

men, personnel for the Pacific will be enlisted on a voluntary basis.

POST-WAR PLANS

In 1941 when the decision whether certain buildings to be erected in Canada should be of permanent or temporary construction had to be made, it became important to come to some decision as to the size of the post-war navy. In that year, the government took the view that the post-war navy should be, in round figures, 9,000 officers and men. That estimate has not been changed, although Hon. Angus L. Macdonald, while Minister of National Defence for Naval Services expressed his hope that the figure might be increased to 15,000.

ROYAL CANADIAN SEA CADET CORPS

Sea Cadets of Canada were organized in 1917. Up to 1941 the organization was supported by the Navy League of Canada, but at that date the Department of National Defence for Naval Services began to foster it. There are over 750 men serving as sea cadet officers in the various corps. Sea cadet camps are sponsored during the summer months.

At the end of October, 1944, there were 91 Canadian Sea Cadet corps, with a membership of 15,298; 14,342 cadets were ratings, and 956 were cadet officers. All the forces are attracting members of the sea cadet corps, but the naval services seem to be favored by these boys. Nearly 6,000 former sea cadets have joined the Royal Canadian Navy or the Merchant Navy. 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. His Majesty the King has consented to become Admiral of the Sea Cadets.

HISTORY, 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, opening up the prairies, developing 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 with the Imperial Navy. This resolution was passed.

Naval Service Bill

The Colonial Conference of 1907 had provided for a subsidiary defence conference. At the end of July, 1909, representatives of the English, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Governments met in London to discuss naval defence. In January of 1910 as a result of the conference a Naval Service Bill was introduced into the Canadian House of Commons under the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. This bill followed the lines of agreements reached at the Imperial Conference of 1909. Five cruisers and six destroyers were to be built, if possible in Canada, (otherwise in England) within six years, and divided between the two coasts. Personnel was to be partly permanent, partly reserve, but all enlistments were to be voluntary. A Naval College and a Naval Board were to be set up. The Canadian government would control its own navy, but might place it at the disposal of the British government in a