

employed by His Majesty shall at all times be entitled to the use of the docks in priority to all other vessels.

In July it was announced that the Government intended to call for tenders for the construction of the ships of the naval programme, that is, four cruisers of the improved Bristol class and six torpedo boat destroyers of the improved River class, all to be constructed in Canada, if possible. Subsequently firms desiring to tender were informed of the conditions of the contract and in February 1911 those firms, British and Canadian, who were willing to accept the terms of the contract, were invited to tender, the tenders to be submitted on May 1 1911.

Tenders for  
naval construction.

On May 20 General Sir John French, Inspector General of the Imperial Forces, landed in Quebec for the purpose of inspecting the military forces of Canada. His report to the Minister of Militia and Defence, drawn up under 14 different headings, contained a variety of valuable recommendations for improvement of the military organisation of the Dominion. He stated also that judging from the excellent material and the fine spirit apparent in all ranks, and taking also into consideration the marked progress made within the past few years and the evident signs of its continuance, he was inclined to think that so long as the present condition of affairs on the North American continent remained as it was, the existing system, if strictly administered on a sound basis of peace organisation, should suffice to meet the needs of the Dominion.

Inspection of  
the Canadian  
military  
forces.

The Report of the Imperial Inspector General having been referred by the Minister of Militia and Defence to the Inspector General of the Canadian Militia, that officer (Major General Sir P. H. N. Lake) submitted on September 14 a report upon the best method of giving effect to Sir John French's recommendations with which he stated, he was, speaking generally, in complete accord.

General  
Lake's report  
thereon.

On the departure from Canada of Major-General Sir Percy H. N. Lake, K.C.M.G., C.B., after the expiration of his term of service as Inspector General of the Canadian Forces and Chief Military Adviser of the Canadian Government, the Minister of Militia and Defence, in a letter to the Governor General of November 5, drew attention to the special character and value of the services rendered since 1904 by Sir Percy Lake, and on behalf of the Canadian Government expressed high appreciation of his able, earnest and self-sacrificing services in the interest of the Canadian Militia. His Excellency, in a reply dated November 8, expressed most cordial agreement with what had been stated as to the excellence of Sir Percy Lake's work, and the correspondence was published under date of November 10 as General Order No. 157 in the Canada Gazette of November 19.

General Order  
expressing  
appreciation  
of services of  
Sir Percy  
Lake.