The United States of the World by RUSSEL CONKLIN

WORLD government is an ultimate certainty. Everything points to the conclusion that the world cannot long remain divided into two (or three) hostile armed camps. Union may come through force, or it could be brought about by the orderly democratic process first established in the Constitution of the United States. That document, the world's first self-made experiment in government from the people, points the way to the United States of the World, not through conflict but from the voluntary decisions of democratic people binding themselves together for self-preservation.

Certainly the United States of the World, including not only America but all other English-speaking nations, together with the true democracies of other tongues, would present a stronger front against the Communist threat than any confederation of sovereign nations that could be devised. As the Confederation of American States gave way to the United States of America, so will the United Nations eventually give way to a United States of the World.

When Texas, a sovereign, independent nation, became a member state in the Union, the first of two great precedents was established, namely that any nation could become a state or group of states in the Union of Federal States that we know as the United States of America. This same process of friendly, free, voluntary annexation could be extended to include any country in the world ready to subscribe to the principles of freedom as we know them. Until recently, the only argument against such a method was that the states of the union were contiguous.

But now, when Alaska and Hawaii have been admitted as states, another precedent has been established. Even non-continguous territory can become a part of our great nation. Hence, under these two precedents any nation in the world that wished to become a part of the United States could be absorbed as a state or groups of states. The United States of America, expanding in this manner by the voluntary annexation of other, weaker nations, could eventually become so strong that even enemy nations would feel the pressure to join and the United States of the World would become estab-

Not the least of the benefits of such a world-wide union would be the establishment of free trade such as is enjoyed between the sovereign states of the United States and has contributed so much to the prosperity of this country. If the same kind of free exchange between states located around the world became established, world prosperity would be enhanced. One of the best possible hedges against inflation that everybody fears would be the lowering of prices resulting from the free exchange of goods throughout the free world.

There are many other benefits that would ensue from a world-wide union: disarmament, unrestricted immigration within the union, peaceful settlement of localized differences, elimination of territorial disputes. The list is endless. And then if such a world government could be persuaded to institute a just system of taxation, the future of the world would be bright indeed. That world-wide government is coming some way some day, there can be little doubt. The expansion of the American government to meet that need is the best possible solution of a

pressing problem.