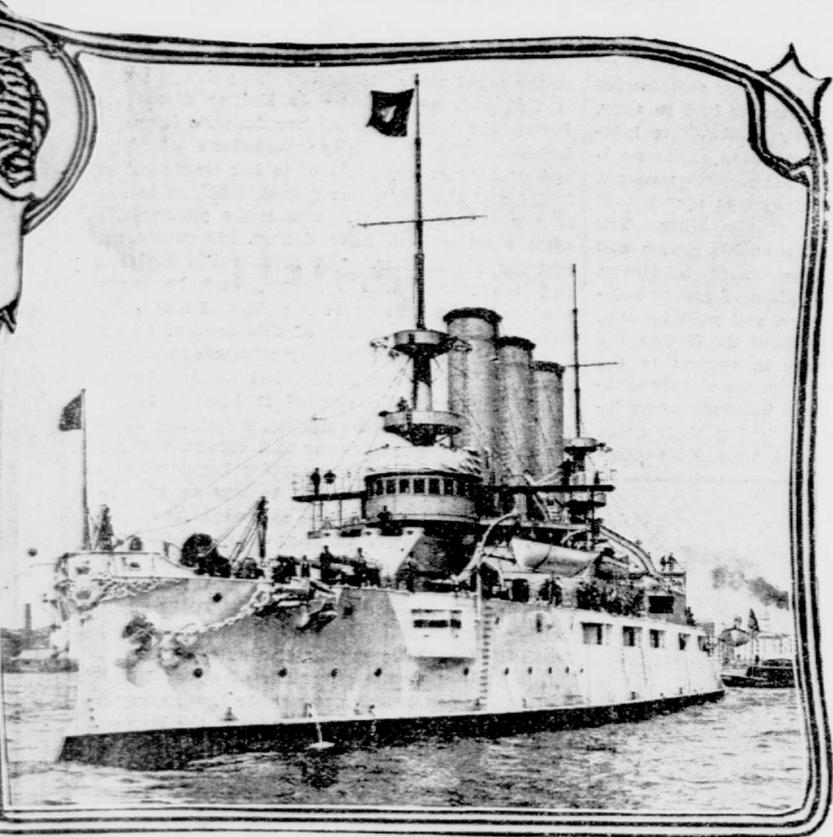
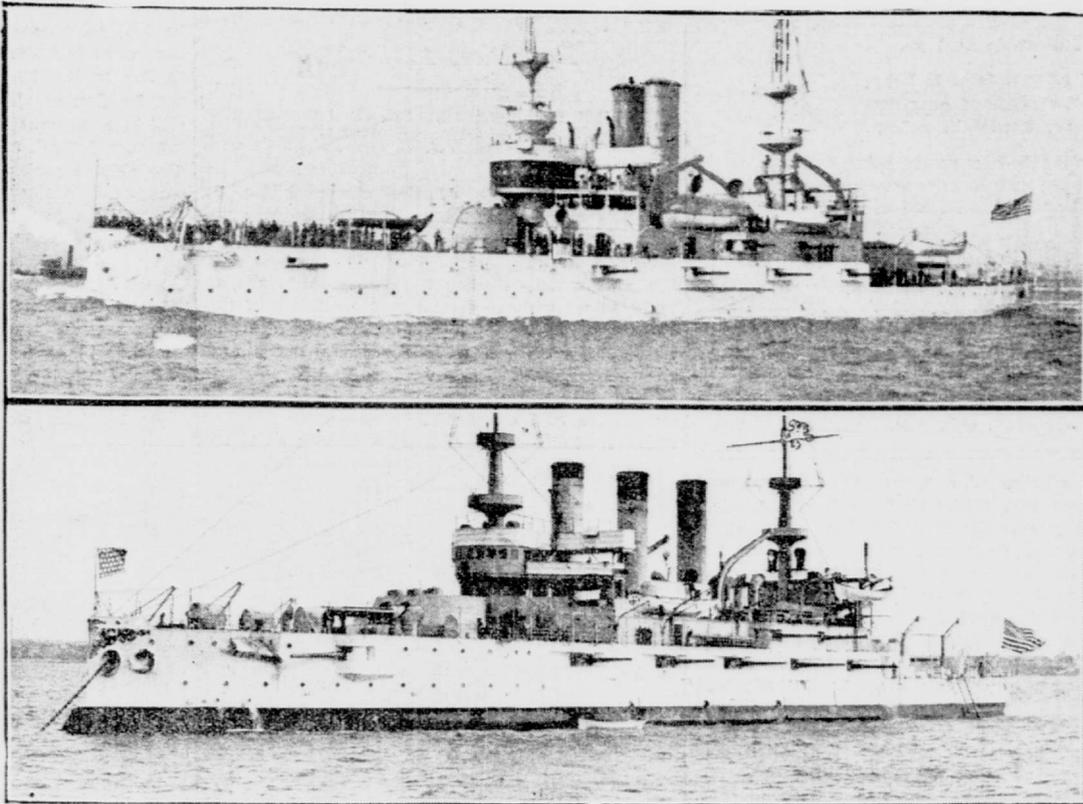


THE MAINE.
12,500 tons. 20 guns. 18 knots. Cost, \$2,885,000.



THE ALABAMA.
11,552 tons. 18 guns. 17 knots. Cost, \$2,650,000.



PURPOSE AND DESTINATION OF WHICH ARE PACIFIC.

Big Guns, 356—Cost of These Ships Alone, \$54,070,000—Total 25,000—Rendezvous, Magdalena Bay, Off Lower California.

by Enrique Miller, Brooklyn, N. Y.

board the ships themselves. The capacity of the ships will also be tested by the problem of feeding the thousands of officers and men who will compose the crews of this great fleet, numbering upward of twenty-five thousand. Of course some fresh supplies will be obtained in South American markets, but while in the Pacific there will be few such opportunities until San Francisco is reached.

Even after the fleet reaches California the main dependence for repairs must, because of the limited navy yard accommodations, be the repair ships, and then, without the overhauling which they are accustomed to receive every few months, the fleet will turn south again and head for the Atlantic coast, for there is no intention of permitting the Atlantic fleet to remain in the Pacific.

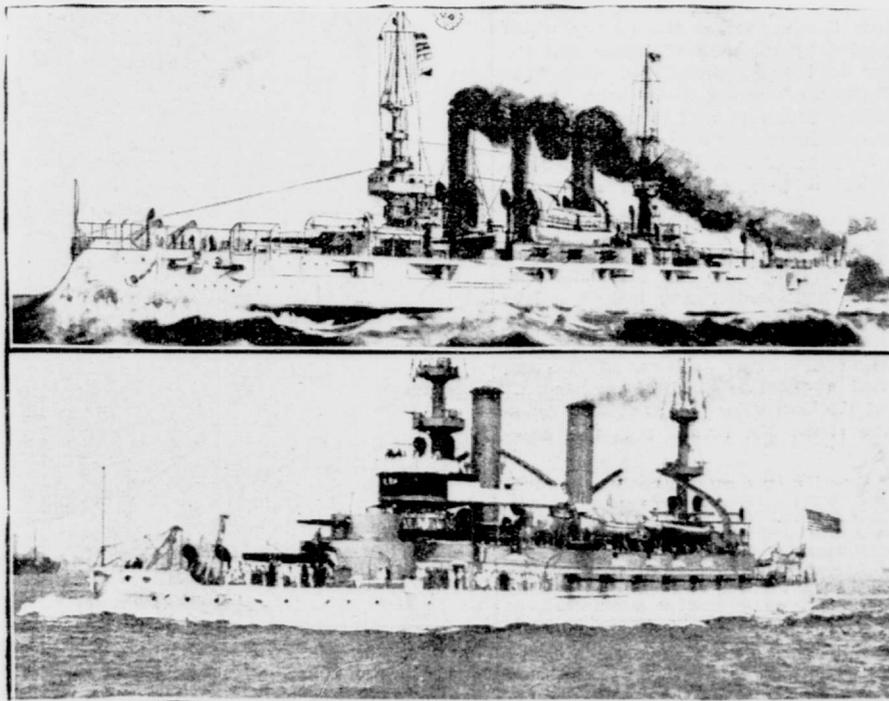
The policy of the department whereby no captains will command vessels making the trip around South America who have not the prospect of serving on the active list at least four years, and of that period one year and ten months as rear admirals, is expected to gain unusually valuable experience for the navy. The consequence of this policy and the Pacific cruise will be that after the cruise shall have been completed there will be sixteen captains who will have enjoyed the experience of commanding a battleship on this long voyage, and while it is probable that another similar cruise will be

undertaken long before that time for four years the active list will present a number of officers who have commanded, navigated or assisted in the command of vessels around the Southern continent.

From a diplomatic point of view the coming cruise is regarded as beneficial, because the first time such an elaborate programme is attempted it naturally excites extensive comment, and were the relations of the United States and those of any other nation strained at this time the cruise might be construed by unintelligent observers, and especially those prone to see the sensational in every move of the navy, as a menace to such nation. On the other hand, after the trip has been taken once it can be repeated again and again without attracting special attention. It will eventually, it is believed, come to be regarded as natural that the Atlantic fleet should cruise off the coast of California, Oregon and Washington as it is that it should cruise in the North Sea or in the Mediterranean. The battleships included in the fleet are the Connecticut, the Louisiana, the Kansas, the Vermont, the Georgia, the Virginia, the New Jersey, the Rhode Island, the Minnesota, the Ohio, the Maine, the Missouri, the Alabama, the Illinois, the Kearsarge and the Kentucky. The organization and personnel of the fleet will be found upon another page of this issue of The Tribune.

THE OHIO.
12,500 tons. 20 guns. 18 knots. Cost, \$2,899,000.

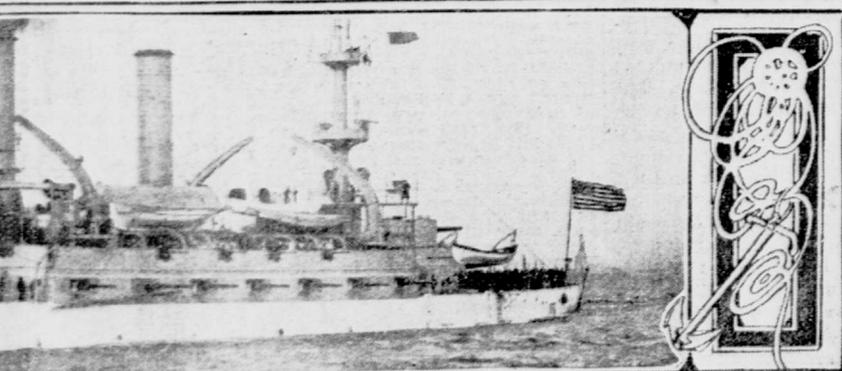
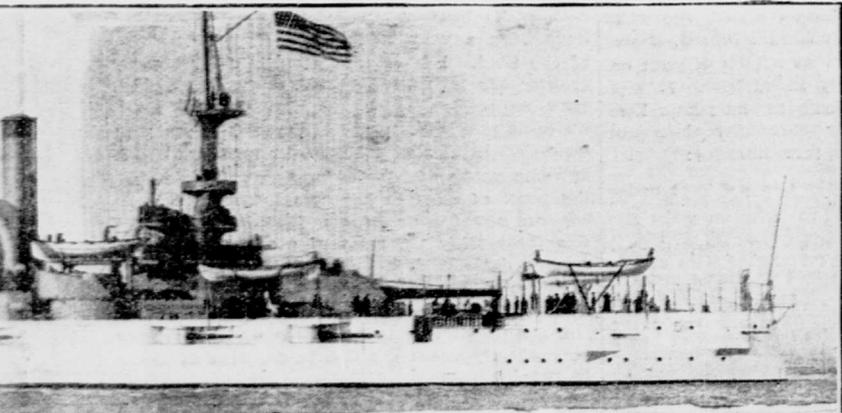
THE CONNECTICUT.
16,000 tons. 24 guns. 18 knots. Cost, \$4,212,000.



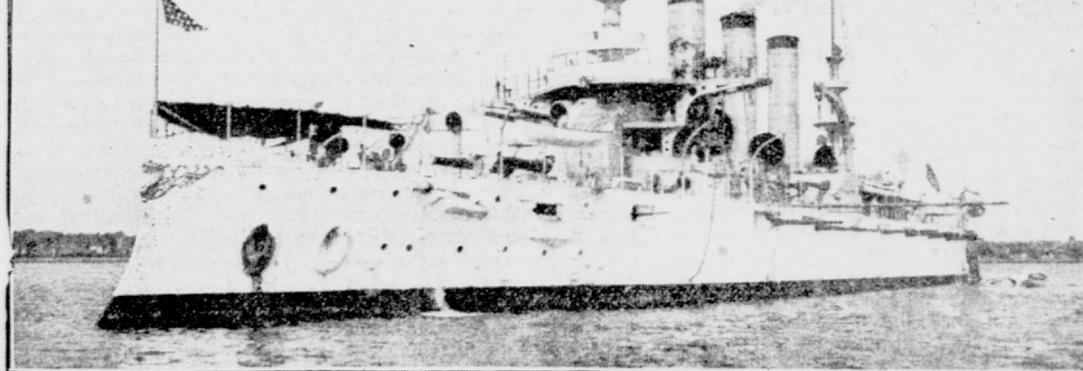
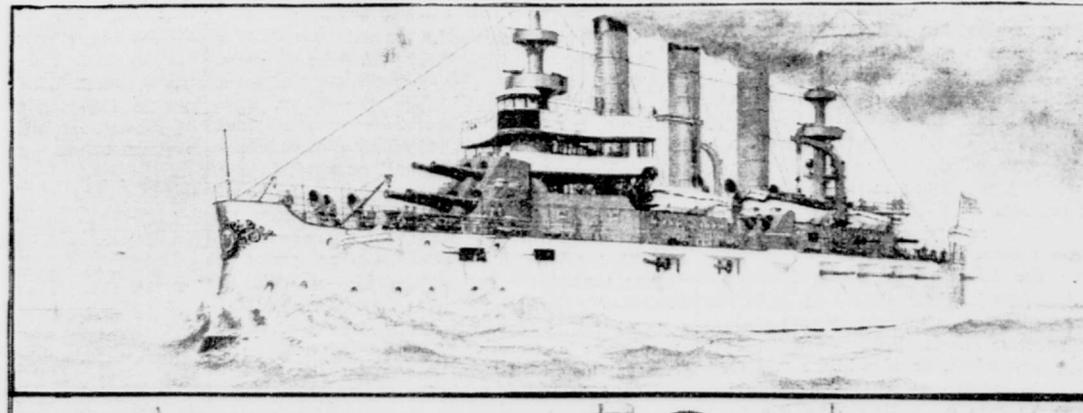
THE KEARSARGE.
11,520 tons. 22 guns. 17 knots. Cost, \$2,250,000.

THE RHODE ISLAND.
14,948 tons. 24 guns. 19 knots. Cost, \$3,405,000.

KANSAS.
18 knots. Cost, \$4,165,000.



KENTUCKY.
17 knots. Cost, \$2,250,000.



THE NEW JERSEY.
14,948 tons. 24 guns. 19 knots. Cost, \$3,405,000.