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The Public Meeting in Modern British Historiography

Takeshi NAKAMURA

The public meeting has long been a common political event but an important element of political culture in modern Britain. Nevertheless, this subject remains to be studied for our understanding of citizenship or democratic culture. As a preliminary work for future research, this paper examines major historical writings about the public meeting and attempts to illuminate its significance and problems.

First, this paper pays attention to Henry Jephson's *The Platform* (1892), the earliest work for that subject, in which he identified the origin of 'the platform' with that of the public petition. Jephson's narrative for the pass to 'the triumph of democracy' could reflect the current of liberalism at that time. In the late twentieth century, American historical sociologist Charles Tilly and his research collaborators constructed a database to investigate contentious gatherings (CGs) quantitatively and insisted the 'parliamentarization' of popular politics in modern Britain. Although Tilly's argument cannot avoid criticism such as a teleological and reductionist one, he especially fascinated further historical study for public petitions in the long nineteenth century. With the massive digitalization of historical documents such as parliamentary papers and newspapers, the volume and structure of parliamentary petitions have begun to be studied comprehensively. Historians also stressed the significance of the public meeting as the prerequisite to submit petitions. While both the public meeting and the public petition were thought to be derived from British constitutionalism, in fact, their right and freedom had been contested and ambiguous till the end of the twentieth century.

British Imperial Defence Policy in Interwar Period: Incorporating the View of the Royal Navy

Yusuke ADACHI

This paper examines the underpinnings of British imperial defence policies during the interwar period and the attitude of the Royal Navy towards them. The condition of the interwar period greatly affected British policy, and the Royal Navy, which the Imperial Defence Committee viewed as the cornerstone of imperial defence, faced unprecedented circumstances as a result. However, relatively little attention has been paid to the Navy's perception of government policy and of the period generally. To shed light on the Navy's viewpoint, I draw on the autobiography of Admiral Chatfield, who served as First Lord of the Navy in the 1930s. In the 1920s, the admiralty criticised the 'Ten Years Rule' and the establishment of the Royal Air Force because it regarded them as obstacles to its mission to defend the British Empire. However, the Navy neither strongly opposed the reduction of naval forces by the government nor was it critical of treaty alliances but it was rather supportive of these measures. Yet during the 1930s, the Royal Navy suffered from inadequate levels of manpower to fulfil its mission. What is more, its position weakened because the government and public opinion believed in

the prospects of international cooperation and were not in favour of strengthening of Britain's military power. In its aim to defend empire during the interwar period, the Royal Navy could not ignore Japan and the United States. Japan was a threat to the British sphere of influence in the Asia-Pacific region but also an ally in the defence of the empire. Japan, in turn, did not regard Britain as a potential enemy until 1935, and both countries sought to maintain reasonably close relations. On the other hand, while the U.S. shared Britain's wariness of Japan, the British government rarely saw the U.S. as a reliable ally for the defence of the empire. To understand Britain's imperial defence strategy during the interwar years, it is necessary to analyse diverse political, economic, and military factors from a variety of perspectives, including domestic and international affairs.

Inventories of Artemis Brauronia: Introduction and translation

Kanako FUJISAKI

This is a translation of IG II²1514–1531 with a short introduction based on Linders. These inscriptions are the inventories of Artemis Brauronia excavated from Athenian Acropolis. They presumed to be the records of dedications to Artemis, and the copies of the inventories originally settled at the sanctuary of Brauron.

In the inventories, votive offerings and dedicator's names B.C.366–336. are inscribed. Many women are found dedicating clothes, ornaments and so forth. They include clothes, objects made of gold, silver, bronze, and wood. Greek women and girls dedicated offerings to Artemis on the occasions of childbirth and menarche. Dedications for Artemis could be Greek women's activities on their own initiative.

The inventories provide us with the source of Greek women's clothes and textile. In addition, they are the records of women's religious activities. Women's dedications were memorialized at Acropolis. It is the source of women's participation to the polis religion and public praise for the women dedicators.