

and aspirations that command, or ought to command, the loyal devotion of those who share the privileges of citizenship. In these days of quick change, it might be worth while to emphasize in our schools (and for the benefit, too, of foreign immigrants) the points that differentiate the British Empire from those which we have now succeeded in bringing to the dust. Our Empire is a Commonwealth of Nations. It has never implied despotism, or militarism, or the subjugation of one race to another. It stands for an ordered freedom in all its parts. And the Crown is the golden link that holds those parts together. No President can be imagined who could fulfil that function of the British monarchy. It is our King who represents and symbolizes for all his people, both at home and abroad, the results of the beneficent evolution which through the process of the centuries has secured to British citizens everywhere the liberties they enjoy—liberties that are in no way inferior to those offered under the most democratic of republics. And all the world knows that Britons have as much reason as Belgians to be proud, on personal grounds, of the King who stands to-day at the head of the constitution—the coping-stone, as it were, of the whole imperial fabric.

THE
GERMAN
COLONIES

Though it does not figure among the conditions of the armistice, the question of the German colonies is reserved for the peace conference under one of President Wilson's famous fourteen points. There have been indications that the nature of the issue is not as fully appreciated in Canada as it is in the other British oversea Dominions. Britain claims to have entered the war for an entirely unselfish purpose—just like the United States, except that she stood nearer to the danger zone, and had an earlier perception of the danger: how then, it is asked, could she justify herself before the world if she were to come out of the war with any increase of territory? Let it be noted, to begin with, that what British representatives have said up to date is that the German colonies in Africa and the Pacific must on no account be returned to Germany: they have not