

dent, how would we reach them? Send down the gun-boat *Canada*? My hon. friend the Minister of Militia and Defence (Sir Frederick Borden), I am afraid, would have to turn out his "army" and go down there.

An hon. MEMBER. Send down the *Minnie M*.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. The *Minnie M*. would not reach that port. She goes only to ports where there is no danger.

Mr. FOSTER. She is in dry dock.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. What would be the condition of affairs in case Canada were independent? In the first place it would cost millions of dollars more than Canada would be entitled to pay as part of the British empire for many years, and we would find ourselves confronted with similar conditions to those now in Uruguay in other parts of the world. I would venture to say that within a short time after that question was asked the other day communication was had by my right hon. friend the leader of the government with the old mother country and that to-day a British man-of-war is sailing around Uruguay demanding of the ruler—I do not keep myself posted on those gentlemen; I do not know whether he is an emperor or a president, but whatever he may be, no doubt there is a man-of-war sailing around the shores of Uruguay demanding reparation for the Canadian boys who are imprisoned in that place. It is much cheaper for Canada to have the old motherland do it, to have the British taxpayer foot the bill, than to undertake the job for ourselves, and it is far safer.

More than that; they say that the

UNITED STATES WILL PROTECT US,

that she has assumed the sovereignty. Did any one ever know of the United States giving something for nothing? I never did, and if the United States were to look after our interests make no mistake about it, Canada would be called upon to pay for it very dearly. Furthermore, the spirit of Canadians is such that they will not be "protected" by the United States. A new country like this should be made up of a high spirited and independent people who would decline to be protected, who would be prepared to stand up for their interests without being under the protection of the United States on any occasion. In the acquisition of the two little naval stations at Halifax and Esquimalt merely paying the amount of \$2,000,000 a year for the maintenance of these positions, not paying for the building of the forts, nor for the placing of the guns, nor for any of the other works which have involved millions of dollars of expenditure Canada, one would imagine, is doing something magnanimous. If we had to construct these works, to provide guns and to construct battleships necessary to protect our commerce in all parts of the world, what would the cost be? I trust that the people will take this matter into their serious consideration, and I am satisfied that the most ardent advocate of independence to be found in the Dominion of Canada, if he examines the question calmly and dispassionately, will cast it into the waste paper basket of his political life and will stand shoulder to shoulder with the rest of us in the upbuilding with the old land. The lowest share that I can figure out, putting it as radically low as possible, that Canada would be called upon to pay for the next thirty years, were she independent, would be from \$60,000,000 to \$100,000,000 a year in order to place her on a par with the commonest second-class nation of the world. I have prepared here a table showing the shipping of 100 tons and upwards, Lloyd's register, 1904-5, giving the net tonnage, the cost of defence, the population and trade of each country. This information is collected from the best American and English returns:—

	Net tons.	Defence.	Population.	Trade.
Argentina	88,000	\$14,516,000	4,794,000	\$ 281,600,000
Australasia	454,000	4,442,000	4,740,000	874,000,000
Austria-Hungary	585,000	69,003,000	45,000,000	750,000,000
Brazil	163,000	38,879,000	14,000,000	800,000,000
Chili	108,000	8,685,000	3,050,000	112,000,000
Denmark	597,000	9,638,000	2,404,000	218,000,000
France	1,693,000	204,455,000	39,000,000	2,488,000,000
Germany	3,369,000	164,000,000	56,000,000	2,689,000,000
Greece	401,000	5,402,000	2,433,000	47,000,000
Italy	1,187,000	81,811,000	32,475,000	625,000,000
Mexico	23,000	5,713,000	13,604,000	118,000,000
Netherlands	687,000	16,176,000	5,263,000	1,513,000,000
Norway	1,717,000	5,298,000	2,239,000	125,000,000
Portugal	99,000	10,618,000	5,428,000	93,000,000
Roumania	19,000	8,328,000	5,912,000	129,000,000
Sweden	751,000	13,248,000	5,175,000	251,000,000
Canada	683,000	3,524,000	5,371,000	467,064,000
United States	3,849,000	360,000,000	80,000,000	2,500,000,000
Great Britain	15,391,000	314,000,000	42,000,000	4,700,000,000