

(1) Rug industries in Tientsin: a social and economic survey. One investigator has been investigating the rug factories in Tientsin since the middle of September, 1927. There are 700 rug factories in the city; we have already covered more than 130 of them in our investigation. We hope to finish the field work of the study by the Easter Vacation and to have the report ready for publication during the later part of the present calendar year.

(2) An inquiry of the family budget of the working classes in Tientsin. In order to secure the basic data for the study of the standard of living of the workers and for the measurement of the changes in their cost of living, eight investigators have been keeping daily accounts for 240 families since September first, 1927. The inquiry will last for ten months. We have already received 1,250 monthly account books; they are being tabulated as they come in each month. It is hoped that the report of the inquiry will be in form for publication by the early part of the next calendar year.

In connection with the budget inquiry retail prices covering more than 100 selected commodities are collected on the first and fifteenth day of each month. We plan to publish an index number of the cost of living for the working classes in Tientsin as soon as we have the quantity data for weighting from the present budget inquiry.

(3) Compilation of an index number of commodity prices at wholesale in the Tientsin market. Since September, 1927, one investigator of the Committee has been collecting wholesale prices of over 100 commodities selected on the basis of the extent of their market in Tientsin. We have already secured satisfactory data for more than 80% of the selected commodities for the period from 1913 to 1927, and hope to issue a report on the prices and price index at wholesale in Tientsin, 1913-1927 during the coming summer. Plans have been made to publish currently a weekly index of wholesale prices in Tientsin after the publication of the report. This weekly index number will be incorporated in the "Weekly Statistical Service" which we have been issuing since the first of January, 1928.

(4) Compilation of economic statistics: The Committee has compiled a monthly index number of the foreign exchange rates from 1898-1927, a monthly index number of the domestic exchange rates from 1898-1927, a monthly index number of the bond market from 1924-1927. All these were published by Ta Kuo Pao, a Chinese daily press in Tientsin, in the form of a Statistical Supplement on the New Year's Day, 1928. A detailed report of the data and methods used in the construction of the foreign exchange index is published in Chinese in the Tsin Hau Journal, Vol. 4, No. 2, and in English, in the February issue, 1928, of the Chinese Economic Journal. Since the first of January, 1928, the Committee has been issuing a weekly Statistical Service consisting of the current indexes of the exchange and bond markets. This service is sent free of charge to the various business firms and other institutions, and also reproduced by the Government Bureau of Economic Information, in its Weekly Bulletins, and several English and Chinese papers in Tientsin, Peking and Shanghai.

Work is still in progress for the construction of an index number of the physical volume of foreign trade in China from 1867 to date, together with a statistical analysis of the changes in its character and distribution from period to period. Owing to the magnitude of the problem it will probably require another year for its completion.