

# BURIAL OF THE MAINE TAKES PLACE TO-DAY

Battleship's Hulk, with Rose-Covered Deck, to be Sunk Four Miles Off Cuban Coast.

## HAVANA FUNERAL OF SAILORS

Spanish Paper Arouses Cubans by Attacking Capt. Sigsby—Floral Tributes.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HAVANA, March 15.—The hulk of the Maine was successfully towed out of the coffer dam this afternoon, and is now anchored outside, with the stern pointing toward the harbor mouth, ready for the last journey to a point four miles off the Cuban coast, where it will be sunk.

The removal from the coffer dam was accomplished by the naval tug Osceola. Two harbor tugs assisted. Few persons witnessed the towing out of the hulk.

Although an act of Congress is necessary for a national holiday, the Government accomplished the nearest possible approximation to one by the Cabinet closing all public offices to-morrow. The Secretary of Agriculture has declared it optional with the commercial houses whether they shall close or not, but the majority will do so.

Fully 30,000 persons filed past the coffins containing the bodies of sixty-five of the sailors who perished. Hundreds were waiting outside when the doors were thrown open at 2:15, and a constant stream continued to walk through the municipal room at the palace, increasing at night. It was necessary for the authorities to keep the lines constantly moving, so great was the crowd. Architects ordered special braces placed on the floors of the hall to prevent their giving way under the weight of the metal coffins and the crowds.

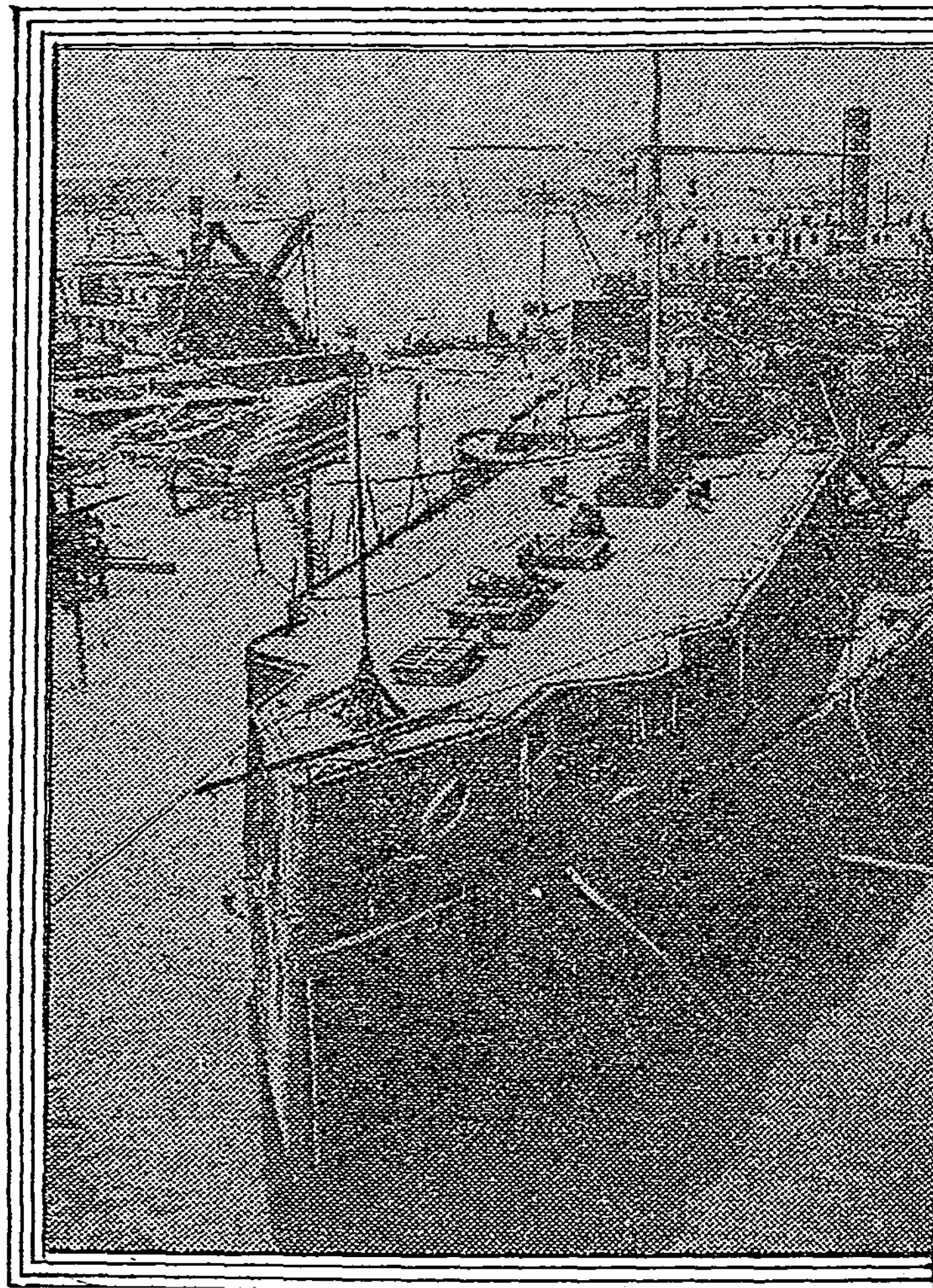
Two unpleasant features marred the effort of the Cuban Government to carry out the Maine ceremonies. With the greatest harmony the Cuban newspapers carefully avoided saying things calculated to cause resentment in the large Spanish colony, but the Spanish newspaper El Diario Delamarina this afternoon attacked Capt. Sigsbee, declaring he was attending a ball when the explosion occurred, intimating its belief in the former Spanish calumny that he knew of the impending explosion.

The paper quotes Chaplain Chidwick, who delivers the funeral oration to-morrow, saying that Sigsbee was not aboard when, as a matter of fact, Chaplain Chidwick reiterates that all but one of the American officers was aboard.

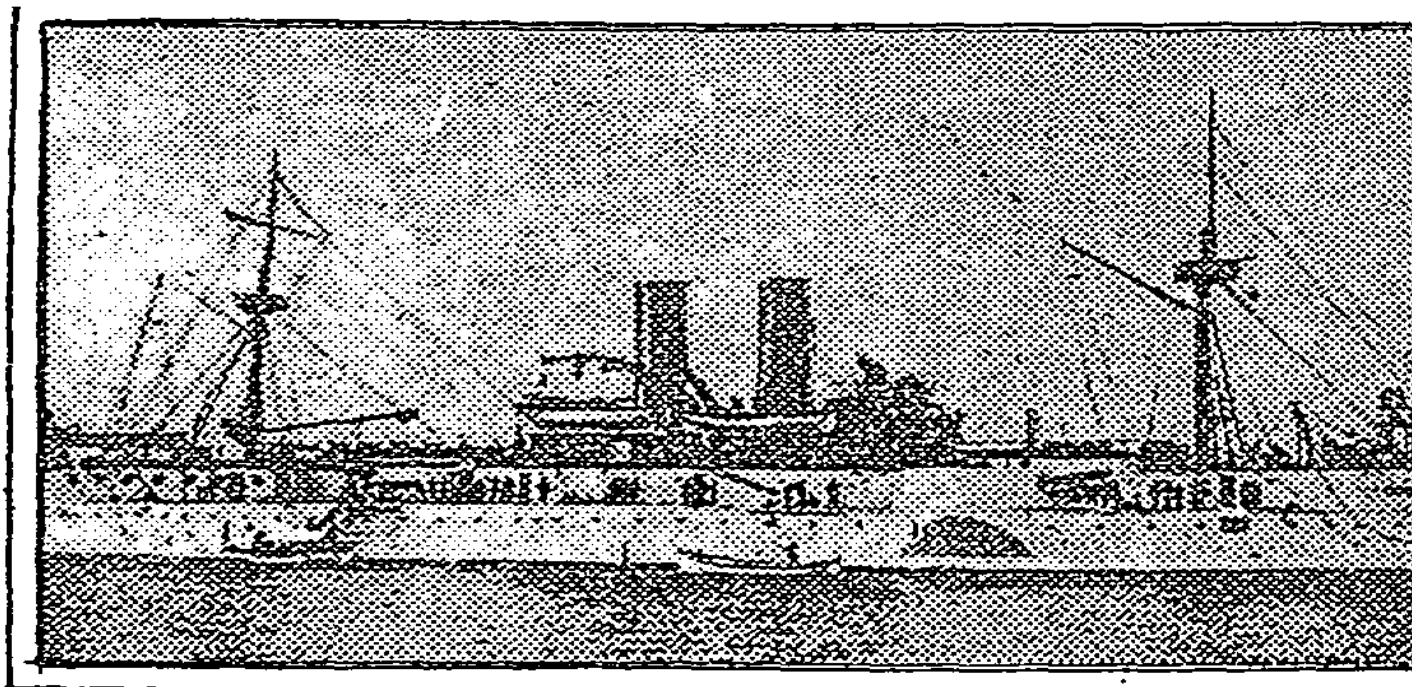
The other disagreeable incident was a conflict between the United Spanish War Veterans and the Cuban Veterans over the official programme, which placed them both on an equality. The United Spanish Veterans objected, declaring they deserved and had been promised precedence. The authorities complied with the request.

Another conflict occurred when the doors were opened to the public. Mayor Cardenas, accompanied by Aspiaz, President of the Havana City Council, started to act as a guard of honor, and found two United Spanish Veterans already there. He invited them to step aside, as the programme provided that the Mayor should mount first guard.

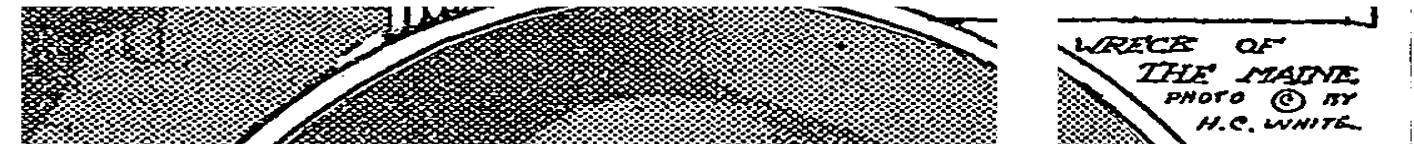
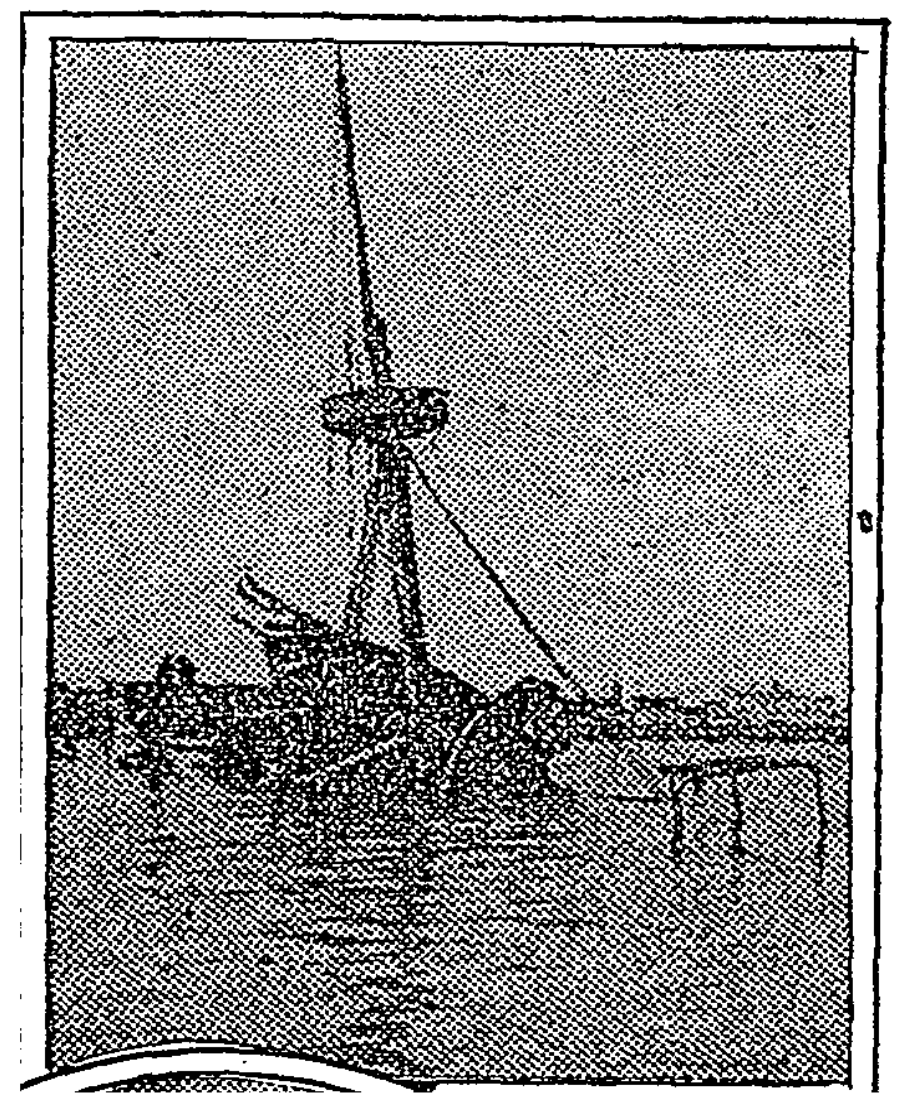
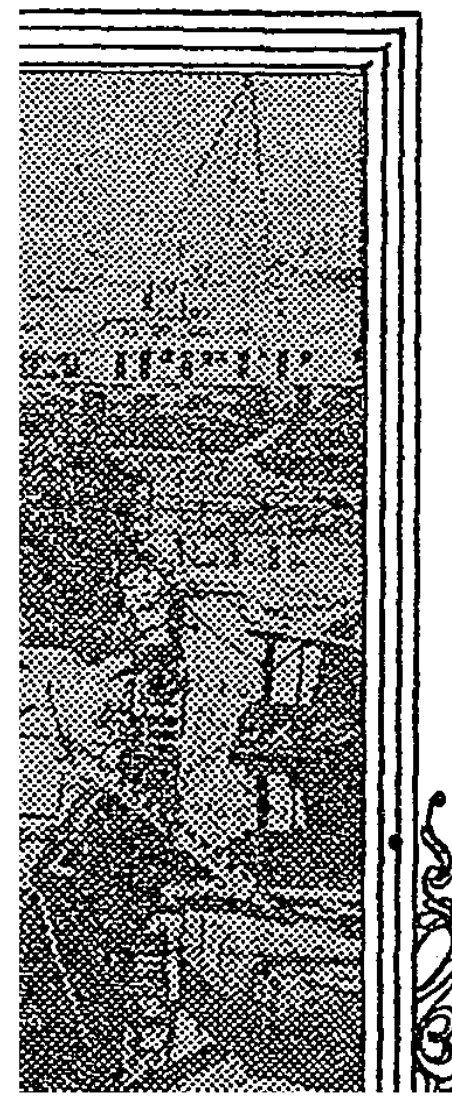
# Hulk of the Maine to be Buried at Sea To-day.



THE MAINE ONCE MORE AFOAT.



THE MAINE BEFORE EXPLOSION.



WREATH OF THE MAINE PHOTO © BY H.C. WHITE.

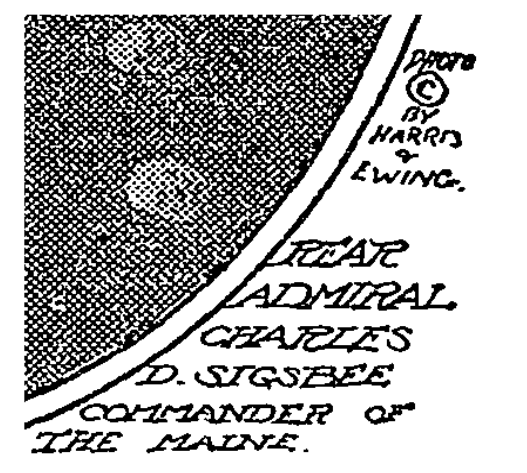
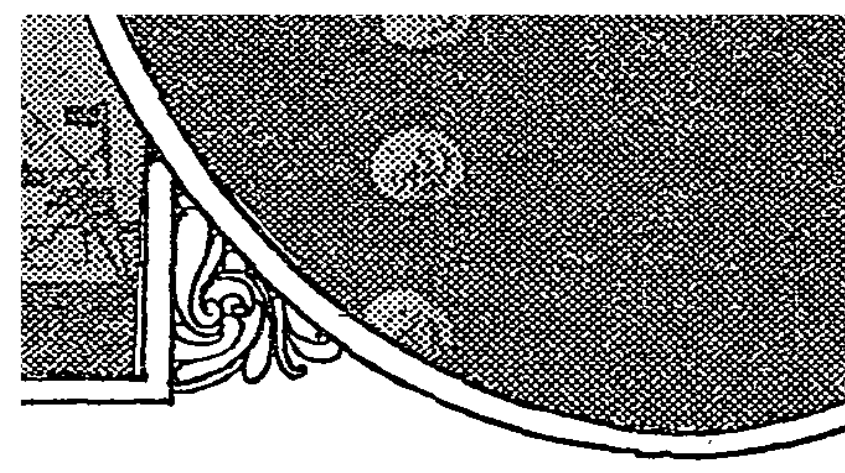


PHOTO © BY HARRIS EWING.

REAR ADMIRAL CHARLES D. SIGSBEE, COMMANDER OF THE MAINE.

The Spanish veterans refused, declaring they had received their orders from the officer of the day. The Mayor then left the hall. An hour later the Mayor returned and mounted guard. Gen. Machado, Government Secretary; Gen. W. H. Bixby, Col. William M. Black, and other prominent men served as guards of honor.

The naval procession to-morrow includes every available ship. Several large steamers have been chartered.

The decorations of the City Hall are elaborate. The balconies are draped in black. The entrance is draped with two large American and Cuban flags, while three flights of marble stairs are draped in black and gold and illuminated by many soft lights. The sides of the City Hall are entirely covered with heavy black cloth.

The thirty-four coffins are almost entirely covered with floral offerings. The President and every Cabinet member contributed handsome wreaths.

The Government ordered flowers placed on the Maine's deck loosely. They will float upon the surface after the ship disappears beneath the waves.

Mayor Cardenas has prohibited a moving-picture exhibit which portrayed the blowing up of the battleship Maine, alleging that it was in bad taste.