

WOODMEN OF TWO STATES ARE WORKING FOR ROSE FESTIVAL



Woodmen of World Rose Festival Committee for Multnomah County.

The Woodmen of Washington have joined hands with the neighbors of Oregon to boost the Rose Festival, and they are now planning excursions to Portland. The plan is to hold a grand

parade Saturday afternoon, June 6, at 2 o'clock, and in the evening at 7:30 they will hold a class initiation in the east side W. O. W. hall. It is expected that some 500 candidates will be

introduced into the mysteries of Woodcraft. The W. O. W. campaign committee has already let the contract for a float. It is expected that in the W. O. W.

parade Saturday afternoon, June 6, there will be some 400 or 500 uniformed men in line, and it is estimated that over 2,000 members of the order will parade on this date.

CHANGES DUE IN NAVAL OFFICERS

Today an Important One to Men Who Man Battle-ship Fleet.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, May 9. — Important

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changes are due among the commanding officers of the battleship fleet at San Francisco today in pursuance of orders issued by the navy department. The most important change is that affecting Rear Admiral Evans, the commander-in-chief of the fleet. Rear Admiral Charles M. Thomas, who has commanded the second squadron of the Atlantic fleet, relieves Rear Admiral Evans of the supreme command. The change marks the close of Rear Admiral Evans' active career in the navy, though he is not to be officially retired until next August.

Rear Admiral W. H. Emory is detached from duty in command of the second division, first squadron, and will command the fourth division, second squadron. Rear Admiral Charles S. Sperry is relieved from command of the fourth division, second squadron, and will command the second squadron. Captain Seaton Schroeder, who will shortly reach the grade of rear admiral, is detached from command of the battleship Virginia to command the second division, first squadron. Captain Alexander Sharp succeeds him as commander of the battleship Virginia.

Admiral Thomas. He was stationed at the Centennial exposition from 1875 to 1877, and was in charge of the Constitution at the Paris exposition in 1878. From 1880 to 1884 he served at the naval academy and during the next three years he was on the flagship Hartford of the Pacific squadron. Subsequently he commanded the coast survey steamer Paterson, was a hydrographic inspector in the coast survey for two years, in the bureau of navigation from 1891 to 1893, commanded the Bennington during the next two years, and was in turn commander of the naval home, the war college and the naval academy. From 1899 to 1902 he commanded the battleship Oregon. In 1905 he reached the grade of rear admiral.

Rear Admiral Thomas will have supreme command of the fleet for a very short time. He will not retire for age until October, but as the fleet will shortly leave the Pacific coast to resume its trip around the world it will of course be necessary to make another change in commanders. Rear Admiral Charles S. Sperry is the officer chosen to succeed Rear Admiral Thomas in command of the fleet and it is expected the transfer will be made before the ships leave San Francisco next week.

Admiral Sperry's Record. Admiral Sperry is regarded as one of the finest strategists and tacticians in the navy, and that is why he has been selected to take charge of the battleships and cruisers for the rest of the journey around the globe. He is an expert in his line, one of the most accomplished officers of the new navy, thoroughly up to date in all branches. Moreover, he has spent years afloat in the Chinese and Pacific stations, to say nothing of the European station, and is entirely familiar with all the conditions that will arise as the fleet continues its cruise to the far east.

Admiral Sperry is a native of Brooklyn, but his family removed to Connecticut when he was a youth, and in 1852 he was appointed to the naval academy from that state. He had no opportunity to take part in the civil war, as he did not graduate until 1866. During the next 20 years or so he served on the Pacific and European stations. In 1893 he came to Washington and was attached for two years to the bureau of ordnance, as he was an expert in such matters. In 1894 he became a full commander, and from July, 1895, to May, 1898, was stationed at the New York navy yard. Then the Spanish war came, but still Sperry did not get his chance to get into a fight. He was attached to the Yorktown as commander of the vessel, and started across the Pacific to the Chinese station. But by the time he reached the other side, Dewey had wiped out the Spanish fleet in Manila bay and there remained nothing in the fighting line for Sperry to do. He became a captain in 1900, and a rear admiral in 1906.

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