

EDITORIAL

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PHILIPPINE RESOURCES

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More and more attention is being paid to the potentialities of the Philippines as a source of raw materials for the United States, as the European situation becomes more complicated. President Quezon is about to conduct an economic survey in the south, and is particularly interested in the possibility of establishing a vast rubber plantation in the Koronadal valley. Director Abadilla of the Bureau of Mines calls attention again to the vast stores of strategic minerals in the Philippines, minerals needed by the United States. Four geological parties are in different parts of the Islands, conducting an extensive survey for possible mineral deposits. Coal and petroleum indications are being traced.

As the United States speeds up its new and enormous defense program, the importance of all available raw materials becomes more and more evident. Thus the Philippines as a logical source for such materials is of increasing importance to the United States.

This situation, coupled with the value of the cash trade between the Philippines and the United States, makes it more and more evident that there can be no sharp severance of all relations when independence arrives in 1946. Rather, an adjustment of trade barriers which will permit the continuance of present relations and even stimulate new fields of commerce, is in line.

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RALPH KEELER, Editor and Business Manager