

THE GERMANS IN OUR MIDST

Mr. Asquith does not propose to confine his internment policy to unnaturalized aliens. Those naturalized will also be so treated "in cases of proved necessity and danger."

Our experience in Canada has gone to show that the fact that a man is naturalized should not prevent his being placed under surveillance. Some of those whose conduct has been the most reprehensible are full-fledged citizens in the eyes of the law. Instead of making attacks on German residents as a whole, whether they have taken out their papers or not, the proper and just course is to investigate individual cases.

There is no doubt that many of both classes are now being made to suffer, when all through the war their conduct has been irreproachable, and even at a time when our feelings are so deeply and rightly stirred we should not forget to be fair.

The Journal has been convinced all along that the great majority of those of German ancestry in this country had no sympathy whatever with the policy being pursued by the Berlin government. It was because it realized to what dangers they were being exposed by the noisy and active element which lauded the Kaiser and rejoiced in the success of his arms that, early in the war, it insisted strongly that stern measures be taken to repress the latter.

There was too great tolerance a few months ago. But don't let us go to the other extreme now.