

tion. Roughly speaking \$35,000,000 is almost sufficient to fully construct and equip two complete fleet units. At the Conference in London in June 1909, the Admiralty set forth a kind of fleet unit which it was prepared to advocate as the most suitable for coast defence and for co-operation with other units of the Royal Navy. The following is quoted from the Admiralty Memorandum presented to the Imperial Defence Conference 1909, and signed by the First Lord of the Admiralty.

"In the opinion of the Admiralty, a Dominion Government desirous of creating a navy should aim at forming a distinct Fleet unit; and the smallest unit is one which, while manageable in time of peace, is capable of being used in its component parts in time of war.

"The Fleet unit to be aimed at should, therefore, in the opinion of the Admiralty, consist at least of the following:

- 1 Armoured cruiser (new "Indomitable" class, which is of the "Dreadnought" type),
- 3 Unarmoured cruisers ("Bristol" class),
- 3 Destroyers,
- 3 Submarines.

with the necessary auxiliaries, such as depot and store ships, &c., which are not here specified.

"Such a Fleet unit would be capable of action not only in the defence of coasts, but also of the trade routes, and would be sufficiently powerful to deal with small hostile squadrons should such ever attempt to act in its waters.

"The estimated first cost of building and arming such a complete Fleet unit would be approximately £3,700,000 (\$18,019,000).

Mr. Borden's proposals intended to cause abandonment of Canadian Naval Service.

In view of the circumstance that the amount which Mr. Borden proposes shall be given as a first contribution is an amount almost equivalent to what would be sufficient to construct and equip a fleet unit on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, is there not apart from everything else the strongest reason for believing that **his proposal is to discontinue the Canadian Naval Service altogether.** The circumstance that both Mr. Borden and his followers during the course of the debate in advocating the proposed expenditure of \$35,000,000, have endeavoured to minimize the value of a Canadian Service, and to suggest every conceivable obstacle in the way of its development, indicates pretty clearly that **the present amount is but the first of a series of contributions** which the Dominion of Canada will be called upon to make to the British Admiralty because of having no Service for its own Coast defence, or for co-operation with other naval forces of the British Empire in time of need.

The talk of having a voice in foreign policy a mere subterfuge and a feature of the Nationalist Conservative Alliance.

Mr. Borden is saying that any Dominion undertaking to share upon a permanent basis in the sea defence of the Empire must have