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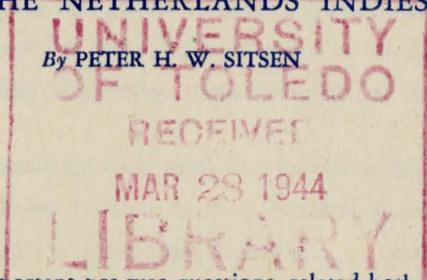
Announcing the publication of

THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
OF THE NETHERLANDS INDIES

By PETER H. W. SITSEN

65 PAGES

50 CENTS



One of the most important pre-war questions, related both to economic self-sufficiency and to raising living standards in the Far East, the industrial development of these areas must again hold a place of first importance in the Netherlands Indies, and probably in most other Far Eastern countries, as soon as the Japanese are ousted. We shall then again have to develop the natural resources of the country for the best uses of the population.

The long-range significance of the industrialization of eastern countries has a tremendous potential influence on the way of life in the post-war world, for us as well as for the Eastern peoples.

Mr. Peter H. W. Sitsen has given us a record of the experience of the Netherlands Indies in industrializing a predominantly agricultural economy, rocked during the economic crisis by a loss of markets for its agricultural export products and dependent on foreign trade for necessary

commodities. At this time Indonesian society came to maturity and in a short time a development which employed nearly 325,000 factory workers and produced consumers' goods for the domestic population took place.

Until sent by the Governor-General of the Indies to serve outside Java in our struggle against Japanese domination, Mr. Sitsen was Director of the Industrial Division of the Department of Economic Affairs at Batavia. He thus has firsthand knowledge of facts and policies in this field in the past ten years. Mr. Sitsen's enthusiasm about what was accomplished penetrates to the printed page but his enthusiasm is well supported by facts and documentation, including 21 tables of economic data.

The booklet is divided into three main headings: The organic structure of secondary industry (cottage industry, small scale industry, and factory industry . . . technical distinctions corresponding roughly to the social structure), second, the industrial policy of the government, and third, factory industry.

In evaluating the achievements of Netherlands Indies industrialization and in looking to the future, Mr. Sitsen draws a comparison with the industrial history of the United States before 1900. Aware that the growth for the Indies cannot be as great as for the United States at the same periods of development, Mr. Sitsen still predicts an industrialization which will have lasting influence on the lives of the people of the Indies. This development will have great importance in the future relations between the Indies and industrialized countries such as the United States. The more buying power available in the Indies and the higher the standard of living, the larger the market will be for the products of countries with heavy industries.

A prophetic and factual book treating problems of international importance, Mr. Sitsen's report is important to anyone who is interested in the living standards of the Far East and practical means to better them.

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