

I was once asked, whether I could ever have a feeling of real affection for anyone or any country whose influence did not shine like a star. To such question there can be only one answer.

Why are we, each and all of us, so proud of being the loyal and devoted subjects of King Edward the Peacemaker? Not because the British Empire, of which the King is the incarnation, covers one-fifth of the land surface of the world, and includes one-fifth of the human race. It is not owing to the size of the Empire, or because we are each of us units in a group of over 400,000,000 beings; it is not because of any vulgar considerations of size and numbers that we are so proud of being Britons; it is because wherever the Union Jack flies, it stands for justice, honour, freedom, duty and disinterested service.

We love the British Empire, and are all proud of being a part of it, because it shines not only like a star, but like a sun over all the world.

Now, if it is the fact that we are proud of being citizens of an empire which shines like a star, the next question which I should like to address to you, the women of Montreal, is this: What part of the brightness of this Imperial Star emanates from Montreal? Is Montreal contributing to the national character, and to the influence of the Empire forces which justify every one of you in feeling proud that you are a citizen of Montreal? You know better than I do what is the answer to that question. I would venture to point out to you that it rests with you, the women of Montreal, to make your city an influence for righteousness throughout Canada, in the same way that the British Empire is an influence for righteousness throughout the world.

The opportunities possessed by Montreal for influencing the world are as great as its position is unique. It is the gateway through which an ever-increasing stream of human traffic will pass between the old world and the new, and between the old world and the orient. The difficulties in the way of providing adequate terminal facilities to meet the requirements of the