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Managing Editor and Publisher
With an Advisory Editorial
Committee of Literary
Men and Women

The Twentieth Century Spectator of Britain's Farthest West
For Community Service—Social, Educational, Literary and Religious; but Independent of Party, Sect or Faction
"BE BRITISH" COLUMBIANS!

VOL. XXIII.

NOVEMBER, 1924

No. 4

EDITORIAL NOTES

DISARMAMENT; AND THE RIGHT ATTITUDE OF THE BRITISH NAVY IN RELATION THERETO: These words would make a fitting subtitle for a portion of an address this month before Vancouver Canadian Club by Hon. Walter M. Marks, M.P. of Melbourne, Australia; and the other parts of his speech merited titles equally arresting. Mr. Marks spoke on the day we were closing the literary matter of this issue for the press, otherwise we should probably seek to call our readers' attention to his address not by notes, but by a verbatim report of it. In the light of the Imperial and International topics touched upon by this Australian statesman, many other matters become minor, and, whatever the local press may do, we believe we cannot do better than give the limited space at our disposal to reminding our readers of his review.

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AT ANOTHER DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE the British Empire representatives should advocate that the strength of the navies of the nations of the world be estimated and allocated according to the size of the area of the countries or dominions to be protected. That, in brief, was the idea expounded by Mr. Marks, and it only needs to be stated to commend itself as reasonable. To have or apply a "one-power standard" or a "two-power standard" with regard only to the size of ships, etc., and without taking into consideration the widely-scattered dominions of any nation or empire, is obviously an unfair method.

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WHAT IS CANADA AS A DOMINION OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE. TO CONTRIBUTE PRACTICALLY TO THE NAVY? That is perhaps the matter next in importance brought to the front indirectly by the address of this Imperialist. Of course he did not himself ask any such question: he did much better than that. He told what Australia had done and was doing towards strengthening the Empire's navy. We congratulate Australia as a nation of our British Commonwealth, and as the new chairman of Vancouver Canadian Club (Mr. W. J. Baird) expressed it, we trust that Canada too will, in her own time and way, do her duty in this really great matter. Meantime, "no matter whatsoever 'King' may reign" in Ottawa, we would join in commending the subject to the undelayed consideration of the government there. Unlike the ancient Romans, the Britons of the Empire are attracted by no slogan of destruction, but, in order that World Peace may be the better assured, we may well circulate throughout all British Dominions, and in all friendliness elsewhere, THE NAVY'S STRENGTH MUST BE MAINTAINED!

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THE FRANKNESS OF MR. MARKS, even regarding a comparison disadvantageous to his own country, was one of the things that enhanced the value of

his views. In referring to the attractions of Australia and Canada, respectively, so far as the population of the British Isles was concerned, he mentioned Canada's proximity to the Homelands as being much in Canada's favour, and said that Australia would need to offer immigrants conditions fifty per cent. better than Canada offered in order to counteract the advantage of the Dominion's position. Incidentally he suggested that Canada's "winters" were a handicap to us; but perhaps his information in that connection was not up to date, so far at least as the conditions on the Pacific coastland of Canada are concerned. When these are more widely known, and the whole of Canada more fully populated and developed, we venture to believe—as we are expressing it in connection with enterprise affecting the work of this magazine—that British Columbia will become CANADA'S FRONT DOOR! That is not the prejudiced idea of a "native son," but the reasoned opinion and settled conviction of a Briton-born, and Britain-born Canadian who has seen Eastern Canada, and had some experience of prairie conditions before making the acquaintance of British Columbia. While readily admitting that such cities as Montreal, Toronto and other established Eastern centres have got a big start, we are confident that these in some measure, as the prairie provinces in full measure, will ultimately rejoice in that they can be reckoned part of the "hinterland" of the Province of British Columbia with its "Perennial Ports" of Victoria and Vancouver!

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THE MISCONCEPTION THAT "CANADA'S COLD WINTERS" apply to the whole of the Dominion is so difficult to overtake that we remind BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY readers of the need for doing their bit to counteract that idea and circulate correct reports concerning this part of our British Empire Homeland. The facts can be ascertained regarding each province of the Dominion, but we should be alert to let our kindred elsewhere in the Empire know that at the coast-

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