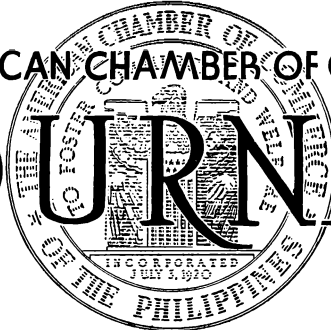


# THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# JOURNAL



## Editorials

*"... to promote the general welfare"*

The American Chamber of Commerce sent the following radiogram to the Hon. Myron M. Cowen after his recent appointment as Ambassador to the Philippines and received a letter from him in reply, which follow in order:

**Ambassador  
Myron M.  
Cowen**

"Permit us on behalf of the American business community, to congratulate you on your appointment as American Ambassador to the Philippines. We hope you will shortly permit us to hold a dinner-reception in your honor at whatever time may be convenient to you after your arrival in the Philippines."

The letter:

"American Embassy  
Canberra, Australia

"Dear Mr. Stevens:

"I deeply appreciate your gracious cable welcoming me to the Philippines. It will probably be a matter of some days before we can make definite plans for our departure from here, and it is not yet entirely certain whether we shall go directly to Manila from here or first go to Washington for a hurried visit.

"Just as soon as our plans are definite, however, I shall let you know, and I shall look forward to meeting you and your members with much anticipation.

"Cordially,

(Sgd.) MYRON M. COWEN  
American Ambassador"

Readers will be interested in an article by Mr. Cowen in this issue of the Journal on the problems of the economic development of the Far East, sent us by the United States Information Service, Manila, some time before his appointment as Ambassador to the Philippines. It is the text of an address which he made last December as head of the American delegation to the fourth conference of the ECAFE and is indicative of the new Ambassador's thinking on the subject.

The Tokyo press reports, following the departure from Japan of Secretary of the Army Kenneth Royall, which stated that the United States would abandon Japan in case of war and which suggested that it would soon withdraw its occupation forces there, have been officially denied.

It is well that this denial has been elicited, for any policy framed so baldly, would find little support anywhere. The denial has not, however, served to dispel the implication that there has been a revision of American global strategy toward still greater concentration on Europe.

Although this has resulted in general concern, not to say alarm, in this part of the world, has led to bitter reflections and even recriminations in the press, and has, to an extent, been damaging to American prestige, second thought may tend to modify the first reaction.

For if what has been implied is a fact, what could it mean other than that the United States, to use an expression taken from the field of sport, is determined to keep its eyes on the ball?

America's present self-elected antagonist is Stalin's Russia, and we must not blind ourselves, whatever our local interest, to both America's and Russia's respective advantages and disadvantages, strategically and tactically, in the Pacific and Far Eastern areas.

The Russian subversionists have undoubtedly hoped that the unrest being created in various parts of Asia and the recent advance of the Chinese "Reds" would greatly disturb America and serve to distract American attention from Europe, where, then, they would be less deterred in their spreading of havoc.

But it now appears that America will not allow itself to be distracted and is keeping its eyes on the target, — the Russian power-house in Europe.

Russia may be allowed some evil success in its villainies in Asia without a resulting destruction of the whole of civilization, but if the Stalinite despotism were to engulf all of Europe, still, outside of the