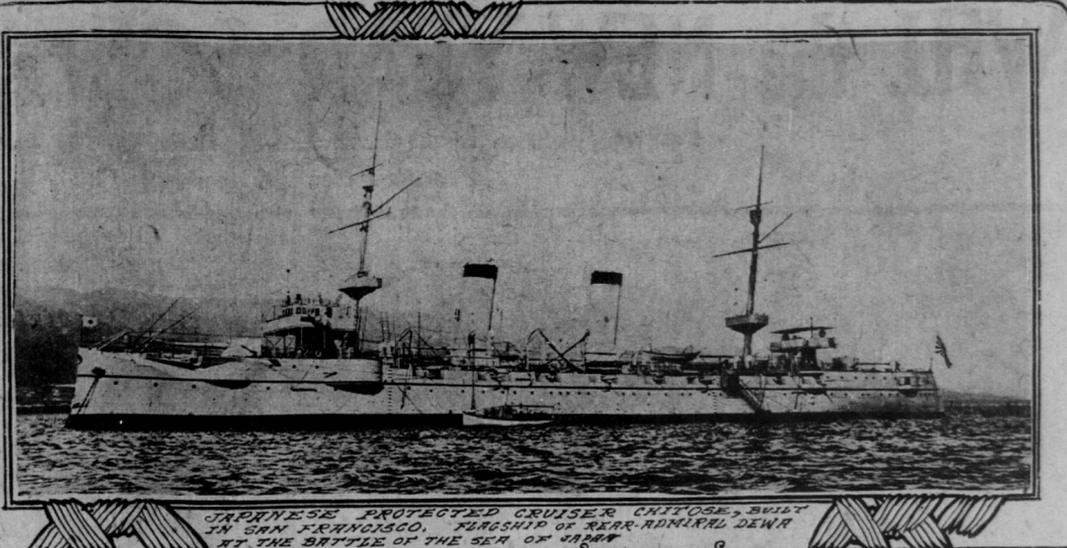


WAY OUR NAVY GUARANTEES

Peace with Japan

WITH QUALITY EQUAL, THE SUPERIOR NUMBER OF OUR FIGHTING SHIPS WILL MAKE THE EMPEROR AVOID A CONFLICT WITH US, DECLARES AN EX-OFFICER OF THE NAVY



JAPANESE PROTECTED CRUISER CHITOSE, BUILT IN SAN FRANCISCO, FLAGSHIP OF REAR-ADMIRAL DEWA AT THE BATTLE OF THE SEA OF JAPAN



By Edwin H. Summers, Late of U. S. Navy

HERE will be no war between the United States and Japan over the San Francisco public school question, or over any other dispute, at least not in the immediate future.

The Japanese statesmen are wise, broad, far-seeing men, and they are not disposed to see their country commit suicide. Suicide it would certainly be for Japan to go to war with the United States at the present time.

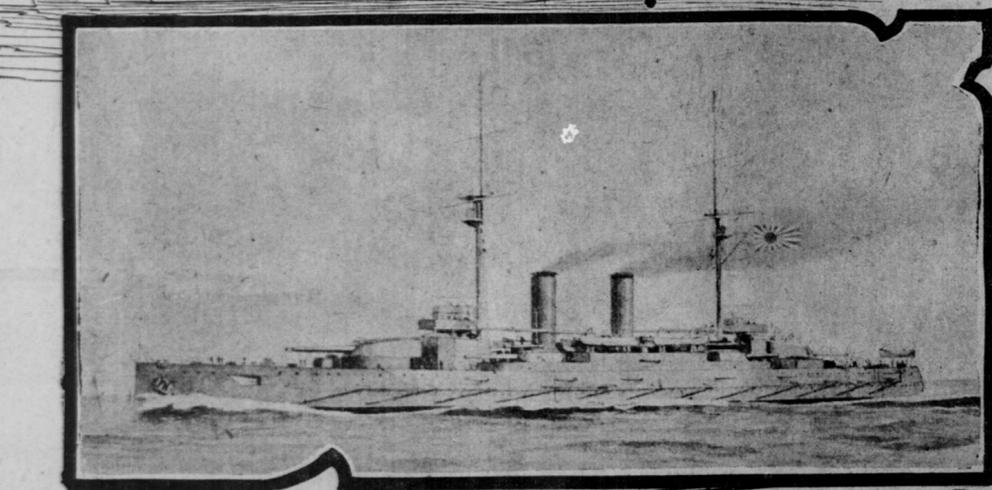
The certainty of peace is owing to the fact that the United States navy is much the superior of the Japanese navy. The navies of the two countries are the keys to the whole situation.

Every statesman as well as military strategist knows that in wars between maritime nations, especially nations whose territories do not come in contact, victory depends upon the command of the sea, and the navy decides the command.

In Spain had held command of the sea in 1898 we should never have landed a soldier in Cuba, and Cuba will still be a Spanish colony. Without the command of the sea which Dewey secured in the Orient at one brilliant stroke the Philippines would never have fallen into our hands.

Unless Japan had boldly snatched the command of the sea from Russia by a daring onslaught at Port Arthur and held it without intermission thereafter she could never have landed a soldier in Korea or Manchuria. Without the command of the sea from the outset Japan would have been defeated in her war with Russia and might have been compelled to cede some of her territory to her foe. It was nothing but the command of the sea that enabled little Japan to triumph over her gigantic adversary.

It was said years ago that the Pacific Ocean would be the theater of the world's next great wars, and the statement was true. To the Pacific we must look for the leading international developments of the present century. However belligerent Japan may become during the next decade, she will never attempt to attack the United States. She cannot do so with any hope of success for the simple reason that the United States navy is almost twice as strong as the Japanese.



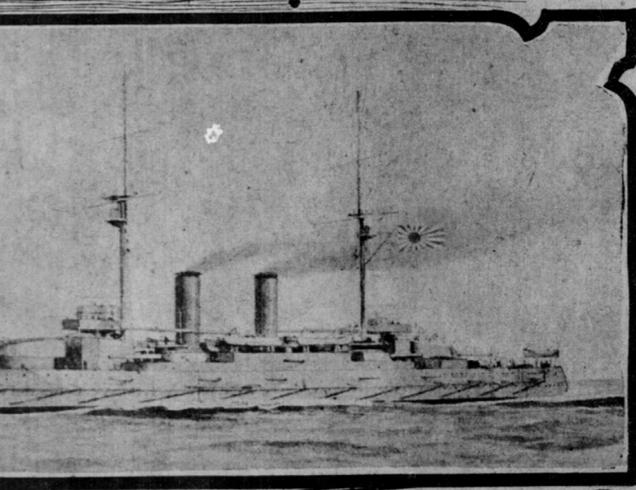
JAPANESE BATTLESHIP "KASHIMA"

is much more formidable than that of Japan. The true strength of a navy is measured by its strength in battleships and armored cruisers, those powerful ships constituting the first line of battle—the backbone of the fleet, ready to strike the heaviest blows and to receive the heaviest blows of naval warfare. All other classes of ships are but auxiliary to the battleships and armored cruisers, armored cruisers being but little less effective for wide operations than the battleships.

In a consideration of the relative strengths of the two navies for the purposes of the present discussion of a theoretical war within the next twelve months, it is necessary to deal only with the vessels already complete and those that may be completed within the next six or eight months. With such vessels the United States is much the better provided.

The United States has twenty-seven first-class battleships against the thirteen of Japan. Japan, it is true, has fourteen armored cruisers against the ten of the United States, but the disparity between the number of battleships far outweighs this advantage. In unarmored cruisers and gunboats the United States is much the superior, both in numbers and, as a rule, in quality.

In torpedo craft, however, Japan is our superior, having 127 such vessels against but sixty possessed by the United States. This seeming advantage is lessened when it is remembered that torpedo-boats are capable only of sporadic attacks, which may be readily repelled by an alert enemy's rapid-fire guns, and are chiefly useful, as was shown in the Russo-Japanese war, for delivering the coup-de-grace to a crippled enemy after his heavy ships have been actually defeated. With the American superiority in battleships such a crippled condition would not be probable for an American fleet.



JAPANESE BATTLESHIP "KATORI"

Japan came out of the war with Russia really stronger, from a naval standpoint, than she was when she entered upon it. Although she lost some fine vessels, she captured from Russia more than enough to compensate for them. To the credit of Japan be it said here that she has been the first among the nations of the world to show to a defeated enemy the courtesy of changing the names of the vessels captured. Every former Russian ship now in the Japanese navy has been christened and now bears a Japanese name. It was not so with England, France and the United States in their wars with each other. We long carried a Guerriere, a Java, a Cyane, a Levant and ships with British names on our navy lists. England has long carried a Redoubtable, a Téméraire and a President on her roster. Japan has set the commendable example of changing the names of the vessels she has captured and has thus done much toward saving the pride and healing the wounds of her late adversary.

The following is a list of the Japanese battleships and armored cruisers, with the names of the vessels she were the ones captured from Russia:

NAME	Launched	Displacement, tons	Speed, knots
Alabama	1898	11,000	17
Connecticut	1904	16,000	19
Florida	1900	12,500	18
Idaho	1905	15,000	17
Illinois	1902	13,500	18
Indiana	1895	10,288	16
Iowa	1896	11,340	17
Massachusetts	1902	15,000	19
Nebraska	1904	14,948	19
Keokuk	1898	11,540	16
Michigan	1902	15,000	19
Minnesota	1900	16,000	18
Mississippi	1902	15,000	19
Missouri	1901	12,300	18
Nebraska	1904	14,948	19
New Hampshire	1906	16,000	18
New Jersey	1904	14,948	19
New York	1901	12,200	18
Oregon	1894	10,288	16
Rhode Island	1904	14,948	19
South Carolina	1902	15,000	19
Vermont	1905	16,000	18
Virginia	1904	14,948	19
Wisconsin	1898	11,633	17

ARMORED CRUISERS (10).

NAME	Launched	Displacement, tons	Speed, knots
Brooklyn	1890	9,215	22
California	1904	15,200	22
Colorado	1904	15,000	22
Florida	1900	12,700	22
Idaho	1905	15,000	22
Illinois	1902	13,500	22
Indiana	1895	10,288	22
Iowa	1896	11,340	22
Massachusetts	1902	15,000	22
Nebraska	1904	14,948	22
Keokuk	1898	11,540	22
Michigan	1902	15,000	22
Minnesota	1900	16,000	22
Mississippi	1902	15,000	22
Missouri	1901	12,300	22
Nebraska	1904	14,948	22
New Hampshire	1906	16,000	22
New Jersey	1904	14,948	22
New York	1901	12,200	22
Oregon	1894	10,288	22
Rhode Island	1904	14,948	22
South Carolina	1902	15,000	22
Vermont	1905	16,000	22
Virginia	1904	14,948	22
Wisconsin	1898	11,633	22

The United States navy has, in addition to the above armored vessels,

twenty-three unarmored cruisers, twenty-two seagoing gunboats, sixteen destroyers, thirty-six other torpedo-boats and eight submarines.

Both navies have a number of auxiliaries, such as colliers, hospital ships, repair ships, transports and other special vessels. Both, too, have numerous coast defense and harbor vessels, as well as vessels of more or less obsolete type. In this discussion only the up-to-date, effective, sea-going vessels—the first line of battle, as it may be termed—is considered. It being this fleet which would determine the issue of a war.

Japan is in the van of modern advance in naval architecture. Profiting by her experience in the war with Russia, she is now building two enormous, formidable battleships, which may be compared with the celebrated British Dreadnought. These are the Setsuma and the Aki. The Setsuma is being built at Yokohama and will be finished this year, as will the Aki, and these two warships will be among the most notable that any nation has built for a long time, not excepting the Dreadnought. Of 19,000 tons displacement, each of these great vessels will carry a main battery composed of four 12-inch and twelve 10-inch breechloading rifles, and a secondary battery of twelve 4.7-inch rapid fire guns and a multitude of smaller pieces. Such a strength of her navy, this country meanwhile standing still and adding nothing to her fleet, she cannot fight us. But above all is a fact that money makes the war as well as the mare

for man, the Japanese navy may be regarded as the equal of that of the United States, but the overpowering superiority of the United States navy in battleship strength may, with no less doubt, be assumed to constitute an insurmountable barrier against a war between Japan and this country. With the proper handling of our naval forces the command of the sea could be won by the United States in the early weeks of a war with Japan and this command once secured the rest of the war would be comparatively easy for the United States. With the Japanese fleet defeated, crippled or otherwise driven from the sea, no Japanese expedition could reach our shores, and even if, at the outset, Japan should make the probable invasion of the Philippines, the forces she might land there would be cut off from their base in a short time. On the other hand, the sea would be free for the aggressive operations the United States might wish to undertake, and as aggression is conceded by military experts to be the best defense, aggressive operations would almost to a certainty be started early in the hypothetical war.

Japan knows all these things; at least, official, intelligent Japan knows them. Her statesmen will hardly do anything to provoke war with this country. Unless Japan can doubt the strength of her navy, this country meanwhile standing still and adding nothing to her fleet, she cannot fight us. But above all is a fact that money makes the war as well as the mare

go. Japan, even if she had a finer navy than she has, could not make war upon the United States for the simple reason that she has not the sinews of war. Against our vast wealth, against our vast resources in men and manufactures, Japan would be helpless. It must likewise be remembered that Japan is but slowly recovering from the heavy strain, both on population and financial resources, resulting from the war with Russia.

There will be no war between Japan and the United States, either now or in the decade, unless the United States permits the American navy to fall behind its present high standing in both strength and efficiency.

under it, while his companion, Erick Eulend, was felled to the floor. Far below them on the 300 level, Ed Hillman had a monkey-wrench in his hand and was about to use it, when it suddenly disappeared as if by magic. He didn't waste any time either, but as soon as he could stand up he ran for the skip and the three men got busy getting hoisted to the surface.

When the accounts of what had happened on the surface and under the surface were told it was not hard to decide just what had taken place. The three miners were immensely relieved to find that it was only an unruly bolt of lightning.

VEHICLES IN TURKEY

THE victorias, phaetons, coupes and cabs which abound in the streets of Smyrna are now exclusively of local construction. There is a limited demand on the part of the very wealthy

ODD LIGHTNING FREAK

THE other day a freak incident which might not happen again in a thousand years occurred in the Banner mine at Nevada City. Near the hoisting works is an immense shaft, and when a bolt of lightning played in a freakish manner around the works the big pile was shattered as if by a cyclone. Wood and splintered logs flew in every direction, and the phenomenon was accompanied by a frightful noise, which caused those who heard it to think that the big boiler of the works had burst. In the shaft of the works is a steel pump and the current must have communicated with the pump rod, carrying the electricity 300 feet down into the bowels of the earth. Two men were at work on the 300 level, and when the lightning came shooting down the shaft Johnson jumped for the tank and hid