

Spain's New War Ships

Pushing Work on Three Armored Cruisers of a Type Superior to the Vizcaya.

The Spanish government is doing all within its power to augment the strength of her navy, and with that end in view, orders have been given to push forward the three new armored cruisers, the Cardinal Cisneros, Princesa de Asturias and Cataluna, which this country is building, and which are described in the following articles, taken from that excellent weekly naval illustrated paper, El Mundo Naval, written by Lieutenant of the Navy Mario Rubio Munoz:

"The navy is anxiously awaiting the happy completion of the three armored cruisers which are being built in the arsenals of Ferrol, Carraca and Cartagena. The general description given in brief in a previous number, when we described to our readers the cruisers Infanta Maria Teresa, Vizcaya and Oquendo, are repeated in reference to their sister ships in all that relates to the generic type; but there will be a large number of new details which augment their fighting value in the Cardinal Cisneros, Princesa de Asturias and Cataluna.

Armament to Be Heavier.
"Apart from the small variations of external appearance, the differences to which we allude are for the main part introduced in the armament of the new cruisers, which is to be heavier and at the same time more complete.

"The characteristics of these cruisers are the following: Length, 106 metres; breadth, 15m. 8cm.; draught, 6m. 6cm.; displacement, 7,000 tons; engines, 15,000 horse power, and speed 20 knots. Armors: Belt, 31cm.; deck, 5cm.; gun position, 27cm., and conning tower, 31cm. Armament: Hontoria system, 24cm., 2; 14cm. quick firing, 10; small calibre, 20; torpedo tubes, 8.

"If our readers will take the pains to compare these official figures with those of the Infanta Maria Teresa, Vizcaya and Oquendo they will find in the newly built cruisers an increase of 1,200 horse power in the engines, which

that idea in mind the new cruisers have been equipped, for the rapid firing guns are perfectly protected by armor, and with special provision for a separate supply of shell.

Better Than Old Type.
"These points will mark the supremacy of the Cardinal Cisneros, Princesa de Asturias and Cataluna over the Infanta Maria Theresa type. The rapid evolution which has taken place in naval construction of modern times, age in a short time the most admired and renowned ships; the sphere of action of the cruise expands and extends logically under such circumstances, and daring are the arguments of those who seek to show that efficiency is wanting."

HERO OF MAINE DISASTER.

Brave "Bill" Anthony, marine orderly of the ill-fated battleship Maine, has a record to be proud of. Amidst the shrieks of wounded sailors and the rush of flames, with the great steel ship settling to its grave and the dead lying thick upon its shattered decks, brave Anthony made his report to Captain Sigbee.

That report—the essence of courage and discipline—should live in American history.

"Sir," said the gallant orderly, standing at salute. "I have to inform you that the ship has been blown up and is sinking."

"Bill" Anthony has carried a rifle in Uncle Sam's service since he was 17 years old. His father was a boss truckman in New York in the old days when Fifty-ninth street was out in the suburbs, and "Bill" was born within a stone's throw of the battery. He was a natural born soldier, six feet two inches tall, broad-shouldered, narrow-hipped, slender-limbed, and stout-hearted.

The family moved to New Jersey just about the time "Bill" completed a rath-

er excess, but invariably just at the wrong time, when his commanding officers—favorite though he was—could not wink at the offense.

His last army service was at West Point, where he figured to the admiration of cadets and everybody else as drum major. "Bill's" splendid figure and profound knowledge of soldiery won him this appointment.

Ten years ago he left the army and enlisted as a marine. It was the old story over again—rapid advancements, followed by the inevitable setbacks, all due to unwise conviviality. Not that "Bill" ever transgressed while on duty—for a firmer disciplinarian never wore a marine uniform. Over at the Brooklyn navy yard Anthony is well known and well liked. He was stationed there for two years, and during the greater part of that time served as clerk in the recruiting office.

Anthony was detailed to the Brooklyn on its cruise in the China seas. Upon his return he was sent to the Maine,



DIVER ON THE WRECKED MAINE. where his soldierly merit won him the post of marine orderly.

Wreck of the Ashuelot.

Lieutenant Frank S. Hotchkiss, of Chicago, who served eighteen years in the United States navy, and then retired into commercial life, says that if the Maine had not been a warship the disaster might have been much worse than it was. The lieutenant was an officer on board the fated Ashuelot when that warship was wrecked in the China sea. Eight men were lost—three Chinese who were looting the officers' quarters, and five "middles" who jumped overboard, crazed by fear. The Ashuelot was built for service on the Mississippi during the war, and fifteen years ago, Feb. 23, was in Chinese waters. She was wrecked in a heavy fog when at 4 o'clock in the morning Lieutenant Hotchkiss went to relieve the watch. He had scarcely put foot on deck when the lookout cried: "Land on the starboard beam!" The next minute the ship struck, and had it not been for the discipline the whole outfit would have gone to the bottom. The loss of the ship caused an inquiry and a court-martial, and the captain and the navigator were disciplined. "If ever I am in a marine disaster again," quoth the lieutenant, "I desire that it shall be on a man-of-war."

Wheelmen in Training.

An experienced trainer asked to condense the best information he could give a new racing man, answered as follows: "Eat almost everything except green stuff, potatoes and turnips. Make beef, dry toast and weak tea the principle articles of food. Do not be afraid of ice cream and ripe fruit at your meals. Be in bed at 9 o'clock each night and up at 6 in the morning. Take a cool spray bath on rising. Do not use tobacco or drink any kind of liquor. For rubbing mixtures so dear to all racing men use witch hazel mixed with a very little peppermint oil. Mix in the proportion of one pint of witch hazel to five cents' worth of oil. Do not depend so much on the mixture as on the rubbing. Have the body well rubbed over. Knead every muscle. End by briskly rubbing in order to bring blood to the surface nicely.—Exchange.

An Artists' Model's Card.

Even artists' models nowadays use the latest form of advertisement. One lady in Paris leaves the following visiting card at the house of certain famous painters: "X—, model. Fine and spiritual figure. Civil as well as military uniforms of all epochs worn with the same style of excellence.—Das Fremdenblatt, Vienna.

Man's "science" may be quite irreconcilable with man's "theology," but God's "Word" and God's "work" can never contradict each other.

CONGRESSIONAL CHAT

WEEK'S DOINGS OF NATIONAL LAWMAKERS.

A General Resume of the Most Important Labors of the House and Senate—Executive and Departmental Actions Noted Briefly.

Representative Sutherland has introduced bills to correct the military record of John Minohan and for the relief of Josephus Merritt.

An unknown at Prescott, Ariz., attempted to assassinate Lieutenant Cordier of the Cuban army, who is raising funds in Arizona.

Nebraska patents: Charles C. Allen, Lincoln, valve for pneumatic tires; Stephen E. Ankler, Rushville, gate; C. C. Denny, Tekaman, watering trough; B. A. Karr, L. Koenig and L. A. Woods, Omaha, railway signal; A. T. Sullivan, Malcolm, animal trap; H. J. Winter, 7th, air seals.

A long and somewhat exciting debate over the question of river and harbor appropriations was precipitated in the house Friday last during the consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill. It was practically agreed by all those who participated that there would be no river and harbor bill at this session of congress.

John Hittle has been appointed postmaster at Pembroke, Keya Paha county, W. D. Bruce, resigned, and Rev. E. Wiggins has been appointed storekeeper at the Omaha custom house at \$900 per annum. Robert M. Jones, Geo. Kelly and William O. Morse have been appointed laborers in the Omaha public building at \$549 per annum each.

The executive council of the American federation of labor, which has been in session at Washington considering a number of routine matters and discussing pending legislation affecting laboring interests. It was resolved to give the New England strikers all possible aid. President Gompers was instructed to undertake an organized trip through the west and Vice President O'Connell will go on the same mission through the south.

All the government departments were closed February 27, except the navy department, where a few of the officials assembled to close the contract with the wrecker for the recovery of the effects of the Maine and the vessel herself, if that be possible. The signing of the wrecking contract was the most important event of the day, and this concluded the officials went home to enjoy a respite from the rush of the past week.

The supreme court has denied the petition for a writ of certiorari in the case of John E. Buckstaff and John E. Utz vs Russell & Co., coming over from the courts of Nebraska. The petition for a writ was submitted by Judge A. S. Tibbets of Lincoln on the 24th ult. The case has been pending in the Nebraska courts for some time and is familiar to the bar of the state. Briefly told, it involves money claimed to be due to Messrs. Buckstaff and Utz from Russell & Co., growing out of the sale to the latter by the former of a paper mill, which was brought in by the trust and then closed. Buckstaff and Utz claim that they have not received all that was due them and have since been trying, though ineffectually, to recover by the aid of the courts.

At the close of office hours Monday last a telegram came to the navy department from Admiral Sigsbee at Key West in the following terms: "Court of inquiry will commence session at Key West today. They must resume session at Havana to obtain evidence of divers after further work upon the 'Maine.' The important feature of this communication is the declaration that the court will return to Havana. It sets at rest rumors that have been current for some days past that the court was not to return to Havana for the reason that it had discovered the cause of the sinking of the Maine, which was not an accident, and that they had consequently no further business in Havana.

Representative Brownell (rep., O.) has introduced the following resolution: That the secretary of the navy be, and is hereby authorized, whenever in his judgment it shall become expedient for the best interests of the country to do so, secure options upon and consummate the purchase of such battleships, cruisers, rams, torpedo boats or other form of naval vessels as are of the modern type and ready with the necessary armament and equipment for the same, as, in his judgment, are necessary to place the naval strength of the country upon a proper footing for immediate hostilities with any foreign power, with which the same may be threatened; and that for the purpose of consummating such purchase, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$20,000,000, to be immediately available.

"Should it be proved that the Maine was destroyed by an outside explosion with the knowledge of Spanish officers President McKinley will demand an indemnity of from \$13,000,000 to \$15,000,000." This statement was made by an officer of the navy department, who is thoroughly conversant with the present Spanish situation. It was decided at a conference of the president and several cabinet officers, he continued, "that the Spanish government was bound to protect the vessels of a friendly nation in one of its harbors, and that, if the Maine was destroyed by a submarine mine or torpedo, whether with the knowledge of officials or not, that government must be responsible. The value of the vessel is estimated at \$5,000,000. The rest is to be paid to relatives of officers and men who lost their lives by the destruction of the vessel."

Secretary Bliss has affirmed the land office decision in the case of Leslie D. Rieker against Thomas Ormsby, from the Alliance, Neb., district. The land in controversy is awarded to Rieker.

It seems possible that the bill which passed the senate to create two additional regiments of artillery will pass the house without much opposition if the house continues in its present temper. The military affairs committee, not the appropriations committee, has jurisdiction over this bill and Chairman Hall is now absent at his home in Iowa. No opposition is likely to be encountered from the appropriations committee.

Senator Thurston opposes the admission of H. W. Corbett as senator from Oregon.

The senate committee on judiciary has recommended non-concurrence of the house bankruptcy bill.

Secretary Alger has returned from Fortress Monroe greatly improved in health and called on the president at the White house.

Representative Stark has introduced his joint resolution to authorize the secretary of war to exchange a battery and equipments with Nebraska's governor.

The president has sent to the senate a full record of the proceedings between the United States and Great Britain in the arbitration treaty relating to the compensation for the seizure of British ships in the Bering sea under the treaty of February 29, 1863.

James W. Jones, a clerk in the office of the auditor for the postoffice department, has been arrested by officers of the secret service on the charge of forging United States money orders. It is charged that Jones took money order blanks returned unused from a Michigan office and filled them out, making them payable at the office in Washington, D.C.

Consul-General Frank K. Mason, at Frankfurt, Germany, has transmitted to the state department a significant publication from one of the largest German papers warning the agrarians against pressing their warfare upon United States products, and pointing out the stimulation of the beet sugar industry in the states as one of the most dangerous results of that policy.

The officials of the war department have completed all the preliminary arrangements for the immediate execution of the bill which is expected to be passed by congress within the next few days providing for two additional regiments of artillery. There will be no difficulty whatever in securing the men as applications for enlistment have been received far in excess of the number required, 1,610.

Assistant Secretary of War Melkeldjohn went to Fortress Monroe Sunday with a view to securing a much needed rest. He has been on duty at the war department without interruption since his return from the inspection tour of western posts, and has been acting secretary of war for the past ten weeks during the continued illness of Secretary Alger. Mr. Melkeldjohn will be accompanied to Fortress Monroe by Hon. F. M. Wetherald of Nebraska, who has been his guest in Washington for the past three weeks.

The Loud bill will receive attention in the house this week. A spirited contest is anticipated but Mr. Loud and his friends are confident that it will pass. The bill takes all completed books printed in serial form out of the second class rate (one cent per pound) and places them in the regular book rate class which pays eight cents per pound. It also prohibits the transmission of sample copies at pound rates. If this bill should pass and be executed according to its spirit, Mr. Loud estimates that the annual saving to the government effected by it during the next four years would aggregate \$12,000,000. Many publishers and newspapers are very hostile to the measure, but thus far the opposition has not been so active as it was during the last congress.

Events seem hastening to a crisis in the relations between the United States and Spain. The closing days of the week in Washington have been filled with apprehension of impending trouble. While the mouths of all officials in the state, war and navy departments have been tightly closed, while inquiries respecting the situation at Havana have been met with replies that nothing can be predicted until the report of the board of officers investigating the disaster is received, there are strong reasons to believe the administration is convinced that the destruction of one of our finest men-of-war in the Cuban port was not an accident, and that the Spanish government will shortly be called upon to make proper reparation and indemnity for the loss of property and life in a friendly harbor.

The program in the senate this week is quite indefinite. There is no general disposition to defeat the Alaska bill, but some senators will speak to amend it before the vote is taken. It is believed the bill will pass after a day or two of talk upon it. It is possible that after the Alaskan bill is disposed of some of the bills of less general importance on the calendar will be considered. It is also understood to be Senator Davis' intention to move again the consideration of the Hawaiian treaty if opportunity offers, but there is no disposition at present to press the treaty unduly in antagonism to other measures. There are only five of the appropriation bills to be considered by the senate, which is a record far in advance of that usually made at this date in long-sessions of congress. Three of the bills which are as yet unconsidered are the District of Columbia, the naval and the sundry appropriation bills. These are all important measures and each is liable to arouse debate, but senators generally agree that unless there is some other reason for postponing adjournment it can be reached by May or June. The house leaders have been straining all their energies to expedite the appropriation bills with a view to an early final adjournment and they are succeeding beyond their most sanguine expectations. Not in a quarter of a century have the appropriation bills been so far advanced in the long session as they are at this time. Only three of the thirteen regular bills remain in committee. The other ten have gone through one or more legislative stages and one, the military academy, is in the hands of the president awaiting his signature.

Mrs. Harriet Adams of Washington, the dependent mother of J. T. Adams, a coal passer, who lost his life on the Maine, has filed an application for a pension. This is the first pension claim filed in connection with the loss of life on the vessel.

A delegation of western senators and representatives called on President McKinley recently and extended a formal invitation to attend the trans-Mississippi congress, to be held at Wichita, Kan., next autumn. The president took the invitation under advisement, and indicated that he would like to participate in the ceremonies if his duties would permit.

MEAT INSPECTOR IS VOID.

An Important Federal Law Is Invalid—A Test Case Is Decided.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 1.—The entire system of government inspection of meat, which has been established in the packing houses of the United States, was declared to be unconstitutional, ineffective and void in an opinion handed down in the United States district court to-day by Judge John P. Rogers, federal judge at Fort Smith, Ark., who is sitting for Judge Phillips. An indictment against Harry Boyer, foreman of the fresh meat department of the Jacob Dold Packing company, charged with attempting to bribe a government meat inspector, was quashed on the ground that Congress had no power to create the office of meat inspector, so that even if Boyer had attempted to bribe an inspector, as was charged in the indictment, he did not commit an offense against the government.

The effect of the decision is to declare invalid the law by which people who consume the products of American packing houses are protected from impure or diseased meats. It is probable that the decision will make necessary a complete reorganization of the bureau of animal industry of the Department of Agriculture.

The government cannot appeal to higher courts, but the Department of Agriculture will be informed of the decision of the court here. What course it may take in regard to a change in the system of packing house inspection remains to be seen.

Under the decision of Judge Rogers packers may disregard the meat inspectors without fear of successful prosecution, because the law by which the inspection was created has been declared invalid.

Assistant District Attorney Draffen said:

"Although I did not have charge of the case, I am satisfied that the case is at an end, so far as the government is concerned. Neither has Boyer offended any state law that I know of. It seems to me that if the inspection of meats at packing houses is to be continued, state laws creating such a system must be passed."

BOARD WILL NOT HURRY.

Notwithstanding People's Impatience, the Inquiry Will Be Very Deliberate.

HAVANA, March 1.—The naval board shifts its inquiry to Key West temporarily. While it is holding sessions there the work of the divers will go forward and something may be done toward raising portions of the wreck of the Maine. Members of the board discourage laying too much stress on what the divers are doing or drawing positive conclusions from their labors. Nevertheless it is claimed they have found the forward magazine intact and have been bringing up powder, which is not likely to have remained powder if the explosion had been an internal one.

Captain Sampson and his associates are aware of the impatience with which the result of the inquiry is awaited in the United States, but their labors are too momentous in consequence to be hurried.

Key West, Fla., 28.—The United States court of inquiry into the loss of the battleship Maine began its sessions here this morning. Those officers and civilians here who believed the reports from Havana saying that the court had already decided that the loss of the Maine was due to treachery have apparently changed their minds, for to-day the universal question is, "What has the court found out?" while yesterday one heard all around, "When will war be declared?"

Brought face to face with the court, men realize for the first time how unlikely it will be for the court to allow any inkling of its conclusions to be known out of due season.

HAS NOT SENT A FLEET.

A Torpedo Flotilla Will Leave Spain For Havana This Week.

MADRID, March 1.—The report that a Spanish squadron had sailed for the United States has its only origin in these facts: Spain is hurriedly getting her navy into fighting condition, and a torpedo flotilla will set sail for Havana this week.

It is learned officially from the Spanish navy department that no squadron had sailed from Spain within the last few days. The only cruiser now on the way to Havana is the Almirante Oquendo, a sister ship of the Vizcaya.

"A flotilla composed of three torpedo destroyers, three torpedo boats and the steamship City of Cadiz, under command of Captain Villamil, will leave Cadiz for Havana this week, as has been cabled already.

"The only Spanish vessels which could follow immediately are the cruisers Infanta, Maria Theresa, Alfonso XIII, and three torpedo destroyers and three torpedo boats.

"All the other war ships, including the battleships Peinao and Emperao Cristobal Colon, are undergoing repairs. It will take some time to complete the repairs, fit them out and mount their guns, but they are being actively prepared for service."

ARGENTINE FOR WAR.

Orders for Arms and Men to Be Ready for Chile.

New York, March 1.—A dispatch to the New York Herald from Buenos Ayres, Argentina, says in view of the warlike preparations being made by Chile, the Argentine government has decided to purchase three war ships and arms for 150,000 men.

The people of Argentina are enthusiastic over the possibility for war. Many public officials have offered to give part of their salaries for buying ships.



MAINE BOARD OF INQUIRY.

of course will give a large increase of speed. In addition to this there is the finer model which will add still further speed. The armored belt which defends the vital parts of the Cardinal Cisneros is larger and the quality of the plates has improved, and we maintain hopes that the sister ship in Bilbao will have even stronger resistive power. The defensive power of the whole has also increased not a little, for they have the exceptional advantage of the installation of a battery of 14cm. quick firing guns.

Compared with Our Ships.

"It seems, in our opinion, well to form comparative data with other navies as the best means of appreciating the relative value of the national forces and with that object in view we present to our readers for reference and analogy the three most powerful armored cruisers flying the United States flag, which serve to-day as the sword of Damocles to our Spanish pessimists.

"The four fundamental properties of this class of ship, power defensive and offensive speed and radius of action, can be easily appreciated by the data which follows:

	U. S. Oquendo	U. S. Vizcaya	U. S. Albatross	U. S. Albatross	U. S. Albatross
Displacement, Tons	6,500	6,500	7,000	8,000	9,200
Machinery, H. power	8,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	18,000
Speed, knots	19	20	20	21	22
Armament	24cm., 2	24cm., 2	24cm., 2	24cm., 2	24cm., 2
Small caliber	14cm., 10	14cm., 10	14cm., 10	14cm., 10	14cm., 10
Torpedo tubes	8	8	8	8	8
Radius of action in miles	3,500	3,500	10,000	12,000	4,000

Deduction From Figures.

"Direct deduction from the preceding figures enables us without any straining of our conscience to call our three national cruisers superiors in absolute to their foreign antagonists, but, nevertheless, the eloquence of those figures should be sufficient to inspire in the pessimists and incredulous the necessary peace of mind, to close the mouths of those who are constantly stating that the Spanish forces are defective and those who so freely criticize the naval profession in our country.

"Recent experiences of such importance as that of the battle of the Yalu, in the China-Japanese war, have demonstrated the supremacy of quick firing ordnance, and the former custom of trusting to guns of immense calibre has gone out of date, while to-day the great aim of constructors is middle sized guns well protected. With

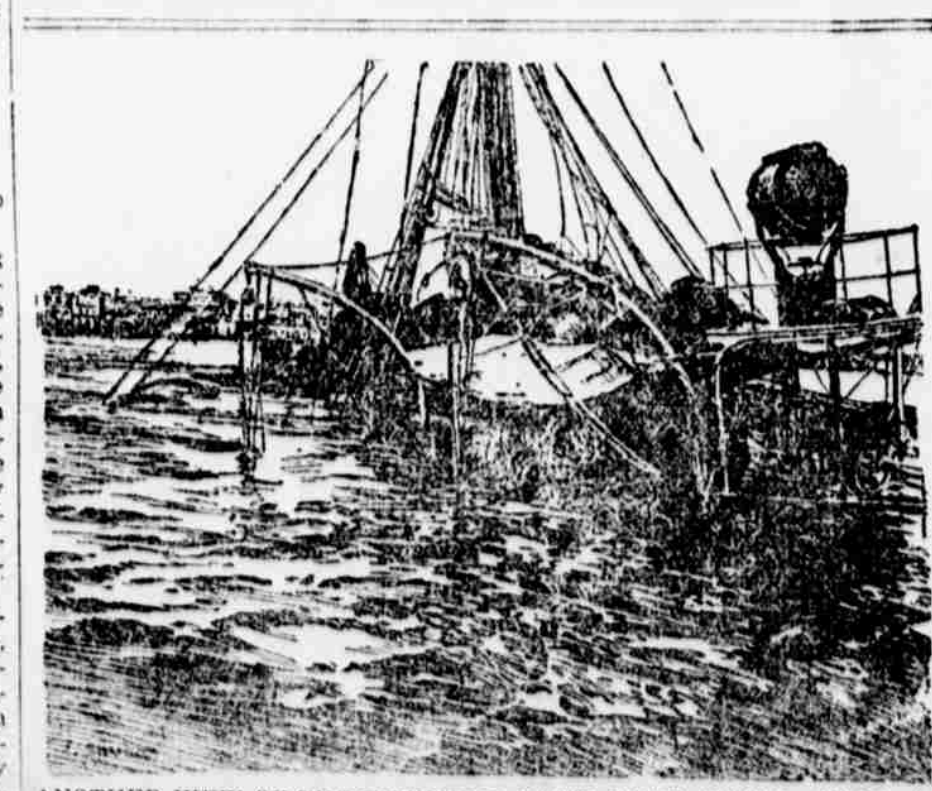
or turbulent career in the public schools and one morning he vanished. "Bill" had enlisted. That happened twenty-eight years ago, and from that moment Anthony has never ceased to wear the uniform.

His first active service carried him to the Carolinas, where the Ku Klux were busily engaged in their deviltries. There he laid the foundation for his soldierly reputation. His commanding officer in those early days was Major Steward, long since retired, but still living.

Years later a young man drifted into the marine corps as a volunteer, a slender, soft-handed fellow, who was the butt of the company until "Bill" Anthony, the pride of the barracks, called a halt. The recruit proved to be the wayward son of Anthony's old major, and the big marine watched over him like a father.

Anthony saw fourteen years of soldiering, most of it in the western plains before he threw in his fortunes with the marines. He was always a marked man in the service, conspicuous for his magnificent physique, his cool courage, and perfect discipline.

As a non-commissioned officer he filled every position known to the military code, and filled them well. There was just one blemish which many believe alone kept him out of a commission. "Bill" would drink, not often to



ANOTHER VIEW OF THE WRECKED BATTLESHIP MAINE.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.