

IX.—REQUIREMENTS FOR SEA TRAINING, BOYS AND YOUTHS.

148. It is understood that consideration is being given to the accommodation required for the sea training of Boys and Youths on leaving the Harbour Establishments. It is evident that on the basis of the number of Boys entered during 1911-12 (viz., 3,512) the accommodation in the Fourth Cruiser Squadron, viz.:—

“ Leviathan ”	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300
“ Essex,” “ Berwick ” and “ Donegal ” (200 each)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600
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is inadequate.

149. Adherence to the present system of embarking drafts of Boys from the Harbour Training Establishments three times a year would necessitate provision being made for 1,200 to 1,400 boys in each draft for sea-training, a margin being allowed for the effect of fluctuations in recruiting. / cap

150. In order to avoid congestion in the Harbour Establishments due to the retention of Boys who, having completed their Harbour course, await embarkation for sea-training, and consequent delay in the output of Boys for sea service, it is important that the drafts should be embarked regularly and that the accommodation for sea training should be sufficient for all the Boys whose Harbour course is completed at the time of embarkation. In this connection, it is suggested that, if the present system is continued, consideration should be given to the depletion in the accommodation which would be caused by the withdrawal of one or more ships for refit.

151. As regards Youths, it is considered that in the event of their sea-training being carried out, as at present, in ships of the ~~Third Division of the Home Fleet~~, it may be necessary to utilise as many as ten ships at one time, each embarking about 60 Youths, the maximum number requiring accommodation for this purpose being estimated to be about 600. / Second Fleet