



# THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE JOURNAL



MARCH, 1928

Vol. VIII, No. 3

## BY THESE SIGNS CONQUER

Significant paragraphs from the inaugural address of Governor-General Henry Lewis Stimson, Burnham Green, Manila, March 1, 1928:

It is not within the province of the Governor General to determine the future relations of the inhabitants of these Islands to the United States; that duty rests with the Government of the United States. But it is his duty, so long as the present connection remains, to endeavor to make that union a happy and fruitful one.



History shows that it has been the great commercial and industrial nations which have first developed individual liberty and free institution and which have most tenaciously clung to them. It has shown further that within such countries it has been the middle artisan class, produced by industry and commerce, which has been the pillar and support of their free institutions. The industrial guild, in ancient times, was a birthplace of common rights, and in later days the trade union brought forth by industrial development has often been a bulwark against governmental oppression.



If there is danger today of the loss of personal freedom in these Islands, if for example the threat of the usurer overhangs any class of your citizens, it is the tillers of your rice paddies who are subject to the danger rather than the artisans of your shops and factories.



Government is expected to engage in activities for the social benefit or protection of the individual, all of which are expensive and require greater governmental revenues.



The government of today is expected to furnish not only schools and colleges, but also hospitals, asylums, libraries and museums, public roads, aqueducts and postoffices, and a constantly increasing variety of services of health and education, travel and communication, protection and social welfare which modern civilized life regards as essential.

You are faced with the alternative of increasing your taxable wealth or checking and holding back some of the necessary activity of your government and important public improvements.



In short it is the simple truth not only that individual freedom and the practice of self-government are found to be most prevalent and firmly held in those communities and nations which have a highly developed system of industry and commerce as a foundation, but it is also true that only in such communities and nations can the average citizen attain the degree of individual comfort, education and culture which modern civilization is coming to demand.

Is there any reason why the Filipino people should not attain such an economic development? Manifestly it lacks it today. Manifestly its attention during the past generation has been more concentrated upon political than economic development, with the result that progress in the latter field has not kept pace with the exceptional progress made in education and public affairs.



The Philippine Islands today are possessed of a political connection with the foremost industrial nation in the world—the nation where not only has mechanical invention made the greatest advance, but where the organization and methods of industry and the relations of capital and labor are more enlightened and fruitful than in any other country under the sun. Is it not the part of wisdom and of prudence for this people to absorb to the uttermost the lessons and benefits which can be derived from the teaching of such a successful practitioner?

Have not the people of the United States sufficiently demonstrated the unselfishness of their attitude toward these Islands in the matter of political development to make them worthy of confidence in the matter of economic development? I believe that nowhere in the world are the relations of capital to the public watched with a more jealous eye than today in the United States.



Moreover, I believe that the establishment of such industrial relations with the United States would greatly benefit the social relations of the two peoples. Business relations between worthy partners tend to produce mutual confidence.

I cannot believe that this opportunity will not be grasped by the Filipino people. On the contrary, I believe that it will, and through it that they will press forward into new stages of political freedom, individual comfort and social welfare.

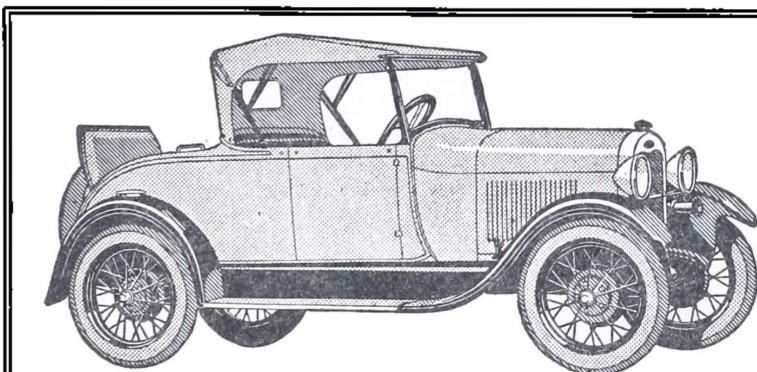


Three centuries ago, under the leadership of Spain, you turned your faces from the Orient toward the Western World. You accepted a civilization and a religion which marked you as a separate people from those who surround you. Now with the passage of these three centuries, your connection with the West has itself become transformed into a promise of new opportunities. The nation with which you are now connected represent not only political freedom but the highest average standard of social and material welfare which has yet been developed in this world.

I have addressed myself thus far to the Filipino people, because the steps necessary for the solution of the problem which I have been discussing must primarily be taken by them. Before closing, may I add a word of appreciation and good wishes to the American residents of these Islands. I am keenly sensible of the debt of gratitude which both the Filipino people and the people of the United States owe to them and of the duty which rests upon the shoulders of the Governor General to protect their legitimate rights and interests. Whether in the military uniform of the United States, whether as civil servants and teachers of this Government, or whether business men risking their all in the development of its resources, those Americans have rendered inestimable service to this land. They have been the pioneers in the performance of an American service to an Oriental people, such as no other nation of the world has even attempted. It would be a short-sighted policy indeed which allowed them to be treated either with neglect or injustice, for such a policy would result only in ultimate injury to this country where their service was rendered.

In the conduct of this office into which I have now been inducted, it will be my earnest endeavor to be watchful of the interests of both Americans and Filipinos alike, to be equally accessible to all and patient in hearing all of such issues as may arise.

Working all of us together in a spirit of sympathetic co-operation, I trust that, under the providence of God, we may be successful in carrying forward the high aims and purposes of the noble men who have preceded us.



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