

ing on to a still larger type. The Dreadnought type was 17,000 odd tons. We have come now to the super-Dreadnought type. After that we come to the Capital Cruiser type, an improvement on the Indomitable type. The 'Indomitable' is, as you know, a cruiser with great speed. She has lately made a record of twenty-nine knots. She can maintain a speed of twenty-seven knots. Three of that type have been built and the fourth, the Indefatigable, will be completed next February. The 'Lusitania' and 'Mauretania' were built with a speed of twenty-seven knots. They are capable of carrying 40,000 tons. In case of war these vessels, with the two Indomitables would be practically free from any danger of capture, and would be able to keep up ocean communication with England. We know that England, in case of war, will depend for her supplies on the colonies, or on Canada. Her position is something like that of a lighthouse, supplies must be taken to her. She has not at present supplies sufficient to keep the people there for more than three months. Therefore the lines of communication must be kept open. You will thus see the necessity of our furnishing the necessary naval protection, not only to ensure the safety of our commerce, but to keep open the line of communication with Great Britain in case of war.

Speaking of the German scare, I shall not discuss the recent German Naval Bill. It will be sufficient to refer to the Naval Bill of 1908. That provided for three battleship and one armoured cruiser to be laid down each year, and from 1912 to 1917 one battleship and one armoured cruiser, from 1908 to 1917, two protected cruisers and twelve destroyers each year. We know that in the event of a fight it is necessary that we should have at least as many as Germany, but England must have more Dreadnoughts than Germany. You can call it a scare, or you can call it what you like, but these are facts that have to be met, and there is the further fact that there is a strong feeling in Germany at the present time against England. People are assured, and I feel convinced of the fact, that when Germany feels she is strong enough to quarrel with England there will be one of the greatest wars that has ever been known. There is no use of blinding ourselves to these facts. There is no use of singing the Swan Song and saying that there is no danger. I hope there will be no danger. I believe that England, now being thoroughly aroused, will be able in this ship-building war to build the highest class of vessels faster than Germany can build them, and in greater number. We know from the German naval policy exactly what she is going to do and exactly what she will have by

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1917. As regards Germany building these vessels there can be no question about it. She has demonstrated her ability not only to turn them out according to her naval programme, but she will turn them out before the time specified. Therefore, it is fair to assume that her naval programme will be carried out by the time she states it will be. We cannot rely on the good nature of the Germans. Germany is a business nation; Germany is a warlike nation. Germany will be prepared like England to take any advantage she can. If England got into trouble Germany would be there to take advantage of it. Nothing could avail with Germany if she thought she could succeed in a war with England. The Emperor of Germany is acting now on the principles laid down by Frederick the Great. Frederick the Great laid down for the future guidance of the Emperors of Prussia this maxim:

Constant attentions must be paid to hiding as far as possible one's plans and ambitions. Secrecy is an indispensable virtue in politics as well as in the art of war.

If possible the powers of Europe should be made envious and be set against one another in order to give occasion for a coup when opportunity offers.

It is one of the first political principles to endeavour to become an ally of that one of one's neighbours who may become most dangerous to one's state. For that reason we have our back free as long as it lasts.

Reference has been made by some hon. gentleman who has spoken to the fact that Germany strikes with secrecy. She strikes when her victim is believed not to be ready, as witness Silesia, Denmark, Austria, France. The pretext may be a forged telegram as in 1870. The ambitions of the Kaiser are boundless. He seeks to dominate the continent as a first step to dominating the world. When hon. gentlemen speak of the peaceful intentions of Germany, let them remember what has taken place within the last four years. Thrice in four years has Germany threatened war, and in two of these instances she has achieved her aim. In 1905 she told France that the affairs of Morocco—a country in which she had only the vaguest interest—must be submitted to an international conference. Delcasse, the foreign minister, refused; finally he was forced to resign and France gave way. Later in the same year Great Britain's support enabled France to withstand Germany's threat in the Cabsablanca incident in Morocco. The latest instance of German aggression was the seizure of the two Turkish provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria without the consent of the signatory powers. Austria is in the Triple Alliance, and Italy is called the cork leg of the alliance. Austria will have to participate in case of war with Germany, and she is given this additional territory