

## ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

THE Annual Conference of the Chinese Economic Society now being held at the local Chinese Y. M. C. A. has brought together eminent Chinese economists of the whole country. Not only it is attended by noted authorities in the field of economics and statistics, but also many valuable data papers are offered for discussion by its learned members.

The Society, prominent as it may be today, had only a humble beginning. Under the able leadership of Mr. D. K. Lieu, Dr. Ma Yin-chu and Dr. Usang Ly it has steadily come to the fore until it has become a potent force in China's national economic policy and program of reconstruction. Its entire membership embraces eminent scholars and prominent officials. One of its ranks who has recently been appointed to the Executive Yuan is Mr. Ho Lien, Director of the Department of Political Affairs. As Dean of the School of Economics in the Nankai University, Tientsin, and editor of *The Nankai Quarterly*, he has won wide recognition in the field in which he has so creditably distinguished himself.

From the Society and its members many valuable volumes on the subject of economics have been produced. In fact, it may be said that no important book of its kindred nature in China has ever appeared without its endorsement or sponsorship. The latest offering is "The Growth and Industrialisation of Shanghai" by Mr. D. K. Lieu reference to which was already made in this column some time ago.

With the initiation of the new Economic Reconstruction Movement throughout the country the role which the Society may play will assume increasing importance. It is only by academic discussion and research that concrete proposals may be evolved for practical application. The Society has rendered much pioneering service to the country, and the general appreciation which has been displayed by the public at large should help to stimulate further interest in its highly diversified activities and to prompt its members to continue in a vital national task so well begun. While the Society is purely a private association, its excellent record should commend it to any official support which the Government may extend without hampering its freedom of expression and research. To its visiting members this journal is happy to add to the voice of welcome and to wish the conference unprecedented success.