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 already been emphasized. (See chapter/on "Sir Wilfrid Laurier"). Borden was perhaps more energetic in this field than any of his predecessors, but this can partly be explained by the fact of the four-year World War, which raised special problems of imperial and international relations and threw the chief burden on the head of government and his Cabinet, acting very largely by Order-in-Council under the blanket enabling legislation of special war-time statutes. Between 1911 and 1914 Borden was primarily concerned with the question of Canada's share in imperial naval defence in the face of rising German naval armament. This involved, as in most other external matters, the question of status and form of imperial obligation, always a contentious subject in Canadian political thinking. It also involved the question of cooperation in Imperial Foreign policy, which was necessarily directed from London. Laurier had eschewed such responsibility in British policy; Borden, on the other hand, believed that cooperation in defence had as its corollary, collaboration or a "voice" in foreign policy. Towards this objective he worked throughout his period in the premiership with a great degree of success. But to gain this objective, it was not sufficient to maintain formal correspondence through the usual channel of the Governor General; it was necessary for the Prime Minister to maintain personal contact and consultation with the British leaders. This became more imperative after 1914, when Canada was ~~nationally become embroiled in the Anglo-German war,~~ committed to participation in the war with Germany