

It seems probable that the production of a first class quarterly and of an annual survey of international affairs in the Pacific would make it essential that the secretariat be moved from Honolulu to some centre which is in closer touch with the movements and thought of international society. Such centres are London, New York, Shanghai and San Francisco. The disadvantages of London and New York are that residence in either of these cities would make it difficult if not impossible for the members of the Pacific secretariat to maintain a "Pacific" point of view. They would tend to look at Pacific problems as incidental to European problems. It would seem, therefore, that Shanghai is the best centre for the Institute of Pacific Relations.

Recommendations on the Interval between Conferences:

The suggestion made by the Royal Institute of International Affairs that the Institute of Pacific Relations conferences be held every three years instead of every two years should be supported, both on the grounds of economy and because it would allow more time for serious preparation and research. Between the three year conferences a meeting should be held of the Pacific council and the research and programme committees. This meeting might be expanded into a small expert research conference. This conference could draw up the final agenda for the following plenary conference.

CONCLUSION : Throughout this memorandum there has been a latent criticism of "Pacific Affairs" and of the past research policy of the Institute of Pacific Relations which it would be well to state frankly.

The magazine at present does not fulfil either of the two main functions of an Institute publication; it does not make the Institute research work known nor does it provide the members of the national groups with a satisfactory journal. Though its articles are frequently of a high standard the greater part of the magazine is taken up with material of less value. The section on "Current Pacific Trends" might be eliminated since it duplicates work of other bodies, such as the Royal Institute and the Foreign Policy Association; its book reviews and briefs are often valuable but its abstracts of pamphlet and periodical literature might be replaced by a list of titles, authors and sources, and possibly the comment: "good", "fair" or "unimportant". The subscriptions to "Pacific Affairs" in 1932 were only 1214 and a quarterly selling at the same price would probably have as great or a greater circulation.

The main criticism of the research policy of the Institute of Pacific Relations is that it has been too haphazard. A large number of the projects to which grants have been given have been of minor importance and if these were justified at all, the cost should have been met by the national council concerned. Furthermore, many of the best research papers have appeared in pamphlet form only and are not easily accessible. It is therefore difficult for a student of the Pacific to discover such material and to distinguish between those papers which are of permanent and those which are of ephemeral value.

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