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Those desiring information regarding Tillamook county can secure it by writing to the HEADLIGHT OFFICE, or to any of the perfectly reliable business men of Tillamook city.

### WAR PROBLEMS.

#### Victorious Uncle Sam is Considering Them.

PEACE COMMISSIONER DAY is said to be strongly opposed to the United States retaining possession of the entire Philippine group, and there can be no doubt that he reflects the position of President McKinley. It may be regarded as practically assured, therefore, that the American peace commissioners will demand no more Philippine territory than shall be deemed necessary for a naval station and commercial basis—possibly a large part of Luzon? This would greatly elate the Spanish people, and to retain possession of the islands is more than they can expect. There is no denying the fact but what the sentiment on the Pacific Coast is in favor of the United States annexing the Philippine islands, while that in the Eastern states turn in the opposite direction. Looking at the situation squarely in the face the HEADLIGHT is forced to ask, What country would give the Philippine islands a better form of government than the United States?

It is now known, says the World, that the collections under the War Revenue bill will surely yield \$140,000,000 by the end of the current fiscal year. That sum, added to the \$200,000,000 derived from the bond issue, will bring the extraordinary revenue of the Treasury for war purposes up to \$340,000,000. It is also known now that the total cost of the war up to the end of the current fiscal year will not exceed \$235,000,000. Still further, it is known that the increasing volume of imports is likely to increase the ordinary revenue of the government, derived under the old laws, by about \$50,000,000 within the same period. In short, the financial prospect before the country is that, unless the superfluous war taxes are repealed, there will be an enormous Treasury surplus on June 30, 1899, which the country has no use for. These special war taxes should be repealed. They were imposed under conditions that have ceased to exist. They are yielding at least \$140,000,000 a year of unnecessary revenue. They are taking just about \$400,000 a day out of the pockets of the people needlessly and for no purpose whatever except to pile up a huge surplus in the Treasury which will be a menace to the financial and commercial welfare of the country.

The war is over, and the details of peace are about to be concluded. Reasons for and against the adoption by the United States of a policy of colonial empire are being vigorously discussed, but, observes the Orange Judd Farmer, the discussion thus far is of a general character. Without going into those national aspects of the case at this time, that newspaper points out how seriously the American farmers' interests will be jeopardized by unwise colonial expansion. The free admission into the markets of the United States of sugar, tobacco and coffee from all the heretofore Spanish possessions in the East and West Indies, will be demanded by the few syndicates that will monopolize the production of these crops. They will spend money like water to accomplish this purpose, because if they win it means untold wealth for them. Sugar and tobacco plantations and factories, conducted on a large scale in those tropical countries, employing the native cheap labor at long hours, directed by the ablest genius that capital can secure and that modern industry has created, can lay down in the United States markets either raw sugar and leaf, or the refined product and cigars at prices that will drive out of the business every manufacturer of cigars or of sugar, every grower of leaf tobacco, and every planter of sugar beets or sugar cane within the present confines of the United States. Given free admission to this market, the colonial producer or manufacturer can

still make magnificent profits at prices that mean annihilation to our domestic sugar and leaf tobacco industries.

How to employ the revenues derived from customs in Cuba and Porto Rico is a question that is receiving attention at Washington. The receipts at the Santiago custom house thus far indicate annual collections to the amount of about \$4,000,000, sufficient to pay all the expenses of civil administration and probably of the garrison also. Of course the revenue at Havana will be very much larger, and there are other ports that will contribute. It is stated that the official Cuban revenue has averaged about \$25,000,000, and doubtless a considerable additional amount has stuck in the pockets of the Spanish officials. The customs revenue of Porto Rico is probably one-third that of Cuba.

One of the most impressive lessons of the war with Spain is the manifest lack of trained military officers to command large bodies of soldiers raised in sudden emergencies. Whatever blunders have been made in the handling of the troops, and whatever shortcomings have been disclosed in the transportation, feeding and medical treatment, are nearly all traceable to the inexperience of the men charged with the responsibility. This applies both to field and staff officers who were commissioned on the spur of the moment for the reason that trained military men could not be found in sufficient numbers to supply the demand. So long as our army only mustered 25,000 men one military training school conducted by the government was ample for ordinary purposes. When the strength of regular army was raised to 60,000 men and 225,000 volunteers were recruited in less than sixty days, the supply of educated military officers was exhausted before the organization was half begun. With a standing army of from 60,000 to 100,000 men the West Point Military academy will be unequal to the situation.

The war has taught us what some of us already held, that the torpedo boat is not the formidable engine of war which it has been credited with being. The naval battles of the future, as of the past, will be fought by the most powerful engines of naval warfare that can be constructed. The battleship, in spite of its great cost, will continue to occupy the prominent place. The torpedo boat will have its uses, but they will not be the most important uses of a naval engagement, for the incessant discharge of the quick firing guns from the battle ships places them in a critical position. During the war just closed the torpedo boat was practically of no use at all. Just before the outbreak of hostilities there was a great scare on account of the flotilla of torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers which was said to be on its way across the Atlantic from the Cape Verde islands. When the war actually came we heard nothing more about them until they were destroyed. In fact, torpedo boats were not used by either combatants, a duty to which other craft might be more advantageously assigned. The Winslow, it is true, was sent into the harbor of Cardenas to reconnoiter, but this was gunboat service and not the work for which a torpedo boat is intended.

The present complaint regarding the care of the brave boys who won such glory for the American flag is to be deplored. That there is some cause for complaint is evident from the dispatches and the general tenor of the comment emanating from Washington. While every American will sympathize with the brave boys who have endured the hardships incident to a few months of army life under tropical storms, yet there is a feeling that all the talk is in a great measure a case of history repeating itself. The student of history will easily recollect that the same complaint followed the close of the civil war. Army life is a hardship. There are no flowery beds of ease and home circles and hearthside

in the life of the brave boy who shouldered his gun in defense of his flag. War means suffering, and especially is this true where a country has had very little time to prepare for it. But it is easier to tear down than to build up. During a few months of actual warfare the country has made a record for its arms that is the subject of generous comment over the civilized world. Mistakes have undoubtedly been made, for when the war first began all preparations were necessarily made hurriedly. The people were clamoring and beseeching the administration to make haste. Now that it is all over the same papers and the same people who were so anxious for the war to be waged, regardless of the necessary preparation, are the first ones to insist that they will kill all the glory that may have been achieved by turning the search light of investigation upon the conduct of those in charge. If flagrant wrongs have been committed they should have redress, but it is not a loyal spirit that suggests an investigation for political purposes. Such a course would mean national as well as international disgrace, and would be a sad closing scene for the end of a war that has been fought and won as no other one has in the history of the known world. President McKinley was equal to the occasion when war was declared, and instead of criticizing the administration the HEADLIGHT is of the opinion that every citizen should honor it for the promptness with which it brought Spain down on her knees begging for mercy.

The full text of the articles of capitulation signed at Manila shows that the surrender is limited to the city and defenses of Manila and its suburbs. It appears evident that in preparing the articles General Merritt acted upon instructions from Washington, or with a knowledge of the purpose of the president obtained before his departure for the Philippines. At all events the terms of surrender are entirely satisfactory to the president, who it is understood does not construe them as meaning the surrender of all the Philippines, as they have been interpreted by some. The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says that whatever may be the ultimate outcome of the negotiations in regard to the Philippines, it can be confidently stated that the president does not look to the acquisition of the entire group. Therefore no disappointment was felt at the White House or the state department that the capitulation did not include the entire group, as was stated in the press dispatches first received. But even had the capitulation included the entire group, says the correspondent, it would not have changed the plans of the president and the agreement of the protocol to have the question of the control, disposition and future government of the islands made the subject of negotiation and determination by the peace commission.

#### TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.

Consular reports are not very generally considered as especially interesting reading, but a number of the later issues from Washington may prove an exception to the rule for those who are interested in the industrial development of the country. These reports show plainly that the markets of the world are rapidly opening to American manufacturers, and that American manufacturers are as rapidly taking advantage of the opportunities thus offered. As a matter of fact, the future of American foreign commerce was never so bright as now. As one of our consuls put it:

"If our manufacturers have the enterprise to take advantage of their opportunity and push their way into the foreign markets which lie open to them there is no reason why they should not build up a tremendous business, which will protect this country against serious depression at times when local conditions disturb domestic consumption. American manufacturers now have open markets for vast quantities of goods in France, Switzerland and even Italy if

they will only take proper measures to present them favorably to consumers and consult their commercial habits and convenience. If they do this there will be no trouble in securing a valuable trade, which will profit not only the particular manufacturer but the country in general, by giving it so much broader foundation for its prosperity."

The advantages of a wider foreign market for our industrial products are so apparent as to require little discussion. There are periods of depression in every industry, and the best insurance against suffering from them is to have a wide area of consumption, some part of which, at least, is reasonably certain to be free from depression or congestion. England, with her vast trade interests, has been undisturbed throughout the recent years of stagnation, because she had a market which was not confined to any one or two countries, and so dependent on their prosperity.

Americans may well take heed of England's experience, and lose no time in taking full advantage of every trade opportunity offered by the unusually propitious conditions which at present confront them.

#### COUNT THE COST.

In venturing upon any enterprise the prudent business man will first count the cost. Just now the unthinking expansionists who want to annex as many islands and countries as can be covered by the flag have their eyes on China. They point to the fact that England exports twice as much to China as the United States solely because England occupies important seaports on the Chinese coast.

If this were true it still would not justify the enormous outlay involved in the permanent maintenance of a military and naval force in Asiatic waters. The total export of British goods to China during the past year is estimated at \$35,000,000, while the United States has exported in 1897 goods valued at \$17,900,000. In other words, the merchants of England have sold twice as much to China as our own merchants. While no reliable estimate can possibly be made of the increased cost of military and naval forces to match those of England in that part of the world, it is safe to say that they would exceed by many millions the difference between what we are now selling and what we might possibly sell.

Everybody conversant with international trade and the methods by which England has acquired supremacy over all other countries, not only in India and China, but in South America as well as South Africa, knows that its ascendancy is chiefly due to its command of vast capital. England does not control a foot of soil in Brazil or in Argentina, and yet its steamship lines monopolize the trade up the Amazon and Orinoco, as they do on the Yang-tse. Up to this time the United States has been a debtor nation. Its railroads have been built with foreign capital, and most of its ocean carrying trade has been in English bottoms, not because Britannia rules the sea with battleships, but because it dominates the world's commerce with its uncounted wealth. So long as American capital remains inadequate to develop its own resources, the acquisition of distant islands and ports by conquest or by purchase, and the multiplication of its armament on land and sea will not enable it to compete successfully for the trade now controlled by nations that have unlimited capital to draw on.

Even if such a thing were possible as taking the Chinese trade away from England, as the expansionists imagine, the question would be whether all American goods that could be unloaded upon China would equal in value the cost of keeping 25,000 to 30,000 soldiers and a dozen war ships in the Philippines and China.

Most of the victors in the campaign at Santiago would be willing to fight the battle over again under similar conditions and with all its hardships.



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