

have been allotted. To us it is a living question, if we wish to remain a great nation, to see to it that we obtain possessions of equal value side by side with the other Powers who have well-established colonies.

We can do this if we only show forethought at the right moment. The other nations will only grant us very meagre portions of their own free will. And why should they, indeed? Each country provides for itself. Only to the powerful does power accrue, and in this bid for power lies hidden a deep moral law. That nation which possesses the power of self-control to limit its daily pleasures in order to accumulate national sinews of war; which, to put it crudely, would rather drink a little less beer and smoke a few less cigars in order to procure more guns and ships, *that* nation at the same time acquires the right to assert its individuality and to bequeath the mental assets which it has won for itself in the course of centuries to its own people and to humanity.

There is no higher duty for the forthcoming generation than to see to it that the world be not partitioned between England and Russia only, but that Germany and France should also obtain their share and that among the great nations the little ones—when they possess culture-value—should be maintained. This without war if it is possible, but it is a possession that would not be too dearly bought by the shedding of much blood.

From this point we as a nation, may with confidence and hope look into the future, no matter how menacing the wild waves and dismal floods may appear in the present. A people that has won for itself on the one hand a strong national monarchy, on the other a State-citizenship through representation of the races—such a people can withstand all vicissitudes and will, moreover, certainly never again for any length of time be forced from its lawful path. We stand not at the end but at the beginning of a great development.