THE JAPANESE EMPIRE

The Japanese Empire contains 260,740 square miles with a population of 105,226,101 persons as determined by the census of 1940. The Empire, therefore, contains about the same land area as the State of Texas with a population of fourteen times that of the great Lone Star State. Japan proper, however, contains 147,701 square miles with a population of 73,111,308. Tokyo which is the largest city has a population of six and three quarters million. Osaka is the next largest with a population of three and one quarter million. Japan is in a peculiar position with respect to trade and natural resources. It is quite devoid of such resources which accounts for the fact that 83 per cent of her imports consist of raw material and semi-manufactured goods. This means that her industrial life is dependent on cotton, wool, pulp, metals and other raw materials to keep its mills and factories in operation. Of her exports 50 per cent consist of finished goods such as textiles and 30 per cent silk. The latest trade figures indicate that a little over 30 per cent of all her imports came from the United States while 18 per cent of her exports went to the United States. The dollar value of Japan's trade with South American countries has been quite small. About 4 per cent of her imports came from South America and about 3 per cent of her exports went to South America. Latest figures also indicate that the total U.S. investment in Japan was about $65,000,000. At the beginning of 1941 the United States and its citizens was holding about $105,000,000 in Japanese bonds. In July of this year when the order was entered to freeze Japanese balances, there were approximately $76,000,000 in such balances in the United States. This provides a brief statistical picture of the country which attacked the U.S. forces and territory on December 7, 1941.

WHAT BECOMES OF TANKS

Have you ever been curious about the disposition of tanks which are put out of commission in the course of a battle. No doubt you have seen pictures of tanks which were rendered ineffective and have read accounts of how thousands of tanks in the present war have been rendered useless by gun fire. What happens to them? Are they left on the battlefield? Are they salvaged? Are they taken over by people who live in that area when the battle is over? Congress was advised when this question was raised that tanks are usually brought up to the scene of action by rail or carrier and when rendered ineffective are put out of commission, are hauled back for immediate repairs. The maintenance of a tank repair service is one of the most difficult and expensive elements of warfare.
THE PHILIPPINES

A generation ago, one of the favorite topics for High School and College debate was the question of according independence to the Philippines. One of the primary arguments for independence was the difficulty of adequately defending the islands in time of war. Today that question presents itself for test. The following brief facts will be of interest as the Philippines figure prominently in the war in the Pacific. They were discovered by Magellan in 1521. They remained a Spanish Colony from 1565 to 1898. American sovereignty over the Philippines began in 1901. They became the Philippine Commonwealth in 1935. Unless Congress decrees otherwise, they become independent on July 4, 1946. They embrace 7000 islands with a land area of 114,000 square miles (about one-twenty fifth the area of the U.S.). The eleven largest islands contain 94% of the land area. Luzon is largest with 40,800 square miles. Mindanao is next with 36,900. The total population is 16,000,000. This includes 117,500 Chinese, 29,300 Japanese, 4,600 Spaniards, 8,700 Americans (excluding army and Navy personnel). U.S. investments in the Philippines total $156,800,000, Japanese investments $35,000,000. Chief exports are sugar, gold, tobacco and abaca (fibre). Imports for 1940 were $136,730,000, exports $155,925,000. Of the island exports, 82.8% go to the US, 5.4% to Japan. Of the island imports 78% come from US, 4.5% from Japan. Topography includes all types of mountains, plains and plateaus. Elevations range from sea-level to 10,000 feet. Distance from chief city of Manila to San Francisco is 6220 miles, Manila to Yokohoma 1760 miles, Manila to Singapore 1370 miles.

BLOCKED FUNDS

Economic warfare under which the funds of foreign nations which have been dominated by the Nazis are frozen accounts for billions of dollars in the United States now under the control of a division in the Treasury Department. Freezing orders have been issued from time to time by the President and there is now blocked in this country more that $1 1/3 billion dollars. This includes $92,000,000 of Danish funds, $175,000,000 from Norway, $1,619,000,000 from Holland, $760,000,000 from Belgium, $4,800,000,000 from Luxembourg, $1,593,000,000 from France, $53,000,000 from Rumania and $29,000,000 from the small Baltic countries. The Treasury is in constant receipt of applications and in the period from January to October 1941 received 216,354 of such applications.