

that will resolve all these issues. "A selective approach to technology transfer by a government authority responsible for technical development issues and backed up by appropriate financial and legal arrangements might be required. Subsequently, this must be given support by monitoring activities and evaluation of the performance of the public regulatory agency and the private sector." It is difficult to quarrel with this conclusion of the study, but one wonders which government in the region is likely to benefit from reading it.

Nevertheless, this volume, too, includes valuable information on the way in which transnational corporations transfer technology into the region and how the contracts differ from case to case and country to country. There is a wealth of information collected by the researchers attached to the UN ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations provided in many illuminating tables that will be useful for other academics in the region interested in getting a better overview picture of what actually goes on beyond the sometimes confusing concepts we tend to use.

HANS CHRISTOPH RIEGER
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

A History of Economics Teaching and Graduates: Raffles College and the University of Malaya in Singapore 1934–1960. By Thomas Silcock. Singapore: Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore, 1985. Pp. viii, 320.

Thomas Silcock was the first Professor of Economics at Raffles College and later the University of Malaya in Singapore. At times he served as Dean and Acting Vice-Chancellor of these institutions. In this book he provides a systematic chronology of events which led to the establishment of these two direct academic precedents of the current National University of Singapore.

However, what gives the book a special flavour is the interwoven account of Silcock's personal involvement in the institutional developments. He was a thoughtful, concerned, and religious man, as one would have expected of the son of English missionaries. He also always seemed to be aware of the fact that he was only an expatriate who was expected to leave once local people could take over. He records both his successful and unsuccessful battles over the shape of the university and the Economic Department's teaching programme, including the events leading to his resignation as Professor in 1959.

The second main ingredient of the book is the historical record of its economics students in the early years. The data were obtained from a survey questionnaire, and show a close link to the history of Singapore and Malaysia. Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and his wife had both taken economics courses, though they later obtained law degrees in England. Dr Goh Keng Swee, who is said to have had a major influence on Singapore's economic policies since independence as a top civil servant, not only has an honours degree in economics from Raffles College, but had also been involved in teaching and other academic responsibilities at the institution.

There is an impressively long list of graduates who have made outstanding careers in government, academia, and the private sector in Singapore and Malaysia. For readers from the region the names of ministers and heads of government agencies will have special meaning. It is interesting to note, however, that graduates from the 1950s produced considerably fewer such leaders, even though their numbers were greater.

Silcock raised the obvious questions suggested by this trend. Were the early students an extraordinarily talented group, were they beneficiaries of superior instruction, or were they just starting their careers at an especially opportune time? However interesting it may be to speculate about this question, a definitive conclusion is unlikely to be reached, and Silcock prudently avoids a strong expression of opinion.

Another fundamental question tackled by

Silcock is the influence which the economics education had on the life of students. Answers to the questionnaire noted most consistently the training in rigorous thought which economics lessons provided. A similar interesting but unanswerable question raised by the careers of so many graduates concerns the influence which economic training has had on their actions as political leaders in shaping the economic policies of Singapore and Malaysia.

I personally learned much regional history from Silcock's reports of the Japanese occupation of Singapore, the colonial administration, and the turmoil of the 1950s leading to independence. There is the story of Japanese internment and attempts to carry on the work of Raffles College in prison. There is the politics of several commissions charged with the establishment of a genuine university.

Perhaps most fascinating is the struggle for the survival and independence of the university at the time when Lee Kuan Yew took the Peoples Action Party to electoral success and attempted to rid the party and country of communists. The communists during the 1950s had successfully penetrated many secondary schools, and Silcock describes the tactics they had expected to use for the take-over of the university's student organization and academic planning. Into this tense situation was brought a professor from England who naively attempted to assert the right to academic independence and freedom of speech. Silcock's own resignation was linked somehow to these events, though his account is not very clear. Perhaps, as Professor Lim Chong-Yah suggests in his Preface to the book, this chapter is "unfinished" and Silcock had planned to revise it. His death in June 1983 obviously prevented this revision.

Of considerable interest also is Silcock's account of the involvement of some very distinguished European and American economists in the development of the Economics Department. To name just a few, there were Sir Arthur Lewis, Ragnar Nurkse, Harry Johnson, and Cliff Wharton. Graduates of the seminar-style courses sponsored by the International Economics As-

sociation include a large proportion of today's most influential politicians and economists in Indonesia.

Silcock appears to be fair in sharing credit for certain developments in the department. Most notable in this context is the space he devotes to explaining the work of Dr You Poh Seng, who headed the Statistics Section of the Department of Economics almost from its inception. Silcock credits Dr You with outstanding contributions to the academic programme as well as the creation of the excellent economics statistics of the Government of Singapore.

Silcock was a fine scholar and a complex man with a strong sense of morality and duty. This book is a suitable monument to the man himself. Above all, however, it is an excellent history of the predecessors of the National University of Singapore's Department of Economics and Statistics. As such, it stands as a case study of the practical difficulties encountered in the creation of academic institutions in a period of colonial control and immediate independence; the setting up of Raffles College, later to become the University of Malaya in Singapore, has indeed paid huge dividends in the work accomplishments of its graduates.

HERBERT G. GRUBEL

Professor of Economics

Simon Fraser University

and

Distinguished Visiting Fellow

in International Banking & Finance

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Regionale Wirtschaftsgemeinschaften im Internationalen System Eine Analyse ausgewählter Wirtschaftsgemeinschaften und ihrer Interaktionen, insbesondere zwischen der EG und ASEAN. By **Andreas Lukas**. Frankfurt: Verlag Peter Lang, 1985. Pp. XIII, 384.

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