

WEHC 2018

Modernity in East Asia: Globalization and Japanese Colonialism

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Transformation of Financial System

Transformation of Taiwan's Financial System: The Historical Significance of Goto Shinpei's Fiscal Reform in the Early Japanese Colonial Period 1898–1905

Wen-Kai LIN

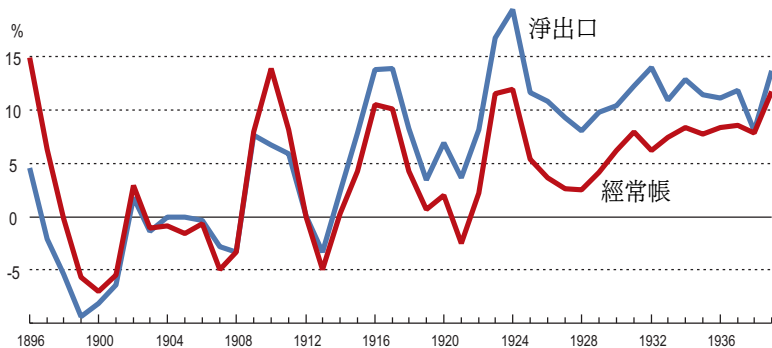
Main arguments

- It was Goto Shinpei, **not** Liu Ming-chuan (劉銘傳), who modernized Taiwan's land right and land tax system
- Goto Shinpei's reform in tariff, commodity tax and monopoly was better than Liu Ming-chuan because it was able boost industrial development of Taiwan
- Goto Shinpei's reform had colonial features, i.e., Taiwanese was not regarded as the central subject, yet it was important to Taiwan's modernization

Colonial features

- Taiwan's government finance system have certain colonial features (p. 29): i.e., some resources in Taiwan were transferred to mainland Japan
- True, yet there were policies that were **contradictory to** colonial features
- Some policies were aimed to benefit Japanese, yet it was beneficial to Taiwanese as well
- Two examples below

Transfer to Taiwan (% to GDP)



- From 1896 to early 1910s, there was big transfer from Japan to Taiwan
- Difference between current account (經常帳) and net export was Japan's transfer to Taiwan. Source: 山本有造 (1992)

Japan's sugar policy

- 矢内原忠雄 (1929) (Yanaihara): Taiwan Sugar Empire (台灣糖業帝國)
- Japan's import substitution policy for sugar was beneficial to Taiwan's sugar producers (most of them were Japanese), yet it was beneficial to Taiwan's cane farmers
- It is difficult to have a complete and balanced assessment since there were transfers to Japan as well as from Japan

Effects of Modern Transport System during the Japanese-ruled Period: Focusing on Grain Transport

Chia-Hao CHEN and Lung-Pao TSAI

Main findings

- With the building of push car railway system and sugar mill railway system, together with the North-south railway line, a modern transportation system was established around 1910 in Taiwan
- Effects: transportation cost reduced, an integrated market emerged, in-land trade and foreign trade (with Japan) increased

New system

- The paper focuses on tea and rice in the northern and central parts of Taiwan
- What were the effects of the new system?
- The authors show that with the new system, transportation center changed from location A to location B, and freight tonnage increased

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- It might be useful to look into land prices
- and check if tea and rice production increased with the new transportation system

Land price (medium grade)

	1897	1902	1907	1912
大溪	0.40	0.70	2.00	2.50
桃園	0.30	0.60	1.20	3.00
南投	0.30	0.50	1.50	2.50
阿緱	0.05	0.20	1.00	2.50

- 大溪 land price down relative to 桃園 price up
- 阿緱 (a sugar production center in Southern Taiwan) land price up is especially impressive
- Unit: 圓/坪; Source: 臺灣總督府財務局 (1916), 附屬表, 2 冊之 1, pp. 19-27

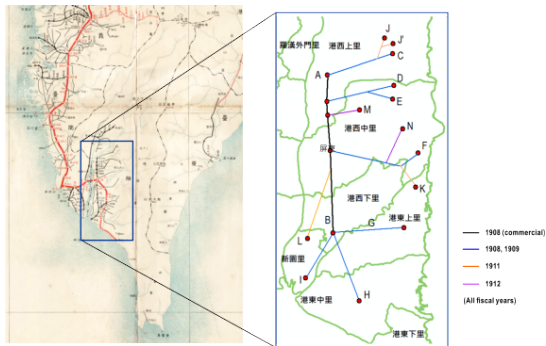
Sugar mill railway: Pingtung

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- 1905–1935 (sugar year): cane production growth rate 8.50%
- Only those areas with railway passing would grow canes for the new-style mills
- Source: 吳聰敏與樊家忠 (2017)

Official Statistical System

The Establishment of an Official Statistical System in Taiwan under Japanese Colonial Rule

Pei-hsin LIN

Official Statistical System

- This paper studies the establishment of the official statistical system during the Japanese period, focusing on population census
- But government statistics cover much more, it maybe useful to provide some information about other areas of statistics

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- 《總督府統計書》第9, 明治38年 (1905):
土地, 氣象, 戶口, 教育, 社寺, 裁判, 警察, 監獄,
農業, 漁業, 鑛業, 工業, 商業及金融, 貿易, 交通,
專賣, 衛生, 財政, 公官吏, 慈惠及救濟, 恩賞
- 21 sections, total 1,091 pages

Population and land

- First population census: 1905
- First land census (cadaster): 1898–1905
- Why GGT (Government-General of Taiwan) wanted to do both at the same time?
- To establish a land right system—who owns which land?
 - Who: population census
 - Land: land census
- As a result, in 1905 Taiwan established a most advanced land right system in the world

Some minor comments

- “Statistics never developed in Taiwan until the arrival of Japanese colonial rule” (p. 1):
Dutch Taiwan had a very good statistical system: population of aborigines, land area measurement, tax income, and so on
- “Family income and expenditure survey”, Tables 2 and 3 (pages 18–19):
May cite 總督府官房企畫部 (1940), instead of 台灣時報 (1937.9)

After 1950

- Development of statistical system after WWII (p. 20–21):
US Aid program (to Taiwan) probably played an important role, eg., the establishment of Taiwan's National Income Account



山本有造 (1992), 《日本植民地經濟史研究》, 名古屋: 名古屋大學出版會。

矢内原忠雄 (1929), 《帝國主義下の台灣》, 東京: 岩波。
(Yanaihara, Tadao (1929) *Taiwan Under Imperialism*, Tokyo: Iwanami Shote.)

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臺灣總督府財務局 (1916), 《臺灣宅地租調查事業成績報告書》, 台北: 臺灣總督府民政部財務局。(Sōtokufu (1918) *Reports of the Result of the Investigation of Taiwan's Residential Properties*, Taipei: Bureau of Fnance, Sōtokufu.)

總督府官房企畫部 (1940), 《家計調查報告》, 台北: 總督府官房企畫部。