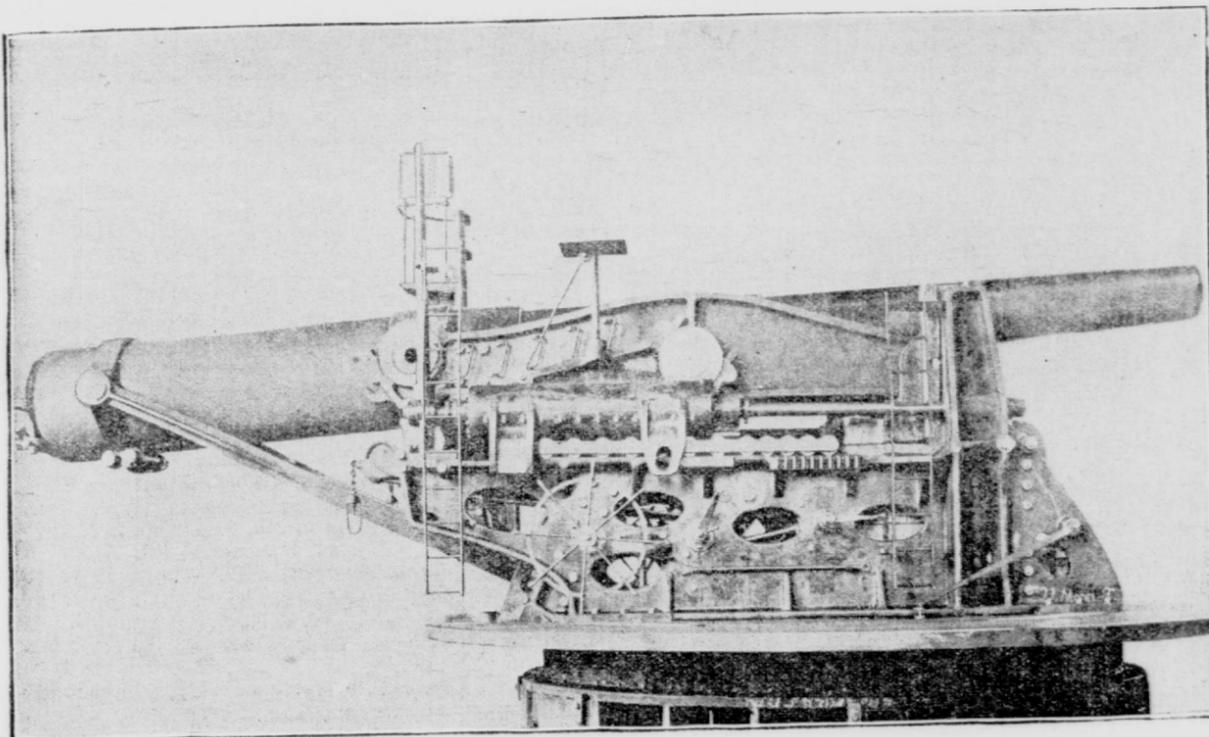


UNCLE SAM'S NAVY IS PREPARING TO MAKE A DESCENT UPON THE MAINE COAST,

Photographs by Waldon Foxcroft, Washington.



DISAPPEARING GUN USED IN THE ARMY DEFENCES.
Loading position.

is made that more than two of these have been seen in New-York waters. However, the list can be extended by the addition of the "spiny dogfish" (so called to distinguish it from the dog shark, or smooth dogfish, already mentioned) and the "angel fish." The former has spines along its back and sometimes reaches a length of three and a half feet and a weight of twenty pounds. It is common along the New-Jersey coast in midsummer, but is rarely observed in Gravesend Bay or off Southampton before October. In Massachusetts Bay it shows itself for a short time in June. Then it goes off and comes back in September. It is less abundant at Wood's Hole than formerly. The angel fish is flat and thin. Though sometimes attaining a length of four feet, it rarely weighs over thirty-five or forty pounds. On account of its peculiar shape it is sometimes called the shark ray and little bullhead shark. Other names given to it are monk, monkey fish, Kingston and fiddle fish.

HIS SOLE CONSOLATION.

Miss Cynthia Roche, one of the most popular young girls at Newport, took, the other day, a long ride through the country on a motor car.

Its occupants becoming thirsty, the car stopped at a little farmhouse, and there the old farmer was gallant. He gave the party delicious water from a deep well, and he led Miss Roche on a little tour of his estate.

Among other interesting things that he showed to the young girl was a tremendous potato patch. Over this patch he shook his head gravely. He said that all the vines in it had been ruined by a parasite.

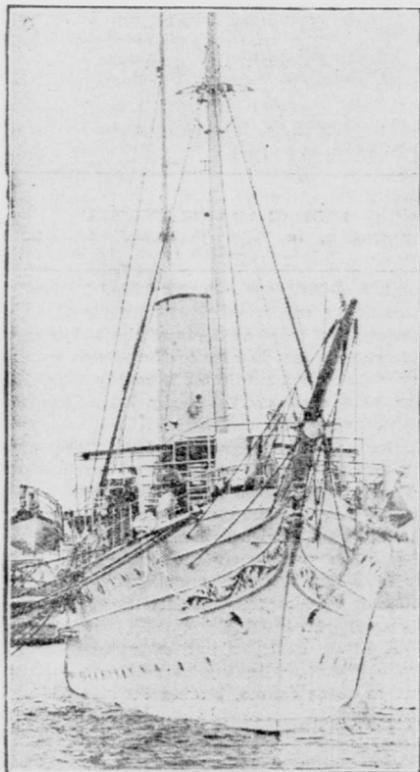
Miss Roche sympathized with the old man. She murmured:

"I am sorry to see this fine field of potatoes so seriously diseased."

"Yes," said the farmer, "it's a great pity. I have only one comfort."

"What is that?" Miss Roche asked.

"Why, Thomson's field, to the east there, and Shannon's, on the south, are as bad as, if not worse, than mine."



THE MAYFLOWER.

From which President Roosevelt will watch the manoeuvres.

FORTY WAR VESSELS.

Will Bear Down on a Harbor Defended with Mines and Cannon.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Aug. 8.—Since the United States became a world power it has fallen into line with the practices of other world powers in its endeavor to keep up its muscle, both offensive and defensive. For this purpose it puts its joint fighting forces—the army and navy—through a series of manoeuvres in which one will be pitted against the other. Although the other powers have trained annually in this way for years, the United States has had such practice only once before. Yet the beneficial results of the joint manoeuvres of last year at Newport, together with the interest which is being manifested in the forthcoming event at Portland, Me., insure the hope that the practice will become an annual feature in the profession of arms in the United States.

At midnight on August 23 a two-day period of preparation will begin. The defensive works at Portland, which include a group of fortifications protecting the entrance to the harbor and extending for a considerable distance along Casco Bay, will give the army its field of action. The task of developing the weaknesses of these defences has been assigned to the navy. The forty-eight hours of preparation will be occupied by the army in mining the harbor, placing obstructions at its entrance, and arranging all the necessary details for a vigorous defence against a powerful enemy lurking on the darkened waters outside the harbor.

The navy, in the mean time, will be laying plans for an attack on the defences. The object of the manoeuvres is to develop the weaknesses of the fortifications and although the preparations sound of thunder and the smell of powder the actual operations will be devoid of exciting or spectacular situations. Few shots will be heard, as the guns of the navy are all constructed to use smokeless powder, and smokeless powder makes practically no noise when discharged from a blank cartridge. A few blank shots with black powder will be fired from the smaller guns, just to show what might be done to the defences with the battleships in a particular position. Credit will also be given to the forts when a battleship or cruiser bumps into one of the dummy mines, and is figuratively blown to atoms, although in reality it is simply put out of action on paper.

Although to the non-professional mind a view of the manoeuvres may be declared decidedly tame and profitless, every minute of the period from August 23 to August 29 will be one of intense interest to the forces on sea and land. Every movement made by either side is to be carefully charted, and on this record depends the success or failure of each particular incident in the battle and of the battle itself.

The forts will be manned by companies of artillery to be concentrated at Portland from places along the coast. Many officers will be present, besides a large detachment of engineers, who will busy themselves in placing the mines and other obstructions to navigation. The naval forces will consist of at least forty ships, including battleships and cruisers, gunboats, torpedo boat destroyers, colliers and other supply vessels. The battleships, so far as can be ascertained at the present time, will be the Kearsarge, which has just completed her record breaking run across the Atlantic; the Alabama, the Illinois, the Massachusetts, the Indiana and the Texas. The Olympia and the Baltimore will be the only cruisers to participate. In the gunboat class will be the Mayflower, the Dolphin, the Chesapeake, the Newport and the Scorpion.

The training ships Hartford, Essex and Monongahela will represent their class. The unprotected cruisers will be the Prairie, the Yankee, the Topeka and the Panther. There will also be ten torpedo boat destroyers, of which the Decatur is a type. The following supply vessels and colliers will likewise be in service, the Culgoa, the Caesar, the Hannibal, the Sterling, the Lebanon, the Marcellus, the Leonidas and the Brutus. The tenders and tugs Peoria, Nina and Potomac complete the list. A complement of naval militia will also be added to the naval forces. Eight army and twenty-two navy umpires and twenty-two army and ten navy observers will keep the record of every incident in the struggle. The technical programme, so far as outlined, states the problem as follows:

Two blue squadrons of battleships being located at Guantanamo and Culebra are covered by a superior allied fleet of red and black. When the political situation in the United States is suddenly strained to a rupture a strong red fleet, including torpedo boats, sails at 6 p. m. on August 23 from the port of X, heading south, with the following sealed orders:

"The red fleet at X will proceed at once to Portland, Me., seize and hold same as the base of operations."

Information of the sailing of the red fleet at X is received at Portland six hours after its departure. The time required for the red fleet to reach Portland is fifty-four hours. It will be assumed that prior to the sailing of the red fleet from X no channels are mined or obstructed, but that thereafter all warlike enterprises sanctioned by international law are permitted. It is desirable that the operations of the fleet should include all channels of approach to Portland and embrace a reconnaissance in force, an attempt to destroy mined fields, a day attack, a night attack, and, if practicable, the forcing of a passage.

Preparations will be made to resist attacks on forts by the landing parties. All forts in the artillery districts of Portland, including Forts Williams, Preble, McKinley, Scammel, Levett and the fortifications on Cow Island, will be mobilized on a war basis, allowing two reliefs of the artillerymen. During the period of hostilities the conditions are to approach those of actual warfare as closely as possible. In undertaking these operations the controlling idea will be to test the training of the personnel and the efficiency of the material. The army observers and navy umpires are to assemble at Rockland, Me., on August 24, for a preliminary consultation, and the navy observers and army umpires are to assemble at Portland on that day for the same purpose.

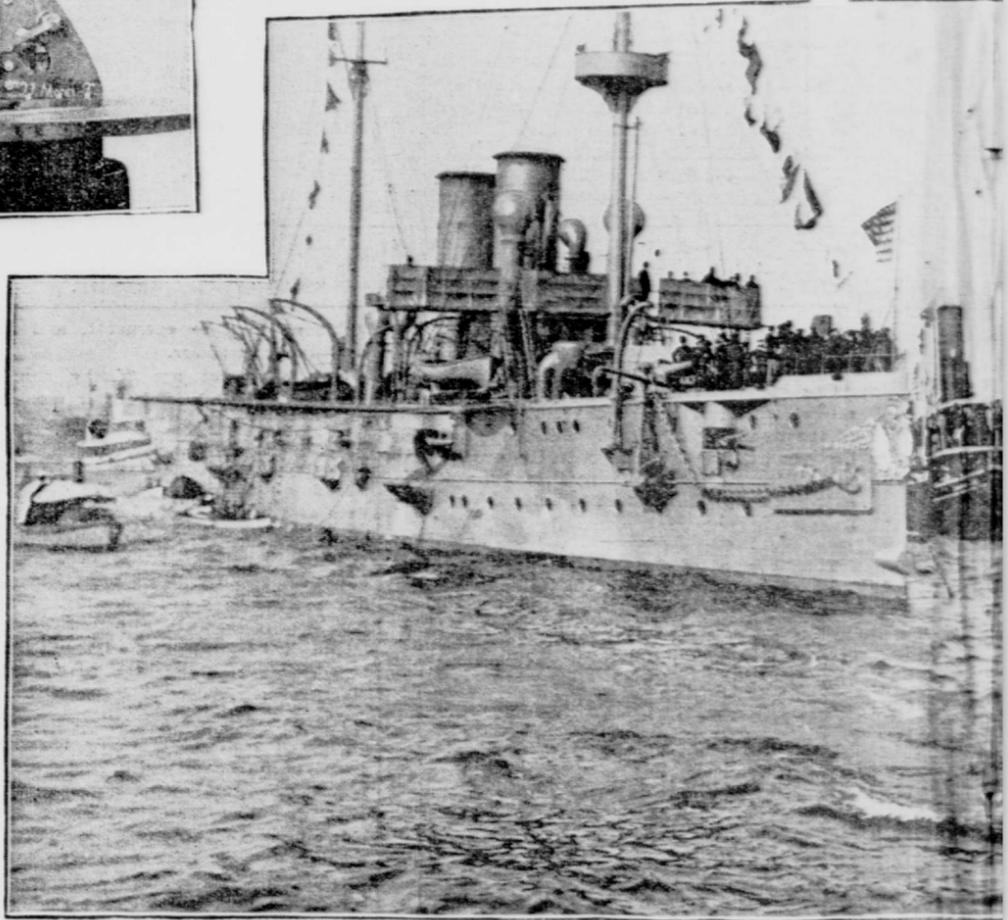
After the period of preparation has elapsed

and actual hostilities have begun constant attacks are to be made by the naval forces, and this programme is to be maintained till the close of the manoeuvres on August 29. The navy will attempt to develop the weaknesses of the defences, and in order to do this it will make attacks in daylight and in darkness, in fog and in rain. It will attempt to stir up the batteries by constant alarms so as to wear out the soldiers on duty behind the fortifications. Besides being in constant readiness to repel an attack, the defenders will be required to exert continuous vigilance to discover what the particular aim of the attack may be and to thwart it.

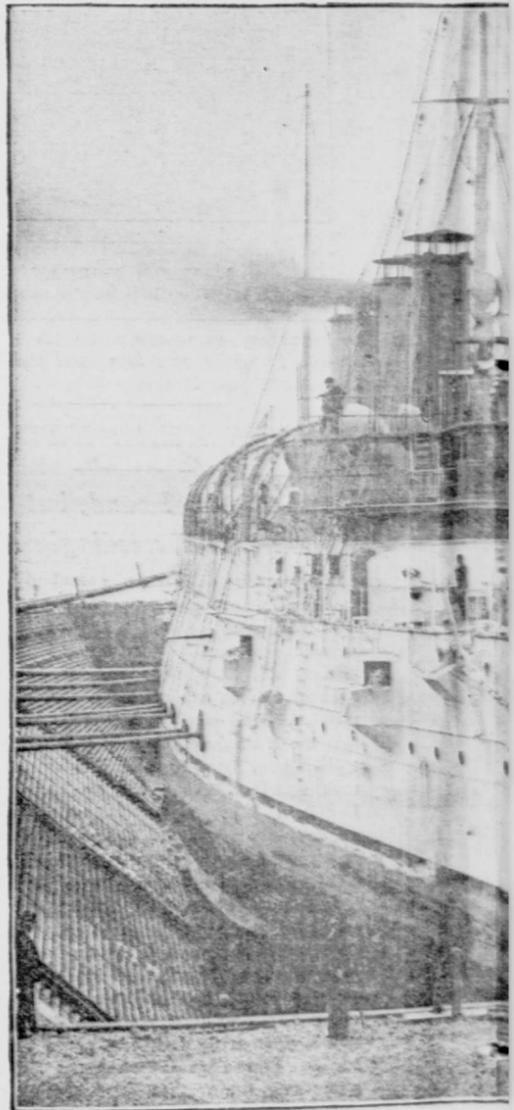
Perhaps one of the most interesting features of the manoeuvres, from the popular standpoint, will be the system of indicators on shore, which are connected electrically with the mines and sunken obstructions in the harbor. No actual obstructions will be placed in the way of navigation, but such obstructions constructed in the period will be described on p. 10 by dummies in the water. There has actually come in contact with mines or obstructions, or mined area, as will be in observations, the electric nounce the blowing up of angle observation will be such a result.

The records made by servers of both army and Navy, and composed of the Secretary of War a service and a fifth member by the commanders in chief. The first two will be General commanding the military

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WARSHIP IN DRYDOCK, PREP.