

ECONOMIC AND TRADE NOTE NO. E-25

1476

Shanghai, China, December 16, 1939.

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JAPANESE DEVELOPMENTS IN HAINAN ISLAND

News reports indicate that the Japanese are planning upon extensive agricultural and industrial developments in Hainan Island. The island is about the size of Formosa, but accounts indicate that it is considered of greater potential economic value and it is estimated that it can take care of a population of from 10 to 20 million.

Of special interest are possibilities in connection with the growing of trees for the production of rubber. It is also looked upon as possessing potentialities for the growing of considerable cotton and a rather extensive production of rice with three or four crops a year. The island also possesses considerable mineral resources. Experts have been sent from Japan to make surveys and plans indicate a rather extensive scheme of development if the Japanese are able to consolidate their military and political domination.

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