

From the Editor

The second conference on the Transfer of Science and Technology between Europe and Asia since Vasco da Gama (1498-1998), held November 3-7, 1992, in Kyoto and Osaka, was conducted in Japan as part of the international symposia series run annually by the International Research Center for Japanese Studies. This conference followed on from the first conference on the above topic held in Amsterdam and Leiden in June, 1991. The second conference covered the hundred years from 1780 to 1880, the period in which the industrial revolution occurred in Western Europe when a transfer of technology was experienced across the globe. Five areas in particular were focused on: industrial technology, military technology, transportation, agricultural technology, and technical education. A series of public lectures was also held as part of this conference. This volume is a record of the bulk of the papers presented at the conference.* The third conference, which will discuss science and technology transfers from the 1880's through to the beginning of the twentieth century, will be held in Istanbul in the autumn of 1994.

Staff at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (IRCJS) provided invaluable cooperation in preparing and running this conference. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and the International Research Exchange Foundation for Japanese Studies were more than generous with funding for this event.

Cooperation from the Osaka Science and Technology Center also enabled us to held the above mentioned public lectures. Conference participants from IRCJS have provided assistance in the editing and composition of this volume. Without the cooperation of Associate Professors Shirahata Yôzaburô and Ono Yoshihiko and Pauline Kent this work could not have been published at such an early date. As organizer of the conference and editor of the conference papers, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude to each and every individual and organization mentioned above.

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* Dr. De Moor presented a paper at the conference but declined to have his paper recorded here. Dr. Thee's paper focuses on more recent transfers of technology and science but nevertheless provides a "heuristic tool" for the analysis of other papers.