

often been used to justify a preference and to make it appear as a noble and unselfish action of devotion.

The world still has far to go to reach a real civilization, but the nearer it can come to it the more impossible will war become, and the greater will be the happiness of mankind. Let us imagine what would exist in a completely civilized world. Democracy would be universal, and with it would be universal education. Every people would be governed in units of the size desired by themselves. There would be no incentive to national extension or conquest, because there would be nothing to be gained by it.

The citizens of one nation where population was becoming unduly dense would be free to go to whatsoever other land they wished, there to find democracy and opportunity. With universal democracy there would be no

governmental advantage in colonies or subject territory; with universal free trade there would be no economic advantage in them. Equality of opportunity would create an aristocracy of ability regardless of race, creed or nationality. It would be a world where justice would be more nearly universal than ever before.

There is no nation in the world which yet approaches this ideal of civilization, of supernational civilization, but the evidence shows that Germany is farther from it than any other nation, with the possible exception of those which, like Turkey, are frankly barbarous and anachronistic. We come back again and again to the old thesis that the only thing which can lead to civilization is democracy, and that an autocracy, no matter how sedulously it may ape the appearance of civilization, lacks and must lack its fundamental requirements.

THE NEW EMPIRE

A few of the significances that belong to the Premiership and the Treasury in Britain being in Democratic Hands; and to the unique character of Kitchener's army.

BY ARTHUR HAWKES

IF the war changes things greatly for the Empire the change must first be felt where the preponderant power of the Empire resides. There will be a new Britain.

It would have been so whatever the cause for which the war was waged. But when the issue accepted for the English-speaking world is the freedom of men to govern themselves—the supremacy of the citizen over the soldier, the triumph of democracy, the ramifications of the changes that will follow begin to disclose themselves. Follow a little way the meaning of two facts of extraordinary importance—that Mr. Asquith is Prime Minister and Mr. Lloyd-George is Chancellor of the Exchequer. What does Mr. Asquith signify to democracy in administration? What does Mr. Lloyd-George

mean to democracy in finance?

Everybody knows that Mr. Asquith has been a Prime Minister of singular sagacity and strength, and that his Government has carried the most advanced legislation that has ever been put upon the statute book at Westminster. It has been said that he yielded to Redmond, the Irish firebrand, and Lloyd George the Radical firebrand, merely to hold on to office. There was little in the criticisms. The war has compelled even his enemies to confess that here is a statesman of the very greatest line—that Britain's name was never in safer keeping than in his.

He is strong because he sees, and knows. He is no mere time server of democracy. He is the great example of a superb intellectual driving power,