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LONDON, FRIDAY, APRIL 23.

VIEWS OF A GREAT NAVAL EXPERT.

An article on the naval situation, in the Nineteenth Century and After for April, by Sir William White, for many years director of British naval construction, and familiarly known as the father of the modern British navy, is both timely and instructive, and should have a reassuring effect upon the British people.

Sir William presses home the point that the main strength of Britain's navy now and for some years to come must consist of pre-Dreadnought vessels, and that to treat them now simply as a reserve, magnificent or otherwise, is to unduly depreciate their importance. No comparison limited to Dreadnoughts, he says, gives a measure of the actual relative naval forces of various countries. In making a decision as to the margin of strength in these particular classes of warships that should be provided, the Government should have regard to two important considerations—first, the enormous preponderance in numbers and power of the British navy in ships of the pre-Dreadnought type; second, the ignorance which still prevails in the admiralty as to the actual particulars, including offensive and defensive powers, of the latest German battleships and cruisers.

The second point made by Sir William White is that the first lord of the admiralty's statements as to German acceleration were inaccurate as regards two of the ships, and that in what he said regarding the other two there was nothing new. In the writer's opinion reasonable men will be prepared to believe that the publication of the German statements has been made in good faith, and is intended by its authors to remove misapprehension caused by Mr. McKenna's speech, and to relieve the tension and anxiety which have been produced thereby in the minds of British people.

As to the so-called "secret procedure" of the German admiralty, Sir William points out that that secrecy was really begun by the British admiralty about four years ago, when the Dreadnought and Indomitable classes were introduced.

It is noteworthy that this high authority is not a believer in hasty action by the Government in the construction of the latest type of battleship. He expresses the belief that it is unwise, until more is known about Dreadnoughts, to go on building them on an increasing scale of size and cost. The method of laying down a great number of ships simultaneously is, he says, useless as a device for stopping German competition.

The writer devotes considerable space to proving that Great Britain has still a distinct superiority over Germany in the manufacture of materials for war vessels, and shows that Mr. McKenna underestimated the number of ships in Great Britain capable of receiving Dreadnoughts.

Sir William quotes the following comparison of British and German warships which will not exceed twenty years in age in the year 1912, adding that if the figures had been made public at the beginning of the debate in the Commons, there would have been no approach to a "scare":

	British.	German.
Pre-Dreadnought battleships	40	20
Aggregate displacement (tons)	535,000	241,000
Total number of guns of calibre from 6 to 12 inches	650	384
Number of armoured cruisers	35	8
Aggregate displacement (tons)	416,000	75,000
Total number of guns of calibre from 6 to 12 inches	470	112

A considerable number of the British armoured cruisers are distinctly superior to some German battleships in offensive and defensive power. The British battleships have 152 12-inch guns in their armaments; the German battleships 40 11-inch. British cruisers carry 68 9.2-inch guns, as against six 9.4-inch guns carried by the German cruisers. When it is remembered that this mighty fleet will be supplemented in 1912 by at least 16 completed Dreadnoughts, and that 20 such vessels will be ready if the four contingent Dreadnoughts are laid down, while Germany anticipates the completion of 13 ships only by the autumn of 1912, it must be admitted, says Sir William White, that no true reason exists for anxiety as to Britain's naval strength three years hence in comparison with Germany, or that the accelerated completion in the latter country of any possible number of Dreadnoughts by that date can threaten Britain's superiority, since she

can build as fast and probably faster. Sir William's final conclusion is that there is absolutely no reason for the naval scare of which so much has been heard of late.

MR. DANIEL D. MANN ON RECIPROcity.

Mr. Daniel D. Mann, the Canadian railway magnate, gives his views on reciprocity in the Saturday Evening Post, which is showing an unwelcome but timely interest in the affairs of this country.

While Mr. Mann admits that Canada has reached a position of economic independence and is no suppliant for favors from her neighbors, he is too well acquainted with the resources and conditions of both countries to deny that both would profit by closer trade relations. He specifically favors a free exchange in fish, coal, iron ore, pulp and lumber. The people of the New England States would benefit by the free admission of fish from the northern waters and coal from Nova Scotia. The coal mining interests of Nova Scotia, if they lost the Montreal market, would be compensated in New England, while the United States coal interests would gain in Montreal what they lost in Boston. The present tax on soft coal also hits the consumers north of Lakes Ontario and Erie. On the other side of the continent there is unlimited coal in British Columbia and Alberta, which should find a market in the Pacific States, where very little coal is mined. As to iron ore, Mr. Mann says the abundance of it in Eastern Canada is infinitely greater than her handy stores of coal, and is sufficient for Canada's needs and the American market as well. Mr. Mann also sees no menace to the Canadian pulp and paper industry in allowing the free exportation of pulpwood to the United States, provided free trade in wood and pulp are admitted free into the United States. He estimates that the Canadian supply of pulpwood is the largest in the world, while that of the United States is nearing exhaustion, and argues that on the basis of a free exchange the tendency of the pulp and paper industries of the continent would be to gravitate to the source of supply, which is in Canada.

Mr. Mann believes that the tariff is at best an expedient, and that as its crude necessities are outgrown, and the distribution of nature's favors is better understood, the courses of trade will find their natural channels. However, he thinks that a tariff for revenue necessities will remain, though the tariff for industrial expansion, while it will continue, will diminish in importance.

Mr. Mann sounds a ringing note of Canadian self-reliance. He points out that Canada has arrived, not in the guise of a poor relation of republic or empire, but in the right of her own united power. "You can no more revert to the old Canadian idea of reciprocity than you can replace the locomotive by the stage coach. To discuss the possibility of the absorption of Canada by the United States is utterly to forsake practical politics. You must realize that Canada is a nation so much bigger than any tariff wall that she can afford to be, as she is, undisturbed by it." And he adds this information, which is needed by some of our neighbors, and which faithfully reflects Canadian opinion and sentiment:

"Sometimes I am asked whether Canada is loyal to England. I answer that Canada, like England, is loyal to the Empire. There are still a few people on this continent, I believe, who imagine that Canada pays tribute to the King of England. There is reason to suppose it is bigger than the United States. It is a free confederation of inter-dependent states, each of which has as much liberty to do as it pleases as any state of the Union. In that free confederation, Canada has a place that grows more important every year. She has an unique identity in the world which, if she became four or five or six states in the Union, she could not enjoy."

A UNIONIST FREE TRADER'S VIEWS.

The "tariff reform" movement in England has no stronger opponent than Lord Hugh Cecil, son of the late Lord Salisbury, and a Tory of the Tories. In an article in the Nineteenth Century on "Unionism and its Fiscal Sore," Lord Hugh Cecil deals at some length with the difficulties of the Unionist party. Britain's withdrawal of preference from Canada, he says, was one of the causes which led the Dominion into making a commercial treaty with the United States. According to preferentialists that treaty should have been the first step to political unity between the two contracting parties, but as a matter of fact, after it had continued a number of years, it was broken off, and the relations between Canada and the United States have not been so cordial since. Experience does not sustain the preferentialist policy, which presupposes that the colonies and the mother country are distinct bodies, with separate and conflicting interests. "We shall draw the Empire together," says Lord Hugh Cecil, "not by formally recognizing and powerfully emphasizing the separateness of its constituent parts, but rather by seeking out opportunities for common action when the Empire can move and feel as a single whole. Such common action does, as the South African war showed, effectually strengthen the sentiment of unity throughout the body."

The writer points out that the taxation of food, which we are told is a necessary part of the colonial preference policy, implies the taxation of the poorest of the people, "in order to make richer the colonial farmers, who are already very prosperous, and whose manufacturing interests, like the woolen producers of Yorkshire." He predicts that even if such taxation be imposed, it will be reversed after the

following general election; for an English working class electorate will not permanently endure the taxing of the almost starving for the benefit of those who are better off. In Lord Hugh's opinion, Unionist free traders will never be assimilated by the "tariff reformers"; more likely are they to tolerate the situation for the time being. He takes no stock in the claim that Great Britain can obtain her revenue by taxing foreigners, and deprecates the manipulation by the state of the "springs and courses of commerce."

London has a population of about 50,000, but its policy of delegating the care of its parks to the lowest bidder is worthy of a hamlet of 500.

Individuals are wiser than nations. Only fools or knaves would act as the various political entities of Europe are acting in piling up armaments in the name of peace and civilization and groaning under the weight.

Ordinarily a candidate for a municipal office makes his application in person and on the spot. In this city a municipal committee travels to Toronto to look him over. We are getting some novelties in municipal government.

Engineer Kelsch advises buying out the London Electric so as to give Niagara power the whole field. This is obviously the wisest course and the fairest, if the company is disposed to be reasonable, but anyone who suggested it six months ago was branded as a corporation hireling.

The bill for the disestablishment of the Church of England in Wales has been introduced by Mr. Asquith. It is almost certain to be thrown out by the House of Lords, though the great majority of the Welsh people passionately desire the legislation. How long is the United Kingdom going to put up with the anachronism of an hereditary chamber, which is both an enemy and a reproach to British liberty and democracy?

The Toronto News says it is hopeless to look for a material reduction in expenditure under Mr. Fielding, and that he is in the hands of the local riders of the party. Mr. Fielding's estimates for the current year show a reduction of \$9,224,243 in ordinary expenditure, and \$13,347,215 in capital expenditure. Applicants for local public works—the "riders"—are being turned away empty-handed. The Government is retrenching vigorously and in doing its duty is incurring the ill-will of some of its supporters. The comment of the Toronto News is ungenerous and remote from the facts.

THE SHEATH OF SIGHs.

(Carolyn Wells, in Life.)
One more unfortunate
Gasp for breath!
Rashly importunate,
Laced most to death.

Gaze at her tenderly,
Dressed with such care;
Fashioned so slenderly
By corseteers.

Look at her garments,
Clinging like cement,
Judge her not scornfully,
Think of her mournfully.

Gently and humanely:
Not of the left of her,
All that is left of her
Now is pure womanly.

O, to what meagreness
May a plump body come!
Banking with eagerness
Left but a modicum.

See those silk slips of hers
Clinging so lovingly
(One might almost say,
Sneaking those hips of hers).

See her soft tresses
Escaped from the comb;
Her fair golden tresses,
While wonderment guesses
Whose head they're from.

She is dressed rightly,
No matter how tightly,
Her heart is compressed;
Director sheathing
May stop one's breathing,
But one is well-dressed!

THE LITTLE THINGS.

(Kansas City Times.)
"It's much easier," observed Mr. Taub-
away, "to stumble over a mole hill than
over a mountain."

LESSON IN PHYSICS.

(Sydney Bulletin.)
Inspector—Now, is there any other force
of nature besides steam that is able to
keep the world from flying off?
Smart Boy (son of a Broken Hill
striker)—Please, yes, sir—the police.

FAST TYPESETTING.

(Toledo Blade.)
A record was made in this office yesterday—one which we believe is the world's record. A matter of the Blade staff, Milo Bennett, set 30,000 lines of type on the Mergenthaler in just 7 hours and 40 minutes. For those who do not understand the printer's technical term, we hasten to explain that this means Mr. Bennett set 3,777 lines, or about fourteen columns.

HAPPY NOW!

(Chicago News.)
Trotter (who has been abroad)—So
Miss Homer—Yes.
Trotter—I suppose they are happy?
Miss Homer—Undoubtedly; they each
married someone else.

THE MOUSTACHE AND CHRISTIANITY.

(New Orleans Times-Democrat.)
"The moustache has a religious significance," said a clergyman in a Lenten address. "It forms, you see, in company with the nose, a cross."

"In the time of the Moslem invasion of Spain, mixed marriages rendered it impossible to tell a heathen from a Christian, so the Spaniards took to shaving all the face but the upper lip. Thus every Christian could be told at a glance a cross—a cross part flesh and part hair."

"From its religious the moustache has come to have an elegant significance purely. Men now wear it to proclaim their faith, but to magnify their beauty. Its source, however, is in Christianity. The Spanish invasion men either wore full beards or went clean-shaven."

SAFEGUARDS AGAINST GLUTTONY.

(Montreal Star.)
Sir James Grant told the Ontario school teachers that more people died from over-

ONE AFTER EACH MEAL

LITTLE DIGESTERS

With digest your food and cure your indigestion or money refunded. 25c. a box at all Druggists or direct from

THE COLEMAN MEDICINE CO., TORONTO



eating than under-eating. And now the trustees in various parts of the Province will see to it that their teachers continue to be protected from this danger.

AN EXCEPTION.

(Montreal Star.)
A barrel of flour fell on a workman the other day, but this is an exceptional case as flour of late has been going the other way.

PAPA GOT OFF EASY.

(Toronto Telegram.)
Teacher—Now, Henry, if your father should come home with \$30, and give you mother one-half of that, what would she have?
Henry—A hat.

HEINOUS OFFENCE.

(Punch.)
Adjutant (at inspection, discovering second button of a soldier's tunic unfastened)—Dash it all, sergeant-major. Here's a fellow half naked! Make him a prisoner!

SIMILARITY.

(Chicago News.)
Gunner—The latest creation in feminine gowns is covered with 500 buttons. What do you call such a dress as that?
Gayer—Where? I think I'd call it the "button box."

GOOD SENSE.

(Toronto Star.)
Winston Churchill may have his faults, but when he intimated that Great Britain took the United States into account in her shipbuilding programme, he talked good sense and good politics.

AN ELEGY ON DR. DRUMMOND.

(E. W. Thomson.)
Everybody's friend is gone, hushed his gentle mirth,
Sweet-hearted comrade soul none shall know on earth.
Bury body, many mind, upright lifted head,
Viking eyes and smiling lips—Dr. Drummond's dead!

THE QUEEN AND GEN. BOOTH.

(Manchester Guardian.)
In view of General Booth's recent tour in Denmark, Scandinavia and St. Petersburg, and of the celebration of his 80th birthday, the Queen and the Empress Marie of Russia received General Booth at Buckingham Palace, and heard from him some account of his life's work, his late tour and his plans for the future.

The general was at the palace about an hour. Seen afterwards, General Booth said he did not know how far it would be proper to speak of the interview, but there could be no objection to his saying that the Queen and the Empress received him most kindly and sympathetically. He showed keen interest in the work of the Salvation Army, and wished him and the army all possible success in their endeavors to ameliorate a lot of the friendless and the fallen. The Queen and the Empress got the general to write his name in their birthday books.

Asked by a press representative about the Salvation Army's prospects in Russia, General Booth said it had as yet made no beginning, but all he wanted was facilities and opportunities, and he felt that in this matter he had at least the warm sympathy of the Empress Marie.



"The Land of Nod" Tonight.

"The Land of Nod," a musical extravaganza in a prologue and two acts, by Adams, Hough and Howard, will be the attraction at the Grand Opera House this evening. One of the principal reasons why "The Land of Nod" has been so unusually successful is on account of the unique character creations and novelty and picturesqueness of the play. This delightful extravaganza is full of bright comedy, its music, of which there is an abundance, is of the spirited, popular kind.

William Faversham Tomorrow.

William Faversham will be the attraction at the Grand Opera House tomorrow evening. He will be seen in Charles Frederic Nirdlinger's "The World and His Wife," an adaptation of Jose Echegaray's Spanish masterpiece, "The Great Galeoto." What the heedless gossip of busybodies can accomplish is exposed in this play, unquenchable calumny instilling doubt, wrecking a man's peace of mind, and, at last, destroying the good name of his house, his wife, his friend. Mr. Faversham is supported by an especially capable company, which will include Julie Opp, Olive Oliver, H. Cooper, Morton Selson, Berton Churchill, Lionel Belmore and Harry Redding.

"It's Never Too Late To Mend."

The types which Owen Davis has drawn in his latest melodrama, "It's Never Too Late To Mend," are said to be exceptional. They are all taken from life and the prototypes can be found at any moment within the confines of Manhattan Island. As a play, "It's Never Too Late To Mend" is said to be full of action and incident. "It's Never Too Late To Mend" will be the attraction at the Grand Opera House on Tuesday next.

"Strophon's Bride."

"Strophon's Bride" was repeated last night before a good audience at the Grand, and pleased the audience. The performance was smoother than on the previous evening, and the characters were all well taken. The music by J. Lamont Galbraith, L. R. A. M., was most pleasing, and the composer received many compliments on it.

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Ladies' Suits, Worth \$15.00 for \$11.75
A few only Suits at this price for Saturday's selling. Handsome Spring Suits of Venetian Cloth. Long, semi-fitting coat. Skirt trimmed with buttons. Colors are brown, navy and black; and there are sizes 36 and 38 in each color. Come early for one of these \$15.00 Suits at..... \$11.75

Ladies' Spring Coats
NATTY SPRING COATS, in shades of fawn; semi-fitting, two-button, cutaway fronts; cuff sleeves. Perfectly tailored spring models at the very special price (sizes 34 to 40)..... \$4.85

Boys' Every-Day Suits
Certainly a full money's worth goes with every Chapman Boy's Suit. See these new Tweed Suits at \$3.50. All sizes from 8 to 15 years. Plenty of large sizes. Norfolk and double-breasted styles. Just as nice as if you paid a couple of dollars more. Special..... \$3.50

Special in Corded Vesting
100 yards New Corded Vesting, medium heavy weight for waists and suits. Nice checks, stripes and spots on white grounds. Warranted fast colors. 30 inches wide, at per yard..... 15c
40-inch White Madapolam for underwear. Usual 12 1/2c and 15c qualities. Saturday, a yard..... 9c

Dressing Sacques
3 dozen only Ladies' Percal Dressing Sacques, in neat patterns and washable colors; fitting backs and shawl collars. Special..... 75c

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Go into any of the big offices. Pick out a hundred men. Separate the shabby from the well dressed. And you'll find the unreliable men, the careless men, the men-at-the-bottom, are the shabby men.

Shabby clothes seem to breed a shabby mind, just as bad thoughts breed bad habits.

It's the clothes we wear every day, that influence our lives, just as it is the things we do every day that make us what we are.

A frock coat and an hour in church on Sunday, won't equalize six days of shabbiness and dishonesty.

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