

should have a 4.7 or 6 inch Q. F. gun. This gun should be so located as to defend the entrance of some harbor, so as to be of practical value in time of need. It should be housed so that men could drill at it in cold weather. All its appointments should be the same as on shipboard. Each station should also be supplied with a few machine guns; also rifles, cutlasses, and a drill shed, with a competent staff of instructors. The force should be commanded by officers from the Royal Navy on the retired lists. These appointments should not be permanent, but should be changed every two or three years to ensure a proper standard of technical qualification being maintained. To commence with, a certain number of gunboats, of a size allowable under the agreement with the United States for the upper lakes, should be provided, so that each summer a certain number of men should have an opportunity of target practice and of obtaining an extra degree of efficiency, for which a premium should be paid. The reserve should consist of two classes. Upon enrollment a man to belong to the first class, in which he should remain for a period of five years, putting in at least two months' steady drill each winter under pay. In this way a certain number of our fishermen would find remunerative employment at a season of the year when they are unable to follow their usual avocation. Every year a number equal to one-fifth of the whole force should after the completion of five years' service go into the second class for another period of five years, doing a limited amount of drill each winter. Both classes should be liable to be called out in case of war. Upon declaration of war the entire force should be placed under the direct control of the British Admiralty.

Time and space forbid my going into any more details, but I have endeavored to sketch in outline an organization for naval defence, which I believe to be suited to our requirements.

Another subject which should engage public attention is the establishment of suitable training ships for boys, so that Canadian youths may be facilitated in acquiring an early training, which will make them fit either for the Royal Navy as seamen or for service in the mercantile marine in a similar capacity. It has often occurred to me, and I am sure to all those who have thought upon the subject, that there is a want of some tie of a personal nature, which will make for the unity of the empire. I cannot conceive a stronger bond of union than would result from Canadians entering both the British Navy and Army as sailors and soldiers. The fact of Canadian parents having their sons serving as blue jackets all over the world in British men-of-war, would give the whole people such a personal interest in the British Navy as would go very far in cementing the empire. I do not think too much stress can possibly be laid upon this point.

Shortly after the establishment of the Toronto branch, I communicated with the Secretary of the League in London, requesting him to furnish me with full particulars, so that I might be in a position to answer the inquiries which are from time to time addressed to me by parents, as to what they are to do in order to get their boys into the Navy. In response to my request, the Secretary of the League in London, has, in conjunction with the Colonial Committee, been at very great pains to procure and formulate information upon this head. These gentlemen have also communicated with the Admiralty, and as a consequence of their representations the Admiralty have issued a circular dated April, 1895, entitled, "Pay, Position, and Prospects of Seamen and Boys of the Royal Navy." This circular presents in a condensed form, the conditions, etc., which have to be complied with by those who wish to enter the Royal Navy as boys, and