

6. To indicate how land might be utilized to produce a larger amount of products necessary for a higher standard of living.

7. To supply further population data which would be of use in settling the controversial positions now taken in regard to population growth in China.

Relation to

purpose of the Institute: A knowledge of methods of land utilization for representative regions is essential to an understanding of the character of China's agricultural problems in relation to such international questions as population growth and food supply. Such information will not only lead to a better realization of the technical agricultural problems of the country, but should reveal methods of increasing the efficiency of agriculture in China and in other countries bordering the Pacific. The data pertaining to population problems should promote better understanding by bringing facts to bear upon the controversial questions of the rate of growth of population and that of the relation between density of population and human well-being.

Method:

Two methods will be employed in the collection of the desired data.

1. Compilation of existing information

All information of worth which exists in published or unpublished form will be collected and compiled with the purpose of preventing duplication of effort in this project and of making available in a single study all information pertaining to land utilization.

II. Field Studies

The field studies will be limited to representative farming areas in the natural regions of China. From one to ten typical types of farming areas will be chosen in each region. Units within the farming areas, like the hsien, the township, the village, the farm and the farm family, will be used to facilitate obtaining the required data. The natural region has been chosen because it is the most logical basis for any land utilization study. Typical farming areas are used as the chief unit because they are a reflection of geographical factors.

It is planned that all existing information which might be of aid in field investigations be compiled previous to the main field studies. This can be done at the same time that preliminary field investigations are being made in several farming areas in one natural region for the purpose of testing out schedules, methods, and personnel. It is desired that Dr. Baker be present for this preliminary work and that if his time must be limited to one year that it be divided into two periods of six months each, the first to be spent in China at the beginning of the investigation, and the second at the end of the investigation, to take part in interpreting the data and in writing up the results of the study. The methods suggested in this project are tentative and subject to change as experience is gained in the progress of the work and as the knowledge of additional experts is brought to bear upon the problems in hand.