FLEET EDITION

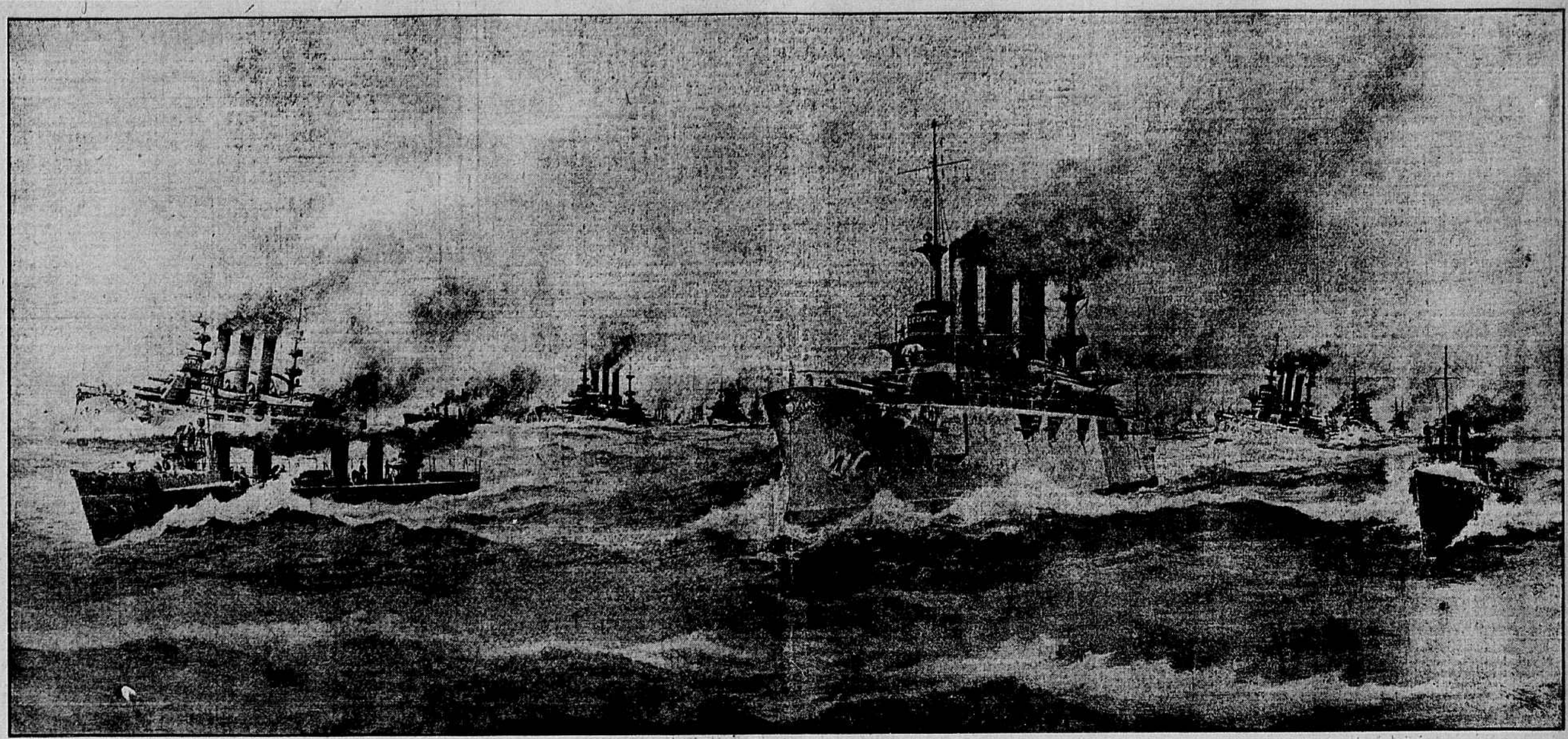
The Times Dispatch

WELCOME HOME

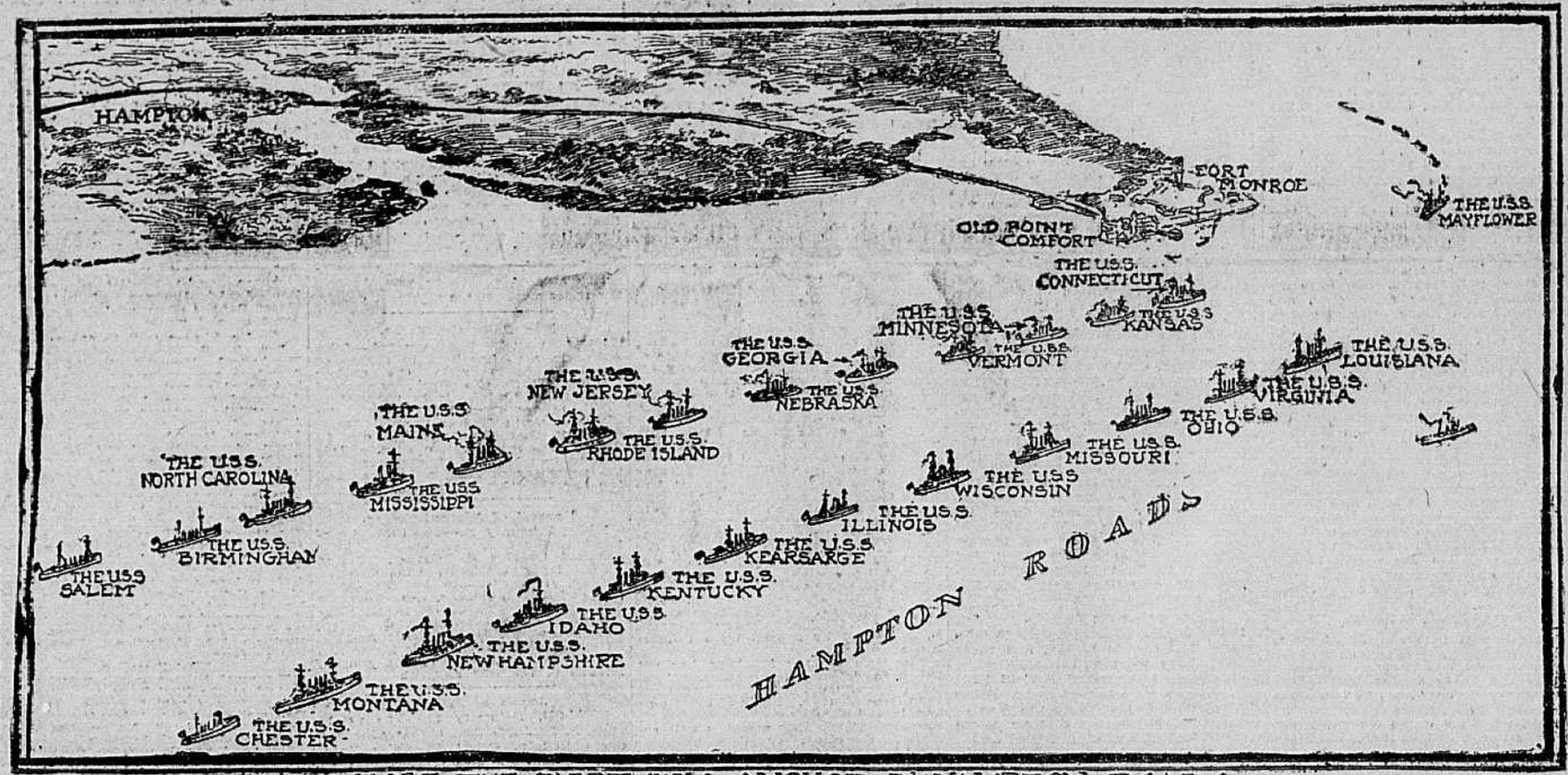
THE TIMES FOUNDED 1886.
THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1850.

WHOLE NUMBER 17,809. RICHMOND, VA., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1909. THE WEATHER TO-DAY—Cloudy. PRICE TWO CENTS.

OLD DOMINION WELCOMES THE WORLD-CIRCLING FLEET ON ITS RETURN TO VIRGINIA WATERS



Atlantic Battleship Fleet During Manoeuvres Off Virginia Capes.



HOW THE FLEET WILL ANCHOR IN HAMPTON ROADS

BRILLIANT WOMEN SWARM IN WAITING

Bevy of Beauty Awaits the Sailor Boys at Old Point.

"NAVY WIDOWS" AND MOTHERS AT HOTELS

Those Who Parted From Loved Ones in Sorrow Fourteen Months Ago, Back in the Same Place, This Time in Warm Welcome.

BY R. W. SIMPSON.

OLD POINT COMFORT, VA., Februray 21.—Out beyond the capes where the night winds are lashing the seas into whitecaps and foam, the battleship fleet, home-bound, is waiting to come in. There is a continual chatter by wireless. Messages are flashed back and forth through the darkness, to be picked up by this ship or that, or plucked out of the air by government land stations, and sent whirling into all directions to which the compass points. As these phantom circuits hum with the buzz and whir of mystic symbols and signs that are thrown into words, a searchlight cuts a white streak against the fleecy bosom of the sky, while from the anchored fleet there is a golden twinkle like a shower of stars.

Swarming like so many butterflies around the hotels of Old Point, the multitude is awaiting the arrival of the men aboard with that same degree of eagerness and expectancy with which a child looks forward to the mythical visit of Santa Claus. Now and then eyes glance strangely at the clocks and count the hours, for it has been fourteen months since this same crowd stood on these shores and waved farewell to the ships that went out over the beaten path of many seas and around the world.

At Old Point to-night the navy widows and those who hope to be have thrown aside the dark and sombre weeds to shine resplendent, while the typical mother of the cruising man sits and waits, as the fisher maiden of old. Beyond the capes or here—it is difficult to picture the feelings of those who yearn for to-morrow.

Feeling of Demonstration in Air.

There can be no mistake about the demonstration which will break loose here to-morrow, for the air is fairly charged with thoughts of it to-night. And in this excitement of the moment the marvelous feat of the battleships is forgotten, the same being likewise true of the first American whose natal day will be celebrated, but in whose living day there was no fleet. Over in Norfolk, where they are trying to make the most of it, streamers announce that business will be suspended to-morrow in honor of the navy's triumph. In labored editorials the morning papers hereabouts dismiss the patriotic event with the statement that it would surprise Mr. Washington if he could come back to life and view the spectacle in Hampton Roads. But a hero is a hero, whether he is a racehorse or a ship, and in this glorious day of peace the real hero must be of flesh or steel.

Although Admiral Sperry was within striking distance of the shore to-day, there was no message to the assembled crowds. A few excursion boats

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SPERRY COMING AS RICHMOND'S GUEST

Admiral of Atlantic Squadron and Fifty-Four Officers Accept Invitation.

ARRIVE TO-MORROW MORNING

Sends Wireless Telegram to Chamber of Commerce—Public Entertainment.

(By Wireless.)

W. T. Dabney, Chamber of Commerce, Richmond, Va.:

Admiral Sperry accepts with much pleasure the agreeable invitation of the Chamber of Commerce and the people of Richmond to luncheon in Richmond on February 23. He will be accompanied by fifty-four officers.

(Signed) SPERRY.

Despite many misgivings that the three messages sent by wireless to the Atlantic squadron were lost before they could be picked up by the operator on the flagship Connecticut, Admiral Sperry and the officers of his fleet will lunch in Richmond to-morrow as the guests of the Chamber of Commerce.

In the effort to have the men who piloted the great fleet in its voyage around the globe, taste the hospitality of the capital city, as well as that of the seaports, the first wireless was sent by the Chamber of Commerce through the Navy Department from Washington Friday morning. Receiving no reply by Saturday night, au-

(Continued on Page Two—Column 4.)

MILLION DOLLAR ENDOWMENT FOR UNIVERSITY IS NOW A FACT

President Alderman Makes Announcement of Accomplishment of Purpose.

$500,000 FROM CARNEGIE

This Will Serve for Permanent Endowment of Six Different Schools.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., February 21.—The $1,000,000 endowment for the University of Virginia is now an accomplished fact. This good news, with very brief details, President Alderman communicated to the faculty last evening. Public announcement, with fuller information, will be made on Founder's Day.

To this great work President Alderman put his hands soon after he came to the university to assume the duties of its headship. Andrew Carnegie subscribed himself for $500,000, conditionally, expressing his great pleasure at his ability to serve the University of Virginia, and, through it, the States of the South. Other sums were added in spite of financial depression in the country, until with $100,000 raised in November and $150,000 procured during President Alderman's recent visit to New York, the $1,000,000 mark has been reached, without including one dollar of bequests or State appropriations.

This large endowment, which exceeds by $250,000 the accumulated en-

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Schedule of Excursions.

LEAVING RICHMOND—MAIN STREET STATION.

Commonwealth Club leaves 7:45 A. M.
Public excursion leaves 8:15 A. M.
Westmoreland Club leaves 8:30 A. M.
Public excursion leaves 9 A. M.

RETURN FROM OLD POINT.

Public excursion leaves 4:30 P. M.
Commonwealth Club leaves 6 P. M.
Westmoreland Club leaves 7:30 P. M.
Public excursion leaves 8:30 P. M.

Special street-car facilities have been arranged on all lines leading to Main Street Station.

LAUNCHES AND EXCURSION BOATS.

The Westmoreland Club excursion will be met at Newport News by the N. Y., P. and N. steamboat Pennsylvania, on which the party will view the incoming fleet in Hampton Roads.

The Commonwealth Club excursion will be met at Old Point by the Old Dominion steamship Pocahontas, from which to witness the review.

At Old Point, Hampton and Newport News there will be a variety of launches, steamers and other craft to take visitors out into Hampton Roads.

An excursion view of the incoming fleet can be obtained from the Old Point dock.

Visiting parties should be provided with lunch, as reports indicate unprecedented attendance, with consequent impossibility of providing entertainment facilities.

Plan of the Review.

The plan of to-day's review, briefly, is as follows:

The Mayflower, with the President and his party on board, will arrive at the tail of the horseshoe in Chesapeake Bay, about eight miles east of the Old Point pier, and about equal distance from the gateway off the capes, at 9 o'clock. The Mayflower will be in practically the same position she took up fourteen months ago, when the fleet ventured forth on the cruise that was to make the American navy familiar and famous in the ports of the world. The Connecticut, leading the single column of battleships and escorting cruisers, will point the way in the capes at 10 o'clock, and will pass the Mayflower promptly at 11 o'clock.

The line of ships, it is now estimated, will be a little more than seven miles long, and will be one hour in passing. The battleships will proceed slowly to the anchorage grounds running west from the Old Point pier, and the Mayflower, picking up her anchors, will follow the last of the war vessels into the Roads. The President's yacht will take a position in the centre of the fleet, and at 2 o'clock the flag and commanding officers will be received on board by President Roosevelt. Later the President, accompanied by the commander-in-chief of the fleet, will go aboard the Connecticut, Louisiana, Georgia and Wisconsin, the divisional flagships, to address the men. Returning to the Mayflower at the conclusion of these visits the President will return at once to Washington, arriving there early Tuesday morning.

OFFICIAL PARTY OFF FOR REVIEW

President Boards Mayflower, and Is Cheered by an Immense Throng.

"GOOD-BY AND GOOD LUCK"

Is His Reply as Yacht Swung Slowly Into the Potomac.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 21.—Amid the plaudits of the assembled throng which had gathered at the navy yard to witness his departure, President Roosevelt and party, aboard the United States ship Mayflower, sailed shortly before dusk to-day for Hampton Roads, where to-morrow he will welcome the returning battleship fleet. As the Mayflower swung out into the Potomac River, the crowd broke out into cheers, and the President, raising his hat, called out: "Good-by and good luck."

The Mayflower proceeded down the Potomac at moderate speed. It is scheduled to arrive at the roads at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, and, returning, it will leave Hampton Roads about 5 o'clock to-morrow evening, reaching Washington about 8 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Official Party.

In addition to the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, those in the Mayflower mit and Quentin Roosevelt, Miss Lanparty were Miss Ethel Roosevelt, Ker-

(Continued on Page Two—Column 4.)

GREATEST ARMADA AT DRILL GROUNDS

All Water Lanes Are Now Leading to Hampton Roads.

AUXILIARIES COME IN AHEAD OF FLEET

Admiral Sperry Reports His Arrival, and Only Official Messages Are Exchanged by Wireless, to the Great Disappointment of Many of the Wives.

Wireless From Fleet.

ON BOARD U. S. FLAGSHIP CONNECTICUT AT SEA, via U. S. S. Yankton, February 21 (10:45 P. M.).—The battleship fleet is ninety miles southeast of Cape Henry, in line of squadrons. Speed ten knots. Will arrive on schedule time; slowing down, if necessary. Strong southwest winds during the night of the 19th, increased to fresh westerly gales. All battleships pitched heavily, but made satisfactory progress. The weather moderated on the night of the 20th.

The cruisers North Carolina and Montana joined the fleet at 11 P. M. on the 20th after heavy weather, causing some delay to them, making a total of thirty ships, the strongest fleet ever brought together under the American flag.

FORT MONROE, VA., February 21.—The returning battleship fleet reached the Southern drill grounds, fifty miles off the Virginia capes, early to-day, and the battleship Connecticut has been in constant wireless communication throughout the afternoon. The fleet will remain on the drill grounds until 5 o'clock to-morrow morning, getting under way at that hour, in order to make the capes by 10 o'clock and begin passing the Mayflower at the Tail of the Horseshoe in Chesapeake Bay one hour later.

The weather was well-nigh perfect on the coast to-day, and the battleships during their breathing spell on the drill grounds will be polished and painted afresh for the review to-morrow, which will go down in history as one of the most notable in the annals of the American navy.

The number of vessels in the line that will file by the Mayflower will not be so great as at other reviews, but never before has the President personally visited so many of the ships as he plans to do to-morrow. The review will also be notable in that it will bring together the greatest number of battleships ever assembled under the American flag. There will be twenty first-class battleships in the imposing column—two more than at the review in San Francisco harbor last May.

All Lanes Lead to Roads.

In anticipation of to-morrow's pageant, the waters off the shore to-night are filled with brilliantly-lighted yachts and many classes of government vessels. All water lanes seem to be leading to Hampton Roads.

From Baltimore, Richmond and New York veritable fleets of excursion boats are making their way to the reviewing grounds, and to-morrow,