

Canada has a population of about 5,500,000, or perhaps 6,000,000, much more than the population of either Scotland or Ireland. The expenditure on the Imperial army and navy for the year 1898-99, in time of peace, amounted to £44,068,841, or about \$5.40 per head per annum for every soul in the British Isles. At that rate of expenditure, if Canada were an independent country, spending money to preserve her nationality and freedom, she would have to expend on defence about \$21,700,000 per annum.

The United States are paying for the same service now about \$433,000,000, or about \$5.50 per head per annum. This would be equal to about \$30,000,000 for us if we were a part of that republic.

#### Our Expenditure.

Our militia expenditure in 1899 was \$2,212,000, or about 40 cents per head per annum, while the cost for defence in all civilized countries varies from \$2 to \$5 per head or more. Then let us make another comparison. The total expenditure of the United Kingdom for the year 1898-99 amounted to £108,150,235, of which £44,068,000 were expended upon the army and navy. The same year the expenditure of the Dominion was \$41,903,500. If we had spent on defence in the same proportion to our revenue as our fellow-subjects in the mother country have done, we should have spent about \$16,000,000, instead of \$2,212,000.

The United States in 1899 expended a total of \$605,106,746. The amount expended on their army, navy, military pensions, etc., for that year amounted to over \$433,000,000, or more than two-thirds of the entire expenditure. Were we to expend in the same proportion from our revenue we should spend about \$28,000,000 per annum.

Take another comparison. The export trade of the United Kingdom amounted in value in 1899 to £329,000,000. Our export trade in 1899 amounted to \$158,896,905, just about one-tenth that of the United Kingdom. If we paid for the defence of our export trade in the same proportion as Great Britain, we should have to pay about \$21,000,000 per annum. The same comparison with the United States would show that our outlay would be still greater.

I have shown that in proportion to our population, our annual expenditure and our export trade we are spending about one-tenth of what other nations expend on defence. Now, can we in the colonies, with our great increase in wealth, population, resources and trade, fairly expect to be of all countries the only ones to escape paying

what is reasonable for preserving national life and freedom?

There can be no question that we should begin to consider most seriously our duty in this respect. The mother country is overwhelmed with burdens; every nation in the world is increasing year by year its power, offensive and defensive, and there is no community with assets so valuable, so worth defending and protecting and so liable to excite cupidity as the British Empire. No one can tell at what moment we may all be engaged in a struggle for our very existence as a people, and we should at once organize and combine our strength, so as to be able to make the most effective defence of our rights.

#### The Duty of Canada.

I have been asked to discuss the question of what we in Canada should do, and I shall make a few suggestions in a few words. In the first place we should increase our militia considerably. We have been spending on the force sums varying from about \$1,200,000 per annum to \$2,212,000 in 1899. A great portion of this money has been paid out for what might be called head-gear—that is, for staff, caretakers, storekeepers and officials of every kind. The machinery for looking after and managing the force is large enough to do the duty for double the number of militia we maintain. I believe an addition of 30 or 35 per cent. to the militia estimates to be spent in drill pay and clothing would cover the cost of doubling the strength of the active militia. It is poor economy not to have this done. A small percentage more would double the number of days' drill which should be devoted to careful instruction in rifle practice.

#### Defend Our Seaports.

Canada should also take upon her own shoulders the defence and maintenance of Halifax, Esquimaux and Quebec on a proper scale. St. John should be fortified, also Sydney, where our great iron interests are being inaugurated. Sydney should be strongly guarded as a most important coaling station. All this should be done thoroughly. We should maintain a mixed force of cavalry, artillery, infantry, engineers, army service corps, army medical corps, etc., all complete, and enrolled under conditions by which they could be promptly despatched wherever the common interests of our empire required their services, and be retained while the necessity lasted.

Arms, munitions and stores of all kinds should be gathered and constantly