

cost of the war and warfare to June 30th, 1904, would prove to be one thousand million dollars (\$1,000,000,000), was an underestimation. It very nearly reached the sum of ten hundred and forty million dollars (\$1,040,000,000). The end is not yet."

On page 22 of the same pamphlet he says:

"The excess of expenditure on war and warfare over 1882-9 during the eight years under Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt has been over \$1,500,000,000."

That is the excess of expenditure in these eight years alone. And this is the nation to which our anti-military friends would wish Canada to be annexed in order to avoid taxation for military and war purposes. If Canada were part and parcel of the United States to-day, her contribution for war and war purposes, instead of being the paltry sum of \$2,500,000, would, on the pro rata population, be upwards of \$30,000,000; that is the sum we would have had to pay last year if we were a part of the United States; and this year I believe the expenses are to run higher. When we consider the growing sentiment of the United States in favor of closer connection with the empire, I think we may fairly dismiss from our minds the idea of annexation to the United States finding any considerable foothold in the hearts of the people of this country.

Mr. RALPH SMITH. Who wants annexation? Where is the sentiment?

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. I am saying that the sentiment, which was strong and which is sometimes found in the hearts of certain persons, has no basis in reason, particularly on financial grounds. But that sentiment, whatever there was of it, has vanished, as well as the policy of the leaders of the hon. gentleman's own party in favor of continental free trade, commercial union and unrestricted reciprocity, the only result of which policy, if it had been carried out, would have been the annexation of this country to the United States.

INDEPENDENCE.

Another proposition that we sometimes hear is that of independence—and perhaps my hon. friend will say, Who wants independence? But I want to tell him that the signs of the times indicate that there are many who favor independence. In the first place, I may say that the configuration of Canada positively debars it from ever being an independent nation. I have no hesitation in saying that as between annexation on the one hand and the independence of Canada on the other, I, as a resident of the province of Ontario, would hold up both hands in favor of annexation to the United States in preference to Canadian independence. We have one community here on the east separated from a community in the far west, and there is no use disguising the fact that the region north of Lake Superior will never be thickly populated; in other words, Canada will be of a pismire shape, as Hon. Joseph Howe long ago pointed out, and ultimately the great west would throw in its lot with the people to the south, and the east would form a community by themselves. The great bond of union in Canada to-day is not the Canadian Pacific Railway, is not the new Transcontinental Railway, is not the fact that we have any great community of interest, so much as it is that

THE BRITISH FLAG

floats over the entire country from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean.

Militarism under *Canadian independence*—where would the gentlemen who stand in such mortal terror of militarism find themselves? We would either have to lie under the protection of the United States or we would have to protect ourselves.

Had we been part of the United States last year, had we paid per head the same as the people of the United States paid, the cost to this country, as I have already shown, would have been upwards of \$30,000,000 last year, instead of the \$2,500,000.

If we were independent, the necessary expenditures for building up a fleet and protecting our commerce—and Canada stands high in the commercial world—would be away up in the hundreds of millions; the necessary cost for defences on the sea coast would be away up in the hundreds of millions of dollars, and the necessary cost for the rifles that my right hon. friend says he wishes to see in the hands of every able-bodied man in the Dominion of Canada, would be away up in the fifty or sixty millions of dollars, not counting anything at all for any other incidental expenses in connection with it. Were Canada independent to-day, to place herself on a footing to be compared with any second class-nation in the world, she would have to go to an immediate expenditure away up in the

HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS.

With her immense frontier, with her shipping trade and her coast line, Canada would find herself confronted with all that expense; and, if so, what would we have and what would we be? I saw in *Hansard* the other day that one of the hon. members from the maritime provinces asked a question of the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Mr. Prefontaine) concerning some Canadian sailors who were

IMPRISONED IN URUGUAY,

and who had been lying in prison there for some time. Suppose Canada were indepen-