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THE CRITICAL PO

In Our War With Spain Lies in the Expedition Against the Philippines.

NO NEWS YET FROM THAT FLEET

Key West to be Made Base of Operations ... More Electricians Wanted in the Navy---China not yet Announced her Neutrality---Its Delay of Advantage to us --- The Oregon Arrives at Rio Janeiro--,

> Important Information Regarding Military Affairs in Cuba---To Call for Bids for Construc-

tion of More Warships.

today was concentrated on the Philippines, though fit seemed almost hopeless to expect any news from there, which is for the present, at least, the critical point of naval operations. Indeed one high official well versed in the plans of the strategy board declared that upon the result of the engagement which Commodore Dewey is expected to have had with the Spanish fleet today, or within a day or two at least, might depend to an extent the outcome of the war. When Secretary Long left the navy department, he had received no word from Commodore Dewey nor from any point in the east. Secretary Long received a dispatch from Captain Sampson relative to the shelling of Matanzas batteries, but had no information whatever as to the reported attack upon Cardenas yesterday. The impression prevails at the department among those who are not taken into the secrets of the naval war board that these moves of Captain Sampson are of a strategic character and not accidental happenings as might be supposed from their appar-

ently spontaneous character. Key West evidently is to be made a base of the first order of importance so far as the fleet is concerned. Otherwise, Secretary Long never would have called upon an officer of such high rank as Commodore Remey to command the station. The commodore has been relieved at the Portsmouth navy yard, New Hampshire, by a retired officer of rank. Two more retired officers of a high rank of ability are to be called into service Monday in the person of Naval Constructor R. W. Steele and W. L. Sintonye. The board of bureau chiefs is now engaged in preparing the advertisements calling for the construction of torpedo boats and destroyers. By a special provision of the naval bill these advertisements will run only three weeks, instead of three months, as is usual. The department will describe only the general characteristics of the torpedo boats, leaving to the bidders the submission of plans for their construction. Chief Constructor Hichborn said today that when the department has placed the contracts for the vessels authorized by the pending naval appropriation bill, the government will have under construction at one time a greater number of vessels than it ever had building since the war and a greater tonnage in the aggregate than at any time during the civil conflict. There will be no less than thirty-six vessels altogether thus placed under construction-three battleships, sixteen torpedo boat destroyers, twelve torpedo boats, four coast defense monitors and one gunboat on the lakes.

MORE ELECTRICIANS WANTED The honor of being fleet engineer of the numerous musquito fleet, which is expected to be one of the mainstays in the defense of the Atlantic coast cities, has fallen to a retired officer, Chief Engineer Alexander Henderson, who is now a prosperous business man in New York, but who has consented to sacrifice his personal interests to fight in the navy. More electricians are wanted in the navy and the secretary today directed that a special recomiting station be opened at the Washington navy yard at 1 c'clock Monday to recruit these electricians.

CHINA ON THE WAR.

The Chinese minister, Mr. Wu Ting Fang, caled at the state department today and had a talk with officials concerning the war situation. He did not bring a notice of China's neutrality nor has he received word thus far from his government that China will declare her neutrality. The authorities here would have been pleased if China withheld her decree altogether, as such a course might be of distinct advantage to the United States in case Commodore Dewey's fleet fails to effect a landing on the Philippines, and is abliged to seek some open port. With an American fleet in Asiastic waters the situation becomes hazardous unless a belligerent port is captured, or

a neutral port remains open. Up to today all countries occupying western Asaitic territory had declared neutrality, except China alone. The notice of Korea was given two days ago, thus closing Papan's ports, including Yokohoma, which is the most advantageous harbor in Asiatic waters and nearer the Philippines than any other port. The British and French decrees closed Hong Kong and the ports of British India and of French Tonquin. The officials here feel that the United States would have profited much by securing a coaling station from China during the recent controversies which led to Germany's securing Kiao Chow bay as a coaling station. Rusia securing port Arthur and England securing Wei Hai Wei. There is good reason to believe that the friendly spirit of China toward the United States would have made it possible for the United States to have secured the harbor of Mirs Bay or some other advantageous point on the Chinese coast. At the present time, however, it is said that China could not listments will begin here tomorrow woluntarily grant such a coaling sta- morning. ____ has no equal. R. R. Bellumy.

Washington, April 30.-All interest I tion without assuming a distinctly hostile attitude toward Spain. It is possible that China's neutrality decree may be issued any day, and yet the delay is in no way exercising the authorities here, owing to the feeling

that it leaves China's ports open to

Commodore Dewey's fleet, The Portuguese minister, Viscount de Santa-Thyrso called at the state department today and gave official notice of Portugal's neutrality. Afterward the viscount expressed regret at the published reports attributing delay to Portugal and a disposition to favor Spain as against the United States. The minister says that such reports are unwarranted.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION RE-GARDING GUBA.

Savannah, Ga., April 30.-Dr. W. F. Brunner, formerly United States sanitary inspector at Havana, has just returned from Washington where he went to place valuation information in the hands of the surgeon general and of General Miles and the war depart-

Dr. Brunner, while in Havana, for the sum of \$5.30 a month had the original reports from all the Spanish military hospitals. These reports are now in the possession of Surgeon General Wyman. They show, Dr. Bruner states, that there were in the Spanish hospitals daily out of the army of 110,-000 men, from 32,000 to 38,000 soldiers. The unsanitary conditions surrounding the men, and the insufficient attention given them, together with a lack of good food, are responsible for these facts, he states. Dr. Brunner also secured in the same way information about all the coast fortifications around Havana, and personally saw planted eight of the submarine mines now in the harbor there. These plans have been placed in the possession of the war department. With them he had data showing the number, size and description of all the guns, systems of measurement, length of their base lines and a full description of all

their ammunition and high explosives. Dr. Brunner does not think an army invasion should be sent to Cuba until fall on account of the likelihood of a great mortality from yellow fever and thousands of other fevers. ... e says with the volunteers and regulars, the Spaniards will probably soon assemble an army of about 80,000 men in Havana

The war department has assigned the officers who are to perform the duties of quartermaster and commissary for the volunteer troops at the various state rendezvous prior to their mobilization at the central points. In a number of the states these officers are the same as those detailed for mustering duty. For North Carolina F. C. Marshall, Sixth cavalry, has been ap-

There was a feeling of relief among officials tonight over the safe arrival of the Oregon at Rio, well to the north and out of possible reach of the Spanish torpedo cruiser Temario, which has been lying around the vicinity of Buenos Ayres. The keenest interest is taken in her future movements, but on account of the extreme reticence of the naval authorities the nature of the instructions which have awaited her at Rio are not known. The prevalent belief, however, is that her orders are to proceed to join Admiral Sampson's fleet without delay.

Affairs in Madrid.

Madrid, April 30 .- Noon .- The great est efforts are being made here, and throughout the country, to increase the national war fund. It is proposed, for instance, to have tables ornamented with the national colors, at all the Madrid churches throughout the month of May. These tables will be attended by society ladies, whose names and the

be published in the newspapers. The traditional festival of May 2nd, in honor of D. A. Oiz Velarde, will be celebrated by a procession of veterans to the monument in the Prado, where open air masses will be celebrated, accompanied by military salutes.

The Spanish colony in Mexico telegraphs that, besides contributing a warship, a subscription in aid of the national fund to increase the strength of the Spanish army has been opened in Mexico, and that 18,000 pesetas have already been collected.

It is pointed out here that since Germany has made no declaration of neutrality, German factories are not precluded from supplying Spain with war

It is reported that the Spanish government has purchased two foreign warships, but no details regarding the newly acquired vessels are obtainable. 10 p. m.-Up to this hour no news has been received from Manila.

Cubans in America to Assemble at Tampa.

Key West, April 30.-The Cubans here are highly excited over the following telegram received from T. Estrada Palma, of the New York junta: "Assemble and send to Tampa immediately all young unmarried healthy Cubans disposed to go to Ca-

egation will not sustain families of enlisted men." Tampa is made the general rendezvous of the Cuban forces. En-

ba: also all officers of our army. Del-

SANTIAGO DE CUBA

In a State of Anarchy-People Fleeing from the City-Brutality of Spanish Soldiers - Food Scarce - Antiquated Harbor Defenses.

(Copyright by Associated Press.) Santiago de Cuba, April 27, via steamer Remus, filed at Port Antonio, Ja., April 28.-Don Arsenso Linares Pombo, commandante general of this division of Cuba, proclaimed four days ago that every man between fifteen and fifty years of age, must enroll that night with the volunteers for military service, under penalty of arrest and military trial and Senor Chucho Manduley, magistrate of

the high court of Santiago and known as an intense Spanish sympathizer, one of the most prominent in the city, left forthe camp of the Cuban Brigadier General Cavallos. He was accompanied by several kinsmen and his going produced a vivid impression. The exodus from the city has continued by night, the Spaniards making no opposition except that a few men have been arrested as examples. Five thousand persons have left for the country since the proclamation, four-fifths being women and children. The Spanish soldiery now assumes a bullying attitude and threaten to kill every Cuban man and to outrage every Cuban woman left in the city when the blockade begins. When the American fleet appears, as it is daily expected to do, all the non-combatants will be expelled. Though the governor of the city, Enrique Capriles, has seized for the government all the large stores of food in private hands, many shops still do business with small stocks, the prices doubling day by day. Monday meat was 40 cents a pound, Tuesday 70 cents, and today it is \$1.00 a

The governor announced today, to quiet public alarm, that a ship loaded with expected, but when, where from and what her name is, nobody knows. The story is not believed. The Spanish soldiers, especially the sick, are also poorly fed. A new battery has been erected at the west harbor entrance, with four rapid fire guns and, this correspondent hears, ten or twelve more rapid fire, small calibre guns will be mounted on Morro and the east side battery. The Morro fort has at least fifty ancient brass cannon market 1764. There are reports about torpedoes in the channel and harbor, but they are confusing Preparations have certainly been made to lay torpedoes, but whether it has been actually done it not known. Strong floating mines are ready to be placed. The military authorities seem to have little control of the soldiers and the disorderly elements. Spanish silver is at 45 per cent. premium. The bank notes issued by the government bank at Havana

are practically worthless and some times

pass for 3 to 5 cents on the dollar.

and lard 32 cents. Chickens are \$2.50

SPANISH TREACHERY.

The Ex-spanish Consul at Tampa Acting in a Most Suspicious, Manner. Another Powder Mill Exploded and

pound. Other prices in gold today are: Rice 24 cents a pound, beans 31, flour 19 town. It is also reported that the Spaniard has been seen at night disguised. The Spanish boarding house on Anderson street and another house, as, where Bruguis is sup posed to gisit are being watched by the police to ght and if Bruguis is seen he will be arrested.

ment that will be nipped. It is to the effect that there is a soldier here with the regulars who speaks Spanish whose term will expire soon. It is asserted that he had been approached and urged to the enlist with the intimation that he right make \$250 a month.

from Tampa, Fla., says An attempt was made last night to explode the powder rangazine of Knight & Wall wholesale hardware men.

Auburn, Cal., April 30.-The Clipper Gap Rowder works, seven miles from here were blown up this evening. It is supposed that lightning caused

Attempt to Destroy a Magazine.

Jackso wille, Fla., April 30 .- A special to The Times-Union, and Citizen from Tampa, Fla., says: Chief of Police Burne, of the Tampa force, and General Wade; held a lengthy consultation a lew evenings ago, the subject of which has just come to light. Spanish Congul Solis left here about ten days agd and Vice Consul Bruguis left about two days later. The vice consul said that he was going to Jamacia by way he New York and on the evening prior to his departure he was given a farewed party by his Spanish friends. A few evenings ago a Spanish woman living on Anderson street told two of her American girl friends that something would happen soon. Her signifi-cant renerk in connection with the many rugiors of Spanish plots in circulation aroused suspicion. On Thursday night as Chief Burke was returning from Yarbo City, he was surprised to see Bruguis, who he supposed was on his way to Jamacia at the Spanish woman's house. Bruguis is a young man 24 years of age and has several reculiarities of dress and action well nown to the chief of police and in felling the story to several newspapers correspondents this evening he said that there was not the least bit of doubt about the man's identity.

Major connely, of the Florida state troops, has also been informed by a Cuban resident that Bruguis is in

Another plot is in course of develop-

Jackson lile, Fla., April 30.—A special to The Times-Union and Citizen

?+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+6+6+3+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+8+ |+8+8 IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE DAY.

The Schooner Geo. L. Fessenden, load with stone for lort Caswell, is wrecked off Hatteras. The Captain, Mate and wo Seamen are drowned.

A Spanish Fishing Smack Surrenders to the Blockaring The Paris reached New York yesterday after a rather eight-

By a well directed shell the New York buts to flight a bod of Spanish Cavalry.

Trinity defeats the University at Base Kall. There was no news yesterday at the Nevy Department from the Asiatic Squadron.

China's delay in declaring Neutrality is of advantage to us in giving our fleet a port on the East Coast. The Situation in Santiago de Cuba becomes almost Desperate After May 1st all Light Ships will be immoved so as to be of

no use to the enemy. The Oregon arrives at Rio Janeiro. Senator Butler wants the War Department to allow his S ate'

to furuish three Regiments of Volunteers. The Emperors of Germany and Austria quarrel over the Spanish American War.

PREFERED TO BE PRISONERS

A Spanish Fishing Smack Surrenders to the Blockading Elect.

Key West, April 30.-This has been the dullest day Key West has known since the beginning of the war. The only news of the fleet was the firing at Fort Cabanas, which was exaggerated in the fashion peculiar to this community.

The Puritan treason story was another subject for discussion. The latest phase of the incident, according " to these reports, is that the eccentric sail- which broke from her ancho age in one troop of cavalry, dismounted, was or has confessed to an attempt to blow up the big monitor. The officers of the ship, including Captain Harrington, still maintain, however, that Yglesias is kept under restraint because the times are unwise to allow irresponsible persons to be at large on a man-of-war. and that the treason story is entirely

Today's only prize was the little fishing smack Iola, loaded with fish for Havana, which was captured off the Cuban coast by the dispatch boat Dolphin, who sent her in with a prize crew aboard. The captain of the Iola hoveto when a blank shot was put across her bows, declaring that he would rather be captured by the Americans than enter General Blanco's service, which he would be compelled to do if he went

baseless.

into Havana. Lieutenant Gleaves, in command of the torpedo boat Cushing, is annoyed at the stories sent from here that the blowing out of the boat's receiver a very few days ago, was due to negligence. He says the boat has been in service for a number of years, and that the receiver was too old to bear high

steam pressure. The Cushing is not incapacitated for service and will be ready for action on short notice.

M. L. Yocum, Cameron, Pa., says "I was a sufferer for ten years, trying most a" kinds of pile remedies, but without success. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve was recommended to me. I used one box. It has affected a permanent cure." As a permane t cure for piles DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve

the explorion. These works esumed operations a few days ago at er several montas' idleness. Dani ge not

On the Flying squadro .

On boar the flagship Brooklyn, off Fortress Monroe, April 30.-O, 1 Point a., April 30.—The patrol boats of the flying squadron dil active was thought to be hidden close to the work last night at the entrance to Hampton Loads and no vesse's were allowed to approach the squae ron after dark. The patrol from the Texas stopped at tug with a tow trying to and again individual firing was heard run in about 9 o'clock. It prived to be the lightship from Cape Charles at intervals. It was conjectured that the death and galle with high head seas was encountered. The Paris sighted the White Start and well regulated volleys continued at 5:43 a. m., in latitude 48:35, longitude at intervals. It was conjectured that the two daws' storm and drifter out to doing the firing. The officers of the army officies to pass the boats brough the lines of torpedoes. The I thiship people remorted having had a very rough time but the vesel is not very badly damaged. It is improbable that she will anchored again n ar the capes for the reason that the lovernment has decided that after t ay 1st the hightships shall be removed so as to be of no use to an enemy.

The college Merrimac arrive here last night from Newport News and reported to Mag Lieutenant Sea s that her orders were to proceed Key West. She was given the neessary permission and this morning pa sed out to see under Commander Miller. She is very fast and will catch the collier Saturn which left here yesterds, under

The George L. Fessenden L. t Off

Hatteras. Charlotte. N. C., April 30.—A special to The Observer from Hatter, says that the starm off the cape on he 27th and 28th was frightful. The ward blew from sixty to seventy-six miles, eith occasional guass of 100 miles. On he 27th the schooner George L. Fessend D. Captain Nortot, Philadelphia to Stathport, with grant a stone for Fort aswell, with grants stone for Fort stranded of Chicamicomico. . e was heaten to pieces and Captain Norton, the mate, and two seamen drow d. The rest of the crew was rescued by life. The schooler Milton, Captain Linnell, Fernandina for New York, with umber, stranged at Bodies island. The rew of

Administered to the Spanish Troops by the Blockading Squadron.

MORE SHELLS PUT AMONG THEM

While the New York is Close into Shore at Cabanas a Cavalry Squadres Fires on Her ... The Flag Ship Returns the Rifle Fire with Four

> Inch Guns, Placing a Shell in the Midst of the Troop---Observation Tour Along the Coast-One Gun for

Two Forts at Mariel.

(Copyright by Associated Press.) On Board the Flagship New York, April 29.-11 a, m.-Via Key West, Fla., April 30.-The blockade continues as before. The flagship lies to the west-

ward of Havana. The torpedo boat Porter, while close into shore last night, reported having | The admiral was anxious to personally been fired upon by the Cojimar battery, which is to the eastward of Morro Castle. The plucky little Porter escaped

The coast of Cuba is being patrolled by the Spanish cavalry.

Captain Taylor, of the Indiana, came on board the flagship today and had a long consultation with Rear Admiral: miles distant from the shore.

News of the movements of the United States army is eagerly awaited by the fleet, and there is much speculation as to when the troops will be ready.

While the Dauntless, the dispatch boat of the Associated Press, was making her way from Key West early this morning, she was sighted by the flagship. The lookouts on the New York were unable to make out her identity owing to the mist and the distance which separated her from the flagship and a 4-inch shell was fired in her di rection. It was not aimed at the Dauntless, but was only sent near enough to make her heave-to. The Dauntless, thinking she was being fired at by a Spaniard, promptly put about and steamed away. Then she was recognized, and a few minutes later the recognition became mutual and the Dauntless ran alongside the New York. Later she proceeded to Matanzas.

Learning that mines and earthworks were being placed and built at Mariel, in the porvince of Pinar del Rio, not far from Havana, the flagship moved in that direction, accompanied by three torpedo boats, but there was no sign of movement at Mariel, and the flagr ship proceeded to a point twenty-five miles west of Havana, and about ten miles beyond Mariel. There suspicious movements were observed ashore, probin that direction from one of her big guns. The firing, however, brought no response, and the flagship returned

to her station. A strict watch for a possible torpedo boat attack is being kept on board the flagship. All the available officers take deck watches at night, including the chaplain, paymaster's clerk and the assistant surgeon.

The small craft captured by the Wilof Cabanas, about two miles off shore, ter and Ericssen. A return to the station off Morro Castle, Havana, was usual dinner music, when from a hill to the eastward of Cabanas harbor. came the sound of volley firing. It was plainly a small arms attack, though no smoke was seen. The enemy beach and in front of a ruined white building which sloped to the beach and flagship stood on her deck trying to ascertain definitely the exact location of the enemy, more amused than annoved at this novel method if attacking an armored cruiser. However, Rear Admiral Sampson and Captain Chadwick decided that the lesson taught at Matanzas must be taught again at Cabanas. "Man the port battery," was the or-

At a few minutes past 6 o'clock the 4-inch gun in the after-port battery sent a shot flying over the water into Cuba's soil, raising a little cloud of dust about 100 yards in front of the hacienda and just above where the Spanish cavalry stood. Before the hills, growing dim in the evening mist, had t ceased re-echoing and reverberating the first report, the other 4-inch gun in [the after-battery had landed its proafter the first shot.

starboard batteries now bore on the

A moment or so later Captain Chadwick saw the Spanish cavalry, then

band of the flagship continued its man-

sical programme. Most of the crew were on deck watching this little lessen given to the Spaniards, but there was no excitement. The trip which ended the target practice at Cabanas, commenced about noon, when the flagship, with Ericssen and Porter, started westward

investigate the clockade in the har-Upon this occasion the first good view of the city of Havana was obtained, the New York steaming within range of her batteries. When out of range of the Santa Clara batteries, after passing the Iowa, Detroit. Mangrove and Mayflower, the flagship pro-

ceeded westward, steaming about two When Mariel, twenty-five miles from Havana, was reached, the flagship came to a standstill and the gunbout Castine, which is guarding that port, was hailed. Captain Berry thereupon went on board the flagship and held a consultation with the admiral. A careful inspection of Mariel harbor revealed the presence of two small Spanish gunboats and four schooners, well in behind an oldfashioned martello tower on one side and a flirasy little fort on the other. The combined batteries of the two "fortifications" blockade house the westward trochaloomed up on the sharp bluff shadow-

ing the little town... After lying for forty minutes close into this plicturesque harbor, with its low, red-roofed warehouses, royal palms, and mountainous setting, the admiral proceeded to Cubanas, saying jokingly to the correspondent: "Maries looked altogether too peaceful to be disturbed."

It is believed, however, that in spine of its peaceful appearance mines havebeen laid beneath the smooth waters of Cabanas harbor.

THE PARIS IN PORT.

Her Precautions on the Trip to Pres vent Capture-A Rough Passage. New York, April 30.-The American

ably work on fortifications. Conse- Line steamer Paris arrived this mornquently the flagship fired three shots ing from Southampton after a rough pasage of 7 days 17 hours and 5 minutes, with nine saloon, forty two second cabine and ninety-seven steerage passengers. The Paris left Southampton April 22nd at 2:05 o'clock p. m. After cleaning the land, Captain Watkins shaped his course about north and after a run of thirty miles headed mington yesterday was only taken to for home, keeping a distance of thirty Key West because her crew were mem- i miles from the usual course taken in bers of the second Spanish naval re- previous trips. Captain Watkins had serve. It was thought also that they no fear that a Spanish war vessel might be members of the crew of one would catch his fleet steamer after she of the torpedo gunboats for which ves- got searoom, but it was thought possels a very sharp lookout is being kept. sible that some craft of the enemy The full details of the Cabanas af might be lurking in the vicinity of the fair are that the New York was lying schannel, or in the neighborhood of the quietly outside the picturesque harbor Irish coast to waylay the American craft. At night every light on board an inspection trip of the coast having the Paris was extinguished and head just been completed. The flagship was lights were covered. Strict watch was accompanied by the torpedo boats Por- maintained to detect the approach of vessels. Leaving the Lizard with the wind southeast, then northeast, very contemplated, the band was playing its light, the weather became overcest and a long westerly swell prevailed. This condition of weather continued until the wind became westerly and commencing on the 23rd, increased to a gale.. Rough seas with fog, rain and generally thick weather prevailed. One the American coast a heavy northeast galle with high head seas was encoun-

same day passed a freight steamer of ing else was seen on the way across. The Paris brought sixteen cases of munition of war and a small quantity of miscellaneous merchandise. The Paris entered the narrows through the field of mines and torpedoes at 6:30 o'clock this morning and was saluted by steam whistles of passing craft as: she went to her dock. It is expected that the Paris will discharge her cargo today and will be received by the naval authorities tomorrow morning, when her name will be changed to Yale. The Paris has a crew of 289, and two mail clerks She also brought the stowaways.

Not Room Enough for Fighting Tar

Heels. Washington, April 30 .- Senator Butler, of North Carolina, was at the war jectile. A few more shots from this department today endeavoring to make battery were fired, but the ground was arrangements by which his state will evidently damp, no dust arose, and it be permitted to furnish three regiments. was hard to tell where the shell fell. of infantry in stead of two. He says They were fired at 300 to 400 yards range | there are a large number of colored The Spaniards were not heard from people in his state who can stand the climate of Cuba and who are anxious The New York then turned her bow | to enlist, and if favorable action is takeastward. The target practice was en in congress, a bill providing for an apparently over for the evening. Her additional number of regiments, the senator thinks North Carolina will be permitted to send her necessary quota-

A little boy asked for a bottle of "gut mounted, ascending a hill, toward the up in the morning as fast as you can hacienda, and he personally trained a the druggist recognized a household 4-inch gun and planted two shots, the name for "DeWitt's Little Early seven was sived.

The diamend Shoals lightship ide out Spaniards, who scattered in all directions. The trucking sterests tions. The New York then steamed headache, liver and stomach troubles have been bijured by the high des.

Second one plumping right among the famous little pills for constipation, such that headache, liver and stomach troubles. Spaniards, who scattered in all direc- famous little pills for constipation, state