

## U. S. Chamber Secretary Tells Rotarians Of New Profession

An address of special interest on "The Work of the Commercial Secretary" was given by Mr. W. A. Chapman, secretary of the American Chamber of Commerce in China, at a meeting of the Rotary Club today.

After defining the meaning of the term "Commercial Secretary," Mr. Chapman explained the duties of a commercial secretary and told of the many Universities in America which are offering special courses in this profession—the most noteworthy being perhaps Harvard University.

It was interesting to learn that the Commercial Secretaries of the United States also have their own organization known as the Association of Commercial Secretaries—its aim being to receive and exchange views for the improvement of their service. The secretaries are also brought together by annual meetings, the one for last year having been held in Atlantic City.

Mr. Chapman stated that there are now probably 50 American Chambers of Commerce in the principal cities of the world, the American Chamber of Commerce in China being one of the first to be organized outside the United States—it having been preceded by the American Chamber of Commerce in Paris.

The rapid growth of the American Chamber of Commerce of China was clearly discussed. The local Chamber was organized in June 1915 and has increased from 48 to 343 company, individual, and non-resident members.

### NEW LEGISLATION FOR CHINA

The organization has lent its best efforts toward developing American trade in China. It initiated the bill now before Congress providing for the Federal Incorporation of American Companies in China, and other countries where extraterritoriality exists, whereby such companies may be placed on an equal basis with competitors of other nationalities.

The splendid service which the Chamber is rendering to various organizations in China was pointed out by Mr. Chapman who stated that the organization has been called upon by the U. S. Shipping Board on various occasions to furnish information regarding shipping rates, shipping lines and their activities in this part of the world.

The American Chamber of Commerce here keeps in close touch with the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai with a view to fostering relations between the two great Republics bordering on the Pacific.