Uncle Sam's Puget Sound Navy Yard and Dry Docks

UNCLE SAM had no need to erect formidable fortifications and extensive naval and military works, in order to make sure of protection for the waters and commercial interests of the Pacific Northwest, but when our Uncle Sam located the Puget Sound Naval Station he assured such protection for all time to come under all possible events, domestic or foreign. At the same time he located these works in a position absolutely impregnable, a very Gibralter of security against attack or interference, as an examination of location and surroundings will show.

In the first place, the location of Port Orchard bay, on which the station is built, is 100 miles interior from the Pacific, reached only through the straits of San Juan de Fuca, that wonderful body of water through which pours the present enormous streams of Northwestern commerce. This water is susceptible of fortifications and of defense beyond the ability of the combined war fleets of all earth to force an entrance. Forts at Port Townsend and other points eastward from the entrance of the straits already protect the passage, while beyond, as the course lies further in toward the naval station, the channel narrows into abutting natural defenses.

Should the naval powers of earth ever force these, there would remain torpedo, bomb, dynamite mines, chains, and like means of destruction of the advancing engines of war, strung and hung in the narrower channels nearer the station, beyond any conceivable ability of present or future naval powers to pass. On such situation is based the claim that the location, for safety and strength, is the finest that the world knows today. Other features are quite as favorable, including depth of water, character of anchorage grounds, shore for docks and wharfs, surrounding lands and conditions, including climatic conditions and protection from all winds by an absolutely land-locked harbor, set within densely timbered hills.

Views of the Station, its works and surroundings herewith given, disclose but a small part of the interesting and instructive features to be learned by a visit to Bremerton, as the little city surrounding the Station, has been named. Carved out of the virgin forest, the works occupy an enclosure of some eighty acres of level land, that comes down to the water on just the level needed for works and docks, while farther back the ground rises by ridge and terrace, giving attractive natural locations for the administrative buildings, offices and quarters. Central to all lies the great dry dock, now the largest possessed by the government, with dockage and wharfs in front, and shops and repair and equipment buildings adjoining. Notwithstanding the completeness of the works all is still bustle and animation in extensions constantly on foot, the largest of the present works under construction being an immense equipment building of brick, that will be completed this season. Brick and steel structure is maintained throughout, and every species of construction, brick, steel, stone and timber, is of the superior quality for which Uncle Samuel is noted. A point of great significance as bearing on the local adaptability and economy of the site, is that nearly a totality of all materials comes from the Puget Sound and Pacific region, excepting barely structural steel and iron. Stone, brick, timber and coal, are all at Uncle Sam's finger tips.

Details of these great works, are to be found in the reports, but a few items will suffice, emphasizing in the main, as they do, the local importance of the Station, and comparison with the sister stations of Mare Island and Brooklyn. Puget Sound is already larger than either of the other two, and with contemplated improvements already under the protecting aegis of government appropriation, will shortly be among the largest in the world. Its present dry dock has such rank, having a capacity of containing the largest battle ship in the world, and yet the extensions now contemplated, to be covered in the next appropriation calling for $4,000,000, already approved by the department, call for another dry dock double the size of the present one, deemed necessary by our naval extension on the Pacific side of our domain, and our interests in the far east.

Other extensions covered in the recent appropriations of $1,200,000 are coal bunkers of 25,000 tons capacity. Bremerton being one of five such coaling stations ordered, the other four being San Diego, San Francisco, Sitka, and Dutch Harbor for the Pacific and Behring Sea. This coaling provision is now a necessity, but the future system for the Station is said by government officials to be to utilizze the Lake Washington fresh water canal now under construction, ships running through that body of water directly up to the coal bunkers near the mines, and in going and coming clean their bottoms of barnacles, saving the scraping process in dry dock. The rolls of employes at present exceed 800 men, with the certainty of constant large increases as the works are extended.

The present works comprise the following:

Drydock, the largest government dock in the Uited States.

Wharf and docks, largest and most commodious on the Pacific Coast.

Brick and steel fire-proof construction and repair buildings.

Steam engineering building, with equipment.

Brick warehouse and store house.

Administrative building and naval offices.

Marine barracks with modern appliances and conveniences.

Officers' quarters, five fine residences for naval officials

Buildings in process: Equipment, ordnance and other shops.

Considering the magnitude of the Station as it exists today, it seems almost impossible that it has all been accomplisned in ten short years. The location was made in 1891, the first work commenced the year following. The very land enclosed in the station yards, was part of an original homestead entry made in October 1875, although the land, which had been "lumbered," had been entered upon for that purpose as early as 1858. This homestead was patented to one Williams who sold to William Bremer, from whom the government purchased the station tract of 86 acres, which was upon recommendation of two commissions, one of naval officers and one of civilians, Congress acting upon the report of those commissions. Bremerton City takes its name from its original land owner. No foot of the land where the station is was cleared until the government commenced it in the year stated. Mr. Bremer had built a small dock, for the bay boats, which still stands a pioneer finger mark compared with the extensive docks of modern equipment and construction where now float the mightiest fighting machines of modern times.

While the government authorities have proceeded with increasing confidence, ever since the establisment of the Puget Sound Station 10 years ago, there has been no practical test on a large scale, until since the close of the Spanish war, and our sequestered and scarred battleships of the first class have reached the Station. First to come was the Iowa, followed by the Wisconsin and latterly the great Oregon after Santiago and her double chase around the continent, with the Philadelphia as the latest comer. All these ships steamed in from the Pacific, up through the straits, and by the interior fastnesses, with probably no small misgivings. Arrived at the Station each and all have now been through the paces of test of the facilities for repair and overhauling, with the most complete satisfaction to all concerned. In maneuvering, docking, or what not, each and every feature has been a success. As to the Oregon, her broken plates wrenched asunder when the ship was on the rocks in Asia, have been replaced with the ease that a skiff would be handled by the ships carpenter. The dry dock thus first tested by these greatest of battle ships, proved adequate for even much larger vessels. All machinery and apparatus worked to a charm, so that this evidence, if needed, closes the chapter of approval for the Puget Sound Station. Besides the mechanical test, results have been equally satisfactory with respect to health of men, and attractive surroundings, in fact as to all other elements entering into the case.

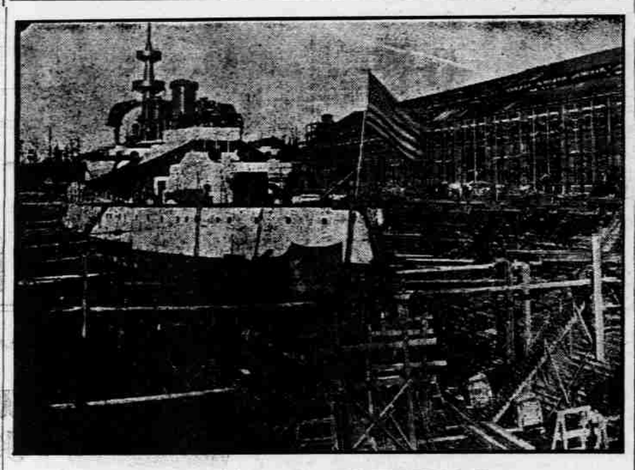
As to the three ships first mentioned, there is yet considerable to be done to them in painting and overhauling for two of them, the Iowa having long departed, while the Philadelphia is expected to be made into a receiving ship, by the removal of one of her decks.

Bremerton, the city of the Station, to-be, has its foundation of course in the labor employed, and the traffic of the Station and of its officers and managers. Suddenly rising to several thousand of population, the little city is struggling to keep pace with its own unexpected importance and growth, and fortunately is in the hands of enterprising men of high character, who are seized with the spirit and character of the enterprise that has come to them, and who evince a disposition to co-operate with the government purpose and to make their city a credit. This is shown in the character of improvements, in street construction and all the municipal improvements as fast as undertaken. There is a water system already installed, by utilization of fine streams of pure water, with sufficient head for fire protection, and on a scale for all future requirements. The young city government keeps pace with the federal requirements and interests, in short there is that harmony and co-operation so desirable under the circumstances. Among other steps in this direction, the town is at present organizing a Sailor's and Marine Club, after the manner of those clubs at Mare Island and Brooklyn, in the interest of improvement, and advantages for the sea-faring employes when at the Station. Schools, churches, and society of the rising order are features of the young city of Port Orchard Bay, which also has that modern necessity the newspaper, the Weekly News, conducted by the Gale Brothers. This was established one year ago.

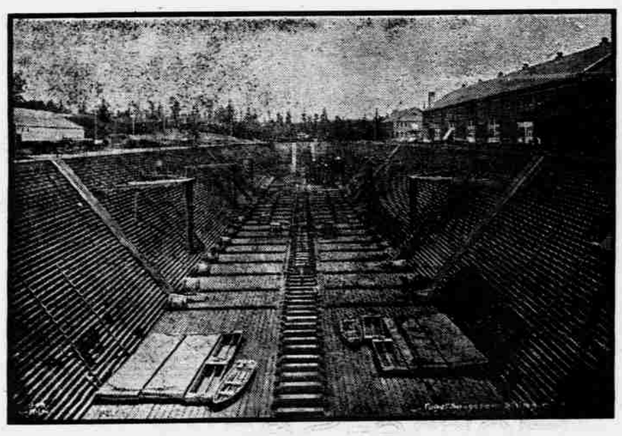
Kitsap is the inexpressive name of the interior, sound-encircled county that has received this great improvement and development. A region densely timbered, sparsely settled, and with its chief business shore and bay traffic hitherto, finds its solitudes transformed into noise and bustle, with hints of the mighty world outside, by comparisons of the hulls and machinery of the world's hitherto to them unknown fighting monsters, with the pigmy bottoms so long their pride and admiration. The wilderness is beginning to blossom as the rose, and numerous small towns are springing up, testifying to the immense expenditures by the government, and that all sections are getting some share. The county seat is across the bay from the Naval Station, with no doubt an ambition on the part of the Bremerton people, that some time in the near future Bremerton will be the capital of the county, as it has already become the commercial center. Farms are rapidly developing, and the fruit raising industry is expected to be large in all that region in the very near future. Moreover the people settling the region are hardy, industrious and consequently thrifty people, that will soon set the mark of wealth and high character upon the region where Uncle Sam has placed so important national interests.

As to management, it is universal testimony that the government has made no mistake in the assignments of Commandant, and other administrative officers, who in the order of Commandants since opening of the Station have been, Lieutenant Wykoff, Commander Morong, Capt. Whiting, Commander Green, Capt. Coghlan, and Capt. W. T. Burwell.

As to accessibility for the traveler and the visitor, as well as for commercial communication with Bremerton, it is easy, involving mere rail and delightful water trips from all coast and inland points. Portland, Spokane, Tacoma, Seattle and other Sound points. The visitor may ever feel sure of welcome, and that instruction and pleasure will reward the trip. Swift boats make hourly trips from Seattle and Tacoma while no more delightful trip could be found anywhere than the entire trip by boat from Portland, while visitors from further down the Coast or Pacific tourists will never tire of the beauties of the Sound region. The Station will never, from this time on, be without features of world-wide interest, being sure to have representations ever on hand of the mighty naval power of the Uuited States, and thus, by comparison, at least, of that of the whole world, from diminutive torpedo boats up to the mightiest war machines the world has yet produced.



BIG FIGHTING MACHINE IN DRYDOCK.



INTERIOR VIEW OF DRYDOCK UNOCCUPIED.

OFFICERS' QUARTERS AT PUGET SOUND STATION.

Patent Had Expired.

Lou Field met Gus Rodgers on "The Rialto" a few days ago. After talking a few minutes, Fields said:

"Gus, what's become of those patent leather shoes you wore last winter?"

"They have gone to the wall, Louis."

"Why? Wasn't the leather good?"

"Yes," said Gus, with a sigh, "but the patent expired."—New York Times.

Noah's Troubles.

"Confound that dinosaurus!" exclaimed Noah, as the ark gave such a lurch to starboard that the waves dashed against the roof. "I wish it would learn to stay on its own side of the boat!"

Then Noah seized a handspike and started below deck to shift the cargo.—Ohio State Journal.

History and Pugilism.

"Pa," said the small boy, "did Peter the Great have any other name?"

"Of course, my son," answered the father promptly. "But there's no use of worrying about him now."

"Is he dead?"

"Oh, I don't know whether he's dead or not, but he's out of training, anyway."

Putting It Gently.

"But is she pretty?"

"Well, I don't believe in talking about a girl's looks behind her back. Her father's worth about $20,000,000, and they've taken her to Europe twice without bringing back any titles, so you can form your own opinion.—Chicago Record-Herald.

A Delicate Point.

"It seems to make Scaddington's wife as mad as a hornet every time he boasts that he began at the foot and worked his way up."

"Well," he started as a bootblack, you know."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Too Familiar.

He—Hello, dere, Miss Smif!

She—Doan yo' flag me dat sudden, man. I ain't never seen yo' in all may life befo , an' ef yo' do it ag'in a lot o' people'll be walkin' slow behin' yo' tomorrer —Baltimore World.

Summer Rest.

Mrs. Jones—You didn't stay long over at Mrs. Brown's.

Mr. Jones—No; the Brown family were all lying in their hammocks, and when I got tired of sitting I came home.—Detroit Free Fress.

Speculation.

Bizzer—Could you lend me $100 or so until tomorrow?

Buzzer—Going to play the races?

Bizzer—Worse than that; I am going to a church fair with my wife.—Ohio State Journal.

Summer Angling.

He—Indeed there's jolly good fishing about here. Miss Swift made a great catch when she was here last summer.

She—Yes; that old man was worth at least a million.—Pittsbury Press.

Politics.

Mississippi Congressman — What kind of an election did you have up your way?

New Jersey Congressman—Quiet; very quiet. Half a dozen voters killed, I presume. How was it with you?

"Dull as mud. The troops were out."

People buy Hamlin's Wizard Oil because they have learned by experience that it cures pain of every kind.

Perhaps It Was.

Mrs. Richmond—What lovely antique furniture!

Mrs. Bronxborough—Yes, and do you know, we got it almost as cheap as if it had been new.

Expensive Samples.

If we did not know that when you try a sample tin of Monopole spices you would continue to ask your grocer for them, we wouldn't offer to send you a full weight 2-oz. tin for two 2-cent stamps and your grocer's name. It costs us from 10 to 15 cents for each sample we send, but we believe the investment a good one. One trial is all that is needed to make a friend for Monopole. All goods packed under the Monopole brand are of the highest quality obtainable. You can bank on that. Wadhams & Kerr Bros., packers, Portland, Or.

The Gauge of Strength.

"Your dad ain't near as strong as mine," announced the first boy.

"How do you know," demanded the other.

"I've listened, an' you don't holler anythin' like as loud as I when he takes you out to the woodshed."—Chicago Post.

The People Next Door.

Tommy—My, but them folks that's moved into the next house is swell!

Johnny—How do you know?

Tommy—They've got a clock that says ping, pong instead of tick, tock.—Chicago Tribune.

Decidedly Plain.

"Did you notice with what lofty airs that homely Miss Upmann carried herself?"

"Yes. It was what you might call 'plain sailing.' "—Philadephia Bulletin.

Going to Meet.

As it is talked nowadays:

She—Are you going to go?

Another She—Yes. Are you going to come for me?—Indianapolis News.

FITS Permanently Cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE $2.00 trial bottle and treatise. Dr. R. H. Kline, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa

On the Move.

"They have two servants."

"Huh! That's nothing. We usually have two in our house. One coming and one going."—Philadelphia Press.

An Armorial Opportunity.

Sidney—Then you believe in a coat-of-arms?

Rodney—Yes. Almost any newly-rich American girl can be benefitted by adopting a good Latin motto to live up to.—Puck.

CANCEROUS ULCERS

Are in many respects like other ulcers or sores, and this resemblance often proves fatal. Valuable time is lost in fruitless efforts to heal the sore with washes and salves, because the germs of Cancer that are multiplying in the blood and the new Cancer cells which are constantly developing keep up the irritation and discharge, and at last sharp shooting pains announce the approach of the eating and sloughing stage, and a hideous, sickening cancerous sore begins its destructive work.

No ulcer or sore can exist without some predisposing internal cause that has poisoned the blood, and the open discharging ulcer, or the festering sore on the lip, cheek or other part of the body will continue to spread and eat deeper into the flesh unless the blood is purified and the Cancer germs or morbid matter eliminated from the circulation.

In February, 1899, I noticed a small lump on my lower lip. The doctor cauterized it but another came and broke out into an open sore. I began to take S. S. S. and after I had taken seven bottles the place healed entirely and no signs of the disease have been seen since. W. P. Brown, Hollands, S. C.

S. S. S. cleanses the blood of all decaying effete matter. It has great antidotal and purifying properties that soon destroy the germs and poisons and restore the blood to its natural condition. And when pure blood is carried to the ulcer or sore the healing process begins, the discharge ceases and the place heals over and new skin forms. S. S. S. is a strictly vegetable blood purifier containing no mercury or minerals of any description.

SSS

If you have an ulcer or chronic sore of any kind, write us about it, medical advice will cost you nothing. Books on Cancer and other diseases of the blood will be sent free. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

Black Hair

"I have used your Hair Vigor for five years and am greatly pleased with it. It certainly restores the original color to gray hair. It keeps my hair soft."—Mrs. Helen Kilkenny, New Portland, Me.

Ayer's Hair Vigor has been restoring color to gray hair for fifty years, and it never fails to do this work, either.

You can rely upon it for stopping your hair from falling, for keeping your scalp clean, and for making your hair grow.

$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

If your druggist cannot supply you, send us one dollar and we will express you a bottle. Be sure and give the name of your nearest express office. Address, J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

Not the Usual Way.

"Yes; he's going to marry the girl who used to work for him. Think of it!"

"Well, what of it? Most men marry a girl, and let her work for him afterward."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

KEEP YOUR SADDLE DRY!

THE ORIGINAL TOWER'S FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER

BLACK OR YELLOW

PROTECTS BOTH RIDER AND SADDLE IN THE HARDEST STORM

ON SALE EVERYWHERE. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. LOOK FOR ABOVE TRADE MARK.

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Well Qualified.

"Do you think he would make a good soldier?'

"Oh, yes, indeed. We've tested him."

"Tested him? How?"

"Why, we found that he could write 'I regret to report,' as rapidly and as plainly as either Roberts or Kitchener."

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Distance Lends Enchantment.

Fisherman—When I reached home and weighed the fish, it tipped the scales at exactly five pounds.

Listener—But you said that when you caught the fish it weighed two pounds.

Fisherman—I know; but the place where I caught it was a long way from my home.—Ohio State Journal.

Man owes his feet a mighty debt,
But little interest do they get,
Or ordinary care;
Till corns and bunions come apace,
Than which there's naught torments our race
That's worse for us to bear;
But they may painless walk who use
ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE in their shoes.

Better Pies Than Mother Made.

Fond Mother—Well, how do you like married life by this time?

Son—O, first rate.

"Is your wife amiable"

"Extremely so."

"Economical"

"Very."

"And does her cooking equal mine?"

"Mother, I cannot tell a lie. When it comes to the culinary art, she's got you beat a block.—Chicago News.

25 CTS. PISO'S CURE FOR CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION 25 CTS.

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Military and Manual Training

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One Second Hand Nichols & Shepard Separator, size 40-60, with wind stacker, only run 40 days; a bargain. Inquire of

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Mitchell Wagon.

Best on Earth—

Because it is made of the best material possible to buy. The manufacturers absolutely pay 25 to 35 per cent above the market price of best grades of wagon timber for the privilege of culling over and skimming off the cream of the wagon stock, which is carried for 3 to 5 years before making up, which means an investment in wood stock of nearly one million dollars.

MITCHELL Wagons are unsurpassed for quality, proportion, finish, strength and light running.

Why—take chances on any other?

Why—not get the best?—A MITCHELL.

Mitchell, Lewis & Staver Co.

Portland. Seattle. Spokane. Boise.

Agents Everywhere.

An Exaggerated Impression.

"Yes," said the mystical Asiatic, "we hope to have our people civilized before long."

"That is encouraging."

"It is. We hope, in time, to bring out the car of Juggernaut on a strictly modern basis, and have it operated by electricity, like one of your automobiles."—Washington Star.

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Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of

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CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

FOR HEADACHE. FOR DIZZINESS. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION

Price 25 Cents | GENUINE MUST HAVE SIGNATURE. Purely Vegetable. Brent Good

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

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