

foreign attacks and internal dissensions ; or (2) that it can be completed by the absorption of Austrian Germany, the Netherlands, etc.

Then we are met by a question as to how far this "unification" shall extend. Are we to carry it out to nationalities, or languages, or geographical boundaries? Shall we allow the Vosges mountains or the Rhine to be the correct boundary between France and Germany? If there are more French-speaking people than German-speaking ones in Alsace-Lorraine, how shall we settle their destination? Is Denmark's claim to North Schleswig to be abandoned when Germany has succeeded in Germanizing all the inhabitants? Or shall we have a plebiscite at once to settle these matters? Can Mr Smith see the destiny of Canada more clearly than the trusted statesmen of the people's selection? Is the goal of the "great forces" a unification of the British Empire or of the Anglo-Saxon or English-speaking peoples? A union of the Latin races of France, Italy and Spain has been mooted. Why not? Indeed, if this chamber-philosophy is to be carried out logically, why not a unification of the human race? The solution of all these problems would seem to be merely a question of present expediency. If it appears that a policy of protection and partial isolation from our southern neighbors is essential for the present well being of this country, then that policy should be pursued, in preference to one which, however attractive in appearance and however forcibly put forward by political freeshooters, does not meet the approval of the bulk of the people and their responsible leaders.

Mr. Smith, however, is not content to merely put forward his views of our national destiny, but distinctly encourages "political effort in averting the establishment of an antagonistic power to your north." To a man who knows how very dangerous political efforts of this kind undoubtedly are, the recommendation comes as little short of direct incitement to forcible interference by the States in the internal affairs of Canada and the British Empire. If Canada should become independent, or if it should assume the position of an integral province of a British Federation, why should it be "antagonistic?" Mr. Smith must know perfectly well that, if antagonism arises between Canada and the United States, the antagonism will probably be entirely the outcome of the action of the latter in endeavoring to force their views upon Canada.

When, too, Mr. Smith talks of "keeping five millions of North Americans out of North America, and attaching them to Europe," he seems to be talking poppycock. The "unification" craze has overmastered his judgment. While the Central American republics are forming a federation to protect themselves from United States Monroism, and when the South American states have repudiated the suzerainty implied in the Monroe doctrine as recently put forward by United States jingoes, it is hardly the time to impress upon us the necessity of annexation to the States, or upon American politicians the advisability of entering upon a political campaign to enforce the doctrine upon unwilling Canadians.