

(Institute of Pacific Relations continued)

Method: Should be undertaken by an agricultural economist familiar, if possible, with tropical agriculture. The completion of the project will be facilitated if he is in a position to spend at least a year in travel in Pacific countries. He should visit the Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, Formosa, Ceylon, the Malay States, Siam, South China. If such travel is impossible, he should associate with himself through employment, if possible, through voluntary cooperation if funds are limited, competent investigators in these countries.

Cooperation: Officials and investigators in certain tropical countries, members of the rubber, sugar, tobacco, hemp, coffee, and tea trades.

<u>Cost:</u>	Salary of investigator \$5,000 per annum for 3 years,	\$15,000.
	Clerical help \$1,500 per annum for three years	4,500.
	Travelling expenses	<u>3,000.</u>
		\$21,500.

Comment by Dr. Alsberg

The advancement of knowledge is not the sole aim of the Social Sciences. They have practical objectives as well. One of these is the forestalling of international friction and conflicts. Among the important causes of friction and conflicts is economic pressure. Of the various kinds of economic pressure conceivable, one of the most common is the pressure of growing population upon the food supply. It follows therefore that knowledge of the trend of population growth and of the laws that govern such growth on the one hand, and knowledge of the potential food supply and of the trend of food consumption on the other, must be available in order that the trend of population in a given area and its relation to the potential food supply may be forecast and the development of economic pressure be foreseen. Unless such causes of friction and conflict can be foretold, conflicts can not be forestalled and prevented -- indeed the evolution of the whole social fabric of the region can not be understood completely. Studies in population, in food production, in consumption are basic to many sorts of studies of the social structure and its reaction to given sets of conditions. Projects 2 to 6 proposed by the Institute of Pacific Relations are of this character.

The land utilization project (2) so far as it concerns China, for example, is bound up intimately with the forecasting of the future of China. There is some reason to suspect that there are in China large areas of land upon which food crops can not be