

THE POLICY OF THE NAVY LEAGUE OF CANADA

AS FORMULATED AND ADOPTED BY THE NAVY LEAGUE OF CANADA AT THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DOMINION COUNCIL HELD IN VICTORIA ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETEEN.

Whereas the British Empire, "A League of Free Nations," was made possible by the British Navy, has been developed under its protection, and enjoys unity and security through its power to resist and overcome enemy attack;

And whereas during the great war the unity so secured has proved of inestimable advantage to all the British Dominions;

And whereas uninterrupted freedom of intercourse between the various parts of the Empire is essential to the well-being and existence of the British Empire;

And whereas the time has now come when Canada should join the other British Dominions in relieving the overburdened British taxpayer of a portion of the immense obligation which he now carries, and should assume her full and fair share of the cost and responsibility of maintaining a united naval defence;

And whereas the naval policy of Canada, and its administration, should be determined on broad lines and in co-operation with Great Britain and the Overseas Dominions;

Be it resolved that the Navy League of Canada is in favour of a naval policy for Canada which will have regard to the needs of the whole British Empire, and in deciding upon such policy political exigencies should be disregarded and the opinion of the most eminent naval strategists alone considered;

And the fundamental idea shall be Empire Naval Defence, and that the Fleet units may be either acquired or built, and that the Dominions shall retain control of their ships, and that there shall be a complete standardization of personnel, ships and equipment, and that the whole shall be of the best, and that in times of war all the fleets shall be under one supreme command.