

What is the Trend of International Politics?

WHAT ARE the great lines of cleavage among nations? What are the new lines of association that are bringing together the greatest nations? Are they military and naval or commercial? This question is brought nearer home when we consider the visit of the German Prince Henry to our country during the past month. There can be no doubt that he was the bearer of a friendly message from one of the greatest nations of Europe. But what was the message? What was the special significance of his mission? His greeting by our government and its people was most cordial. The most marked trait of the American people was again shown to be our universal and disinterested kindness toward a visitor. This is said to have impressed the Prince more than our material displays of wealth. The month was spent in seeing the nation's capitol, the great cities, the army and navy, the colleges and the people themselves. At one of these meetings the Prince told his hearers that his government was well aware that the Americans were a fast moving nation. His coming was only an act of courtesy. If we wish to grasp a friendly hand we had only to look for one on the other side of the North Atlantic ocean. That was graceful and good diplomacy. It is the most significant sign of the times.

What then was the Admiral Prince's mission to the United States? It is not yet possible to see far below the surface. We all know that since Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet at Manila we have not been on the most cordial terms with Germany. This country had its own way in the Philippines and never had a serious grievance against Germany. While there was no lingering irritation whatever between our government and Germany, good diplomacy at Washington having wiped all that away, still in the underworld of diplomacy created by the newspapers of the two countries there has been rumbling and lack of cordial relations. To remove that friction, and give the newspaper diplomats a different string to harp on, the most popular Prince in Germany came to dwell among us and in one mighty outburst of good will all is changed. The frowns and ugly looks are all cleared away. Germany and the United States have established friendly family relations. The press of both countries have ceased to threaten each other with war. Beer and wine flowed instead of blood and tears. The Anglo-Saxon mythus has found us brothers to the Germans while our relatives in Great Britain are cousins at best—until they send some Royal good fellow for our emotions to go wild over.

Germany has cause for cultivating the most friendly relations with Greater America, as it is now entirely proper to call the United States. While the Germans have the most highly developed military system in the world, they have but a second-class navy. The buying and launching of a little ship in this country is deeply significant of the new phase of international relations—a timid avowal or confession that Germany is willing that we should become the naval power of the world while they would naturally remain the great military power of Europe. That would add to the prestige of both nations and along the line of each country's natural excellence—as we do not covet the honor of maintaining a great standing army and Germany does not feel able to develop her navy as rapidly as this country which is overtaking Great Britain. This was a master stroke of diplomacy and a hint to our country not to be overlooked. We cannot develop the military arm of the government. Germany cannot develop the naval branch. But each can surpass the world in its speciality. The compliment from Germany in sending the Prince Admiral and buying a yacht for the Emperor is a key to the future of both nations. Germany has not too many friends in Europe. Russia to the north and France are in alliance but not with Germany. Of its two allies in the Drei-bund, Austria-Hungary inclines toward Russia, and Italy is attracted towards France. The United States makes no alliances but cultivates friendly relations with all.

But it is on commercial lines that Germany is seeking to approach this country, or rather that the German government is trying to create a public sentiment at home less hostile toward American commerce. The old German landed aristocracy—the Junkers—maintain a deep anti-American prejudice against competition from this country in food products. They favor retaliatory tariffs against our meat and flour because under the influence of our cheap products their rents are reduced and their incomes lessened. They demand restrictive duties on American food imports, and farm machinery. The German financier and underwriters fears American enterprise. All these powerful interests clamor for tariff against the United States. To head off these tendencies among his own people the German Emperor planned his royal brother's visit as a natu-

ral step toward reciprocity and good will. The line of approach toward amicable relations between great nations today is on commercial lines. In the end the masses of the people of both countries will find a way to prevail. The unsatisfied land barons of Germany and the grasping trust millionaires of America will both have to be satisfied with less as their share of the world's products and less of the increment of the world's progress.

Whose Ox is Gored

THE administration at Washington has ruled that there is no violation of neutrality in any of the acts connected with the purchase in this country of mules and horses for the use of the British army in South Africa. But if the Boers had been doing the same thing, and not the British, there would probably have been a protest from England that would have received considerable attention.

How would the administration at Washington regard the maintenance in Canada of one or more camps by the Filipinos for the purchase of animals to use in their war against the United States?

In all such matters it makes a difference whose ox is gored.

Undoubtedly it is no violation of neutrality for Americans to sell to England mules or munitions of war. But England maintains in this country, notably at New Orleans, what is practically a military camp, conducted by men on the payroll of the British army,

for the purchase of animals and the hiring of men to go to South Africa, nominally as muleteers, but in reality as recruits for military service.

Kuykendoodle Legislation

SENATOR KUYKENDALL, of Lane county, "is up against it" on the clerkship graft in the legislature.

His law of 1900 to abolish the legislature clerkship abuse, whether he intended it or not, was a fraud, because it extended the very evil it pretended to check.

Drawn ostensibly to limit the number of clerks to be employed in the legislature, it resulted in nearly doubling the number and the amount of the graft—reading \$22,000.

Senator Kuykendall was one of the first to violate the law. How will he explain that to the people of Lane county?

But the Kuykendall act had one effect—possibly it was its purport—it gave Senator Kuykendall and his faction in the legislature almost a complete monopoly of naming the clerks.

Roseburg Review: The Salem Journal and Portland Journal have both fallen in line in support of Hon. Geo. E. Chamberlain for governor. In fact there is a general movement all over the state in support of the man of the people. It is now stated by close observers that the Pendleton banker will not carry his own county, although it is normally Republican.

Put an End to the State Printing Job

THE JOURNAL does not blame F. C. Baker for wanting Mr. Whitney of Albany elected state printer. Mr. Baker was the Republican state printer twice and is a loyal Republican still.

But he should not blame other people who are Republicans and who are not state printers and never expect to be from looking at the matter from a different light.

The Republican party has everything to gain and nothing to lose by abolishing the old \$35,000 a year graft, putting the printer on a salary and breaking the ever expanding graft.

If the Republican party elects Mr. Whitney the present graft will be continued and Mr. Baker will continue to make more out of the state printing than any state official.

The Oregonian will not print the facts about this matter, either from the laws or the reports of the secretary of state. It will not print the facts as presented in Mr. Chamberlain's speeches.

But the people will hear Mr. Chamberlain all the more gladly because he is excluded from the Portland organ of the associated political graft.

The state should buy and own its printing plant or all the state printing should be done at commercial rates on union scale.

The people cannot bring this about, having all the work done at commercial prices in commercial printing offices if Mr. Whitney is elected.

If Mr. Whitney is elected he will either lease the Frank Baker state printing office or the faction he is the candidate of will buy the Frank Baker state printing office. The people want neither.

At fair commercial prices the state printing should not cost over \$15,000 to \$20,000 at the utmost.

Organized labor should know that at present, with the state furnishing rent free an office, light, water, heat and janitorship for a private plant, all the work is not done by union labor.

The whole graft hasn't a leg to stand on and the only way to beat it and break it up is to defeat Mr. Whitney and elect Mr. Godfrey the Democratic nominee. If the people get to understand the facts they will elect Mr. Godfrey. But half the voters will never learn the facts.

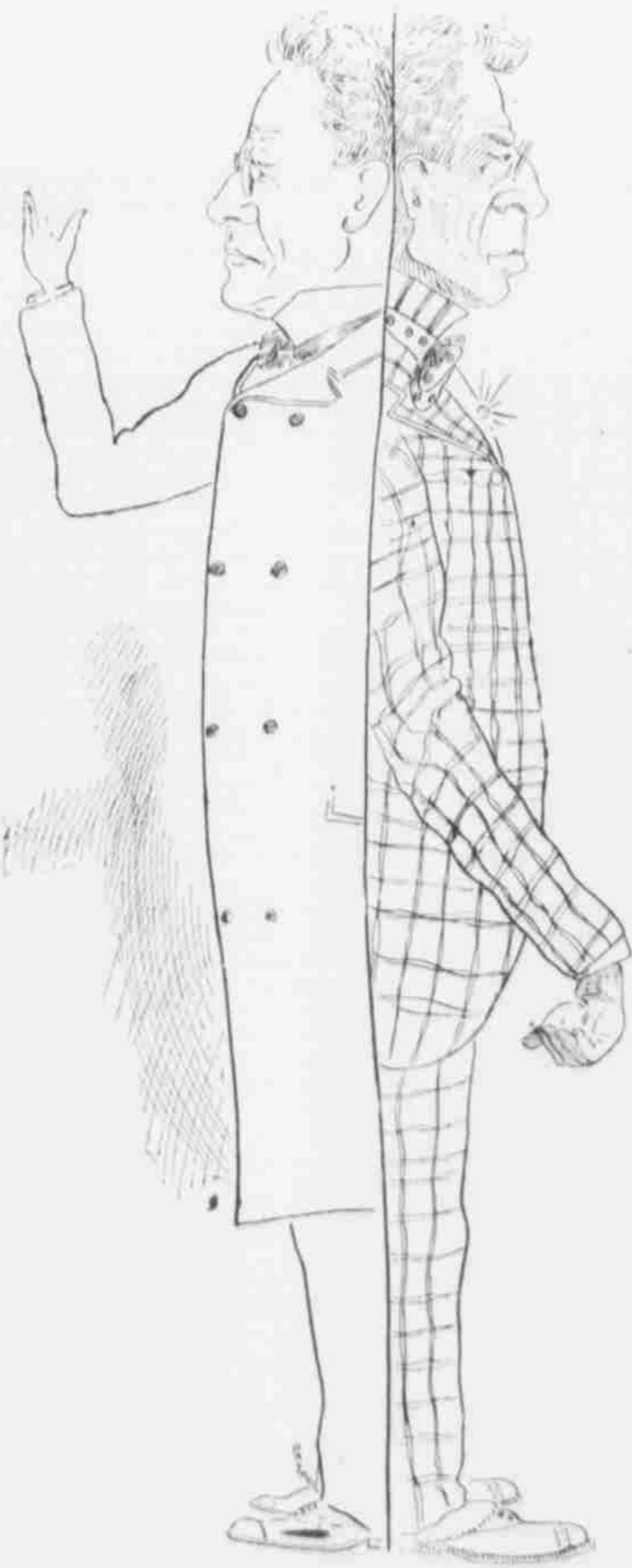
The Supreme Court of Oregon

THIS department of our state government will be affected in this year's campaign by re-electing one of the justices—R. S. Bean, of Lane county. While his election is not a matter of doubt or speculation, as politics goes, the importance of the office requires some discussion of the candidates. There is a tendency to not discuss or criticize the highest court of appeal in the commonwealth. But in Oregon the court would hardly escape if there were material subject for newspaper or political attack. The people are not disposed to pick at small defects, but there are newspapers and politicians in Oregon who would not spare the Christian religion itself if a point were to be gained or an office could be captured, much less the supreme court. So because little is said it must not be assumed that the court is above newspaper or political attack, and that is as it should be in a free country. There must be maintained the fullest liberty of discussion, even to the extent of unprivileged license, and then the people feel safe in the enjoyment of their liberties.

The argument has been made in the past that there should be one of the opposition party on the supreme court. It has been argued that it was not wise to have the court constituted all of members of one party, as been the case since many years. We will admit this, if the court had ever acted as partisans. But that would be almost violent to assume, and impossible to prove. We have never heard it charged that the Oregon supreme court was swayed by partisan considerations. If they ever were they have carefully concealed their leanings, and we do not believe the man—client or lawyer—lives who will say that he has not been able to get fair, just and fullest consideration before that tribunal on account of his or any other person's political influence or opinions. In other words—as long as there is no politics in the court, the court has no interest or temptation to put politics into its decisions. That is a state of affairs that ought to prevail. If the court should ever display a tendency to show political bias, the people would be swift to administer the deserved rebuke.

Chief Justice Bean, who is up for re-election, is a Republican in his party affiliation, but he ceases to be a Republican when he takes the oath of office, and sits as a judge of the law. We think he and his colleagues have demonstrated this so completely that no argument is needed on the question before the highest court of the people. Their decision has been rendered.

HARVEY SCOTT'S CANDIDATE IF HE CANNOT GET IT HIMSELF



THE HON. C. W. FULTON.

THERE is probably no man in the state better known and better liked socially than Mr. Fulton. No one can visit Astoria no matter how short the visit but what he will hear his name mentioned. The Astorians will tell you about their magnificent harbor, their fine salmon, their abundance of timber, and of the great future of the town, but they never forget to tell you something of Mr. Fulton, and what he will do for the town when he is elected U. S. senator. He is their idol, their high priest and their prophet. In fact he is the "whole thing" in Clatsop county and has no rival; he is Charles the First, Last and All the Time. His friends love him, his enemies fear him, the snobs toady to him, the small minds look into his eyes for inspiration, and the politicians follow and obey him like slaves their master. His arrival at the dance is a signal to start the music for the grand march; at the

ring-side he is the court of last resort on an appeal from the decision of the referee. He is the mouthpiece of the lower Columbia; makes all the speeches on important occasions whether it be that of laying away the remains of a departed brother or raising a subsidy for a new saw mill. Politically he controls his county absolutely. Primaries are held; conventions called to order and adjourned at his command. It may be done by the voice of others but it is by the hand of Charley. No man can hope for a place on the Republican ticket from senator to road supervisor unless he can show that he is branded "C. W. F." on the hip. You may hear of numerous candidates for the nomination for senator but when Mr. Fulton, a few days before the convention meets, announces that he has concluded to take it himself they fade away like snowballs in summer. When the convention is over there may be many disappointed and disgruntled candidates but you will never hear a murmur from any of them; they swallow their pill, no matter how bitter, and live in hopes that they will be led to the crib the next time.

Local pride more than anything else has induced the people to bestow all this power on one man. They want one of their number to be governor or U. S. senator, and they feel that Mr. Fulton is the best piece of timber they have on hand, and stands about the best show of being elected. They have worshipped at his altar for many years. They have taken to him as their high priest, their votes to be given up as burnt offering and have offered to the gods (of the G.O.P.) a sacrifice, all claim to good city and county government. They have been paid by the gods (of the G.O.P.) in debt, corruption and high taxes. If they murmured the high priest soothed them by telling them that it was for the good of the cause; if they hungered and clamored, he threw them a few scraps from the public crib; to the backsliders he pointed the finger of scorn and called down on their heads the wrath of the gods (of the G. O. P.) until humiliated and as supplicants they returned to the fold.

The Astorians think he is a sure winner this time and perhaps he is. But would Mr. Fulton make a good U. S. senator if he were elected? There is "no way to judge the future but by the past," and what has Mr. Fulton done during his political career that has redounded to the benefit of his city, his county or his state? He has been a member of the legislature off and on for a number of years, serving in both the house and the senate, and can his friends point to a bit of beneficial legislation that bears his name? He has managed to look after the interests of the Fulton family by keeping alive the office of state health officer for his brother and allowing him to draw a fat salary for doing nothing but endorsing and cashing his warrant every quarter; he has also kept alive the office of boat puller for a political supporter, who it is safe to say, hasn't been in a boat since his appointment.

During the last session of the legislature Mr. Fulton helped pass and signed as president of the senate the Nickel-in-the-slot bill. By this he made a great moral play to the people at large; and after the legislature had adjourned, he went home and fought the law in his local courts on the ground of its being unconstitutional, cleared all violators of this law he helped to pass and thereby squares himself with an element of his constituents. Is that clean manly American politics?

"That bids him make the law he flouts, And bids him flout the law he makes."

The people of Clatsop county have nothing to show for Mr. Fulton's rule but debt and high taxes. They have given up their birthright to get him a mess of pottage. The debts of the city and county, and the old rattle-trap of a courthouse, which his eloquent voice so often shakes to its very foundation, are the only monuments that stand to remind us of his political career.