# The Philippines Look to the Future



By WILLIAM C. UTLEY NDEPENDENCE of the Philippines

was not assured when President Roosevelt signed the new islands' constitution, prepared under the Tydins-McDuffle act, and turned it over to a committee of islanders last spring. Although the act, lustily welcomed by Filipinos as the achievement of victory in their never-ending campaign for independence, provides that all bonds between the United States and the tropical possessions in the south Pacific shall be severed once and for all on July 4, 1945, after the islands have had ten years of practice in governing themselves, the feeling is growing that before those ten years have passed the Philippines will be ready, even anxious, to amend the agreement into something which will leave them more certain safety from dangers which are becoming more apparent day by day.

since the return of Vice Indeed, President Garner and the large delegation of senators and congressmen who visited the islands to attend the inauguration of President Manuel Quezon, one question which has constantly presented itself to them is: Do the Filipinos actually want inde-

And the answer seems to be: Yes -and no. The desire of the "common tao"-the picker of coconuts, the worker on the sugar plantations, the laborer of the rice fields-is, as it has been for decades-INDEPENDENCE! "Independence" is set in capitals and followed by an exclamation point because to the Filipino of that level it is a cry, a political slogan, taught to him for many years by the politicians of Manila, It is a catchword that represents to him democracy, freedom in a vague sense that it is something a little better than the poor lot he has now. It never occurs to him that independence is possibly the thing that will prevent his enjoying "freedom" in the centuries to come.

For grave dangers confront an independent Philippine commonwealth that could easily destroy the very liberty the common tao associates with independence. They are both political and economic, both internal and external.

# Fear Japanese Invasion.

The most imminent danger, as the average American sees it, is the menace of expanding Japanese imperialism in the Far East, ready to grab what it can in its need for room for a swelling population and for raw materials to feed its growing and efficient industries. The Philippines are 10,000 miles from the capital of the United States, but only 300 miles from Asia.

Most serious of the problems to the Filipino is the economic collapse that threatens when free trade with the United States is cut off. The Tydings-McDuffle act provides that in the fifth year of the ten-year period before complete independence is granted, Philippine export products will have to bear a 5 per cent duty, which will be graduated each year until it becomes 25 per cent in the tenth year, Since 80 per cent of Philippine exports now go to the United States, the dwindling of the American market will begin to be felt in five years. There are plenty of reliable economists who hold that the economic breakdown will come before 1945, unless the act is amended.

Nor are these the only problems. Certain acts of the new government, most recently the curtailment by President Quezon of the powers of the speaker of the assembly, have been pointed to by many as indications of impending dictatorship. The recent passage of a bill which would appropriate one-third of all the money available for appropriation to the building and maintenance of an army, of 19,000, with a 500,000 reserve, has been hailed in some quarters as a step to-ward military fascism, especially since the reserve army will require commilitary training

and industry are rapidly taking adcitizens. Further danger to the existvantage of the richest soil of the ising government is seen coming from lands to assume the leadership of the the fields far beyond the cities, in the hemp industry, which the Philippines form of uprisings of the agrarian population, which has been reduced to alone possess The Japanese have improved roads a pitiable peonage, and which may in the hemp country, introduced massfind itself unable to secure a living production methods, and installed maif the principal market for Philippine chinery to strip the hemp fiber from

trous revolutions begin not in empty heads, but empty stomachs. First of the problems to be discussed officially in the United States will be the economic one, for President Roose velt is expected to call a trade conference some time this year. Something may be done at that time to effect a revision of the tariff schedule which may be more favorable toward

raw products is destroyed. Most disas-

the islands. As it is, various estimates have it that the first duty to be imposedonly 5 per cent-will wipe out from 37 to 63 per cent of the four-fifths of all Philippine exports which go to

the United States. Take sugar, for instance. Under the Jones-Costigan act, the islands' sugar quota is 1,045,000 short tons, and it enables the industry to make a good profit. But sugar exporters are loud in their insistence that with even a 5 per cent tax they cannot compete with Cuban sugar in the American market.

Our Own Trade Suffers, The rule works both ways, too. The Philippines buy 30 per cent of all textiles exported by the United States, If tariff walls prevent the export of Philippine goods to America, it is hardly to be expected that the islands will protect our textile exports. All of the business will go to Japan. Japan has de terrific inroads on our textile business; in 1932 we sold 81 per cent of the textiles imported by the islands;

in 1933, 74 per cent; in 1934, 43 per cent, and in late 1935 only 23 per cent. There is no doubt that the Philippine government would set up tariff barriers against textiles and other goods imported from foreign countries, if we were willing to make equivalent concessions. It must be remembered that we also sell the islands dairy products, canned fish, wheat flour and manufactured products-in fact, the Philippines are our ninth best customer. Under the Tydings-McDuffle act we stand to lose virtually all of that

Many of the Philippine raw materials which now come into the United States duty free are profitable to this country, for they must be processed here, and therefore keep many industries going. Philippine sugar is refined here; copra is pressed into coconut oil; cigars are taxed and distributed; hemp fiber is made into rope and twine and distributed.

# Source of War Needs.

One of the most important sources of war materials is the Philippines. Copra furnishes coconut oil to make the glycerine that goes into high explosives, and the shell makes fine charcoal that is necessary in gas masks. Hardwood and hemp are necessities in building and maintaining a navy. The islands also have plenty of good iron, chromite and manganese. It is inevitable that in a war in the Pacific, Japan would seize the islands in no time if they were independent of

the United States. There are many able students of Philippine affairs who will have you believe that Japan is already taking over the islands, anyway, although in the peaceable ways of commerce and industrial development instead of milltary tactics. Be that as it may, there are still only about 25,000 Japanese in the islands, at the most, out of a total population of 13,055,220; there are approximately 71,000 Chinese, 7,700 Americans and 5,400 Spaniards, Japanese make up only .00151 per cent of the total population of the Philippines; yet in Hawaii, where there is far less walling about them, Japanese outnum-

ber any other nationality. Some 65 per cent of the Japanese in the archipelago live in a colony of the province of Davao on the island of Mindanao, where they dominate the growing of abaca, from which hemp is produced. There superior efficiency

Ambitious youth seeking to find their places early in life in a maladjusted world will find encouragement if they will take a look into the pages of history, E. B. DeGroot, California Boy Scout executive, in the Rotarian Magazine tells of a few of the young men and women who bave

bles Are Encouragement

to Today's Youth.

Many Have Achieved Fame

'done big things.' William Pitt, Mr. DeGroot cites as his first example, filled the responsiole post of chancellor of the exchequer at twenty-three and served as Virginia troops against the Indians Times. and French. Abraham Lincoln campaigned for public office at twentyour. Robert Louis Stevenson wrote "Treasure Island" at twenty-three. Galois at nineteen proved that equations higher than the fifth order could not be solved algebraically, and thereby advanced the theory of groups for the solution of higher equations.

Westinghouse invented the air brake at twenty-three. Alexander the Great conquered and ruled the world before he was thirty. Sir Isaac Newton at twenty-four formuiated the law of gravitation. Whitney was not more than twenty-nine when he invented the cotton gin. Charles Dickens wrote "Oliver Twist" at twenty-five. Napoleon at twentyseven was in command of the Italian army. Patrick Henry was but twenty-seven when he made his conquering and historic speech against the Stamp act. Thomas Edison was not far above the Youth Service age level designated by Rotary (twenty-four years), when he astounded and benefited mankind with many of his in-

Paul Siple, an Eagle Scout, was only twenty when he qualified for

#### Covered Wagon Tracks

The last signs of the covered vagon caravans that crossed the continent during the gold rush days of the 1840's can be seen today on the salt beds of Utah. Owing to the pecullar nature of these flats, the tracks of the wagons have been preserved on this desert by a distinct discoloration.—Collier's.

Records of World's Notaan important post on the first expedition of Admiral Byrd to the Antarctic regions, and he was chief biologist on the second Byrd expedition. The average age of the members of America's Continental congress was thirty-five. Two of its of the 30,000 autographs that he members, at least, were under thirty -Edward Rutledge, twenty-five, and

While in Their Twenties

John Jay, twenty-nine. Lindbergh immortalized himself at wenty-five; moreover the best out of 500 poems on the Lindbergh flight across the Atlastic in 1927 was written by Nathalla Crane, a fourteenyear-old girl of Brooklyn, N. Y. And so on, almost without end could we record the achievements and services prime minister of Great Britain at of youth in the fields of statesman wenty-four, George Washington was ship, literature, science, education only twenty-three when he led the invention and courage.-Kansas City

## Pension Plan for Employees Announced by Wrigley Co.

Recognizing the advantage and fairness of social security to workers and being in favor of an old age pension plan, the Wm. Wrigley Jr. company, has announneed a pension plan, for its employees, effective at once. More than 1,300 employees are affected by the move.

Under the Wrigley plan the company and employees contribute for future service pension on a fifty-fifty basis. The plan provides for employees to be retired at the age of sixty-five.

#### A Mystery

Why would the average man rath er be charged with malice than with making a blunder?

### Album Contains Signature of Nearly Every Famed One

The signature of virtually every famous person in the world today has been recorded in at least one

autograph album. A recently completed collection of signatures, acquired by its owner through 25 years of travel and at a cost of \$50,000, contains every one wanted, including those of kings, presidents and dictators, with the one exception of Pope Pius XI's .-





Perhaps the surest way to prevent a cold from "catching hold" and getting worse is, at once, to Cleanse Inter-tor FREE nally. Do it the pleasant teacup way. Flush the system with a hot cup of Garfield CO. Dept. 94 liquid lassive. At drug-stores







THE BANK WON'T LEND US ANOTHER DIME! WE CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER. IT'S YOU GOT ME WORRIED!

Build Army for Defense. Undoubtedly one of the reasons for the large army the Quezon government is building is the danger of further argrarian uprisings. However, the chief reason is the need for defense of the islands against invasion. It is admitted that an army of 19,000, with 500,000 reserves, would not be sufficient to save the islands from conquest by one of the major powers, but Quezon points out that it is a big enough army to make such a conquest so expensive that it would not be worth the trouble. The army is going to be so expen-

the trunk of the abaca plant. They

have introduced co-operative market-

ing direct to the shipper. Contrast

this with the Filipino native who chops

down a plant, carries home the trunk

and strips off the fiber by hand-a

back-breaking job, dries it in the sun,

shares it with his landlord and gets a

poor price for what is left, and it is

easy to see why the Japanese colony

controls 25 per cent of the total hemp

Japs Control Retail Trades.

have enabled the Japanese to corner a

large and ever-increasing share of the

retail trade in the cities of the archi-

pelago. One estimate, probably high, puts 40 per cent of all the retail busi-

ness of the islands under Japanese con-

trol, with Americans and Filipinos

holding 35 per cent and the Chinese 25

Inability to compete with Japanese

industry is but one of the things that

has made of the Filipino farmer a

peon. Another is the evil of the ap-

portionment of land. Much of the land

in the islands consists of a few great

units held by the Roman Catholic

church, which refuses to sell it, and

by a handful of wealthy Filipinos.

For this reason, a large share of the

farmers are tenants, share-croppers

who have no opportunity to acquire

pleited by the land owners. Even the

Filipino who does own the small strip

of land he works is often a share-

cropper. He obtains seed loans at the

almost unbelievable interest rates of

10 to 20 per cent, compounded every

month, and by the time he has repaid

enough in crops to cover his debt he

is lucky to have enough to provide

Political campaigns have taught this

peon to believe that the answer to the

ills from which he suffers is independ-

ence, and his hot desires for his rights

have often provoked him to actual acts

against the government in Manila. An

example was last May's uprising of

many thousands of Sakdal peasants

in the areas where landlordism exerts

its tightest grip. They marched upon

the capital city and formed a ring

around it, and they were dispersed

only after 60 of them had been killed.

for himself and his family.

their own land, and are

The same superior business methods

production.

per cent or less.

sive that it might seriously embarrass the government financially. The \$8,-000,000 annually required to support it (a figure which would be rock bottom) is one-fourth the total national income. Since the army is to be created under the direction of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, former chief of staff of the United States army, it may be expected to function efficiently, how-

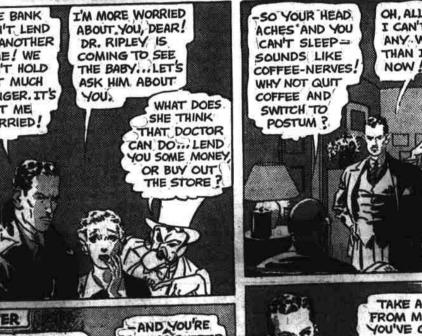
As it has been pointed out, there is much ground for the contention that the Philippines actually do not want independence because they don't know what independence means.

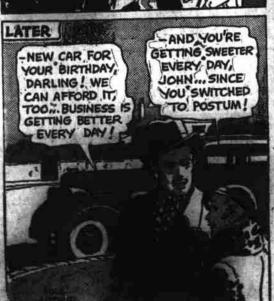
When and if the Philippine people decide that they had better not give up the protecting wing of the United States for their dream of independence, the problem resolves itself into this: Do we want the islands back?

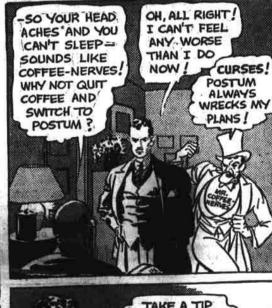
That will be determined perhaps not so much by our desire to retain our ninth largest customer abroad as by

our general Far Bastern policy. @ Western Newspaper Union











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