

**"The 'Beadicea' and Destroyers might be placed on the Atlantic side, and the 'Bristol' cruisers divided between the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean.** The number of officers and men for this force of 11 ships would be 2,194, and the cost of the vessels suggested, including repairs and maintenance, interest and sinking fund on capital expenditure, and pay, &c., of personnel, at Canadian rates, would not, it was anticipated, exceed £600,000 a year.

**"Pending the completion of the new cruisers, which would be commenced as early as possible, an arrangement might be made for the loan by the Admiralty of two cruisers of the 'Apollo' class, so that the training of the new naval personnel might be proceeded with at once.** The vessels would be fitted up and maintained at the expense of Canada, and the officers and men provided by volunteers from the Royal Navy, but paid by the Canadian Government. They would be lent until they could be replaced from time to time by qualified Canadian officers and men. The Admiralty would be willing also to lend certain officers for organizing duties and for the instruction of seamen, stokers, &c.

**"Arrangements would be made to receive Canadian cadets at Osborne and Dartmouth."**

#### **Conference decides Australia to construct, man, and maintain a Fleet Unit.**

The report gives a summary of what was agreed upon as respects Australia and New Zealand. In a word, the agreement was that **Australia would undertake the construction, manning and maintenance of a Fleet unit, which was to form part of the Eastern Fleet,** to be composed of similar units of the Royal Navy, to be known as the China and East Indies units respectively; and as respects the Australian unit the **vessels were to be manned, as far as possible, by Australian officers and seamen.** In peace time, and while on the Australian station this Fleet unit was to be **under the exclusive control of the Commonwealth Government.** (See report page 57.)

#### **Conference decides New Zealand to Contribute in Payment for Defence.**

Sir Joseph Ward speaking for New Zealand said, "I favour one great Imperial Navy with all the overseas Dominions contributing either in ships or money, and with Naval stations at the self-governing Dominions supplied with ships by and under the control of the Admiralty. I however, realize the difficulties, and recognize that Australia and Canada in this important matter are doing that which their respective governments consider to be best. (See report page 59) And elsewhere, "I fully realize that the creation of specific units, one in the East; one in Australia, and, if possible, one in Canada, would be a great improvement upon the existing condition of affairs." The arrangement come to was that **New Zealand would contribute a Dreadnought, which was to**