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AN EXCELLENT AND FINE
 WILL Exceed all Anticipation
 A Treatise
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**American - - -
Ice Cream Soda.**

Don't Forget, when you come
to Kaimahara, to have a re-
freshing drink of Soda-Water
at the Kaimahara, one block
north of Shintoshai Bridge.

~ ~ ~

**Twenty Varieties!
Exquisite Mixture!
Luxury Combined
with Economy!**

A. N. FUKUHARA.

The Japan Times.

TOKYO, SUNDAY, SEPT. 8, 1907.

THE ABSURDITY OF IT ALL

THE telegraphic columns in our last issue contained more than the usual lot, at least for some days past, of news of a sensational tendency bearing on the relations of Japan and America. We thought the "battle-ship squadron" talk had become all but stale, and yet it occupied a considerable space. The latter phase of the matter would indicate that the American public regards the proposed naval excursion from a point of view that has not occurred. Indeed one despatch quoted the *New York Sun* as saying "an uneasy feeling undoubtedly exists as to the real purpose of the movement of the fleet." Yes, for what purpose? The cruise of 19 first class battleships round Cape Horn would mean no small expenditure and rich as the Republic is, it seems natural that the large disbursement should provoke the question asked. To us all idea of demonstration is too absurd to be considered, as we have had occasion to say. But viewed from the American standpoint that very absurdity makes the matter all the more mysterious. "For the purpose of training" does not seem to be sufficient explanation; for the waste of money involved will be too much at variance with whatever may be gained in that direction. As we have said, as far as Japan is concerned, we regard it as absurd to ascribe any warlike intentions to the cruise. But inasmuch as the "uneasy feelings existing" in America do not seem unnatural, in so much it appears not proper to dismiss the matter too lightly.

Then there was the intimation of a Kaiser-President arrangement for the defence of the Atlantic coasts. Interesting as a chance on the "battleship squadron" topic; but the absurdity of it was apparent and it has met prompt denial.

More absurd is the scare caused by the planting of the Rising Sun on

Nishijima, and also Senator Stone's yellow peril talk. We believe the little islet has never yet been claimed by any other country and is outside the territorial waters of the United States. And if it is habitable and promises some commercial value nothing could be more natural for the first party coming to claim it for his country. Some Americans must be in a very serious state of nervousness to see a menace to the Philippines in the establishment of our jurisdiction on the little island. As for Senator Stone he is certainly not the first to labour under the idiotic hallucination. After the late war we, in our eagerness to let the world see that we are not troubled with swelled head in consequence of our victories, did all in our power to show and promise that our future lay in commercial and industrial development. To-day what energy we possess is all devoted in that direction. This we freely admit. Senator Stone and his set should see that we are smaller than Germany in population and far behind the latter in all our commercial and industrial equipment. Germany is now in the ascendant, and yet is there any German peril? If not, how could there be a yellow under Japan's lead? Then the late series of Japan's victories is attributed by the world to the unpreparedness on Russia's part. A yellow peril such as Mr. Stone fears would come only when Europe and America were caught "unprepared" for war. What can be more absurd?