

## GROUP BEHAVIOUR . . .

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during these period when financial aid is most necessary. When a man does not feel well he goes to his doctor to seek medical advice. When a businessman is in financial difficulties he should seek the counsel of his banker. But this is something that does not happen in our country because the businessman who consults his banker about his difficulties will most likely receive not counsel, but a demand for payment.

I therefore make these suggestions:

It would be a constructive piece of service to our economy if both the government and commercial and said bodies, such as this chamber, would undertake a comprehensive study of the different industries that are now controlled by the aliens and examine the facts that have led to this control. Knowing these facts, it would then behoove the Filipino businessmen to provide the solution, if they desire to participate more dominantly in these now alien-controlled industries. The National Economic Council could play a leading role. I am reminded of the studies conducted by the late Gregorio Anonas, that respected and esteemed manager of the National Development Co. of the shoe industry in Marikina and how this industry has been controlled by alien retailers in Gandara and in that neighborhood. The results of these studies were revealing. Studies, such as these, will be eye-openers and will be great aid in improving our position in the domestic trade.

As a supplementary study, I suggest that both government and private businessmen go over our Customs records on imports and determine what other new industries could be established here. A study like this will reveal that several other industries could be established with more than a reasonable degree of success, because we have transportation costs, lower taxes and lower labor costs on our side. The garment industry is one such example. Shirts and men's underwear are now being made here. Why can't this be extended on a bigger scale with regard to women's requirements? This is one industry where the opportunities seem to be wide and varied. Incidentally the garment industry is one of the biggest in the United States and is a leading industry in the City of New York.

A short while ago (I made reference to the problems to which newly established industries are exposed which depend solely on the controls for protection and support.

I will now refer to the necessity

of revising the provisions of the Bell Trade Act to which this chamber was, strongly opposed when the Bill was presented to the Filipino people for discussion. At that time, this chamber took the stand that there are many provisions in the Act that operate only one way, and while the advantages offered to the American businesses were unlimited, we on the other hand, were subjected to allocations and quotas. But the most important point which we pointed out was that a continuance of the free trade relationship with the United States without any qualifications would retard the industrialization of the country. While realizing that we are still in the agricultural stage of economic development, this is no hindrance of obstacle to our executing or implementing a plan of industrialization, a state of development which sooner or later must have to come as the population of this country increases and the dependence of the people on agriculture declines. A study of the economic development of the most progressive countries of the world today indicates that while the agriculture of these countries takes care of the bread basket of the nation, their industrial activities provides the additional production which enables these countries to increase their national income, improve the standard of living of their population, broaden the occupational base and stabilize their currency positions. The Filipinos should not and can not miss the lesson that is taught by the economic development of these progressive countries. I am glad that the government has taken the initiative to focus studies on the possible revision of the provisions of the Bell Trade Act. We would be performing constructive service if we aided the government in expressing our views on this possible revision so that we may place the economy of our country on a more sound and better balanced basis.

In this possible revision, careful thought must be given to selective free trade and to a revision of the ration of the peso to the dollar, to place us on more competitive basis with our neighbors with regard to foreign trade.

After discussing the background, business practices, problems and legislation, it is still my humble and considered opinion that the one party that can evolve a change in our local economy is the Filipino businessman himself. I grant that he is plagued with defects, but he can undress himself of these faults and evolve a new personality. It has been said that the Filipino business-

## TASK FOR ALL FREE MEN

Text of President Truman's July 4, 1951 Message on the Occasion of the 175th Anniversary of American Independence.

ONE hundred and seventy-five years ago today the Continental Congress declared the United States of America to be a free and independent nation.

The new nation—in the words of one of its greatest Presidents — was "conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

Today, Americans rededicate themselves to the ideals upon which our nation was founded. We rededicate ourselves to our faith in the God given rights of men.

These rights have been proclaimed many times, in different tongues and in different ways. For us, they were proclaimed in 1776, in the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Throughout our history as a nation we have been striving for a fuller enjoyment of these rights by all our citizens. We have made and are making great progress. The increasing well-being of our citizens, and their growing economic and so-

man suffers from lack of initiative, from over-conservation, from a disinclination to assume new risks or to pioneer. I am glad to notice that we are gradually evolving a new type of Filipino businessmen. But along with this evolution of a new personality, the government must go hand in hand with businessmen and must provide the incentive and the impetus so that private capital and private enterprises may more readily go into commerce and uncharted enterprises. It is encouraging to the businessmen of this country to note the recent decision of the government to withdraw from several fields of business and leave these entirely in the hands of private enterprise. That is as it should be — the Government should pioneer and open up new frontiers of activities. But once private capital has demonstrated that it has the capacity and ability to exploit and to operate in these fields of activities, the government should have that sense of timing to determine when to withdraw.

I am happy to note that more of our businessmen are making trips to Japan. While I have no quarrel with

cial security bear witness to the advances we have made.

We believe that all men, everywhere in the world, are entitled to these same rights. In some parts of the world, men are handicapped by conditions of want, insecurity, and fear. In others, the enjoyment of individual rights is menaced by new and terrible forms of tyranny. We feel a warm sense of comradeship for men, wherever they may be, who are struggling against obstacles to freedom. We pledge ourselves to work with them for a world free of misery and oppression.

We do not seek to impose our ways upon others. Neither do we seek to add to our material wealth at the expense of others.

We have pledged ourselves to work with other free and independent nations to establish and maintain world peace, under law, through cooperative international action. We are confident that the combined efforts of all free nations can lead the world to peace.

We shall resist all the assaults on freedom today, as we have resisted tyranny in the past.

This is a task for all free men everywhere in the world.

(SGD.) HARRY S. TRUMAN  
President of the United States of America

those who go to the Americas and Europe to broaden their experience and their knowledge in industry. I have always advocated that from a practical standpoint and for purposes of immediacy, it would be better to find out what your neighbors are doing and how they are achieving success. Because after all, it is with these neighboring countries with whom you have to compete.

Why is the Chinese so outstandingly successful in the operation of D sari-sari, the grocery, and the goods stores. If the Chinese 10 hours, then work 12 hours. If he is successful because he is economical in the operation of his business, then try to be more economical. If the Chinese are successful because they pull their resources together which enable them to purchase their goods at better prices and at more favorable terms, then I counsel our Filipino businessmen to cease being prima donnas and start learning group behavior and group conduct. In short, we should match industry with more intense effort, patience with infinite patience, economy with stricter economy, intelligence with greater resourcefulness.