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comparison between the American Monroe Doctrine and Japan's Monroe Doctrine of Asia? By 1823 most American nations in North and South America had freed themselves from European dominance. The revolutions in Latin America had liberated every country except Cuba. The United States had sympathised with this freeing of Latin America and recognised them as independent republics. There was the danger of European powers repossessing themselves of these territories. America declared that it would no longer stand idly by and permit any foreign powers to take land in the Western Hemisphere. This was merely an anti-invasion doctrine. But this did not mean that the United States said that no one but the United States would be free to trade with Latin America. To this day Great Britain, Germany and even Japan and Italy have entered freely, and have engaged in trade and commerce to the extent of, and even more than, the United States. American business has submitted to the competition of other industrialists, but there has been no attempt at interdiction on trade. But what happened in Manchuria? Almost immediately after Japan's conquests she imposed restrictions on trade, which virtually drove all other business out of the region.

#### Open Door in Asia

The Monroe Doctrine, in effect, is only the other side of the Open Door Policy. This Open Door Policy proclaimed by the United States asked for equal opportunity for trade in Asia. There, too, America has not been imperialistic in the sense so often used. An American expert on the Far East recently stated in a book: "It is not easy to imagine one's self explaining to Washington, or Jefferson, or Hamilton how and why the destiny of the Republic they wrought may be determined on the Yangtse, or the Irrawaddy, or the Ganges, seven or eight or nine thousand miles away from the Atlantic sea-board, on which they brought a nation into being." Explain indeed! Was George Washington such a fool that he did not know whom he was fighting! He was fighting the East India companies, the monopolies which sought to keep all trade under their control in Asia. The American colonies fought to free themselves from these monopolies. America entered the trade in Asia before the guns ceased firing in 1788. It was to participate in that trade freely that America pressed onward across the continent, laid railroads, and conceived the Panama Canal. America has been fighting for the Open Door, or equal trade for all, in Asia ever since.

Now it is true that in the process of eliminating aggression from America, which ended in the Spanish-American War, the Philippines fell to America. But even there American opinion has been opposed to retaining these islands. Independence had been guaranteed the Philippines by 1946 and by 1946 the Philippines would have had their independence—and may yet have it.

I see nowhere any indication that America will change its policy in regard to the acquisition of territory beyond its own borders. What may come after this war, for the sake of security, is another matter. We have leased bases in the Atlantic: there is no reason why the same principles should not prevail in the Pacific.

## Your Will can become obsolete overnight

**B**Y the sudden devaluing of assets, by the death of persons whom you intended to benefit, or from other causes in a rapidly changing world, your Will can become obsolete, and fail to carry out your wishes. A Will is a document which must be prepared with the greatest of care and skill. Remember that, as circumstances change, so may your Will need revision.

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Has your Will been reviewed or revised recently?

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