

and with the Admiralty? What career could a small naval force, with a few small ships, offer to a man of 40, who had spent a laborious youth in small craft and now was beyond the age for torpedo work? Or, to put it from the other point of view, does it not seem bad economy, bad management, to cut ourselves off from the co-operation of a service so magnificent, of an administration so superbly alert, enterprising and sound? Does it not seem of dubious wisdom to keep our men in a small and confined service when we can obtain for them participation in the careers offered by the Royal Navy?

It is evident from recent developments that our Australian fellow-subjects are feeling this difficulty keenly, and do not see quite how to overcome it. Unquestionably, it is most formidable. Perhaps I may, with great diffidence, make a suggestion.

My suggestion is that we make it our object to have our officers imbued with the Royal Navy tradition and with the alertness which characterizes the Admiralty of to-day. In other words, let us begin by having them educated in the Royal Navy. Let us induce the Admiralty to make room at Osborne for our naval cadets, and let the youngsters grow up in the atmosphere, absorb the points of view and habit of life, which are the inheritance from Drake, Howard, Blake, Shovel, Anson, Hawke, Hood, St. Vincent, Collingwood, and Nelson. Next, let us induce the Admiralty to bear these men on its lists, subject to a special arrangement whereby they may alternate between our own service and the Royal Navy. The Militia Department is working out a scheme not greatly dissimilar to this by arranging a system of exchanges; an essential feature of this is that when an officer has served for portions of his career in both services both Governments pay his pension in proportion. The naval system whereby all officers belong to the one corps, and whereby an officer's career is divided into successive "commissions" of two or three years each, lends itself to this sort of thing more easily than does the military system of regiments and messes. Our Canadian naval cadet after