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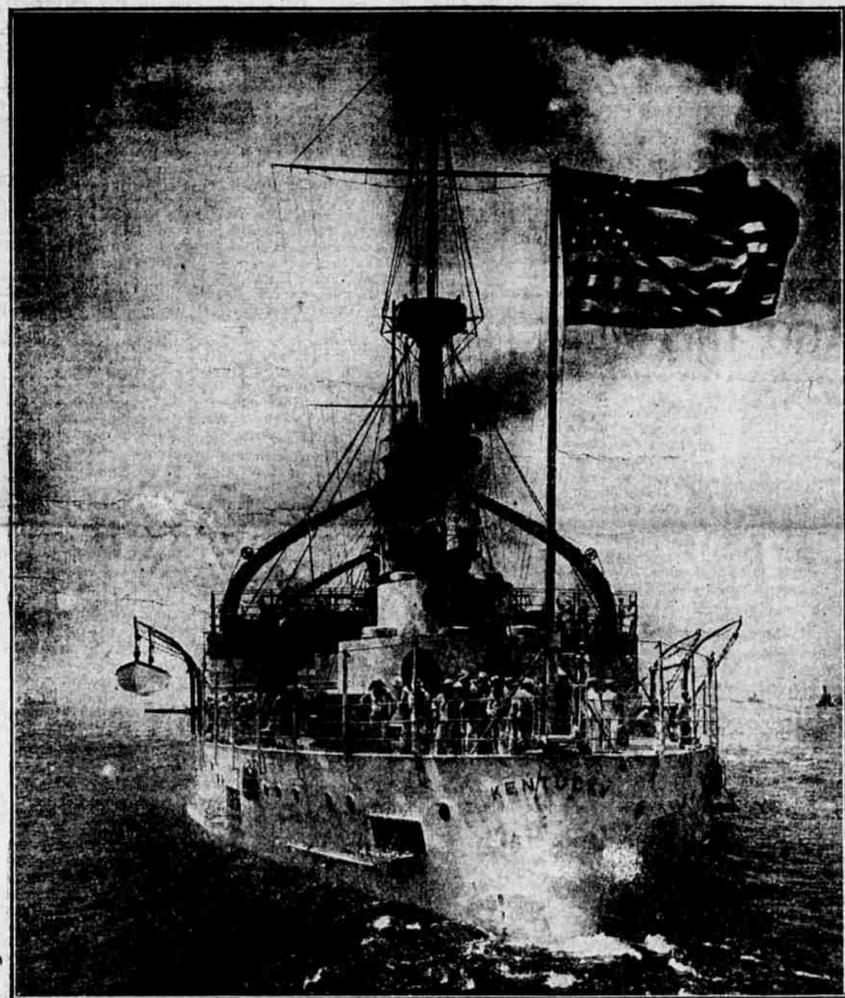
HONOLULU, H. T., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1903—SEMI-WEEKLY.

WHOLE No. 2547.

THE BATTLE SHIP AND CRUISER FLEET ARRIVES

Seven Powerful Warships, With Two Admirals and Over 3000 Men on Board, Enter the Harbor to Take on Supplies.

Many Well Known Officers Here—Men to Be Paid Off as Soon as Coaling and Painting Are Finished—Preparations to Entertain Officers and Men—Fact About the Big Ships of War—Length of Stay Unknown.



FIRST-CLASS BATTLESHIP KENTUCKY. (Flagship.)

Displacement, 11,540 tons; speed, 16.5 knots; coal bunker capacity, 1,591 tons; complement, 553. Armor: Belt, 16 1/2 inches to four inches; turrets, 15 inches to 17 inches; barbets, 15 inches; deck, flat 2 1/2 inches; slopes, three inches to five inches. Batteries: Four 12-inch B. L.; four 8-inch B. L.; fourteen 5-inch rapid-fire; twenty six-pounders; eight one-pounders; four Colts; two 3-inch field guns. Four torpedo tubes.

BEFORE sunset yesterday Honolulu harbor had within its borders the greatest and most powerful fleet of American battleships and cruisers ever mustered in the waters of the mid-Pacific. Three battleships and four cruisers, comprising the flower of the Asiatic squadron, arrived off port at 9:30 a. m. in fleet formation, and one by one found moorings in the harbor before nightfall.

Honolulu was surprised when the seven vessels steamed along from Barber's Point, the flagship Kentucky in the lead, the battleships Wisconsin and Oregon following, with the cruisers New Orleans, Albany, Cincinnati and Raleigh in the rear. The cruisers had been looked for first. Never before in the history of the islands had such a battle array been seen. The ships' funnels threw out clouds of black smoke, and from end to end of the line there was expressed strength, massiveness and invincibility.

The keenest interest was taken in the entrance of the vessels to the harbor, a feat which would have been undreamed of a few years back. Every vessel found ample room in which to maneuver. There was sufficient depth at all points, and Honolulu at last had the long-looked-for opportunity of testing its harbor accommodations.

The fleet was sighted before seven o'clock by Chris Holt at Makaha. Holt telephoned to Honolulu that the warships were in sight and that there were "seven of them." The news that the two squadrons had joined forces was a surprise as the battleships had left Yokohama two days after the cruisers.

The news quickly communicated to the Naval Station, and the U. S. S. Iroquois, Captain Rodman, was made ready to go out and meet the fleet. When the Electric Light whistle blew prolonged blasts Honolulu knew to a certainty that the warships were here.

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COOPER WILL SUCCEED EVANS IN COMMAND



REAR ADMIRAL COOPER, IN COMMAND OF THE CRUISERS.

Rear-Admiral Philip H. Cooper, in command of the cruiser squadron of Admiral Evans' fleet, is one of the ablest officers in the service. He graduated from Annapolis in 1863, one year before the expiration of his term, in order that he might see some real warfare; and he served gallantly under Admirals Farragut and Thatcher during the Civil War. He was one of the heroes of Mobile Bay, and later took a prominent part in the defense of the city. At the conclusion of the war he was assigned to a number of offices of importance. Among them were a commandship on board the Sabine, an instructorship at the academy, a place with the surveying expedition of 1871, in charge of a torpedo station, coast survey work, command of the Swatara on the Asiatic station, charge of various departments at the navy yards, and, in 1894, the superintendency of the Naval Academy. Upon being promoted to the rank of Captain he was given command of the San Francisco, and in 1898 he was placed in command of the newly reconstructed cruiser Chicago. He went out to the Asiatic station about a year ago to take command of the cruiser squadron. Prior to that time he had been in command of the Iowa. Admiral Cooper will probably succeed Admiral Evans in command of the Asiatic station within a few months on the conclusion of the latter's sea service.

Macfarlane and T. W. Hobron to represent the Yacht club; O. Sorenson, W. C. Parke, L. A. Walker, and Merle Johnson for the Rowing Association, and W. W. Harris.

As there was no further business to be brought before the meeting, Mr. Macfarlane suggested that the committee meet immediately. The first meeting was adjourned, and the committee then got down to work. W. W. Harris was elected chairman.

It was the general feeling that the best time in which the men from the fleet could witness or join in sports was on Sunday. There was some discussion as to whether Sunday sports would be permitted by the authorities, but inasmuch as baseball has been played every Sunday at the Park for some time past, no trouble is anticipated in this direction. The fleet contains baseball and football teams and rowing crews, and the idea of arranging games in the two first sports between town teams and those from the fleet was thought to be feasible. There is a football league in the fleet itself and as the schedule of games has not been finished, it is possible that the fleet teams may play the remaining games while in port here.

The local oarsmen from the two boat clubs will probably not be able to compete in aquatic events as they are out of training, but it was thought that a regatta might be arranged between the various crews on the vessels. There is a deal of rivalry between the warships as it is, and if prizes were hung up by the citizens, it would stimulate them into further activity.

Inasmuch as nothing definite was known of the future movements of the fleet or of the different teams and whether they would be willing to join in the sports, a committee consisting of Jess Woods, C. Macfarlane, O. Sorenson, and Bob White was appointed by Mr. Harris to wait upon the different vessels of the fleet, and make arrangements if possible for a program of field and aquatic events to take place in the next few days. The committee will visit the fleet this morning, and endeavor to complete arrangements.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

There are between 3000 and 4000 men in the fleet counting those on the coming colliers and not including those on the new cruiser Tacoma

which, according to a late dispatch from the coast, may come here to join Admiral Evans' command.

Naval men will be largely represented at the banquet of the Merchants' Association, Saturday night.

Many Chinese servants are on the ships. Admiral Evans complained last night that his Chinese steward could not get ashore for supplies, so Sam Parker took him home to dinner.

Marquesville was greatly excited yesterday over the approach of the fleet and natives and Portuguese climbed Rocky Hill to see what was going. The natives all said there was "pilikia", not having heard of the orders to bring the warships here and supposing them to have come on a hostile mission.

Admiral Terry and Collector Stackable had a little tiff yesterday over customs guards on the warships which ended in the Admiral assuming responsibility and looking after contraband goods himself.

FORMIDABLE LABOR STRIKE ON HAWAII

At the departure of the last mail from the Island of Hawaii this week a formidable strike of Japanese laborers was in progress on Hutchinson plantation, Kau.

It started the middle of last week, when some Japanese refused to work owing to a grievance against Mr. Mann, the head luna. This week five hundred of the laborers are on strike and threatening to leave the plantation in a body.

Nothing of a violent nature in the actions of the strikers is reported. All the same, at last accounts, they showed no sign of becoming reconciled to the overseer against whom they struck.

Mr. Mann lately went to Hutchinson from Pahala plantation, having formerly been a luna on Kaula. It is but a week or ten days since Mr. Wolters, formerly manager of Lihue, succeeded Mr. Hewitt as manager of Hutchinson plantation.

GOODBYE TO MUCKLEYS

Pleasant Feast Followed With a Lecture by Dr. Scudder.

The members of the Y. M. C. A. and of the Y. W. C. A. gave a dinner and reception to Mr. and Mrs. Muckley last evening in the rooms of the Boston building. Thirty-four persons sat at tables, nicely decorated with flowers and candles, and enjoyed a menu of alphabet soup, wafers, salad and rolls, roast beef, potatoes, bananas, corn, lemon sherbet, marble-cake and coffee.

The cards were hand-painted and the tables were loaded with flowers, the work of Miss Noble. Half a dozen active, handsome young women waited on the guests.

After dinner Mr. John Martin gave a pleasing address, speaking highly of Mr. Muckley's work in Honolulu. On Sunday Mr. Muckley with his family will sail for Portland where he is to become pastor of a large congregation.

At 7 o'clock Dr. Scudder gave an address in the same rooms before the Problem Club and the Y. W. C. A. on "The Social Uplift of Hawaii." He paid a high compliment to the work of the early missionaries here, saying that they converted one-third of the large population of those days. The doctor holds that the social influence of the missionaries was the cause of their success and he believes that the future church, if successful, must be conducted on social methods. He said that the missionaries in Japan attracted great numbers of young men by teaching them English and thus won their confidence.

The lecturer stated that the unions and railways were doing a great deal for temperance on the mainland, even more than the churches. Dr. Scudder urged the union of churches on social lines, and instanced Waiialua as being a success. He said that, though the Japanese gamble much they are very thrifty. He has made a tour through all the plantations and he has found the managers encouraging the laborers to save their earnings. After the address Mr. Muckley spoke of the kindness he had received from the people of Honolulu and of his regret at leaving the Islands.

COLOMBIA'S ATTITUDE.

If Colombia ventures upon war with the United States the fact will be due to the general ignorance prevailing south of Mexico about the power and adaptability of the North American republic. The Latin Americans have been taught, partly by Europe, partly by their own prejudices, that the people of the United States are mere traders who let their fighting be done by hired ragsmen from abroad, not to be compared in warlike attributes and chivalry to the hidalgos of New Spain.

Travelers all say that the threat of the Chilian press fourteen years ago, to land an army of 25,000 men at San Francisco and march them against New York, quite fairly represents the general South American idea of North American conditions. Venezuela, bristling up to Europe and then, in defeat, laying it all to the lack of a defensive fleet and flattering itself that if the foreigners had dared come ashore they would have been welcomed by hospitable hands to bloody graves, is typical of the whole pretentious colony of small republics which fume and bluster on our sister continent. We have no doubt that the people of Colombia believe they could retake Panama and hold it against the Yankees.

They count as nothing the affair of the United States with Spain and affect to believe that the Filipinos are still holding the "Gringos" at bay. They are quite capable of attacking us and to feel no presage of the rude awakening to come.

Dolphin Proves Useful.

The dolphin opposite the marine railway proved itself a valuable harbor convenience on the entrance of Admiral Evans' squadron. When the battleship Kentucky was coming to dock she ran a hawser to the dolphin, upon which the ponderous fighting machine swung with facility into position.