

THE WORLD'S TREND IN 1903

A Short but Complete Story of the Year Told Graphically So as to Show the Meaning and Inter-relation of Events and Classified For Convenient Reference

LIFE'S infinite loom spins ceaselessly of the vast fabric of civilization. Of which the least of us human creatures is a factor. In and under and over and through flies the great shuttle of history, while we perform the psychological marvel of being at once actor and spectator by pausing on the threshold of the new year to take a quick, sweeping glance backward at the new strands which the Great Spinner has added to the sum total of world experience since a year ago.

A Look at the Log Of Our Ship of State

The amazing thing is the figure we have cut in world politics. Few and far between are the nations that have not felt the pressure of American diplomacy backed by American guns and by American money. There was bankrupt Venezuela blockaded by three great European creditors. A word from Washington and Minister Bowen was able to get the whole matter adjusted by arbitration. The Russian bear barred the Manchurian gateway to China until an American diplomat led the way to an open door. Our voice of protest against persecution of Jews in Russia was heard. The prestige of the United States in the Mediterranean was enhanced by the presence of ships at Beirut and the sending of Skinner to Abyssinia; England came closer to us in the Alaskan boundary concession through arbitration. Finally in fulfillment of a great responsibility, however opinions differ as to the method, the Roosevelt administration paved the way for the isthmian canal project by extending the helping hand to the new republic of Panama after Colombia had let the Hay-Herran treaty, which was signed at Washington in February, die by failing to ratify in time. We continued our general supervision of Central American and West Indian neighbors. Chile acknowledged the Monroe doctrine, being the first South American country to do so. The features of the internal policy of the administration were the effort to check trusts through the enactment of the Elkins law, the effort to expose and punish corruption discovered in nearly every department, chiefly in the postal service; the insistence on the recognition of negroes in official appointments, the open shop declaration in response to labor's challenge in the Miller case at the government printing office, Cuban reciprocity at 20 per cent off the Dingley rates, the reorganization of the army under a general staff and the unifying of the state militia. For the thoroughness of the postal exposures credit is due to Mr. Bristow. Other important acts at the closing session of the Fifty-seventh congress were for free trade in coal, for Philippine government, anti-anarchy, creating the department of commerce and labor and appropriating a total of \$1,554,108,514 for the two years. The ship subsidy bill failed, and the statehood deadlock in the senate went over to the present session on a compromise. It was under the Spooner act that the treaty with Colombia was made. The Fifty-eighth congress, summoned in extra session for the confirmation of the Cuban treaty, started in with new house leaders. Cannon being chosen speaker, while Williams of Mississippi took command of the minority and scored by not opposing the Cuban treaty. Around both the foreign and internal policies thus outlined the party alignments were begun in anticipation of the national campaign of 1904. Already it was clear that the south was made more solidly Democratic by its view of the negro recognition policy, and the opposition took advantage of the post-scanal to begin the cry, "Turn the rascals out!" The state elections in November made new changes in the political map. Tammany captured New York city, Hanna overwhelmed Johnson in Ohio, giving new inspiration to the Hanna boom, while Gorman made good in Maryland. Through the year the Democrats were engaged in a still hunt for presidential timber. The Cleveland movement gained considerable headway in the east until the ex-president formally denied his candidacy. The Bryan faction scoffed at the suggestion while considering Folk of Missouri, Parker of New York, Cockrell, Gorman, Harrison, Hearst, Johnson, Garvin of Rhode Island and others, but could agree on none. Vermont and New Hampshire abandoned prohibition, Kansas and New Hampshire rejected woman suffrage. Many states worked for direct election of senators. Pennsylvania adopted the press muzzle, but could not enforce it. Other notable executive acts

were retirement of General Miles, dedication of War college at Washington, appointment of Day to supreme court, resignation of Secretary of War Root, successful test of world's largest gun, launching of largest battleship, the Pennsylvania; appointment of Cortelyou secretary of commerce and labor, ordered deportation of Anarchist Turner, nomination of Brigadier General Wood to be major general, and women inspectors of immigrants. The notable legal decisions were by the supreme court against marginal trading, by the court of appeals against Northern Securities merger, the circuit court in Minnesota deciding that the merger

was not in violation of interstate commerce law; by the supreme court upholding the Kansas eight hour law and declaring mental science healing legal. The most notable criminal trials were those of Tillman, acquitted of charge of murder of Gonzales; death sentence for Caleb Powers on third trial for connection with Goebel murder, death sentence for Jett as murderer of Marcum in Kentucky feud; electrocution of the three Van Wormer boys.

POLITICAL CRISES IN OTHER LANDS

GREAT BRITAIN has been brought face to face with an economic revolution that rocks her very foundations through one tenacious and magnetic personality—that of Joseph Chamberlain. It was after the popular ovation for his Boer settling trip last spring that the colonial secretary proclaimed his policy of a protective tariff on food-stuffs on a programme of imperial reciprocity and unity. Later, in September, he decided to go it alone, and the Balfour cabinet went to pieces, though again patched up for a time with nondescript material, Balfour himself taking a moderate course for retarding tariff and the free trade warships snorting in opposition alignment. At the same time an internal sore of long standing was healed in the historic passage of the Irish land purchase bill July 21, piloted by Redmond and Wyndham and sealed by the royal journey through Ireland. England has exerted a new power through the diplomatic personality of King Edward, who in a series of royal visits has drawn France and Italy closer in bonds of amity and arbitration, though the partnership with Germany in Venezuela's blockade met with popular rebuke. A great stride toward American fellowship was taken when Lord Alverstone, Oct. 20, cast the deciding vote favorably to the American boundary claim in Alaska and swept away with a stroke of his pen that ever threatening casus belli. England is believed to have disappointed Japan by a neutral attitude toward Russian aggression in China, while India's year, started with the splendors of the durbar, ends in a new military movement against the hermit realm of Tibet, also coveted by Russia. Australia granted full woman suffrage, restrained government railroad strike and rejected the arbitration bill. Canada had an era of industrial growth; was bitter over Alaskan award. South Africa placed under 10 per cent reciprocity. First Transvaal parliament opened in May. British captured Kano.

RUSSIA in all her vastness and power has pressed remorselessly toward her goal in the far east while checking with an iron hand the internal revolutionary propaganda of socialism and organized labor. Disregarding all promises by the failure to evacuate Manchuria, the government of Czar Nicholas stood dishonored in the pillory of world opinion. Great hopes were raised by the czar's manifesto of religious freedom and liberty for peasants March 14, but the massacre of Jews at Kishineff in May and their persecution in other places with official connivance went far to discredit that great proclamation. The continued and increased restriction of liberty in Finland did not improve this impression.

THE ORIENT, take it all in all, has had the front and center of the international stage most of the year. From the newspaper man's standpoint it would make a rather funny, zigzag record suggestive of the famous general who marched his army up the hill and marched it down again—Manchuria in this case substituted for the hill. But the Russians never budged. They rushed more troops thither, and on various flimsy pretexts tightened their grip by reoccupying Mukden and Hal-cheng and by scaring Japan into feverish war preparations by land and sea mobilization near Korea. War was expected almost daily for months. The one bright spot in the oriental year was the success of American and Brit-

ish diplomats in getting treaties with China actually signed for the opening of certain Manchurian ports to world trade. These would have to be recognized by Russia in event of her conquest of Manchuria. Japan and China have come closer in view of their common danger. Boxer uprising was suppressed. Japanese language was adopted in the Chinese universities. Nevertheless the Chinese government reacted against the reform element, whose editors were punished. The Philippines enjoyed an era of comparative peace and commercial growth with only sporadic fighting by ladrones and Moros. Thirty years' war in Sumatra ended with Dutch conquest.

THE NEAR EAST has been the plague spot of the year, a chamber of horrors that hangs heavy on the conscience of Europe and of all Christendom. Whatever the technical merits of the Macedonian controversy, the revolt of the Christian inhabitants was checked with such a horde of murderous Turkish hordes as to cause even currents of Russian and Austrian diplomacy hasten to stay the sultan's hand. Unwillingly he has at last accepted virtual Russo-Austrian sovereignty of his rebellious vilayets. The disorder at Beirut and the reported killing of the American consul, Mageissen, brought American warships into Turkish waters with salutary results. Bulgaria checked her anti-Turkish sentiments for the time, having appealed to the powers in vain. Servia went clear to the foot of the class by her popular acceptance of the army's deliberate murder, June 10, of King Alexander and Queen Draga and substitution of King Peter on her blood stained throne a month later. The Austro-Hungarian union continued to hang by a thread.

GERMANY'S monarchical institutions suffered a shock in the electoral success of the Social Democrats, who polled a vote of 3,000,000 and gained many seats in the reichstag. The operation on the kaiser's throat was believed to be for incipient cancer and to endanger his life and reign. France pursued undeviatingly her republican programme against the government authorization of the religious orders and schools, causing a sharp alignment on the question of the separation of church and state. Disgraced Morocco. Tried and convicted the Humbert swindlers. Reopened Dreyfus case.

ITALY AND GREECE experienced no decisive political changes other than the growth of socialism among laboring classes. SPAIN AND PORTUGAL encountered serious revolutionary outbreaks and labor disturbances. Villard succeeded Silveira as Spanish premier. LATIN AMERICA'S story, omitting the inconsequent rebellions, has just four important chapters. Venezuela went into international bankruptcy by defying the warship-backed collectors of three European creditor nations—Germany, England and Italy. These pounced down on Castro and blockaded his rocky coast until he got the American minister, Bowen, to help him fix up the special arbitration courts and to get the preferential treatment decided at The Hague court. Result was scaling down of claims from \$22,000,000 to \$2,000,000, while Castro captured Bolivar and crushed the rebellion. Brazil and Bolivia compromised their dispute over the rubber forests of Acre by giving title to the former on condition of the latter's having outlet to Atlantic by river and rail. Santo Domingo went through the fire and sword melodrama twice, first bowing to General Wos y Gil in April and seven months later being battered into submission to former rulers, Morales, Jimenez and Vasquez. Colombia, through her failure to meet the American canal proposition half way, lost the whole pudding in the opera bouffe revolution of Panama under the guns of Uncle Sam's ships, making a live issue as the old year goes to press. Cuba accepted American reciprocity. Mexico paid the pious claim. Chile and Argentina were peaceful and prosperous.

STRIDES TAKEN TOWARD CHURCH UNITY

The mills of God, which grind slow but exceeding fine, have brought into use lenses of vision powerful enough to conceive the ultimate goal of universal religious unity for the human race. This lofty aspiration was realized in some measure when the death of Pope Leo, July 20, caused a universal wave of recognition and appreciation of his personal character to seek expression regardless of the barriers between Protestant and Catholic. Again this note of a wider Christian unity was struck in the appeal of the Episcopal bishops' congress at Washington for greater charity toward their brothers of the Roman faith, and when a great movement for the federation of all Protestant churches was definitively started. Parallel with this effort

was the progress made toward a federation of Congregationalists, Methodist Protestants and United Brethren, while the several varieties of Presbyterians have cleared the ground for one communion. In all this the forces of liberalism have been necessarily dominant, with an insistence on practical mission work at home and abroad and a greater participation in the social and political problems of the day as the true remedies for the waning power of the church. The democratic per-

Continued on next page.

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