

FLEET HAS NIGHT OF WAR IN CANAL

At Suez Ahead of Schedule, After Next to Longest Run of Voyage

SUPPLIES FOR SUFFERERS

Culgoa and Yankton Will Head for Messina With All Speed—Battleships to Be Held in Readiness to Go if Ordered.

SUEZ, Jan. 3.—The United States Atlantic fleet today has a respite of two days from its schedule the next to the longest run of its world-grinding cruise, arrived here this morning from Colombo, a distance of 3200 knots. The fleet sailed on December 20 from Colombo. The loss of the steamer *Illinois*, who fell overboard and was drowned, as previously reported, was the only incident to mar the voyage from Colombo.

The *Illinois* remained on the scene and is a little behind the fleet. The stately array of battleships was an imposing sight. The weather was splendid and the day was crowded with craft, the occupants of which gave an enthusiastic welcome to the ships. Despite their long trip, the warships looked as smart and trim as though turned out for a naval review.

Authorities Give Welcome.

When the ships had anchored the Egyptian and Canal authorities went aboard the Connecticut and welcomed Rear-Admiral Sperry, who expressed himself as well satisfied with the cruise from Colombo. He regretted that he was compelled to curtail his stay in Egypt but hoped at some future time an opportunity would be given him to visit Cairo. The Admiral spoke of the Australian visit of the fleet as the special feature of the trip.

Clear Run Through Canal.

All arrangements were made by wireless for the ships of the fleet to pass through the canal as quickly as possible and to anchor at Port Said, where 25,000 tons are stored. The battleships are to have right-of-way for a clear run through the canal. The Connecticut, Vermont, Kansas and Minnesota will enter the canal at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning and will arrive at Port Said at 10 o'clock Monday night. The Connecticut, Vermont, Louisiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri and Virginia, will enter Tuesday and the third line, composed of the Wisconsin, Keokuk, New Jersey, Indiana and Nebraska, will start Wednesday.

Jollity on New Year's Day.

New Year's day was passed by the men of the fleet in a continuous round of fun. There were athletic contests, boxing and foot-racing, culminated in a grand entertainment on board the flagship Connecticut, consisting of a sketch and costume contest, vaudeville and minstrel performances. The members of the ship's company were the actors and the evening ended in a cakewalk, the stunning costumes and millinery for which were made aboard ship.

Supplies for Quake Victims.

The news of the Italian earthquake was greeted with profound sorrow by officers and men. In reply to a message from the Navy Department, Rear Admiral Sperry said that he had supplies available for distribution to Italian earthquake sufferers as follows: Bread, 50,000 pounds; cereals, 50,000 pounds; fruits, 50,000 pounds; fresh meat, 50,000 pounds; other meat, 10,000 pounds; vegetables, canned, 50,000 pounds; milk, 50,000 pounds; and other numerous items. The *Culgoa* will distribute these provisions. There are six surgeons and a number of hospital men on board the *Culgoa* and *Yankton* and they are taking with them supplies of coats, blankets, etc. The supply ships are due to arrive at Messina January 1 and 2.

Recent Mill Not a Record.

PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 3.—(Reporting Editor, Oregonian.)—In the Oregonian of January 1, 1904, was published the record of the heaviest fighting ship that ever has been done through. None of the British dreadnaught types have made this voyage, the longest ever pulled off in California. Permit me to state that in 1888 in the "Eye-street" Athletic Club in Sacramento Billy Mahan, of San Francisco, and Jack Sullivan, of Los Angeles, fought 65 rounds in the "Black Pearl" ring. Mahan, who had defeated the "Black Pearl" and many other good fighters, was at his best, and immediately after the Mahan-Sullivan fight in the early hours of the morning, Turner and Bill Hall, of "No. 10," both colored, fought a bare-knuckle fight of 25 rounds for the championship of the California Legislature. In this fight Hall was knocked out in the 15th round. Mahan has never had a better fight since.

SUEZ CANAL SCENES, WHICH CREWS OF THE AMERICAN BATTLESHIP FLEET ARE NOW WITNESSING



SUEZ CANAL - RR STATION.

being through dry land and 21 through the Mensaleh Bahiah, the Inshah and the Bitter Lakes. There are some doubtful places, where the wash in sandy cuttings tends to fill in the channel, but for the most part the soils are tenacious and the channel dependable. Ships go through under their own steam. The speed is limited to 8 miles an hour. By using electric lights many vessels pass through by night. The canal runs free from sea to sea, with a slight ebb and flow of the tides, following roughly the course of an Egyptian canal of five centuries before Christ.

Leave to go through the Suez Canal will cost the United States Government, with quarantine and other dues, not far from \$115,000. The regular tolls are \$1.47 per ton. British shipping companies are continually complaining against this rate, which they aver is unreasonable. The Suez Canal Company's rate of dividend on \$40,000,000 capital has been from 24 to 25 per cent for a number of years.

Canal Cuts Historic Country.

The views which the officers and men of the American fleet will have in passing through the canal in part will be splendid and in part dull, but always with the vast historical background. Port Said, in itself, is a sordid, dirty port, yet Mount Sittah rises from there on the left, and a violet-colored range on the right. The canal cuttings run through some dreary expanses of sand, but the way is varied by lagoons and lakes. Mensaleh is 1000 square miles in area, and through it the channel is marked by buoys. Flocks of pelicans, flamingos and herons feed in the marshes. The Bitter Lakes are the Biblical waters of Marsh. Port Said, the Mediterranean terminal of the canal, with a population of 40,000, is almost wholly a commercial town following the construction of the canal.

TWO DAYS TO PASS SUEZ CANAL

Atlantic Fleet Delayed Because of Poor Coaling Facilities.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The arrival of the American fleet at the entrance of the Suez Canal was announced in a cablegram received at the Navy Department today. Admiral Sperry also states that the *Culgoa* and the *Yankton* would go through the canal tonight. Other vessels of the fleet will follow as rapidly as possible. It is probable that two days will be required to take all of the battleships through the canal, and two days more will be necessary to complete coaling at Suez. All arrangements to facilitate these operations have been made, but the situation is such that it will be difficult if not impossible to make better progress. The facilities for coaling are limited. No change in the itinerary has been ordered unless it is decided to make such a change in connection with the offer of their services to Italy before the fleet leaves Suez, the battleships will proceed according to the plan long ago agreed upon.

RECENT MILL NOT A RECORD

Oldtimer Writes of 65-Round Go in Sacramento in 1888.

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Commences this morning at 10 o'clock and will continue for two weeks

BARGAINS FROM EVERY SECTION OF THE STORE—OUR ANNUAL CLEAN-UP OF ALL ODDS AND ENDS—SAMPLES—DISCONTINUED PATTERNS—BROKEN SUITES, REMNANTS, ETC.

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FENCE LAW HOLDS

Garfield Reminds Congress It Should Be Modified.

GETS LITTLE ATTENTION

Western Congressmen Have Taken No Action to Repeal Statute Obnoxious to Cattle Men, and Law Will Be Enforced.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 3.—Secretary Garfield, in his annual report, made public today, once more reminds Congress that the law prohibiting fencing of the public domain still remains on the statute books, and that while it remains, it must be enforced. He, however, makes it plain that, in the opinion of the Department, the anti-fencing law, in its present form, is unwise and unreasonable and should be modified. The attitude of Congress toward the anti-fencing law is difficult to understand. The law, of course, applies only to the public-land states of the West, and yet almost every Senator and every Representative from the public-land states regards the law as unjust. Notwithstanding this practically unanimous sentiment, Western men have made no united or comprehensive effort to have the law repealed or modified, and have scarcely given the range question thoughtful consideration. The anti-fence law has caused no end of trouble during the past few years; the Government has expended thousands upon thousands of dollars to compel its enforcement; stockmen using the public range have been put to heavy expense through the erection and subsequent destruction of drift fences, etc., and some, who have defied the orders of the courts, have paid the penalty. And yet neither the Government nor the stock interests believe the law is a proper one. Secretary Garfield, speaking of the anti-fence law, says: "The enforcement of the existing law does not meet the need of the present time."

GARFIELD UPHOLDS SMOOT

RECOMMENDS NON-RESIDENT CLAUSE IN DRY-FARM BILL.

Thought This May Serve to Kill Measure Again, for House Will Not Pass Clause.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 4.—One paragraph in the annual report of Secretary James R. Garfield, made public today, may appear to defeat the pending 320-acre dry farm homestead bill. The Secretary supports the Smoot contention for a non-resident clause in the dry farm bill—the feature that did more than all else to kill this measure at the last session. Unless this non-resident clause is eliminated it is conceded that the dry farm bill cannot get through the House on final passage, and the House managers in the conference committee will not bring in another report which includes this section. In his report, discussing the subject of dry farming, Secretary Garfield says: "It is probable in certain sections where dry farming is feasible that residence upon the land itself will not be possible because of the absence of portable water. It may be necessary and wise to permit the cultivators of such areas to live in communities some miles distant from the farms and base final proof upon cultivation and actual residence in the neighborhood." Senator Smoot will unquestionably seize upon the Secretary's report and use it as an argument for the retention of the non-resident clause, which proved fatal last Winter. If Senator Smoot persists in this attitude, it is thought he will kill the whole measure. The Utah Senator is noted for his stubbornness, and advocates of the 320-acre bill are much concerned for fear Smoot will refuse to compromise. The cause of dry farming would have been in much better position to receive Congressional encouragement had Secretary Garfield omitted the paragraph just quoted from his report, is the general opinion.

New Cuban Tobaccos

WE are pleased to announce that we are using the new crop of Havana tobaccos in our *Jose Vila Cigars*. These Tobaccos are fully cured and in prime condition and equal to the celebrated 1905 crop. You may have had cause to complain of your favorite brands. *Jose Vila* will please you.

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GARFIELD TO STAY

His Chances Best to Become Secretary of Interior.

BALLINGER IS OUT OF IT

Doesn't Like Official Life in Washington—Present Cabinet Member Familiar With Conditions and Is Friend of Taft.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 3.—As far as can be learned, President-elect Taft has finally decided upon his Secretary of the Interior, but indications strongly point to the selection of James R. Garfield, now holding that office. Secretary Garfield is anxious to remain in his present position; Mr. Taft knows of this desire; he is also aware that Mr. Garfield gave him staunch support in the campaign, and prior to the Chicago convention, and furthermore he appreciates the seriousness with which Mr. Garfield has taken hold of the work of his department. There was a time when it was believed ex-Land Commissioner R. A. Ballinger, of Seattle, might be chosen for Secretary of the Interior, but Mr. Ballinger has said he does not want the office, and it is well known by his friends that he does not care for official life in Washington. Therefore, it is reasonably certain that he will not be a member of the next Cabinet. With Ballinger out of the way there is no man looming up on the horizon who is regarded as a strong competitor of Garfield, and the probability is that the young Ohioan will remain at the head of the Interior Department for another four years.

The main objection raised by Western men to Secretary Garfield is the fact that he is an Easterner, not personally familiar with Western conditions and Western needs. However, since he became Secretary of the Interior Mr. Garfield has spent much of his time in the West, getting in intimate touch with Western people, and his sympathies are decidedly with the deserving classes whose needs he has discovered. In this respect he is today much more sympathetic than any previous Secretary of the Interior in 15 years, and he knows more of actual Western conditions than any other Eastern man who ever filled that Cabinet office.

Those in a position to appreciate what Secretary Garfield has accomplished since he took hold of a department disrupted by the comment of the Secretary for his accomplishments, and those who know how hard he has struggled to get in touch with the people of the entire West commend him for his success in that direction.

M'CLELLAN TO RUN AGAIN

(Continued From First Page.) Based on past performance McCarren has 20 of the 23 in Brooklyn. The Queens County leaders would gladly throw their four districts to any anti-Tammany combination. So would the Richmond County men although they have only one district. "That gives us 25 to start with," he said. "And any kind of work should land seven of the 25 in Manhattan and the Bronx. Why we have three now, and I can easily point out half a dozen others that only need a little encouragement. Just say the word and Murphy is beaten." This sounded good to McClellan and he said the word. The first syllable sounded the doom of John V. Cozay, Commissioner of Corrections. The other syllables will be uttered whenever Featherston thinks the time is ripe.

Tammany Bosses Indifferent.

Loyal Tammany men express indifference as to the Mayor's attitude. Their view of present conditions is well expressed in this statement by a district leader who is close to the Sullivan. "McClellan is a dead one, and he strengthens the organization by fighting

Dry Goods Store Looted.

ALBANY, Or., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—Judge William Galloway will convene an adjourned term of department No. 2 State Circuit Court for Linn County, in this city tomorrow afternoon. It is expected that decisions will be handed down in a number of important cases which have heretofore been taken under advisement.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 3.—(Special.)

Burglars effected an entrance to the Beaton Dry Goods and Clothing Store last night and got away with stock valued at several hundred dollars.

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