

our naval reserve. We have in the maritime provinces a large number of fishermen who go to sea during the summer months, manning our fleet and manning largely the Gloucester fishing fleet as well. These men are half mechanics, they live at home in the winter, they are handy with tools, they are the very finest class of men for the making of a naval reserve. But hon. gentlemen may say: Oh, you cannot get these men; you cannot pay them the wages. Well, for three months in the winter these men have no employment and during these three months we can take them on a cruise to Bermuda and train them so that in four years they will be thoroughly competent to take their positions on a warship. They are skilled now in seamanship, they are hardy and brave men, and all they need is technical training to fit them for duty on a man of war. Is not that better assistance to England should she ever come to a time of stress and emergency, than it would be for us now to hand over \$20,000,000, and as the resolution of my hon. friend (Mr. R. L. Borden) says: Let England do with the money what she pleases. Is it not better that we should provide first for the highest type of coast cruisers; next, that we should be training that large body of men to take their place in the fighting line; and third, that we should then be able to have one or two of the highest type of fighting vessels? I do not know but that the government are right in the policy they have adopted of not spending a large sum of money now in buying an Indomitable. It is fair to say that we should wait now until the highest class of warships is developed, and we can get the best; because when Canada purchases a war vessel, she must have the very best afloat. If a Dreadnought or super-Dreadnought of 25,000 tons, or a capital cruiser with a speed of over thirty knots, is going to be the highest type, that is the vessel we want for Canada, and the vessel we will get. We hope this great war will never occur, but if it is to come off, we must be prepared. We shall have the men trained and cruisers of the best type. Surely that would be more effective aid for England in a great struggle than to give a certain sum of money and then lie back on our oars and wait for an emergency to arise in the future. Surely that is not the stand which gentlemen with love for Canada and loyalty for the mother country should take. It is a cowardly thing for us to expect Englishmen to do our fighting. It would be like Canada saying to England at the time of the South African war: 'Here is \$50,000,000; go and do the fighting for us.' Sending out our own men was the effective way of showing England that we were in earnest, and that our assistance

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was to the point. Some of the naval men of England absolutely believe that we could not furnish men to man or equip a battleship, no matter what training they received. That is the same old story that General Hutton put forth when he was here. I heard him say at a dinner in the city of St. John, in June, before the South African war broke out, that it was absurd to suggest that Canadians could go to South Africa and assist in that war. 'They have not had the training or the discipline,' he said. 'Why, it takes from three to five years to give the necessary discipline to a man before putting him in the fighting line. All Canada could do would be to send out these small contingents to guard the base of supplies.' The then Chief Justice of New Brunswick, Chief Justice Tuck, rose at the table and said to General Hutton, 'You do not know what you are talking about; our men will go to South Africa, they will be in the fighting line and will be among the best fighting men there, and more to the same effect; and any one who knows Chief Justice Tuck, knows how forcible he would be. He was so forcible that General Hutton felt insulted. That was the opinion of the English military men of that time, and I have no doubt the naval men of England have a similar opinion to-day. England does not want our money; it would be a mere drop in the bucket if she had it. What she wants is trained men, and that is what we propose to give her.

Now, I have heard hon. gentlemen talk of what they call our tin pot navy. What do these gentlemen mean when they talk in that way? There is one thing sure: they have never made any reflection, nor could they make any reflection, on the men whom we propose to put on board those ships. There is not a man of position but will say that the men we propose to put on board those ships will be the best fighting material England has. In the course of a few years, not only will they be efficient, but Canada, will be proud to be represented by them in the event of trouble. Let us see what ships we propose to have. There is the Bristol, which is a new type. There is no Bristol yet in commission; but it is expected to be in commission next July. The matter of its equipment has been kept very secret; but we do know from the Navy League Annual, that she has a draft of 15 feet, turbine engines of 22,000 horse-power, that she can steam from 25 to 27 knots, that she will be armed by two six-inch quick firing guns, and ten four-inch quick firing guns. The Bristol was launched in 1909 and is to be completed in 1910. Four more of this type were ordered in November last, and are to be delivered in July and August, 1911. Of the Boadicea type four vessels are built—the Boadicea, the Bellona,