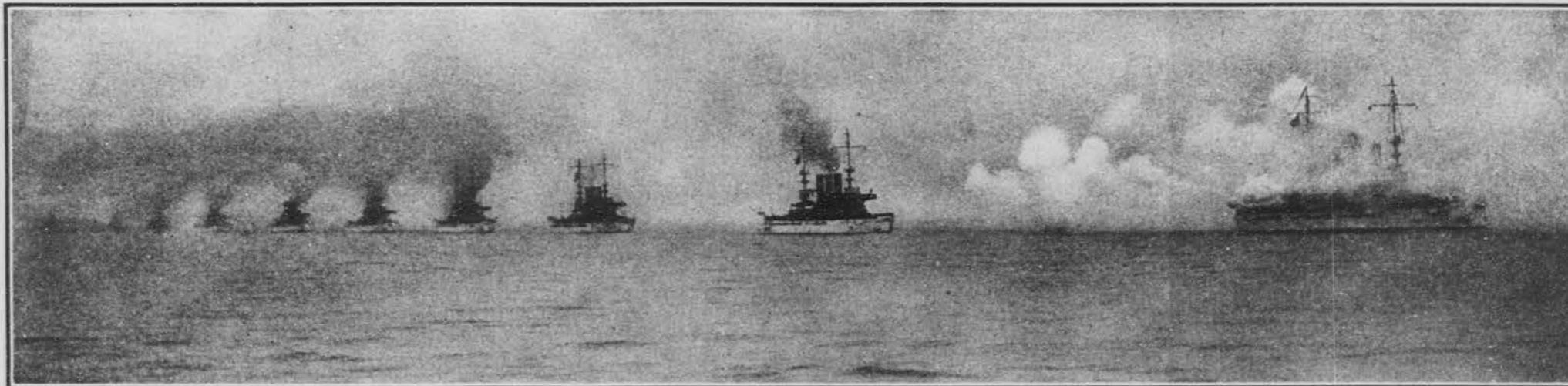


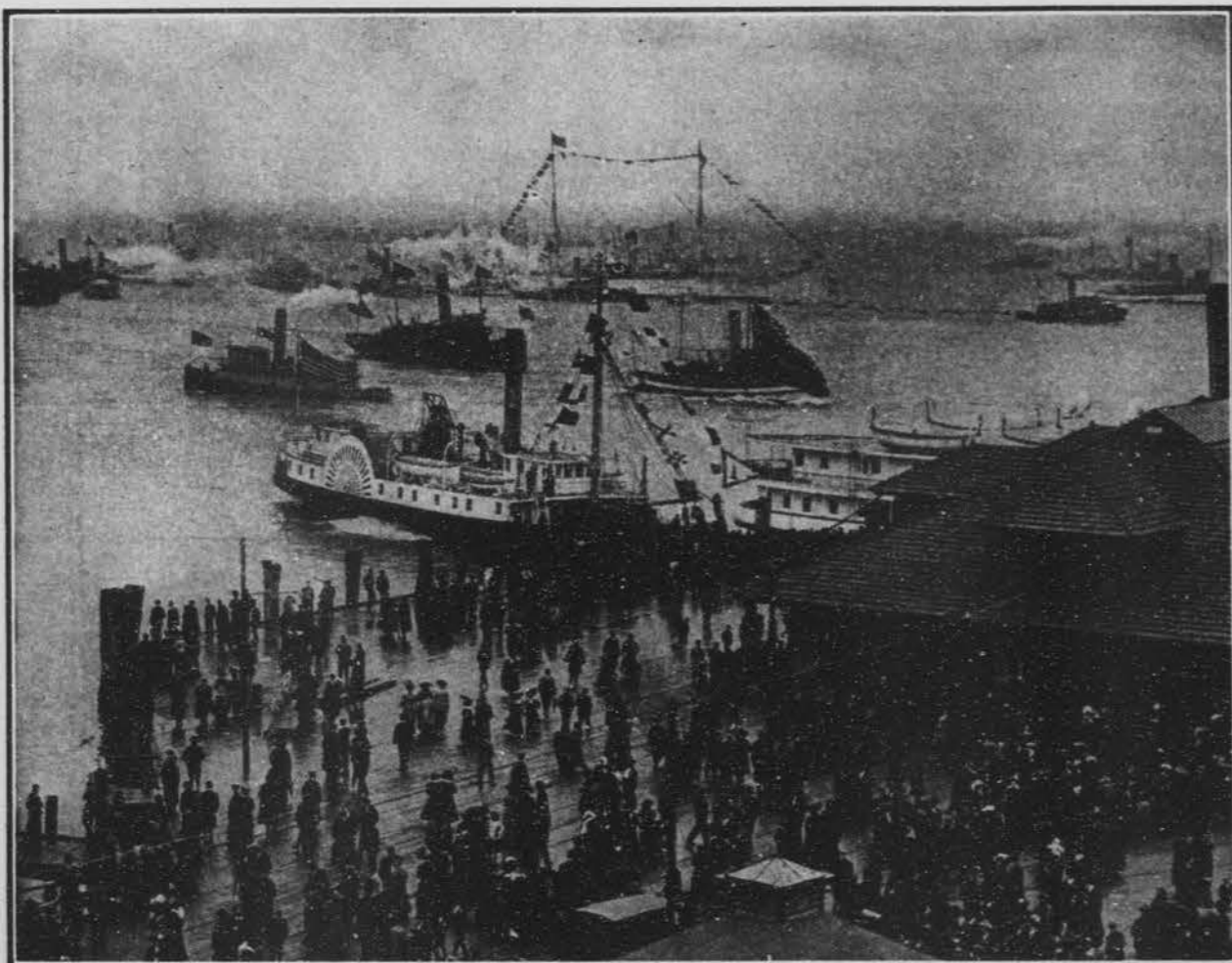
WHEN THE FLEET CAME HOME—SCENES AT HAMPTON ROADS, FEBRUARY 22

In a scud of mist, with occasional showers, the world-traveled battle fleet returned to Hampton roads February 22, just about fourteen months after it sailed away. Including the escort of nine vessels sent out as a welcoming convoy, twenty-five armorclads moved majestically into the harbor, and amid the thunder of saluting guns came to anchor off Old Point Comfort. The sixteen home-coming ships wore a coat of white; the nine comprising the escort were painted a dark gray. Every ship was "dressed" in flags and bunting, and the scene was an inspiring one.

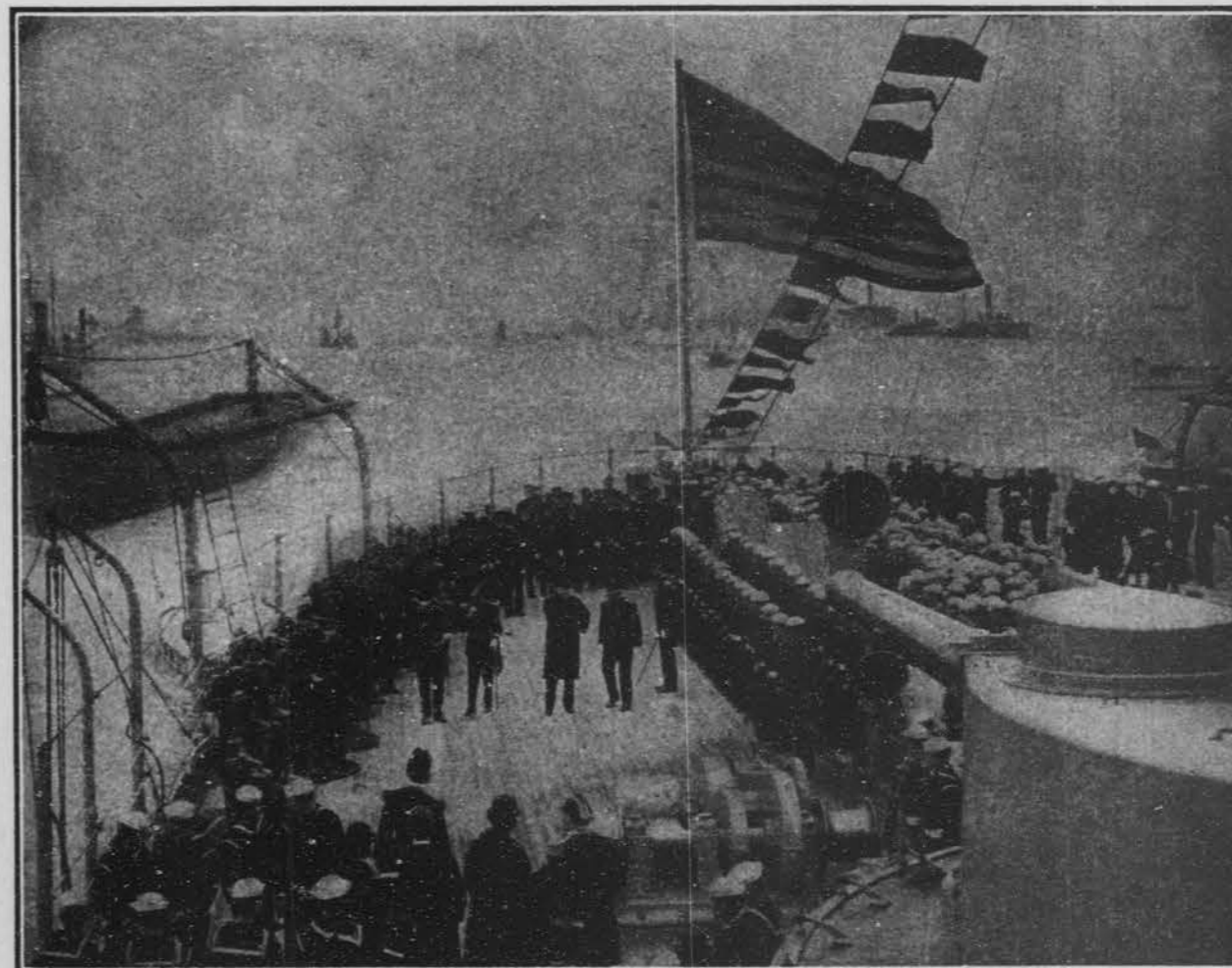


In his speech to the officers and men of the fleet President Roosevelt said: "You've done the trick. Every other nation may do as you have done, but they'll have to follow after you." This sounds the keynote of the whole cruise. Never before has any nation sent a fleet of battleships on a voyage of 48,000 miles, and it is hardly likely that the feat will be emulated for years to come. Splendid hospitality was shown to the officers and men alike, and those who participated will have many interesting "yarns" to spin for the rest of their lives.

THE FLAGSHIP CONNECTICUT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SPERRY, AT HEAD OF COLUMN, BEGINS SALUTING AS SHE APPROACHES MAYFLOWER.



THE ANIMATED SCENE ON "FLEET DAY" OFF OLD POINT COMFORT—THE MAYFLOWER IN THE CENTER.



THE PRESIDENT AND FLEET OFFICERS ON THE AFTER DECK OF THE CONNECTICUT.
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