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## The American Chamber of Commerce OF THE Philippine Islands

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this very organization—they are still more ample for the ends of peace.

Suppose for the sheer amusement of it that Henry VIII of England had not made a Spanish marriage and had not engaged in that spoliation of Italy that placed *Defender of the Faith* in the British imperial title, but had stayed at home peacefully and husbanded England's resources—what would merry England be today? You have not to look far for the answer, merely across the North sea to England's neighbors, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland, where the prevailing ideology has long been that of peace and self-sufficiency: no dream of empire, and no sense of inferiority for lack of empire; and no declining virility, physical, mental, or spiritual, but wealth widely distributed, and wealth accumulating, and bettered ways of living introduced all the time. Merry England would have been that too, if empire had been declined, the home of truly merry Englishmen; more than now live perhaps, and all of them better provisioned. If you could but speak over Hitler's shoulder to the German people you would invite attention to that. For it is as easily demonstrable as a problem in simple arithmetic that conquest is vain, that materially it boots nothing, and in no way does any good at all. When Charles XII of Sweden went campaigning round Europe, Sweden was badly off; she could implement war, but never to her advantage—no country ever can—and now that she swashbuckles no more, she is excellently off, and Swedes infinitely elevated in the world's esteem, deservedly. Sweden is not large, and Swedes are not ascetics, but it is found that nature sees to it that not too many Swedes are born. If all nations would abandon the sword and get back to God they would have precisely the same experience—their countries would suffice them. Germany would not be an exception, rather we should say, almost immediately an outstanding example.

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## REFUGEES

Forty-five refugee families from central Europe have all been admitted to this Commonwealth and more than twice that number are being selected for admission. Others have come to Manila independently and some of these young men have tramped from office to office during more than a year, seeking work at any price. The lowest we have heard of is P50 a month, a well educated refugee offered to work for that, and it has come to be a fact, begun with the influx from Shanghai a year ago, that the initial pay at which young Americans are put to work is P150 a month, when board and room alone at the Y. M. C. A. costs P110 a month. However, with more refugees coming in, wages must fall below P150 a month. Sickness recurs, some special expenses accrue inevitably. P150 a month is not a living wage at the simplest American living standard basis. On such terms, refugees do the country little good, they in fact do it harm temporarily, and possibly permanently, and will soon wear out their welcome.

All this should be avoided by sending every refugee to the land in Mindanao for subsistence farming exactly on the same basis as Filipinos are sent there, with the refugees' own community and others friendly toward them privileged to help them get started as farmers. No exception should be made even of scientists, until all have tasted the soil. Nor should they be lodged in all-refugee communities in Mindanao; they should be sprinkled into a general community, each refugee homestead bounded by Filipino homesteads. Palestine shows that urban refugees learn rural life quickly and find zest in it. Let the

## GOOD FROM EVIL

When this note is written, September 10, the weekend is passing that is, to date, Europe's strongest threat of renewed world war. It derives from the Hitler philosophy, that regeneration of Germany lies in conquest, an expanded Reich and colonial restorations. A nation that thinks that is probably running a temperature, and probably nothing can be done about it. Let us observe however that since Germany invites war she must feel that her economic position is resourceful enough to sustain the extraordinary costs of war; she has therefore no reason to go to war, really, because peace is cheaper: rich enough to carry on a war, a country is not so poor that it can not carry on peace—its sufficiency for war belies its case. It is comparatively artless to carry on war, magnificently ingenious to carry on peace; war is the lesser challenge, peace the greater, and if a country's leadership is chosen for war, or a warlike policy, obviously it is not the best the country affords—it is second rate, not first rate. Its ideology is second rate, in the first place, and its better minds, having thought far ahead of it, will not endure the abasement of going back to it. Countries Hitler would fight have the leadership that peace exactingly requires, an obvious initial advantage. Countries organize more neatly for peace than for war, peace being the harder game; just the same, any country triumphantly organized for war dashes its ultimata to pieces on the bulwarks of