. 19. Collection of Lectures on Population Problems, Vol. 7. "Population Problems", a Quarterly Publication of the Institute; Vol. 1, No. 1, February 1935; Vol. 1, No. 2, November 1935; Vol. 1, No. 3, April 1936; Vol. 1, No. 4, (Memorial Number of the late Count Yasutoshi Yanagisawa, ex-President.) December, 1936; and Vol. 2, No. 1, April, 1937.

## VIII. Activities in Commemoration of the Centenary of *Malthus'* Death

The twenty-ninth day of November, 1934, being the centenary of the death of *Malthus*, the Institute, in commemoration of the occasion, *a*) opened an Exhibition of Materials concerning Population Problems; and *b*) held Lecture-Meetings on Population Problems.

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