

the opinion that the time was not far distant when Canada would have to undertake the defence of the North Pacific and North Atlantic, New Zealand and Australia safeguarding the South Pacific, while India must eventually take a substantial share in the naval defence of the East.

"Such a scheme, he said, would leave England free to concentrate in the North Sea, and a large proportion of the trade routes.

"Sir George thought that the Australian policy of having its own navy, operating in conjunction with the British fleet, was an example that must eventually be followed by all self-governing Dominions."

The same despatch has the following in reference to Sir Joseph Ward, former Premier of New Zealand, "Sir Joseph Ward said he agreed with Sir George that it was impossible that any self-governing Dominion would consent to return to the old system of government under central authority."

The Canadian Associated Press Cable dated London March 14th, has the following with reference to a speech made by the New Zealand Defence Minister in which the latter has made it plain that New Zealand would not long continue her present system of contribution. The speech is as follows:

"Speaking at a meeting of the Empire Parliamentary Association yesterday, Hon. Col. Allen, New Zealand's Minister of Defence, said that the payment of a naval subsidy would not, in the long run, appeal to the Dominion sentiment of patriotism. A permanent policy was needed, but this could hardly be said to exist under the Canadian (i.e. Borden) or New Zealand scheme. He, of course, valued to the fullest extent the steps taken by New Zealand and Canada, but they needed a permanent policy and one which would endure. What they wanted was a living thing in which the dominions would have a vital interest.

"It did not matter so much for the moment where Dreadnoughts were built; that could be arranged as conditions developed in the future. What did matter was that it should be realized that the dominions would not be content with merely putting their hands in their pockets. (Hear, hear.)

"The Imperial Navy must be a living reality to them to which they contributed, not merely money, but men. There was more value in the lives of their men than in the life of a ship. The dominions must have the opportunity of doing their duty towards the personnel of the fleet and manning the Empire's ships at sea. They must be prepared to help, not only the imperial fleet with material, but they must have an interest in the operations of the fleet itself."

### The Real Question at Issue.

The question then before the people of Canada at this time is whether this country shall keep good faith in the matter of an