

supremacy on the high seas, but they think it necessary to disclaim any intention, however indirect, of putting pressure upon Canadian public opinion, or of seeking to influence the Dominion Parliament in a decision which clearly belongs solely to Canada."

Paragraph 8 has the following:—

"Anything which increases our margin in the newest ships diminishes the strain and augments our security and our chances of being left unmolested."

Paragraph 9 has the following:—

"The Admiralty are assured that His Majesty's Government will not hesitate to ask the House of Commons for whatever provisions the circumstances of each year require. But the aid which Canada could give at the present time is not to be measured only in ships or money. Any action on the part of Canada to increase the power and mobility of the Imperial Navy, and thus widen the margin of our common safety, would be recognized everywhere as a most significant witness to the united strength of the Empire, and to the renewed resolve of the Overseas Dominions to take their part in maintaining its integrity."

THE MORAL EFFECT ALREADY MET, THE QUESTION OF METHOD REMAINS.

The main purpose, the moral assistance which Canada might render, has already been met by the Opposition agreeing to the amount proposed by the Government, namely, a vote of \$35,000,000 toward naval construction; this is evidence sufficient of a united determination on the part of both political parties in the Canadian Parliament to incur a like expenditure on Naval defence with a view of assisting the Mother Country. *There can no longer be any doubt as to Canada assisting the Motherland.* This purpose, the only one to which the Home Government attaches any real importance, having been effected, *the question, so far as Canada is concerned, becomes now one of method only,* and this the Memorandum expressly states is "*a matter which clearly belongs solely to Canada*" and as to which the Memorandum itself expresses absolutely no preference.

It is, therefore, for the Parliament and people of Canada to decide whether the form to be taken shall be an immediate contribution of Dreadnoughts at a cost of \$35,000,000 as part of a permanent policy of contribution, or in addition to a permanent policy or a Canadian Naval Service in accordance with the unanimous resolution of the House of Commons of March, 1909. The Admiralty Memorandum, rightly understood, should serve a useful purpose in rendering possible a decision as to which course is the most likely to prove of greatest benefit.

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