

'Niobe' will be? I think she is to come out this summer.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The 'Niobe' will be located in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and will do duty as a training ship, but I do not know yet where her headquarters will be.

Mr. DANIEL. In view of what I have learned as to her coal consumption, I think it would be a good plan to have her headquarters at Sydney, or where a coal mine is available. I understand that her consumption of coal is from 15 to 17 tons an hour. Of course, that means a very large consumption of coal, and I think Sydney will perhaps be a better place than the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I am happy to say to my hon. friend that his information is altogether wrong.

Mr. DANIEL. In reply to the statement of the Prime Minister I may say that I obtained it from the 'Naval Annual,' one of the publications that I can find in the library at any time, and I will take the opportunity of getting the book and reading it to parliament so that the right hon. gentleman will be able to know the authority from which I quote. I can give the authority to the Prime Minister.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Very well, and I will give mine at the same time to my hon. friend.

Mr. BLAIN. I hope the government will not lose sight of an important question that the right hon. gentleman's friends spoke about when the Bill was up for discussion on a previous occasion; that is, that the enormous amount of money that will go out of the treasury of Canada shall be expended within the limits of Canada, using our own raw material and paying this money to our own Canadian workmen. The right hon. the Prime Minister, speaking this afternoon, has not been very encouraging upon that line. We could gather from his remarks that it is quite possible indeed that in the construction of the navy this money might be expended in another country. He has stated that tenders will be asked for, and that when the tenders are received consideration will be given to them and a decision will be arrived at by the government. That is all very well, but I may say that the people of Canada will be altogether disappointed if the government do not arrange their policy of construction that the raw material and labour shall be found in this country and the wages paid to our own Canadian people.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. BLAIN. I am glad to hear supporters of the right hon. gentleman call out 'hear, hear' to that, because it is certain-

Mr. DANIEL.

ly one of the points that the Canadian people are considering at this moment, and for myself I am free to say that if the impression had not gone out to the people of Canada that such a policy would be pursued the people would be denouncing the government in stronger terms than they are for attempting to construct a Canadian navy. I am an ardent supporter of home industry, and I hope the right hon. gentleman and the government will consider carefully before they attempt to give contracts for the construction of these vessels outside of Canada.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I am delighted with the progress that the idea of the navy is making. I am delighted to see that my hon. friend from Peel (Mr. Blain) is getting better light. I can assure him that we shall do everything possible to meet the very sensible views that he has presented this afternoon.

Mr. HUGHES. Would we not have a larger share of the work of construction if we were to make our navy a part of the imperial navy than we will have if we build a separate navy?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether or not any conclusion has been come to with regard to the construction of these vessels. Has the government done anything at all except to purchase the 'Niobe' and to negotiate for the 'Rainbow'?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. There have been some negotiations that have not been official, and in that way we have received some suggestions and offers upon this subject, but there is nothing official, and nothing has been done.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Do the government propose to advertise for tenders?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes, that is our view.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. When will that be done?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Probably after we have prorogued, and when we have had time to breathe a little.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Are negotiations under way with any of the dock yard companies?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. No.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Has the 'Rainbow' been purchased?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. It has been understood that the 'Rainbow' will be purchased as soon as the money is voted by this parliament. The negotiations are completed.