

OLDER WARSHIPS
BRANDED NO GOOD

America's Pre-Dreadnaught Fleet
Would Go Over Like Ninepins
in Battle.

SO DECLARES NAVAL OFFICER

WASHINGTON, March 11.—America's pre-dreadnaught fleet would go over like ninepins if pitted against British or other craft of the same age, Captain W. S. Sims, commander of the new super dreadnaught Nevada, told the house naval committee today, because "colossal mistakes" in construction have never been rectified. Other countries, he said, had spent millions in redesigning the older ships to meet changed conditions.

Illustrating his point, Captain Sims, who, as a lieutenant, went over the heads of his superiors to obtain President Roosevelt's support in his campaign to improve methods of target practice in the navy, said the old buldog of the navy, the battleship Oregon, probably was the worst naval design ever put afloat. Its unbalanced turrets heeled the ship down on broadside fire, he said, until its skin below the armor belt, no thicker than a man's hand, was exposed to gunfire.

No Better Than Paper.
The turrets of the Kentucky and the Keokuk were so designed, he declared, that four 12-inch shells could enter the gun ports at one time; the sloping roofs of the Connecticut class turrets were built to withstand short-range direct fire and were no better than paper against modern plunging fire; the turrets of the Illinois class had a gap in the armor at the back of the turret six to eight feet wide, directly in line with the ammunition hoists inside.

All these defects Captain Sims attributed to the organization of the department that prevailed for years. He insisted that a general staff would have rendered them impossible, and told the committee that with the general board determining military characteristics of ships, modern American battle craft were well built.

Describes Insubordination.
Under the old system, the captain said, the criticisms of sea officers came to the men who designed the ships and were shelved by them. He described his own "rank insubordination" in obtaining President Roosevelt's ear as to target practice.

When the short-range target practice was abandoned in 1902 by the department, said Captain Sims, the gunnery slumped and continued to go down until 1913, when the individual practice was restored. In 1915 the fleet showed a 40 per cent improvement, but the improvement was from the standing of 30 to 40 in a possible 100 and the shooting was still bad. The ill effects of the slump were being slowly but surely overcome, he added, and he urged that full information be published as to what the men behind the guns actually did. He insisted that nobody was in ignorance abroad, because every known power has a definite system for finding out such matters promptly.

Submarines No Defense.
Captain Sims declared submarines could not defend a coast and that the defense of New York should be made 1,000 miles at sea. He had positive knowledge, he said, that the British fleet spent part of its time behind nets in sheltered harbors and the rest at sea surrounded by screen fleets and submarine nets when not in rapid motion. The only German submarine that got through the screens, he said, had been rammed by a battleship and sunk. The officer said it was not submarines which defended Heligoland, the great German base on the North Sea, but shore batteries, mines and surface torpedo craft.

"I do not hesitate to say," he added, "that with 100 submarines of the shore service type concentrated around New York, a hostile fleet could sail in near enough to shell New York, provided it controlled the surface. That is, it is necessary to control the surface. If a fleet does that it can keep the submarines out with nets."

Finn Will Conduct
Sixth "Pop" Concert

John M. Finn will be the conductor of the sixth municipal "Pop" concert, to be given at the Omaha Auditorium Sunday afternoon. A program ranging from sacred and classical to popular and operatic music has been arranged by Conductor Finn and will be as follows: March—With Trumpet and Drum, Weldon Selection—Gems of Cornet Music, Mosey Moreau de Salon—Dawn of Love, Bendix Patrol—American—The Crazy Quilt, Finnish Scenes Popular—The Crazy Quilt, Finn (Embodying several "has been" popular songs). Overture—Consecration, Keler-Bela Characteristic—Underneath the Stars, Solo for Cornet—For All Eternity, Masherotti, Grand Fantasia on "American Melodias," Donizetti, Grand Fantasia on "American Melodias," Bendix.

Holdups Blind Victim
With a Flashlight

J. W. White was held up and robbed of \$5 in cash yesterday evening while he was coming from the Union depot, having just arrived from Ripley, Ia.

White says that there were two of the men, but that as they held a flashlight in his face he is unable to give the police any description of them.

Fred Starkey, who resides at 426 M street, and who is an employe of the Union Pacific company, was held up and robbed by two armed men at Twelfth and Davenport streets yesterday evening. The bandits secured \$20 in money and some valuable papers.

La Fayette Cancels Sailing.
PARIS, March 11.—The French line has cancelled the sailing tomorrow of the steamer La Fayette, from Bordeaux to New York. The La Fayette arrived at Bordeaux March 8, having been delayed several days on its voyage from New York.

Roast Plant Destroyed.
BRUNSWICK, Ga., March 11.—The plant of the Yaxgan Roast and Turpentine company was virtually destroyed and a workman seriously injured by a fire which started in the refinery building of the plant here early tonight. The loss was estimated at \$600,000.

Now it Comes Out--Dan Cupid Led
Them to Fremont for the Wedding

It is the custom among writers of this kind of a story to say that "Cupid was the engineer."

We aren't going to say that Cupid isn't an engineer. He doesn't belong to the Brotherhood. He wouldn't know the throttle from the brake lever. Let Cupid stick to his last. Let him continue his work of shooting arrows through hearts. He's got his hands full at that job.

No, it was just one of the regular Union Pacific engineers that pulled the train from Omaha to Fremont last Monday morning, the train that bore Miss Winnie C. Worley of the Thompson-Belden military department and H. A. Monroe, a traveling salesman for the Penular Furnace company. Also it bore Miss Oma Worley, clerk in the office of Dr. P. T. Barber, dentist, and Harry L. Peterson, postoffice clerk.

Don't be misled. The latter couple declare, assert, asseverate and solemnly affirm that the affair at Fremont was not a double wedding.

Well, the train of which Cupid was (there we go; we knew we'd do it), well, anyway, the train arrived in Fremont and soon Miss Winnie C. Worley was Mrs. H. A. Monroe. Rev. Mr. McGiffin of the First Presbyterian church officiated.

It only remained to come back to Omaha and have the "bless you, my children" scene. This part of the day's work the young folks approached with fear and trembling. They arrived at the sun was setting at Fourteenth avenue and Wirt streets, where on one side of the street live Mrs. Monroe's parents and on the other side live Mr. Monroe's parents.

It was "bless you, my children," on both sides of the family and of the street. In fact, there was really no reason for the "runaway marriage," except that the bride had always said she wanted to run away and be married.

And we've just gotta let 'em have their own way, don't we?



MRS. H. A. MONROE.

GIFFORD BUYS ONE
MORE FARNAM LOT

Secures Lot Adjoining That Just Purchased for New Hotel Near Twentieth Street.

PLANS ARE NOT GIVEN OUT

A lot with frontage of fifty-six and three-quarters feet on Farnam street, on the southeast corner of Twentieth, has just been sold for \$85,000.

Dr. Harold Gifford is again the purchaser. This strip adjoins the eighty-six and three-quarters feet doctor purchased only a week ago of the Dufrene estate for \$100,000, and on which he is preparing to build an extension of the Sanford hotel.

The Hyde investment company has been the owner of the lot. The negotiations were conducted through the real estate firm of Harrison & Morton.

Owens Half Block.

By this purchase Dr. Gifford with his associates come to own the entire half block. There is a small brick building on the corner containing three stores. Dr. Gifford is in California and has not advised anyone as to his plans on this purchase. Harrison & Morton have had a peculiar experience with the owners of this corner. Fifteen years ago they tried

to get the owners to buy the eighty-six and three-quarters feet adjoining the corner afterwards sold to Mrs. Dufrene for \$12,000, and recently sold to Dr. Gifford for \$100,000. Mr. Harrison has the old letter in which the owners of the corner declined to make the purchase. At that time the owners of the corner offered to sell for \$10,000, or \$200 a foot. The price paid was exactly \$150 a foot.

TELEGRAM REITERATES
ROOSEVELT'S DISAVOWAL

NEW YORK, March 11.—A telegram reiterating Theodore Roosevelt's disavowal of the candidacy of delegates who have filed petitions in the Illinois primaries expressing their preference for him for presidential nomination of either the progressive or republican party was sent today to Secretary of State Stevenson of Illinois in the name of the former president.

The action was taken because Mr. Stevenson refused to accept a legal compliance with the Illinois statutes a cable message from Mr. Roosevelt to his secretary, John W. McGrath, in which he disavowed candidates favorable to him. Earlier in the day Mr. McGrath telegraphed Mr. Stevenson asking him if he would accept a statement executed in the name of Mr. Roosevelt by his attorneys was accompanied by a sufficient power of attorney.

Authorizes Use of Name.

BOSTON, Mass., March 11.—President Wilson in a telegram today to Secretary of State Langtry, authorized the use of his name in the Massachusetts presidential primaries of April 25.

GREAT TASK TO GET
WATER CONNECTION

Maze of Red Tape Almost Amazes
Two Who Want Pipes Run Into
Their Homes.

CITY ABSTRACTOR WON'T DO

Water may be everywhere, but it is not so easy to get in Omaha, not so easy as one would believe. This anomalous situation was brought out in a concrete manner at the city water office, when Humphrey Lynch, plumber, sought in behalf of Sigred Larson and Nels Swanberg to secure permission for a water service.

Larson and Swanberg own houses on adjoining lots at 1405 and 1407 Boulevard avenue. The nearest water main is in Fifteenth street, 300 feet away. These property owners want to extend a private pipe from the main to their houses, at a cost of \$100.

According to the laws of the city water office they first must submit sufficient abstracts for their property, sign affidavits before a notary that in the event of the Water board placing a regular service pipe in their street they will pay the required 50 cents per foot and also agree to have their private service disconnected, or they have the alternative of depositing amounts equal to what the

sh-out assessment would be in the event of a main being put in.

Names the Abstractor.

The water office clerk having charged of this branch of the work informed Mr. Lynch that the abstracts offered would have to be brought up to date and he suggested the name of a particular local abstractor for the work which would cost each of the property owners about \$7 more.

Mr. Lynch secured a statement from City Abstractor Hartley that the abstracts in question were O. K., but the water office people declined to approve the statement of the city abstractor and referred Mr. Lynch to the attorney of the board.

It is said that municipal ownership of the water plant would make it easy for the small property owner to get water, but Messrs. Larson and Swanberg are doing some thinking. They are hard-working men, need water for their homes and are willing to pay for private extensions for a distance of 300 feet and are somewhat amazed at the labyrinth of technicalities and expense they must endure just to get water service for their homes.

The water office has a man who is supposed to do this work of ascertaining the sufficiency of abstracts and other property instruments.

Washington Affairs

R. B. Nixon, for forty-eight years financial clerk of the senate, died at his home. During his service he had disbursed more than \$100,000,000 of government funds.

The Shackelford bill to appropriate \$25,000,000 a year for good roads was amended by the senate postoffice committee, which recommended that \$5,000,000 be appropriated for 1917, and \$20,000,000 additional each year till 1921, when \$5,000,000 would be reached.

Announcing---
The Opening of Our New Victrola Gallery
On the Fifth Floor.
OVER two years ago the management of this store decided upon the addition of a department for the sale of Talking Machines. A careful and exhaustive investigation revealed the fact that Victor Talking Machines were pre-eminent.
With characteristic determination to have only the best, it was decided that the Victor was the machine this store should sell. But at that time circumstances made it impossible to secure the Victor Agency. Therefore, rather than put in anything but the best, the opening of this department was deferred until Victor Machines were available.
That time has now arrived, and in keeping with the high merit of the Victor machines, we have prepared a group of beautifully appointed sound-proof rooms, where Victorolas of all styles from \$15 to \$300 are displayed. Here you will find a pleasing place in which to try out the wonderful tonal qualities of Victor Machines and Victor records.
We cordially invite you to make an early visit to this New Victrola Gallery.
Let us demonstrate for you
The New Victor
Tungs-Tone Stylus
It plays 50 to 200 records
without need of change.
Orchard & Wilhelm Co.

Full Carload of Golden Oak Rockers in New and Different Designs Go On Sale Monday
Orchard & Wilhelm Co.
414-416-418 South Sixteenth Street
AN assortment of unusual magnitude embracing designs that are different, new features in construction and moderate pricing that will make this offering of more than ordinary interest.
A partial list of rocks, attractively priced, follows:
Golden Oak Rocker, excellent design, Spanish leather seat and back, chair to match, \$19.00
Golden Oak Rocker, Colonial style, leather seat and back, \$13.50
Golden Oak Rocker, Mission style, paneled under the arms, auto spring seat with loose cushion back, \$20.00
Golden Oak Rocker, Mission style, with high back, auto seat, in genuine leather, \$10.50
Golden Oak Rocker, wide slat back, flat arms, genuine Spanish leather seat, \$9.50
Golden Oak Rocker, Mission style, panel sides, auto seat with leather back, \$22.00
Golden Oak Rocker, in straight line design, genuine leather seat, panel leather back, \$17.50
Golden Oak Rocker, seat and back upholstered in tapestry, \$19.00
Golden Oak Rocker, in Mission design, removable auto seat, genuine Spanish leather, and chair to match, Each, \$14.00
Golden Oak Comfort Rocker, selected quartered oak, high back, upholstered in genuine leather, Colonial style, \$18.50
Rocker in same style finish with low back, \$15.50
Oak Rocker, Like Cut, \$12.50
Chair to match, \$12.50.
A clean cut, well made article with loose auto cushion, removable, covered with genuine Spanish leather, heavy steel spring construction. Frame of selected quarter sawed oak. An exceptional value \$12.50
\$13.50 for This Easy Rocker in Oak
The illustration shows this handsome Colonial Rocker, made with high shaped back, full quarter sawed oak, golden finish, all joints mortised. Seat made with deep coiled springs and upholstered in genuine Spanish leather. Price very low, \$13.50

In the Gift Shop--Main Floor
New Painted Tin Flower Pots, from 60¢ to \$3.50 each.
Willow Serving Moats, orange and old ivory and brown—at \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00
New shipment of Kahler Pottery. Very unique and beautifully colored \$2.50 to \$10.00
Bird Baths in various styles and at various prices.

A Beckwith Round Oak Combination
Range Insures Satisfaction
It burns either coal or gas, or both—and that means kitchen comfort in summer or winter
A large number of satisfied users are ready to testify to the satisfactory service of this stove.
We know HOW it is made and WHAT goes into it—We do not hesitate to add our guarantee to that of the Round Oak makers.
As additional proof we offer: 30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL.
No payment till you try out the stove to your satisfaction—then small monthly payments. And it costs no more than the unknown range.

Spring Draperies Ready
For Your Inspection
A PROFUSION of curtains, curtain materials, cretonnes and drapery fabrics in new and attractive designs have been assembled. A visit to this section will suggest many new and interesting ideas in Home Furnishing, and we would like to have you come in and see them.
Cluny Curtains
Pair \$2.25 to \$20.00
Come in both white and ecru.
Scrim and Marquisette Curtains
Pair 95¢ to \$10.00
Duchess Lace Curtains, \$4.50 to \$22.50 Pr.
Lace Nets for Window Curtains
Exclusive designs in Quaker lace nets—Many styles, in popular flit effects.
40c, 65c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25 Yd.

Linoleum
A most complete showing of printed and inlaid linoleums, including all the new colorings for kitchens and bath rooms, as well as the plain heavy linoleums, suitable for offices and public rooms.
Our expert layers guarantee correct yardage in estimates and satisfactory service when the job is finished.
PRINTED LINOLEUM, PER SQ. YARD, 50¢ TO 90¢
INLaid LINOLEUM, PER SQ. YARD, 95¢ TO \$1.75
Natural Wool Rug
\$2.25
8 1/2 x 20 1/2 Inches
Made from undyed wools, reversible. Are very attractive and will wear indefinitely. Good for bath rooms and vestibules.

WHITTALL
RUGS
A most complete showing of Whittall Anglo-Persians, Whittall Anglo-Indians, Whittall Chlidema Body Brussels Rugs.
The name "WHITTALL" means perfection in rug making. Our line includes many special sizes, as well as all of the regular sizes.
Axminster Rugs
SEAMED AND SEAMLESS
\$20.75, \$22.50, \$24.00 to \$31.50
Many designs hitherto found only in more expensive rugs are now included in our showing of Axminsters—small all-over patterns, Chinese designs, two-tone patterns, Chintz, etc., providing rugs suitable for any room in the home.
8-510-6 \$20.00 to \$27.50 4-6x7-6 \$12.50 to \$17.50
6x9 \$15.00 to \$22.50 3x5 1/2 \$ 3.75 to \$ 5.00
27x60 \$2.25 to \$3.25
Exceptional Rugs for a Low Price.