

**KING'S COLLEGE
LECTURES IN IMPERIAL
STUDIES. THE SPIRIT
OF THE ALLIED NATIONS**

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King's College lectures in imperial studies. The spirit of the allied nations by Sidney Low

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SIDNEY LOW

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THE SPIRIT OF THE
ALLIED NATIONS

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King's College Lectures in Imperial Studies

THE SPIRIT OF THE ALLIED NATIONS

EDITED, WITH AN INTRODUCTORY ESSAY,

BY

SIDNEY LOW

FRANCE By PAUL STUDER
RUSSIA By ALEXIS ALADIN
BELGIUM By PAUL HAMBLIUS
THE SERB By R. W. SETON-WATSON
JAPAN By J. H. LONGFORD
BRITISH EMPIRE By SIDNEY LOW

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THE SPIRIT OF THE ALLIED NATIONS

I

INTRODUCTION

BY SIDNEY LOW, M.A.

THE papers published in this volume are the work of a number of writers, each of whom views his subject from his own standpoint and expresses his individual opinion. But they are linked by a common design and a common purpose. They are associated with the war, though they deal neither with its events nor with its immediate causes. Behind the diplomacy, the politics, and the strategy, of the great conflict on land and sea there lie the elements of national culture, of national ideals, of national habits, of national character, and of the effects left by them all on the national history: in other words, of that impalpable,

2 THE SPIRIT OF THE ALLIES

but very real, force which we may call the national spirit. To consider in some manner this Spirit of the Allied Nations, in one or other of its manifestations in each case, is the aim of those who have contributed to the book.

In its origin it is associated with a new phase of educational activity which is taking shape in London. In June 1914 the Senate of the University appointed an "Imperial Studies Committee," formed of men of whom the majority had gained distinction as statesmen, jurists, administrators, historians, or academic teachers.¹ The functions of this committee are to advise the governing body of the University and its colleges on those branches of study and learning which deal with the constitutions, sociology, economics, and history, of empires and nations, particularly of the British Empire and its component nations, states, and territories.

When the war broke out, and normal academic activities were interrupted, it appeared to the committee that useful service might be done if public lectures were delivered by com-

¹ The President of the Committee is Lord Milner; and among its other members are Lord Bryce, Sir Charles Lucas, formerly Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Sumner, Sir Krishna Gupta and Sir Theodore Morison, members of the India Council, Sir John Macdonnell, Sir Charles Lyall, Dr. G. R. Parkin, Sir Harry Johnston, and Professor A. F. Pollard.