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LESSONS OF THE WAR.

The war with Spain has taught the world several important lessons. When peace again shall come and the history of the conflict is commenced, it will appear to every patriot that the struggle is worth every cent it has cost, and more. It has placed the United States in a more prominent position among the nations of the earth and vindicated the principles on which the Republic is founded. It has been, indeed, a war for humanity, for from now on people everywhere will better appreciate the value of popular government as compared to Old World institutions. It has opened the eyes of millions and pointed out their way from darkness to light, from bondage to liberty, from misery to happiness.

In the first place, this war has demonstrated the superiority of our government. Many thought that the United States had no soldiers. Gen. Weyler was quoted to the effect that with an army of 50,000 he would undertake to march from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and, no doubt, he only expressed a somewhat general opinion. In a short time, however, a sufficient force was brought together, drilled and ready for service. But our European friends believed that this hastily composed force was no better than a rabble. The old world theory is that it takes years of training to fit a man for service in the field, and it was expected that the Americans would wait for before the Spaniards as chaff before the wind. When therefore our volunteers stood the fire like veterans and drove the enemy from position to position and finally compelled a numerically superior force to surrender, this came as a revelation. There was no lack of discipline, no faltering. The battles around Santiago proved that an army of freemen inspired by patriotism is the peer of an army driven to the field as slaves and fighting only because compelled to do so. The theory on which European governments based their belief in the superiority of their armies has received a blow from which, let us hope, it will never fully recover.

The war has, further, demonstrated that Spain has no fighting qualities. That means that one of Europe's old monarchies, one of the supports of antiquated political and religious institutions, has been shaken to the foundations. The effect will be felt throughout.

The peace negotiations are so much of a revelation to the world as the war has been and convey another lesson. In Europe the United States has been looked upon as a nation of money worshippers par excellence. This has been demonstrated that as our ruin being but only an incident, showing the United States in the treatment of the enemy has added to the most conspicuous, high-class and disinterested motives ever displayed by a foe to another. The Spanish dominions have been diminished. In all these respects the United States will be better known to the world from this time on and its prestige increased. It took a war to prove that our free institutions have produced a nation of men than those reared in the school of military despotism—but nevertheless mankind is mighty slow about believing.

This great lesson is not intended for foreigners alone. Our own people need to remember it for the future. Prosperity in some quarters then it a tendency to imitate the old world methods. Intemperate parties will in the near future choose for shelter under the gold embroidered robe of European aristocracy. This is will be necessary to remember the lesson of the Spanish-American war so as not to fall under an error which may cost the country dearly.

ARE BONDS EVENTS?

During the session of the present Legislature Assembly in not a little perhaps more than once was prevented, having in view the revocation of powers given local boards. This was in abeyance to a general and personal demand, the object being to make the rate of interest paid by towns which are secured by mortgage as low as possible. It is well known that all the taxation which has to be paid on a mortgage is simply added to the interest, and that if there were no such taxation the amount of interest would of course be less by just the amount of the money thought to be saved and collected, and it appears at times to quite an item. All this has reference to bona fide, there being no law enjoining on owner issued bonds from assessment and taxation. The exclusion in the discrimination was also a cause of objection. Waiving the latter phase of the case and referring now to the future—which is from for the sake of emphasis—we mention two other things suggested by the discussion.

A majority of the Legislature was decidedly favorable to the measure, and it would undoubtedly have passed with scarcely opposition frequently but to the unfavorable comments which accompanied the matter discussed. The bill was unconstitutional. The charter of the State provides, among other things in this subject, that no private property in the State is subject to taxation, and mortgages are held to be such property, which they undoubtedly are, for purposes of taxation, although in a strict sense only evidence of property. The Constitution is to this proposition—that is, the Homestead of the taxation system—was recently interpreted by the Supreme court of the State in a convincing proposition, the opinion being by Chief Justice Zane. It related to the enforcement or modification of laws to certain class which, it was held, could not be done, because the Constitution is unchanged, equal, impartial and uniformed taxation. It is thus shown that the law is not only fundamental, but has received a fixed interpretation by the court of last resort.

Taking these things into consideration, are not a great many of our officers and some few of the papers on the wrong point, as it were, regarding the local and State bonding systems? The obligations of the commonwealth have been freely taken on some more favorable terms than were asked, because they have been made exempt from State taxation; the city bonds are the subject of considerable accumulation, because they are made subject to State but not to city taxation, which gives the other bonds an advantage in the market. But is not the citizen, notwithstanding the law in his favor in one case and the ordinance favoring him in the other, in an improper position regarding taxation from paying assessment on the bonds of some kind that he may hold? The Legislature has very much more power in the matter of legislation than any city council has, any of the work of the latter can be repealed or added to by the former, and if the Legislature has constitutional authority to exempt bonds from taxation—a subject to be discussed a little further on—it follows that the council not only has no such authority but goes a long way in the opposite direction from right when it assumes so to act. Be that, we mention under what circumstances or to what extent the citizen may be a bondholder of either the State or the municipality, if the law and the ordinance exemption from taxation on such holdings shall be found to be constitutional, he will be liable for all taxes, primarily, jointly and retrospectively, that he would be and have been subject to if no such enactments had ever existed.

Article XIII, section 2, of the Constitution, under the heading of "Revenue and Taxation," provides that all property in the State, not exempt under the laws of the United States or the Constitution of Utah, shall be taxed in proportion to its value to be ascertained as law. The word "property" is defined as including moneys, credits, bonds, stocks, franchises and all matters coming under the private ownership. Property owned by the State or by any municipal corporation in this State, and being capable of private ownership, are exempt. But bonds, though issued by either of these divisions of the civil government, are not the property of either as such, although designed to bring money into the treasury of the State or municipality, and they are to only capable of private ownership out of no other. They confer a benefit upon the holder of them, as other property is supposed to do, only that they are much more portable than some of the other properties that are taxed, in that they do not shrink in value, and produce an unfailing revenue. All these considerations, one would think, were sufficient to bring more and city bonds within the scope of property subject to taxation. Furthermore, as applied to the city, the council has no right to make ordinances at all which relate to the assessment or collection of taxes, the proportion of the fund derivable from such sources being looked after by the county officials.

Under these circumstances it seems to us well to make the discussion of a "good chance" or a "fearful penalty claim." or the discriminations in which bonds shall be taxed and still it is clear it determined exactly what their legal status is.

PEACE AND NO PEACE.

It looks as if we were at the very threshold of peace so far as relates to the West Indies. The Madrid cabinet having agreed to the American terms for the evacuation of Cuba, Porto Rico and an absolute and permanent cessation of hostilities on the part of Spain, it has now slept out on the inter side of the place. The issue as to Porto Rico has yet to come and there the fight may be renewed. The issue as to Cuba is settled, and it is to be hoped that the war will be at an end. Some Spaniards are reported as saying that they would rather be Spanish than Cuban, and it is to be hoped that the Spanish Government will not be so foolish as to allow the Cuban question to be reopened. The Cuban question is settled, and it is to be hoped that it will be so forever. The Cuban question is settled, and it is to be hoped that it will be so forever. The Cuban question is settled, and it is to be hoped that it will be so forever