

CONTENTS

"Hunger"	ix
Foreword	xi
Preface	xiii
List of Tables	xvii
List of Abbreviations	xix
CHAPTER 1: VIETNAMESE AGRICULTURE IN THE 'FRENCH PEACE'	1
From the Troubled Nguyen State to the 'French Peace'	1
Troubles in the Nineteenth Century	1
Insecurity at the Conquest and French Pacification	5
Colonial Efforts in the Agricultural Sector	8
Hydraulic Projects and the Clearing of New Lands	9
Dike Strengthening Projects	10
Irrigation and Drainage Systems	12
Creation of Agricultural Agencies	15
Study Agencies	15
Credit Institutions	19
Chambers of Agriculture and Mixed Chambers	21
Results	21
CHAPTER 2: COLONIALISM AND CHANGES IN LANDOWNERSHIP PATTERNS.	23
Landownership in Pre-colonial Vietnam	23
First French Land Takeover	25
Tragedy of Small Native Colonists of West Cochinchina	38
Usurpation of Communal Rice Fields and Communal Lands	42
Usury and the Dispossession of Lands and Rice Fields	50
Causes of Peasant Indebtedness	50
Reasons for Usury	53

Usury and Dispossession	55
The Fight Against Usury	58
CHAPTER 3: CONSEQUENCES OF LAND TAKEOVER	63
Landownership 1861-1945	63
Tonkin	63
Annam	65
Inequality and Setbacks in Agricultural Development.	69
Tillers Without Land	69
Indirect Land Development by Tenant Farmers	71
Developmental Setbacks	73
Administration's Efforts at Improvement	76
Creation of New Institutions	76
Native Colonization in Upper Tonkin	77
CHAPTER 4: THE PEASANT'S GREAT BURDEN	81
French Policy Toward the Vietnamese Commune	82
Abusive Practices of Mandarins	83
Direct Government Demands	92
Taxes	92
Corvee	100
Indirect Government Demands -- the Monopolies	102
Alcohol	103
Salt	111
Opium	113
Domination by the Chinese	114
CHAPTER 5: GAUGING PEASANT LIVING CONDITIONS	117
A Low Standard of Living	117
Family Budgets	118

Standard of Living Measured By Food Consumption	124
Standard of Living Measured By Imports/Exports	130
Permanent Unemployment	133
The French 'Mission Civilisatrice'	136
Rural Education	137
Medical Assistance	143
Consequences of Misery: High Birth and Death Rates	146
CONCLUSION	151

APPENDICES

1. Measures and Weights	155
2. Land Concession Policy in the Nineteenth Century	159
3. Historical Background to Indigenous Colonization	161
4. Total Area to Cultivation, Western Cochinchina	163
5. A Personal History of One Indigenous Colonist	165
6. Land Reform, Precolonial Vietnam and Under the French. .	167
7. Credit in the Countryside	171
8. Model Loan Agreements	173
9. Abusive Practices of the Notables	175
10. Taxation in Cochinchina	177
11. Budget of a West Cochinchinese Tenant Farmer	179
12. History of the Great Famine of 1945	181
13. Lifestyle and Working Habits in Cochinchina	184
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	185
I. Bibliographical Materials	185
II. Periodicals and Journals	185
III. Archives and Original Documents	187
A. National Archives of Saigon	187

B. Documents	188
IV. Works of General Interest	189
V. French Reports on Agricultural Development	196
VI. Land	198
VII. Social Problems	200
A. General Issues	200
B. Communal Administration	201
C. Taxes and Monopolies	203
D. Nutrition	204
E. Public Education	204
F. Medical Assistance	206
GLOSSARY	207
INDEX	217