

of the War Office for a military organization, when the House, I say, was in session, when we were here ready to speak on behalf of the people an order in council was passed which is quoted in these documents, absolutely approving of the military plans of the War Office, and directing that a telegram should be sent to London in those terms.

"Your despatch, Columbia, Mo., January 27.
My ministers fully accept the proposition and
forth to prepare a bill to be introduced at the
next session of the Legislature. The bill will
provide for the establishment of a board of
education, to be composed of three members,
one from each county, to be elected by the people.

[illegible][illegible]

"That this conference welcomes and cordially approves the expression of general principles embodied in the statement of the Secretary of State for War, and, without wishing to commit any of the governments represented, recognizes and affirms the need of developing for the service of the empire a general staff, selected from the forces of the empire as a whole, which shall study military science in all its branches, shall collect and disseminate to the various governments military information and intelligence, shall undertake the preparation of schemes of defence on a common principle, and, without in the least interfering in questions connected with command and administration, shall, at the request of the respective governments, advise as to the training, education, and war organization of the military forces of the Crown in every part of the empire."

This met with the approval of my hon. friend and the scheme which was passed provided that the general staff should simply collect intelligence to be distributed among the different nations of the empire and in no way provided that it should participate in the maelstrom of militarism in Europe.

I am not afraid of any invasion of Canada, at all events of eastern Canada; but I am not so sure that we can leave unguarded the province of British Columbia or the western shore of the Pacific ocean. I am not afraid of any danger of war between Great Britain and the United States. Their civilization is too much advanced to contemplate anything of the kind, and they have too many interests in common to warrant it. Each of those nations looks upon war as the enemy of civilization. But on the Pacific coast where we have for our neighbours Russia, Japan, and China, when we have in the case of Japan a vast humane seedling in the formation of a new civilization, it would be folly to let that long era of wars last longer than it is abundant in that quarter.

The present state of affairs in the Pacific is such that we cannot afford to neglect the west coast of North America. The British colonies are situated along the coast, and the United States are situated inland. The British colonies are situated along the coast, and the United States are situated inland. The British colonies are situated along the coast, and the United States are situated inland.

There are many which were a direct result of the formation of a new organization. These things were to be done. Read the communications of the paper proving the necessity of reorganization. They are as follows:

To sum up, the following seven points require attention at the present moment, in order to lay the foundation of an imperial general staff:

1. All the forces of the empire to be organized for war on the same general principles, especially as regards the system of command and staff duties. For this purpose the formation of the imperial general staff should be proceeded with as far as the present available means permit.

II. Uniformity to be ensured in the system of training officers for the general staff by arranging for:

(a) Uniformity in the system of educating regimental officers from whom selections for the staff colleges are made. This is to be secured by recognizing the Staff College at Camberley as the central school of military education for the empire, and by filling at the outset, to such extent as may be approved by the respective government of the overseas dominions, the most important instructional appointments by Camberley graduates.