

COURTS AND JUSTICE

Admiral Converse's Report on Sea-Fighting Strength Made Public.

ONLY NEED MORE SHIPS

Goes Exhaustively into Subject, Talking Up Recent Criticisms in Detail and Refutes Them—Lesson From the Japanese.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—By direction of the President, Secretary McCall has made public the report of Admiral Converse on the fighting ships of the American Navy, called forth by many criticisms recently published in magazines and otherwise.

The report was prepared primarily to satisfy the President as to the exact state of our naval ships, compared with those of other navies, and its publication is authorized with the design to reassure the American sailors as to the quality of the weapons with which they must go into battle.

Admiral Converse characterized the criticisms as "pronounced by persons whose knowledge of the subjects discussed was limited and incorrect."

"It is not claimed that mistakes have not been made in the design of our ships or without faults, but in view of the then state of the art of battleship-building this fact is not to be considered as a criticism of the design."

"The quality of the material of our ships is inferior to none; in quantity of vessels alone we are lacking."

"It may not be amiss to report also, while dealing with the subject of gun heights and freeboard, to add that the Japanese in their most recently designed ships have, notwithstanding an increase of speed and length of vessels, not raised their gun positions nor the freeboard, which is one of the results gained from their experiences from their recent war, and which seems to uphold the good idea of our system of building ships without the excessive heights deemed to be necessary by some critics."

THUG GETS GUN AND MONEY Benjamin Taro Forgets to Use Revolver When Held Up.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Benjamin Taro, held up by a band of robbers this morning, lost not only about \$18 he had in his pockets, but was relieved also of a revolver he carried with which to protect himself against the band.

JILTED, HE SHOOTS HIMSELF Young Hollander Prefers Death to Unrequited Love.

SEATTLE, Feb. 15.—(Special.)—G. Esjeim, the young man who shot himself Saturday night because Mary Timmerman, whom he loved, had jilted him, died yesterday morning at the Wayside Emergency Hospital, Esjeim, who was a young Hollander, had been employed at the shops of the Seattle Electric Company, at Georgetown, as a painter.

SPRAGUE IS UNDER WATER Fears That Stores May Be Undermined and Much Damage Result.

SPRAGUE, Wash., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—It rains and melts snow here and there this evening the railroad tracks around the depot are under water and the stream is steadily rising. From Railroad avenue up to First street the streets are all under water and the business blocks along C street up to First are under flood. Some apprehension is felt that foundations will be undermined before morning unless the flood abates. This is the first time in ten years that a flood of such magnitude has occurred in Sprague. The water is mostly from the north and before morning the east section, which drains a big country, may be heard from. In many places the water covers the floors and late this evening a boat was doing business on one of the main streets. At 10 o'clock the North Creek is subsiding but the East Creek is rising.

CONNECT MAN WITH CASE Stranger Thought to Be Implicated With Mrs. Martin.

OAKLAND, Feb. 15.—Captain W. J. Peterson, head of the Oakland detective department, believes he will be able to connect some unknown man with the startling act of Mrs. Isabelle Martin and her alleged son, "Baby John." He is now working on the theory that many of the threatening letters to prominent residents of Oakland are the work of a third party, the mysterious man in the case. The letters are in a man's handwriting, and experts to whom they have been submitted are unanimous in saying they were not written by either Mrs. Martin or "Baby John." The Oakland detectives will arrive here some time tomorrow with "Baby John" and probably Mrs. Martin.

Lumber Cargo for Panama. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—Carrying a large cargo of lumber consigned to the Government to be used in construction work at the Panama Canal, the new schooner Cleopatra and Maloney left today for Ancon, under command of Captain Payne.

The United States collier Justin, Captain Morrisweather, arrived today from Magdalena Bay, whither she went several weeks ago with coal and stores for the fleet. The Justin brought a large quantity of mail from the crews of the

SURPRISED AT ARREST

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Charles W. Morse, financier and promoter of many large combinations, including the so-called "Ice Trust" and a merger of nearly all of the coastwise steamship lines, returned today from his brief trip to Europe, was arrested in his stateroom when the steamer Eurymedea reached Quarantine today.

BANKER MORSE RETURNS TO FACE CHARGES Denies All Hints of Flight—Will Plead Not Guilty to Indictments. Gives Heavy Bond.

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Tomorrow Mr. Morse will appear before Justice Dowling in open court and plead not guilty to the indictments. He is expected to be held in the city jail until the ship was docked and then was whirled away in an automobile to the home of Justice Victor Dowling of the Supreme Court.

Gets in Police Department.

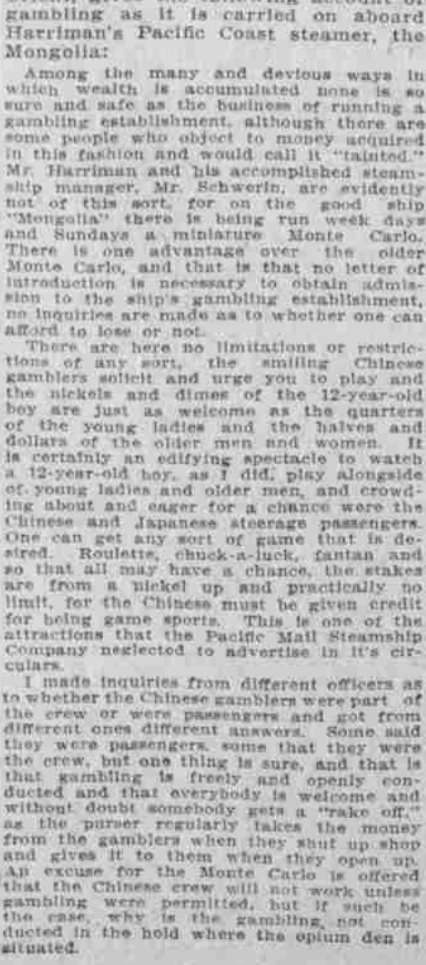
He then went back to Portland, where he took up his old trade of plasterer, but drifted into the Police Department. Soon after Captain Bruin secured his place he made Mears a detective and his special protégé. It was while Mears was a police officer that the acts complained of in his wife's divorce complaint began.

MONTE CARLO ON SIBERIA LID IS OFF ON HARRIMAN LINER.

Writing from Honolulu to friends in this city, under date of the 12th inst., A. H. Devers, who is on his way to the Orient, gives the following account of gambling as it is carried on aboard the Hawaiian Pacific Coast steamer, the Mongolian.

Among the many and devious ways in which wealth is accumulated here is so common and so safe that it is almost a gambling establishment, although there are some people who object to money acquired in this fashion and would call it "rained."

CONKLIN BUILDING AT GRANTS PASS



ONE OF THE MOST SIGHTLY OF THE NEW STRUCTURES OF THE BUSY SOUTHERN OREGON CENTER.

EX-POLICE SUED BY WIFE

John A. Mears, Ex-Protege of Captain Bruin, Defendant in Divorce Suit.

FOLLOWS VARIED CAREER

By Trade a Plasterer, He Becomes Converted and Enters Ministry. Falls From Grace and Sinks Low in the Social Scale.

FOLLOWS VARIED CAREER

ALBANY, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—John A. Mears, who achieved considerable notoriety in Portland about two years ago as aide-de-camp to Captain Patrick Bruin, of the Portland Police Department, is made defendant in a divorce suit filed in the State Circuit Court for Linn County last evening.

Follows Varied Career.

Mears came to Oregon from Waterloo, Iowa, in 1902, and located in Albany to practice law, forming a partnership with the late D. R. N. Blackburn, when the latter finished his term as Attorney-General of Oregon.

Gets in Police Department.

He then went back to Portland, where he took up his old trade of plasterer, but drifted into the Police Department. Soon after Captain Bruin secured his place he made Mears a detective and his special protégé.

TOADSTOOLS CAUSE DEATH

Two Mexican Woodchoppers Eat of Fungus and Die. VENTURA, Cal., Feb. 15.—Toadstools have caused the death of two persons in this city within the last week.

San Pedro Shipping.

SAN PEDRO, Feb. 15.—The steamer Yosemite, Captain Johnson, finished discharging her cargo assigned to wholesaler at this port and sailed this morning for Redondo with her balance.

Thaw Goes to Church.

MATTEAWAN, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Mrs. William Thaw was a visitor at Matteawan State Asylum and attended the services with her son, Harry K. Thaw.

TAKEN AT NIGHT, WHIPPED BY RIFERS

Mob of 300 Visits Town of Edyville, Ky., at an Early Hour of Morning.

ROADS COMPLY WITH LAW

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Gratification is expressed by the Interstate Commerce Commission over two conditions that have arisen within a day or two. In concrete form, they mean that American railway officials, as a class, are doing all that lies in their power to meet situations that have arisen under the new laws applying to interstate traffic.

TEN MEN ARE PUNISHED

EDDYVILLE, Ky., Feb. 15.—Night-riders, 300 strong, visited Eddyville at 1 o'clock this morning (Sunday) and whipped ten men, four of them white and six negroes. The white men who are today suffering from sore backs as the result of the severe chastisement are J. W. Rucker, Lesley Woods, ex-City Marshal; Press Fraulick, who occasionally acted as Deputy Marshal, and Grace Robertson, a saloon porter.

RECORD AT A HOSPITAL

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—An exceptional record was established at the Central Emergency hospital for the 24 hours ending this evening at 6 o'clock. From 11 o'clock on Saturday night until 2 o'clock this afternoon, 11 hours, not a single emergency case was treated.

Real Estate Man a Suicide.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Feb. 15.—Henry D. Sellers, a leading real estate broker of this city, committed suicide today. The death of Mr. Sellers, who was 55 years old, was directly attributed to the untimely end of his 22-year-old son, who committed suicide last summer.

Streetcar Kills Preacher.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—Rev. Edwin Boddy, 73 years old, a retired minister who came here from Seward, Neb., some time ago, was almost instantly killed by a car on the West Temple-street line today.

Lumber Company Assigns.

MURFREESBORO, Tenn., Feb. 15.—The firm of W. B. Earhart & Co., dealers in lumber, have assigned. The liabilities, it is said, will approximate \$500,000 with assets between \$300,000 and \$400,000.

Bryan Talks to 4000 Men.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 15.—William J. Bryan addressed more than 4000 men today afternoon. His subject was the "Price of Peace." His address was given under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A.

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Advertisement for 'CHANGES IN DEATS' featuring a story about Patrolman Stuart taken from 'Little Italy.' and 'READY TO WELCOME FLEET' with the text 'Evans Will Be Received at Callao With Honors of Vice-Admiral.'

Advertisement for 'Competent Officer Shifted by Chief Gritzmacher, Whose Explanation is "For the Good of the Service."' and 'HAD DETAIL SIX YEARS'.

Advertisement for 'RECORD AT A HOSPITAL' and 'Not One Case in Eleven Hours Treated at San Francisco.' and 'Real Estate Man a Suicide.'

Advertisement for 'A Word To Depositors' with the text 'LAST WEEK we met personally many of the small depositors in the old institution and made them happy by paying off hundreds of dollars up to \$15,000.'

Advertisement for 'HIGHEST SCORE EVER MADE' and 'Big Marks Made at Bowling Congress at Cincinnati.'

Advertisement for 'GERMAN-AMERICAN BANK' with the text 'Sixth and Washington Sts., Portland, Or.'

Advertisement for 'W. G. SMITH & CO.' featuring 'COFFEE' and 'It is an easy luxury is an easy luxury an easy luxury easy luxury luxury'.