

Abolition, Modern Issue

By Henry Ware Allen

One of the Representatives in Congress, Bruce Barton of New York, the advertising man, is seeking to abolish a "bad" law a week. But when is a law a "good" law? When a "bad" law? For whom? For all?

Perhaps the best service Americans render their country at present is to use all possible influence toward eradication of all that is contrary to democratic ideals from our local, state and national governments. It is of course the same thing to say that we should eliminate all measures and repeal all laws which are un-democratic and which tend toward state socialism, communism, fascism or any other form of autocracy. Pope was wrong when he uttered the famous lines, "for forms of government let fools contest; that which is best administered is best." According to that idea Italy would have to be graded far higher than the United States, notwith-

standing the tyranny, the imperialism and the lack of liberty which prevails there.

According to Buckle and according to Henry George all that we have to do is to eliminate from our laws all that is demonstrably bad, all that violates the principles of democracy. To be specific all laws and all measures which provide benefits to any one industry at the expense of all others must be repealed and the ponderous program of "social security" which in reality is an enormous force for socialistic insecurity must be scrapped. The acid test to be applied to any measure is that it must not interfere with equal rights for all and that it must ensure free trade with all the world and special privileges to none.