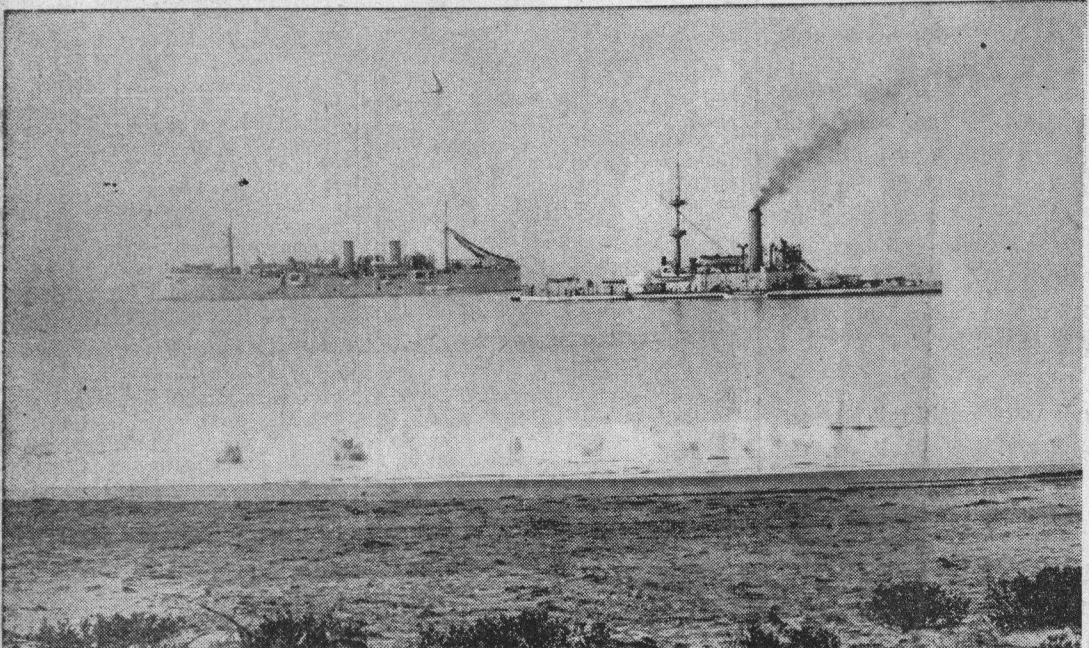


Santa Cruz Yesterdays



VISITING WARSHIPS AT CARNIVAL TIME, '96

(From the Preston Sawyer Collection)

All Santa Cruz was making merry—it was carnival time again—when two U.S. warships, the Philadelphia and the Monadnock, dropped anchor in the local harbor to join in the festival.

It was mid-June of 1896 and the second successful Venetian Water Carnival, presided over by Queen Josephine Turcot, was in full swing. Again the San Lorenzo was resplendent with decorations, boats, barges, gondolas and brilliant illumination at night.

Dammed near its mouth, the river was practically a lake all the

way up to the Soquel avenue covered bridge. Bleachers of the previous year stretched along the bend opposite the Barson orchards and Riverside hotel.

From San Francisco

The Philadelphia, left, in the picture, and the Monadnock, departed San Francisco Monday morning June 15. The former was first to reach port, arriving at 4:15 p.m., the slower Monadnock dropping anchor at 5:30.

Until Point San Pedro was reached the cruiser and the battleship moved close together and then the Philadelphia steamed away, leaving the Monadnock far in the rear.

Averaging 13 knots an hour the cruiser rounded Lighthouse Point at 4 p.m. The yacht Rover in the harbor boomed a cannon welcome for each of the warships upon their arrival.

On the wharf and beach were many people, who had waited from an early hour in the afternoon for the appearance of the ships ordered to Santa Cruz by Secretary Herbert.

Local Committee

The local welcoming committee, waiting on the wharf, was composed of Lieutenant-Governor Wm. T. Jeter, Mayor Clark, Col. A. J. Hinds, Director-General Bowman, Jas. McNeil, W. H. Lamb, Frank Mattison, W. D. Haslam. Preceding them was Lieut. A. A. Morey, with Lieut. George and Ensign Lindsay. Admiral Beardslee was top-ranking among the visitors.

The Philadelphia carried 350 men, drew 23 feet of water, while the Monadnock, with a complement

of 150 men, drew 13 feet.

Monday evening there was searchlight drill on the cruiser. The following evening a reception and ball was tendered the officers at the Sea Beach hotel. "The glitter of the brass buttons was dimmed by the radiant beauty of the ladies, to whom the officers soon surrendered," wrote a local reporter.

Up town on Monday evening, even while the searchlights were playing from the Philadelphia, there was a "grand illumination" also. It was the memorable lighting of the town clock (Odd Fellows building). Realization of a dream of energetic Fred Swanton, power from Big Creek transmitted by a main line 18 miles long, flooded the town clock with light of almost daytime brilliance. Some 600 light bulbs in strings delivered the brilliance to the festooned tower.

Soriano Will Be Heard In CMA Concert



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