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EDITORIALS BY JUDGE C. C. GOODWIN

Memorial Day

THIS is Memorial day and the beautiful custom of dressing with flowers the graves of the much-loved dead will, as it should, be generally observed. It for the hour causes us to recall the memories of those we knew; the memories of what the great host did when the life of the nation hung upon their sacrifices. It lacks but a few months of half a century since the lips of the last cannon of the great war grew cold, but the memory of it is still fresh and the greatest lesson that it taught—that nations must pay for their mistakes with full interest added—should be in the mind of every American every day.

A few votes more would have abolished slavery in our country when the plan of our government was being framed, and the wisest among the fathers pointed out the danger of continuing it, but those who were conservatives pleaded for its continuance, and used the argument that when the people increased in population and there were more laborers, slavery would die a natural death. They succeeded in their work; then came the invention of the cotton gin, then the monopoly of cotton raising; then the claim that human slavery was a divine institution; the years of wrangling, the culminating war in which "every drop of blood drawn with the lash was paid for by one drawn with the sword," the southland was wrecked and all the country was like Egypt on that peaceful morning when in every house there was one dead.

The war with Spain was forced upon us; moreover there was destiny in it. The time came when the United States was forced all at once into becoming a Great World Power and the responsibilities which attach to that station were fastened upon us.

The war in itself was, by comparison, but a little thing. But included in it was the finding of the cause and the stamping out of two of the most fatal fevers of the tropics—which every year for a long time had cost more lives than all that were lost in the war.

There was the duty of redeeming Cuba and making it a place of order, of law and the learning by its people of the first lessons in education and cleanliness.

There was the duty of beginning the redemption of the Philippines and the exalting of our flag on the sullen shores of the orient.

We have more serious problems close at home.

In the meantime, right at home are manifest difficulties. There are too many idle men. It is a shame that in a country like ours are thousands of idle men who would fain be earning an honest living. It is a greater shame that there are thousands more, who taking advantage of our

generous institutions and easy going ways are planning, not only to live without work but to overthrow order and law.

Hence as we lay the wreaths upon the narrow houses of those we have loved and lost today, we should keep in mind that their heroic deaths did not make our land immune against trouble and wrongs; that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and it is necessary for every American every day to feel that he is one of the sentinels who all his life must stand on guard to protect his native land against the enemies of order, of law, of peace, and to do his part to see that wisdom and patriotism may be ever the real rulers of our country.

Church and State in Utah

THERE is a very earnest clergyman in this city, who we doubt not, is a sincere Christian and honest man. But he is prone to magnify his calling. Had he chosen the law as a profession, it is clear he would have been about the liveliest politician ever seen at a primary.

As reported in the daily press, he believes a minister of the Gospel is recreant to duty, if he does not directly interfere in politics and see to it that only good men, reckoned from his standpoint, shall be candidates. It used to be said that the Puritan Fathers pulled away from native land and sought the wilderness, that they might worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences, but when they finally established themselves in New England they were ready to crucify anyone whose conscience did not correspond with theirs. We fear that there is a trifle of the old Puritan in Rev. Betts. We fear that were he and Rev. Goshen, Rev. Talbot, Bishop Scanlan, President Joseph Smith and the others to all carry politics into their pulpits, it would not be long until there would be more entertainment here for sinners than for Christians.

On last Sabbath, as reported, Rev. Betts, sought to improve on the saying of the Savior and made it read: "Give to Caesar the tribute necessary to carry on his government, but give to my church the moral backbone, the spiritual stamina and the consecrated courage to maintain at all costs proper moral standards in temporal government."

Now just such misinterpretations of the words of the Master, caused Europe to be soaked with the blood of tens of thousands of poor victims for fifteen hundred years.

The knowledge of that dreary fact and of the further fact that under exclusive priestly rule, the decay of the nation so enthralled never fails; caused our fathers to decree that in this country there should be absolute separation of church and state; that both the church and the state should be absolutely free but that neither should trench on the prerogatives of the other, that the meaning of the Master's words should be the plain meaning which the words convey,—that what was Caesar's should be rendered to Caesar but that to God should be rendered what was His.

The clergy have a perfect right to their political opinions; they have a right to advocate righteousness; to advocate temperance,

patriotism and all the virtues in their pulpits, in the homes of the people, to denounce wrong in whatever form it may appear, in brief to imitate in their work the work of the Master; by their own characters to be living examples of the good that comes of righteous lives; but when a clergyman insists upon carrying his politics into his work or his pulpit every week in the opinion of level-headed men he degrades his high profession and casts a shadow upon the higher cause of serving God through serving his fellow men, in pointing out to them that other kingdom which is not of this world and the order of their lives they should lead here in preparation for it.

When a clergyman drifts into active politics, if sincere, he is not prepared either by education or experience to deal with politicians; when he tries it, he is but one step removed from seeking political office. The public can deal with an unfaithful officer, but when a priest enters the political field it takes but one step more for him to claim that what he does is by the will of God. That is the beginning of the degradation of both priest and people.

Of all places in the world Salt Lake City should be the last one in which a minister of the Gospel should insist upon cheapening religion by mixing it in politics.

Destiny

A great ship is planned with all care; every detail is looked to in its construction; it is completed, makes its trial trip and is declared perfect in every particular.

It is carefully loaded, and when it casts off its lines and proceeds to sea the insurance companies believe they never before insured a ship with so little risk. But think of what no human foresight can provide against! The fog that hides an approaching ship; a varying compass that leads the ship in the black night upon a rock-bound coast; a flaw in the steel of a boiler, causing an explosion; spontaneous combustion in the coal-bunkers or cargo; the iceberg that has long projecting devil-fish arms below the surface of the sea; insidious deep-sea currents that stealthily draw ships from their intended courses; a mutinous crew; a master that has a temporary aberration of the mind—a hundred things that no foresight can certainly provide against.

It is so with nations; it has been especially so with our nation. The fathers looked over their work and said to each other: "It cannot fail, so magnificent will be the development, that the government will be a world-wonder, and the people will be drawn together in its defense and become a living wall between it and all foes."

But it even then had in its hold an explosive that in four score years caused almost its total wreck and ended in the mightiest war of modern times.

One mistake in the original treaty with Great Britain, made necessary the second war with that country.

The underlying thought behind the war with Mexico was to obtain new territory in which slavery might be extended. But that eventuated in the destroying of slavery and in supplying