The Quiet Observer

LIMITING NAVAL CONSTRUCTION.

Senator Borah proposed a fifty per cent. reduction in naval armament in the full conviction that Great Britain was a great hulking tyrant whose sole desire was to dominate the world and reduce all other nations to vassalage, in short a sort of international Pecksniff whose word is not for a moment to be accepted, and behind all whose actions an ulterior motive is to be suspected. Commander Bellairs, M.P., an English naval authority welcomes the proposal and declares it has the support of the people who believe it is madness for the powers to re-engage in a race for the supremacy of the seas. If Britain had made the proposal she would probably have been misunderstood as she was by Germany when she made the proposal before the war. Germany thought that Britain could do no more having exhausted herself. Germany was unable to believe in good faith because she had it not herself, and so she refused to limit her navy. It has been severely limited since. There is no question of the ability of the United States to build or not to build ships as she pleases, so there can be no question of her good faith if she proposes restriction. Britain will agree and so will Japan unless all signs fail, and these are the only nations that count. The question is will the United States make the proposal? Senator Borah's challenge may prove to be only a bluff after all, but let us see whether the challenge be made after all. The tremendous leakage in natural resources, national revenue, national labor as the result of excessive annual naval construction, if stopped would mean an immense relief to the overburdened nations.

BANKERS TAKE A HAND.

When the business of the country depends on credit already extended on the strength of prospective gains through production, it is obviously necessary and to the advantage of the country that the anticipated production should be realized, and the credit in this way established. Canada is in a fortunate position in this respect, and can afford to contemplate the situation of others with some degree of equanimity. Europe is the centre of depression, and it affects Canada indirectly through our exchange, though no one seems altogether clear on the subject. Canada is in the best position of any country on earth, no even excepting the United States, but on account of our banking relations with New York exchange is against us. This is nominally because we buy so much from the United States, which is a strange reversal of wholesale practice. It has been suggested that if we had our own National Bank that the exchange situation would be different, but this is more than problematical in the minds of those who are most experienced and rank as experts. The situation in Europe is perhaps more difficult, and even more hopeless in the opinion of many than two years ago. Here again the bankers are the determining factor. At the recent conference at Brussels the international banking representatives served notice that unless Germany was given practicable terms the proposed international reparations loan would not be taken up by the bankers. So far as the bankers are concerned the war is over, and they are not willing to continue it for the hostile purposes of any nation. They want peace, because peace is essential to commerce, and without commerce there is no banking of a profitable nature. It would almost appear that banking policy is dictated like the railway systems that charge all the traffic can bear. Germany is tenderly treated because she needs it and would not survive rough handling; while Canada, which is well off has to pay up in exchange. But this is not how it is explained by those who decide the financial fortunes of the world. They simply say that if you buy more than you sell you must pay for the privilige, but if you sell more than you buy, the other fellow has to pay. So we return to the fundamental necessity of producing goods for sale. The man who does not produce or contribute to production, is a national enemy.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS LEAGUING.

In the developing organization of the League of Nations there is evidence of a vitality which confutes the view that has been taken by the Republican party in the United States and by some others of its futility. It is evident that the powers are taking the League seriously, and the more seriously they take it the stronger it will become. One evidence of this was the violent opposition of France to the entry of Germany into the League. If the League were not a powerful agency it would be of minor importance who belonged to it. Austria was given a unanimous vote for admittance. China also achieved an influential position in the League by having her delegate, Dr. Wellington Koo accorded one of the four non-permanent seats on the council. The four chosen for the first period for purposes of organization were the representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Spain and Greece. Spain, Brazil and Belgium have now been regularly elected at this meeting and the contest for fourth place was won by China, defeating Roumania, Sweden, Czecho-Slovakia, Portugal, Switzerland, Serbia and Greece. China adroitly gained favor by suppressing the anticipated protest against the accupation of Shantung by Japan. While the representative of Japan holds his seat permanently his vote is no better than that of Dr. Koo who holds his seat by election. There is really much less likelihood of disturbances arising from the Japanese or Chinese than from any of the European nations In this respect the League will be of service in ventilating and clarifying the issues. Another important responsibility was recognized by the League in assuming control of the opium traffic and in connection with the "white slave" commerce. There is little disagreement on these humanitarian questions, but co-operation on these tends to bring harmony in dealing with more special and private issues.

Facts About Canada

When the great French general, Montcalm, came to Canada in 1756 he found that much of his strength in the new colony depended upon the Indians. He was forced to have a great deal of negotiating with the braves but for them he had very little respect or regard.

"They are villians messieurs," he wrote to a friend in France, "even when they are just from their toilets. You would not believe it but the men always carry to war along with their tomahawk and musket and knives, a mirror by which to see how to daub their faces with various bright hued paints and to arrange the feathers in their coal black hair and the rings in their ears and noses. They think it a mark of great beauty to cut the lobe of the ear and stretch it until it reached the top of their shoulder. Often they wear a laced coat of fancy skins but there will be no shirt beneath it at all. You would take the braves for so many devils."

"One needs the patience of Job to get along with the bunch," wailed the great Montcalm. "Ever since I have been here it has been nothing but visits, harangues and deputations from these wild gentry. The ladies who always take part in their councils, come too, and bring belts of wampus. This will oblige me to go to their village and make a ceremonial call. They make war with astonishing cruelty, sparing neither men, women nor children, and taking off your scalp very neatly—an operation which almost results in death."

These excerpts from a letter of the ill-fated commander shows the troubles he faced as he attempted to drive the English out of America with his French troops and their Indian allies.

TENANTS TO OWN HOMES.

Tenant farms have never had as good opportunities to buy and pay for homes as they have today. It is true t hat farm products are not bringing what they should bring when we consider what laborers are receiving and what the consumers are paying. But it is a fact that the country is on a cash basis and that farmers who produce the things that the people must have are selling them at better prices than ever before and that marketing conditions are not as bad as they have been in the past.

Many land owners are tired of hiring hands and paying unreasonable prices with little hopes of getting enough returns to compensate them for their labor and investments. There are many farmers who would be glad to sell a portion of their farms to industrious tenants and give them ample time and a good opportunity to pay.

Home-owning is the hope of the nation. Those who own their homes and improve them have a great opportunity to serve society and may enjoy life on the farm to a much fuller degree than if they must rent and submit to poor buildings and undesirable surroundings.

The History of Your Name

HEWITT.

VARIATION—Hewlet.
RACIAL ORIGIN—Norman French.
SOURCE—A given name.

The family names of Hughes, Hewson and Hughson, which have been derived from the given name of Hugh, already have been discussed. But there are two family names which come from this same given name through certain of its variations. They are Hewett and Hawlet.

The given name of Hugh was, of course, far more common in the middle ages than it is today; not so much among the Saxon English, who got it only from the Normans, as among the Normans themselves and the peoples of the continent. The influence of religion in those days was very strong. Christian names were then truly "Christian." That is to say, they were names made famous by saints or martyrs of the church, and were given by parents to their offspring in a conscious religious spirit.

Among those who contributed to popularizing the name of Hugh was an abbott of Cluny by that name, whose date is given as 1109 A. D., and who later was canonized. A Vaint Hugh also was bishop of Glenable in the same century, and about the middle of the next century, according to popular fable, there was an infant martyr of this name, alleged to have been crucified by the Jews of Lincoln.

"Huet" was a diminutive variation of this name of Hugh which was widespread among the Normans, and it has come down to us as a family name formed from it in the regular manner, which has been described many times in these articles.

Another variation of the Normans was "Huelot," which with certain changes of spelling but very little variation in pronunciation has become the modern family name of Hewlett.

HE'D BETTER LEND A HAND

FOOLISH FRANCESCA

By Olive Wadsley

In Her Hour of Need.

The house was ringing with cheers, with clapping, with cries of praise as he pushed his way to the stairs.

Mme. Kain, tears of joy running openly down her face, was screaming her gladness to people have a dozen rows away. Descartes, the critics on The Temps, was describing Frankie's voice as "heaven sent—magnetic, divine music." Her future was made; she had become a great singer from the moment she had recovered herself in the first song.

Leon was at the gangway at last. He thrust a way for himself to the door of the orchestra, opened it, and dropped below. He swung across the room, disregarding the cries of the musicians, and found the dressing room corridor.

A pretty girl, still in her Spanish dress, told him Frankie's number.

The door was open; he hesitated, and as he did so a man's voice reached him.

"So you have not forgotten, either, Frankie?"

The man spoke in English, and Savinge knew the voice to be cultured; the blood flooded his face, making his temples drum and beat. For the life of him he could not go away.

"Forgotten?" Frankie answered. "You were much too impressive to be easily forgotten, Captain Wynton."

The man laughed in a satisfied way.

"And you have forgiven my apparent neglect?"

Frankie laughed then.

"Own that until tonight you had forgotten my very existence, Captain Wynton?"

Her voice sounded bitter and yet amused.

"I say, don't keep up the Captain Wynton, and don't be so cruel. I swear I hadn't forgotten you. Why, I can tell you nearly all you said on that voyage home!"

"A poor little, draggle-tailed hoyden, wasn't I?" Frankie answered. "All my clothes wrong, all my manners; a failure, in fact, all round—even in my poor efforts at affection."

Leon, moving noiselessly, looked into the room.

He recognized the immaculate, handsome man bending over the dressing table; he saw Frankie's white face and saw, too, her eyes with their strange look of veiled scorn even when she laughed.

Wynton lifted her hand suddenly to his lips.

"By Jove, you weren't enough a failure to make me able to forget you!" he said in a stifled voice.

Leon rose unsteadily twisting her hand free.

"Do you know why I let you come here tonight?" she asked.

Wynton smiled, one hand cupping his chin, the other thrust into his pocket.

"Shall I seem very conceited if I say I think I can guess, little girl?" he said.

"Tell me," Frankie insisted.

He pulled at his short mustache.

"Well—er—we were pals once—rather good pals, don's you think? And I suppose you were sweet enough to wish to renew our friendship."

"You think I asked you here to call you my friend?" Frankie said softly.

"I venture to hope so, anyway," Wynton smiled.

"Then I fear I must undeceive you," Frankie said in a clear voice. "I asked you here to tell you you are a cad."

""Pon my soul—" Wynton began angrily.

"No, you will not go out till I have finished what I wish to say," Frankie said. "The truth will no doubt be rather a queer thing for you to hear but I intend to inflict this strangeness on you for once in your life."

Wynton laughted angrily.

"I do not intend to stay here to be insulted by you—" He caught her thin wrists; she struggled against him to free herself.

Wynton was very conscious of her nearness; it dissipated his anger. "To punish you," he said breathlessly, "for being such a little spitfire, I shall kiss you until you plead my forgiveness."

He bent over and kissed her.

Leon moved uncontrollably, and over Wynton's shoulder Frankie's piteous eyes saw him.

"Help me," she said.

Far down the long corridor an oncoming wave of sound was audible. Mme. Kaine was coming with her frinds to congratulate Frankie. Savinge, his face a curious chalky color, nearly wrenched Wynton's neck off as he jerked him aside from Frankie.

"Let me go, you brute!" Wynton spluttered furiously. His collar had burst; his face was purple; he looked ugly and ridiculous. He seemed to dangle like a suffed doll in Savinge's tremendous grip.

"I'll fight you whenever you like," he gasped as the voice came nearer.

"It will not be necessary," Savinge said in a metallic voice.

Mme Kaine appeared in the doorway; behind her a laughing crowd waited.

"Mais—it is Captain Wynton, the nephew of Lord Correys," she said. "What—what—"

"In English we have another name for Captain Wynton; we call him a cad," Frankie said in her clear voice.

Savinge looked at her, into her eyes. He released Wynton.

"Adieu, mon ami," he said imperturably.

Wynton put up a shaking hand to his collar. In the huge mirror he saw five excellent reflections of himself; tears of rage and humiliation came into his eyes.

He staggered to the door.

"Cut along!" Savinge said in the tone of one speaking to a gutter boy.

The crowd, silenced now made a pathway. Wynton went down it; he reached the corner just as the shout of scornful laughter went up.

All Paris would know of this; it would never be forgotten. He crammed on his hat and overcoat, and had reached the door when a hand fell on his shoulder. He faced Savinge again.

"I am at your service, M. Wynton," he said coolly.

Wynton took his card with shaking fingers and tore it into fragments the next afternoon as he boarded an outward-bound ship at Marseilles.

Savinge went back slowly into the opera house. He stood, thinking, in the vast, empty place. An hour, half an hour ago, the way had seemed clear; his path had been chosen. And now?

With a sudden, swift lift of his head he went quickly forward. A supper was in progress on the stage behind the lowered curtain. One glance at it told him Frankie was not there. He went to her room again.

He knocked, and upon the answering "Entrez," went in.

Frankie was alone, and she was kneeling by the mirror, her face on her hands.

"Oh, Carissimi," she said, without looking up, "I'm so glad about the success—so glad that I'm crying! I know I'm idiotic, but I can't help it, darling. I was so afraid and—"

"Frankie," he said gently.

In a second stood erect on her feet.

With a dumb misery he noted that the look which had come into her eyes at his entrance was the same look she had had when Wynton kissed her—a look of pity and appeal.

"Don't be frightened," he said gently. "It's all right, Frankie; I've—I've sort of wakened up. You were right; I was a brute to you; I did think only of myself. I never even tried to realize what your life had been—what, in reality, you are like.

"I haven't any explanation to give; some of us are made that way. Once we love, it doesn't matter about the other person as long as they give way to us. But it's all right now. I've made up my mind. The marriage shall be broken off and set aside; it's easy enough. I'll do it all; no one will ever know, and you will be as free now as ever you were.

"I've only got to ask you forgiveness, and then I'll go right out of your life forever. But there's one thing you were wrong about; I do love you. You said I didn't; but I do. It wasn't the same love than as it is now; but now it's the real thing. I'm going; it's all right now, isn't it? You aren't frightened? Frankie"—he came nearer to her—"say it's all right—"

He looked at her, at the lips he had kissed, the hair which had ruffled up against his cheek when they had loved in the firelight, the little hands that had held his hands.

A wild temptation came to him to seize her and love her just once more, "Frankie," he said hoarsely.

Her eyes met his. He saw the color strain her face and throat; he would not take his eyes away.

"Don't" she whispered.

"Am I to go?" The words were hardly audible. He stared a t her lips, looking at them till his look was like a caress.

She put out her hands with a little helpless movement; her wedding ring still gleamed on her fingers.

He pointed to it.

"Why don't you tear it off?" he asked shakily.

There was the sound of steps in the corridor.

Leon turned to the door.

"Don't go," Frankie said. "Don't go—oh, my darling—"

(The End).

Watch For Our New Serial Story
"THE MAELSTROM"

By Frank Forest, late superintendent of the criminal investigation department of Scotland Yard, which commences next week. The story is dedicated to Wm. Allan Pinkerton and is one of the most gripping detective stories ever written.

It starts next week.

SUGGESTS LAND CLEARING WORK FOR UNEMPLOYED

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL SHOWS HOW PROFITABLE WORK COULD BE PROVIDED TO SOLVE VEXED PROBLEM.

One means of solving the problem of unemployment is for the governments of Canada to begin the long overdue task of preparing its bush lands for settlement in the clay belts of the North. Owing to summer frosts, farming of northern clay lands has largely been a waste of time and money. Only by clearing whole areas will this barrier to settlement ever be overcome. Farming under present conditions whereby each settler clears a small patch, is putting the cart before the horse, and is wholly unwarranted. At least 65 per cent. of each lot, in carefully selected townships, should be cleared by means of large gangs living in community camps. Herein lies one solution of unemployment, now stalking before us daily in the breadlines of the cities. Work could thus be provided, particularly in the fall and winter months as well as during special periods of unemployment. This policy of extended land-clearing, should not be simply an emergency measure, but should engage the attention of the federal and local governments the whole year round. Should any of the workers at these community camps wish to remain on some of the cleared lots, they could be sold to them on easy terms. For the next 20, 30, yes, and for 60 year, land-clearing in preparation for future settlement, should be an urgent and essential department of every government in the Dominion.

Industries Could Help.

The big industrial plants of the Dominion as well as the governments can assist in this great undertaking. Every large industry should apply for a whole township or more in the bush lands. Land clearing might be made a business department of many Canadian enterprises employing great numbers of workers. Instead of "laying-off" men when a pinch comes, they could establish large land-clearing camps and homestead by proxy. In this way an outlet would be provided for a considerable percentage of the able-bodied employees now turned into the streets. If as ably handled as other departments of the business, the land-clearing departments would undoubtedly prove renumerative. Lumber, ties, and pulp will always find a ready market in Canada as well as in the bordering States.

Farmers As Well.

The farmers too can take a very real part in this permanent policy for relieving unemployment. Let thousands of individual farmers apply for bush lots of 160 acres each in the clay lands. All applications should be localized in townships, most suitable for future settlement. At convenient centres in such townships the governments should provide comfortable and attractive community camps. Farm hands should be hired by the year. Instead of being turned adrift when the busy season is over, to congregate in the towns and cities, they could go north for a short period to help in clearing the bush lots of their employers. They would not of course be asked to live in shacks on the individual lots. They would reside at the nearest community camp, and share in all its social activities.

There need be no elaborate preparation for this work. Men in charge of a practical bush foreman, could be sent north at once with warm clothing, tents and small portable sawmills. A suitable site for a community camp could be selected in the centre of each township opened, and the necessary buildings erected. The work of felling trees, cutting ties, pjulpwood and other lumber could be started immediately.

Treat Men Well.

Because of existing conditions of settlement many men, even among the unemployed, are naturally loath to face the hardships involved. The writer is of the opinion that this prejudice can largely be overcome when the men are well clothed and housed in fully equipped community camps. Why spend so much on able bodied men in the cities, when an equal expenditure in well organized efforts would provide stimulating employment to many thousands in the healthier environment of the north. Well-fed men in comfortable community camps, not the bread lines of the cities is the solution.

Let Canada for all time abandon the foolish policy of homesteading her bush clay lands by individuals, working separately against unequal barriers. Rather let her undertake now a great permanent land clearing policy by using large gangs of unemployed men, living in community camps, supplied with every facility for education and entertainment—the movies not excepted.—Fred Fitzpatrick, Principal Frontier College.

BIG FAIR WILL BE HELD IN ENGLAND DURING FEBRUARY

BRITISH INDUSTRIES WILL PLACE GOODS ON EXHIBITION FOR BENEFIT OF OVERSEAS BUYERS.

Arrangements have now been completed for the reception of a record number of visitors to the British Industries Fair which opens on Feb. 21 in London and Birmingham, and on Feb. 28, at Glasgow.

The first British Industrial Fair was held in London in 1915 and the success which has attended the Fairs held since that date has satisfied the Department of Overseas Trade as to the correctness of the system of organization. The coming Fair, though vastly increased in size and comprising the largest number of exhibitors of British and Colonial manufacturers ever assembled in one trade fair, will be run on the lines which proved so successful in the past.

As only genuine trade buyers are invited, all who visit the Fair are known to be there for business and not for curiosity. Exhibitors are therefore able to give proper attention to the buyer and the buyer is able to do his business unhampered by crowds of sightseers.

Mr. Field Will Attend.

The services which are rendered to the invited buyer do not end with the mere bringing together under one roof of the chief British manufacturs. Every possible assistance is given to him in finding the particular articles he wishes to buy. The resources of the British Government are at his call. In the Fair buildings the Department of Overseas Trade opens fully staffed offices in order that buyers and exhibitors may obtain authentic information on all points of importance. Mr. F. W. Field, the British Government Trade Commissioner at Toronto, will be in attendance at the London Fair and will be pleased to meet and assist all visitors from the Dominion. Other officers of the Department will be available to answer inquiries as to tariffs in all parts of the world. A special staff gives information as to shipping and transport and other officials are prepared to advise as to the most likely source of supply, not only of the articles included in the Fair, but also of all Empire productions. Such assistance is of incalculable value.

The Department's help does not stop with advice and information. Material arrangements are made for the buyer's comfort and assistance at the Fair. Interpreters are provided for his use free of charge. Special writing rooms are set apart for his convenience, where he can carry on his correspondence. Special post offices deal with his letters and telegrams. Restaurants and tea rooms make it unnecessary for him to leave the Fair buildings to get his meals.

Books of Reference.

Visitors to the Fair also receive valuable assistance from the manner in which the catalogues of the Fair are produced. Instead of being mere lists of the names of the exhibitors, they are books of reference in which they can find in their own language a classified index of every article exhibited. Supplementary pages contain tables of English and foreign weights and measures compared; and the monies of all the principal countries are compared with their English equivalents.

The catalogues are not sold, but are handed gratis to all visitors to the Fair from overseas. Their contents, serving as they do, as books of reference for the year, and consulted regularly in all parts of the world, are edited with expert knowledge by selected officers of the Department of Overseas Trade and the local committees.

To Get Information.

Buyers from overseas who wish to visit the Fair should apply as early as possible to the nearest British Trade Commissioner at Montreal, Toronto or Winnipeg, from whom they will be able to secure full information. On their arrival in England it would be to their advantage to communicate at once with the Secretary, British Industries Fair, 35 Old Queen Street, London S. W., or, should the Fair have commenced, at the White City, Shepherd's Bush, London, W. 14.

Intending visitors will do well to secure hotel accommodation in advance, and Messrs. Thomas Cook & Sons with their world-wide, organization will provide every facility for doing this, whether the accommodation required is of the kind provided by the largest and most luxurious establishments, or of a quieter and more modest description. The variety is such that every taste can easily be provided for.

The Subjective Sex!

Though we are accustomed to regard the man dressmaker and the man milliner as forces to be reckoned with in the world of femine dress, we have yet to witness the dawn of the day that shall hail the advent of the lady-designer of men's fashions, says an English authoress. The reason for the anomaly is not far to seek. Woman being the subjective sex takes comparatively little interest in clothes except in so far as they immediately concern herself. Man being more objective in his point of view in interested in in clothes as clothes. As in dress, so in decoration. The woman furnishes with a view to prove a fitting accessory to her flow of soul. The man, on the other hand, believes in comfort first, and is altogether more objective in his views. If he selects an orange quilt, it will not because he looks on it as likely to prove effective against his hair or symbolic of his intensity of temperament; it will be because he happens to like the tone, or its warming capability.