

Services began to foster it.

There are now fifty fully organized corps in all parts of Canada with a membership of more than 7,500 boys between the ages of 15 and 17½. Thirty more corps are in the process of organization. By next June it is expected that membership will have grown to 10,000. By next summer it will be 15,000. Some of the Navy's best officers and ratings have received training in this organization. Cadet experience has shortened the time necessary to train Navy recruits. More than 4,000 former Sea Cadets have joined either the Navy or Merchant Marine since the outbreak of the war. His Majesty the King has recently consented to become Admiral of the Sea Cadets.

1907 - 1914

The Canadian Navy came into being in 1910, with the transfer of two antiquated cruisers from the Royal Navy. During the years after Confederation, the attitude of the newly-formed country toward the whole question of naval defence had been negative. Canada was concerned with other things - with building railroads across her great expanse of country, with opening up the prairies, developing her infant industries.

British sea-power was supreme. The British Navy protected the trade routes of the world, for most of the trade routes led to British Colonies.

At the Colonial Conference of 1907, the Canadian delegates would not consider either a Navy for Canada or Canadian contributions to the British Navy, in ships or in money.

But in ensuing years, when the great German shipbuilding program seemed to threaten British supremacy afloat, the Canadian people began to think of Naval defence. In March, 1909, a general resolution was moved in the Canadian House of Commons to approve an expenditure for a Canadian Naval Service, to co-operate closely