

(Institute of Pacific Relations continued)

produced by Chinese methods but which may become extremely productive under American methods of farming with power. If this be so, it is a matter of the utmost importance and basic to any consideration whatever of the future of China and of the rôle it is to play in international affairs.

Project 3 on the trend of population is complementary to the project on land utilization, for it deals with the consumption of products upon land utilized. It is not enough to know what are the possibilities of food production; one must also know how many mouths are likely to be opened to receive it. Already the population of Japan is on the eve of pressing to an alarming degree on the food supply. The question to be answered is how soon are other races to be in like case. Investigations such as the one proposed are basic to all questions of standards of living, industrialization, tariffs, international trade, even to studies of levels of standards of morals.

Project 4 on the trend of food consumption like project 3 is also complementary to project 2 on land utilization. It is vital, if we are to forecast future economic pressure and friction arising therefrom, to know the trend of consumption of food stuffs. How far can it be changed qualitatively from one article which is in short supply, say rice, to another which is more abundant, say wheat. Such investigations are of the utmost importance in determining the probable future evolution of the contacts between races and nations.

Projects 5 and 6 are similarly basic, as is fully indicated in the set-up of the projects themselves. No one is likely to fully foresee the evolution of the social structure of the world for the next century or two who does not envisage the future of the tropics, their relation to the peoples of the temperate zones, their possibilities as sources of industrial raw materials and of food, the reaction of their peoples to exploitation by yellow men and white. It is extremely probable that the tropics will in the next two centuries offset the social fabric of the world at least as profoundly as did the Americas in the past two centuries. The forecasting of such effects can not begin too soon. The projects submitted present a modest initial attack upon one angle of such a study.