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SPECIAL TODAY
 . . . 17 Cents Per Can.
EXTRA CREAMERY BUTTER,
 45c Per Brick.
ENGLISH BREAKFAST TEA,
 Fair grade, 25 cents per pound.
 Better grade, 30 cents per pound.
 Extra choice grade, 45 cents per pound.

COFFEE.
 We quote the cheaper grades, of course, but if you want something delicious, try our Mocha and Java at 25c, 35c and 40c.
 Store open until 9 o'clock tonight.

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 Contains all that is needful in the way of remedies and applications for the trip. If it saves you one day's lay up on the trip then it is money well invested.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.
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WITH **Safety AND Comfort**
 On the **Yukon River.**
Alaska and Northwest Territory.
North American

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Commodious and Fast Sailing Steamer
ROANOKE
WILL LEAVE SEATTLE ON OR ABOUT JUNE 10.

This is the only old established line sailing from Seattle having boats on Yukon river, and our space is limited. For full information call on or address the company.
618 FIRST AVE., SEATTLE, WASH.

Eastern People

Are Especially Invited to Visit Our Store and Inspect Our Stock of Alaska Hardware.
Seattle Hardware Co., FIRST AVENUE and MARION STREET.

LATEST NEWS FROM DYEA AND SKAGWAY.
TRAILS BLOCKED.

Every steamer returning from Dyea and Skagway brings news of the blocked condition of the trails, but more substantial proof of this is the fact that the steamers bring back also many passengers who have given up trying to get over the summit. Those who have shipped the bulk of their freight via the all water route, and have taken supplies enough to last them until mid-summer, have passed on over the trails quickly and comfortably.
 Before you attack the trail consider whether it is not the only safe course to follow the example of the experienced Yukoners, which is to go right over the divide, taking only sufficient supplies to last through the summer, and ship the balance required for the following winter via the all water route.
 For 10 cts. per lb. we deliver supplies to any point on the Yukon—storage and insurance free.
 We are the only established company that carries freight for shippers. Our first boat, the new steamship "Alliance," sails for St. Michael June 3th, connecting with our river boats, "Seattle No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4."
 We established our boats on the river, located our stations and carried the mails last summer.
SEATTLE-YUKON TRANSPORTATION CO., 205-2 Columbia St.
 W. D. Wood, President; A. L. Hawley, Manager; C. H. Norris, Traffic Manager.

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Cigars and Tobacco, Smokers' Articles, Etc.

F. B. CO. SPECIALLY CURED BACON.
 The Best for Alaska
FRYE-BRUMM CO., Packers and Jobbers.

NAVAL COURT OF INQUIRY REPORTS THAT A MINE WRECKED THE MAINE.

EXPLOSION CAME FROM THE OUTSIDE.

Findings Mark Most Eventful Day Since the War.

ALL ELSE IS FORGOTTEN.

Congress to Be Notified by the President on Monday.

Not a Moment Lost in Making Ready for Hostilities—Highest Naval Officers Urge That the Spanish Torpedo Flotilla Be Intercepted—San Juan de Porto Rico Strongly Fortified—Commodore Schley Formally Placed in Command of the Flying Squadron—Order Issued to Paint Warships the Battle Color.

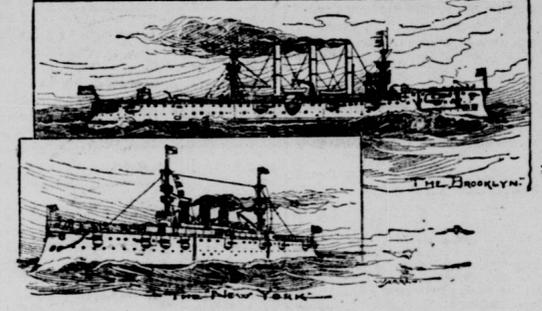
WASHINGTON, March 25.—Not since the close of the civil war has there been so eventful a day at the national capital as today. It was a day of profoundly important action and of the deepest anxiety, coupled with naval and military activity, one step following another in rapid succession. Representative men of the administration, public men in all branches of official and congressional life, no less than the public in general, shared in the tension to which the situation has been wrought. There was no effort among the highest officials, nor indeed was it possible from what was clearly apparent in the developments of the day, to minimize the situation.
 Viewed in detail, the finding of the court of inquiry was the most vital factor. Commander Marix, the judge advocate of the court of inquiry, delivered the report to Secretary Long early this morning, and shortly afterward it was carried to the White House and placed in the hands of the president. At 10:30 the cabinet assembled, half an hour earlier than usual, and began the consideration of the momentous document.
 Even the rigid rules of secrecy which prevail at cabinet meetings were made doubly strict in this case, and no intimation of the results reached by the court were known until 2 o'clock, when an Associated Press bulletin gave the information to the country, as well as to the eagerly waiting officials throughout Washington.
 Caused by a Submarine Mine.
 These results briefly stated that the loss of the Maine was due to an explosion from the outside, the court being unable to fix the responsibility for the explosion. The court does not express an opinion as to the character of the explosive, but the testimony goes to show that it was a powerful submarine mine, the exact character of which was not determined, though the belief was expressed that it was a floating submarine mine. There were two explosions, the court finds, the first was from the outside, and that set off one of the smaller magazines.
 It was this, expressed in detail and with the precision of a court deeply conscious of its responsibility, together with the evidence upon which it was based, that occupied the attention of the cabinet throughout its extended sessions of the morning and afternoon.
 All other subjects gave way to this foremost question. There was no change in the plan of making the report public and transmitting it to congress early next week, accompanied by a brief message from the president.
 Spain's Threatening Attitude.
 While interest was thus centered at the White House, the navy and war departments were hurrying forward their work of preparation. The advance of the Spanish torpedo flotilla continued to receive the closest attention of naval officials, and while so far as could be ascertained no definite line of action was determined upon, the need of intercepting the fleet was urged by the highest naval authorities.
 From the standpoint of the Spanish government this movement was not a menace, having been decided upon many weeks ago. On the contrary, the Spanish government holds that the extensive armament of the Dry Tortugas is a more direct hostile act against Spain than any movement of the flotilla, in the present of stopping the flotilla, the present attitude of Spain tends toward reinforcing the other Spanish war vessels, not as a menace, but from what the Spanish government feels is a requirement called for by the existing condition of affairs. Hardly less suggestive than the approach of the flotilla was the information received today by the highest military authorities that the Spanish government had hurried to completion extensive fortifications at San Juan de Porto Rico, the main part of the island of Porto Rico.

ALL INDICATIONS POINT TO IMMEDIATE WAR.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The court of inquiry appointed to investigate the cause of the Maine disaster has reported that the loss of the battleship was due to an outside explosion. The state department, by direction of the president, has cabled United States Minister Woodford at Madrid to notify the Spanish government of this conclusion.
 The president and his cabinet advisers held two extended sessions today, one at 10:30 a. m. and another at 3:30 p. m., at which the report was considered in detail. Members of the cabinet stated after the meetings that the discussion was of a grave character, and that never since the wrecking of the Maine has the situation seemed so critical.
 The Spanish government has cabled officially to Washington that the Spanish naval commission holds the disaster to the Maine to be of internal origin.
 The government of Spain, it can be stated positively, is not disposed to turn back the torpedo fleet now proceeding from the Canaries, and would be disinclined to consider a suggestion from this government tending to interfere with the disposition by Spain of her own naval forces.
 War preparations on an unprecedented scale are being hurried to completion by the war and navy departments, and the country practically is on a war footing.

The news is regarded as significant. Porto Rico is the only other possession which belongs to the Spanish government on this hemisphere besides Cuba. The officials of the department, while acknowledging that information of the foregoing character had reached them, are very chary about imparting any of the details to the press. The city of Porto Rico is fortified after the old style in early days. The defenses consist of a wall which completely circles the several forts at strategic points, while the only points of egress and ingress are through massive gates. These fortifications are being strengthened, and the armament has been increased by two large guns of formidable pattern and caliber. San Juan has 23,44 inhabitants. The exact character of the new defenses has been made known here, and is being given weight with the military authorities as showing the disposition of Spain.
 Schley Placed in Command.
 The instructions issued by the navy department during the day covered every branch of naval armament. The "flying squadron" was definitely established, with Commodore Schley in command. He will hoist his commodore's flag on the flagship Brooklyn next Monday. The squadron is to consist of exactly five ships, despite conjectures as to possible ships that might be added. Those of the squadron will be the crack armored cruiser Brooklyn, the battleships Massachusetts and Texas and the cruisers Columbia and Minneapolis. Other ships which are now or hereafter will be at Hampton roads will not be of the flying squadron, but will belong to the North Atlantic station under Capt. Sampson. The flying squadron is to be a small, compact fleet of the best ships of the navy for quick service at any point along the Atlantic.
 At the same time the North Atlantic station, under Capt. Sampson, is to be further augmented. The cruiser Cincinnati, which left Port Antonio three days ago under sealed orders, is to report at Key West and become a part of Capt. Sampson's fleet. The gunboat Wilmington, also en route from Port Antonio, will likewise report to Capt. Sampson at Key West, as well as the gunboat Vicksburg.

Late today the battleship Texas was expected from Hampton Roads at the navy yard to receive her machinery for hoisting ammunition and guns.
 Favorable answers were received from the New York naval militia of their readiness on short notice to supply officers and men to man the single-turreted monitors now called into service.
 Warships Painted Battle Color.
 Orders were issued today to have all the warships painted the battle color, which is a sea-green, a color better adapted to hostilities because the vessels will not afford as good a target.
 The navy department was informed by cablegram from Lieut. Commander Col. Well, naval attaché to the United States embassy at London, that agents of this government had purchased a "schischad" torpedo boat that had been constructed for the German government. The new acquisition is of the general type of German torpedo boats, and is regarded as a valuable addition to our navy. One feature regarding her that affords special gratification to the officials of the navy department is that she is now ready for sea. It is expected that in a day or so she will leave for the United States. She will be able to make the journey across the Atlantic without difficulty, as she is a good sea-going vessel, and her coal capacity is ample for the trip to this country. She is a 22-knot vessel and about 150 feet long. While of the same general type as the olders and Foote, of the United States navy, she is a trifle larger. At the



SCHLEY'S AND SAMPSON'S FLAGSHIPS.

navy department the precise dimensions of the new boat could not be given. The price paid for her by the navy officials declined at this time to state, but it was said to be very reasonable. Work on the vessel has just been completed. She never has been in service. She is supposed to carry three torpedo tubes, and two small caliber rapid-fire guns. Mine to twelve men will be needed to man her.
 More Money for Ordnance.
 Gen. Flagler, chief of ordnance of the army, today had a long conference with Secretary Alger with reference to additional guns and gun carriages. A few days ago Secretary Alger allotted to Gen. Flagler \$1,900,000 from the emergency appropriation made by congress, to be used by the ordnance bureau, in the discretion of

MINORITY HOLDS UP THE NAVAL BILL.

Violent Assault Is Made on Reed's Rules.

TACTICS AVAIL NOTHING.

Uproar Almost Equal to Scenes of the Fifty-First Congress.

Hartman, Under the Five-Minute Rule, Attempts to Make a Political Speech—Remarks Are Declared Not to Be Pertinent to the Amendment, and He Is Ruled Out of Order—Opposition Continues the Wrangle for Hours—Bailey, McMillin and Bland Take Part—Only Four Pages of the Measure Read.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The stirring scenes of the Fifty-first congress, when members of the minority were charging down the aisles protesting against the rulings of Speaker Reed, were recalled today in turbulent protests made by the minority against the ruling of Reed during the consideration of the naval appropriation bill. The ruling in effect compelled the members to confine their remarks under the five-minute rule to the subject before the house, and was made against Hartman of Montana, who attempted to make a political speech.
 The ruling was denounced as an usurpation and appeal after appeal was taken. When all else failed, every expedient was resorted to to block progress with the bill. As a result but four pages were disposed of.

Before the bill was taken up for amendment Foss of Illinois, a member of the naval committee, made a general speech in advocacy of the policy of building up a strong and powerful navy. The eyes of the American people, he said, were fixed upon the living and the guardian of the honor of the dead. If an emergency was upon us, the American navy was ready to meet it. With glowing words he paid an eloquent tribute to the brilliant achievements of our navy in the revolutionary war, the war of 1812 and the war of the rebellion, eulogizing the deeds of John Paul Jones, Decatur, Perry, Porter, Farragut and Dupont. He then described the decay of the navy after the war, and the rebuilding of the new navy which began under Secretaries Chandler and Whitney.

Barthold of Missouri said that some European papers and their echoes in this country said that the foreign-born citizens of the country would be a menace to the United States in case of war with a foreign country. He resented this in the strongest possible manner. The flag of the United States was the flag of its adopted citizens.
 Hartman created the diversion which caused the blocking of business during the rest of the day by delivering a five-minute speech, satirizing the Republican party, and when, under cover of a second pro forma amendment, he attempted to proceed, Boutelle called him to order, making the point that Hartman's remarks were not pertinent to the amendment. A lively party wrangle followed when the chair sustained the point of order.

After the debate on the appeal had run on for an hour Boutelle moved to close the debate on the appeal. Instantly a point of order was made against Boutelle's motion, which was overruled. Party feeling ran high. The vote was taken on Boutelle's motion to close debate on the appeal and carried, 111 to 95.
 The vote then came up on the appeal from the decision of the chair, and the chair was sustained, 120 to 92.
 Hartman, after this two hours' wrangle, again got the floor and was proceeding with the speech which had been interrupted when Boutelle again interposed a point of order. It was again sustained, and when Bailey again appealed, the point was made that the appeal was dilatory, and the chair refused to entertain it.
 Hartman then changed his tactics and arose to a question of personal privilege.
 Dingley made the point that a question of privilege could not be raised in committee of the whole.
 Pending a decision on Dingley's point of order, Hauman was allowed to proceed, but Payne objected, whereupon, with flushed face Hartman shouted that he refused to be intimidated by the gentleman from Maine.
 Thereupon Payne called him to order and the chair ordered Hartman to take his seat.
 Bailey moved that he be allowed to proceed "in order." The motion was opposed by the majority and defeated, 91 to 119.
 The minority then inaugurated a filibuster, demanding a vote by tellers on the pro forma amendment to which Hartman had been speaking.
 Payne made the point that the demand was dilatory, and was sustained. The chair also sustained a similar point against an appeal.
 A moment later when another demand

Continued on Page 3

MENTZER DID SOME DOUBLE DEALING.

History of His Agreement With the Fawcett Crowd.

HE NOW REPUDIATES IT.

Signed Two Documents Agreeing to Down the Populists.

The Candidate for Mayor of Tacoma, Nominated by the Triple Alliance, Over His Own Signature Admits That He Made an Agreement for the Purpose of Conciliating Fawcett, But Says It Was Agreed That His Action Should Not Be Binding Unless It Was Agreed to by Populist Councilmen—Fawcett's Story.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.
 TACOMA, March 25.—For several days past there have been all sorts of rumors relative to an agreement made between Mayor Fawcett and Candidate C. A. Mentzer, to the end that Fawcett and his following of Democrats should receive certain concessions in the event of Mr. Mentzer's election at the polls. The strange part of this much-talked-of agreement rested in the fact that the Populists opposed to Fawcett on the one hand denied that Mentzer had even listened to such a proposition, while on the other hand Fawcett's followers went about to work for the ticket with the understanding, so far as can be learned, that the demands made by his chief had been granted by Mr. Mentzer.

Populists said that they had it from State Dairy Commissioner A. E. McDonald, who is Mentzer's acknowledged representative, that the fusion candidate for mayor had declined to enter into any kind of an agreement to allow Fawcett and his lieutenants any concessions whatever. As was natural, Fawcett's lieutenants said they had received the "high sign," meaning that Fawcett had ordered them to get into line, and that their interests would be fully protected should their candidate meet with success. This state of affairs continued for two or three days, seeming with an intent to keep the two conflicting parties far enough separated to prevent inside facts becoming known, and at the same time to keep all in line.

It now appears, however, and by the statement of Mr. Mentzer himself, that there was such an agreement, or, rather, two such agreements, the first of which was freely signed by him, but was not acceptable to Fawcett, and the second, containing all the concessions asked by Fawcett, including the promise of the decapitation of three prominent Populist office holders, was also signed by Mentzer, but with the proviso that it should receive the approval of certain members of the Populist committee. It was placed in escrow in the hands of a Democrat, and was not submitted to or approved by the Populist committee. Now Mr. Mentzer concludes to call the deal off and flatly repudiates the agreement.

The story of the agreement summarized is as follows: The Fawcett faction were known to be badly disgusted with the outcome of the triangular fusion, and there was strong talk of putting a third ticket in the field. Desperate efforts were necessary to prevent the Democrats from kicking over the traces altogether, several prominent Democrats in succession having refused to accept the nomination for treasurer, the one important office given the party by the fusion agreement.

At this juncture Mentzer wrote, or rather signed, a letter to Fawcett, promising, in the event of his election, in effect, to distribute the patronage so that the Democrats might get the larger share. The language was too non-committal to suit the mayor, and he, it is stated by his friends, returned it with a categorical statement of his demands, which included not only a promise that two-thirds of the positions on the police force and in the fire department should be given his followers, but further that three prominent Populist office holders, all bitter enemies of Fawcett, should be decapitated. These three are Capt. King, of the police force; Governor Teas, of the civil service commission, and Attorney A. H. Garretson.

The gentlemen who acted as go-betweens in the matter reported to Mayor Fawcett that his terms had been complied with; that the agreement, as demanded, had been signed by Mentzer, and that the document in question had been placed in escrow in the hands of Alexander Parker, a prominent Third ward Democrat.
 There was jubilation in the Fawcett camp, and forthwith the edict went forth that the Democratic cohorts should come out of their tents and get to work for the ticket; and for a few hours there was surface harmony in the fusionist ranks. In their jubilation, however, the Democrats boasted too freely of the concessions which had been accorded them, and the Populists immediately demanded an explanation from Mentzer. They were assured that no such concessions as the Democrats claimed had been made. Thus the situation remained for thirty-six hours.