

HOLDING UP RICE AT SHANGHAI.

Pleading that they must conserve the food for the province, Shanghai rice dealers informed the authorities only a few days ago that the transportation of tribute rice must in the meantime be suspended. However this attitude appears to the official mind, it is believed that it does not square with the facts of the case in the very least.

We learn that a considerable quantity of rice has arrived recently from the country. The local merchants recognize the scarcity of rice in the south, and it is stated that they are holding it up in order to obtain a better market. Conserving the food of the province may sound patriotic and may convince many, but the belief is held that the merchants are really engaged in an astute business undertaking.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF SHANGHAI.

The formation, on a permanent basis, was announced on Thursday of the Shanghai Rotary Club, as a member of the International Association of Rotary Clubs. The organization was completed at a tiffin held at the Palace Hotel.

The officers are: Dr. Julian Petit, president; Mr. A. B. Rosenfeld, vice-president; Mr. O. E. Baker, secretary; Mr. R. Buchan, treasurer. The Board of directors consists of the officers and Messrs. Thomas Sammons, Frank J. Raven and W. L. Johnstone. The club starts with a charter membership of about thirty.

The Rotary organization was started in the United States and has spread far and wide. Its object is to bring into touch men of all forms of business and the professions for their mutual benefit and the welfare of the community. Each form of occupation is represented by only one man. Meetings, principally of a social nature, are held at stated intervals, when questions of common interest to the members are discussed.

The Shanghai Club is the second Rotary organization in the Far East, the first having been founded some months ago in Manila.

REPORTS that keep filtering through from various directions all confirm earlier reports of the damaging effects of the heavy rains last week, the "North China Daily Mail" reports. In addition to the damage already reported from Peking, the boundary wall, part of which runs through the Legation quarter, was washed into the creek caused by the rapid drainage surface water. In one hutung, five feet of water was recorded and business in most of the hutung had to be suspended on the afternoon of Friday.