

he may confidently be expected to make of Ellis Island a model of humane and enlightened management.

S. D.



### EVERY LITTLE EFFORT.

In Buckle's immortal Introduction to the History of Civilization he discusses with his marvelous clearness of style the importance of public sentiment in the progress of truth. He shows, what indeed any of us may see in any lifetime, that the projection of a law does not avail unless there be a certain preparation. In fact it may be that well-meant legislation may actually cause reaction, and so retard the progress of civilization or the abolition of some superstition.

We hug our superstitions, and will not have them too suddenly swept from us. If you bring your statutes and your police power, the grip on the idol is often tightened in opposition. If the hand of the law manages to loosen it for a moment, there is a new clutch. No, there must be preparations and warnings and arguments. The intellect must be reached and convinced. There must be line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little.

This is the thought that makes the appeal to the humblest of us. If one has got rid of some superstition in which others may be still involved, or has seen some truth which others, for one reason or another, may not yet have seen, he can help to change the common view. No matter how insignificant one may think himself to be in purse, or power, or intellect, he has his influence. No matter how little he may think he can do for the truth which he sees, he has the tremendous obligation to make the effort to do what he can. He does not know what he can do. Every little effort has a meaning all its own, and no man can judge the effect of his effort in the subtle spread of human influences and opinions.

Let us take the case of the Singletax. If by some astounding turn of legislative wheels the complete system could be put into effect at the beginning of next week, I am not so sure but the ultimate triumph of the doctrine would be retarded. We have too many economic and financial superstitions and prejudices for such a law to prevail. In order to support such a law there must be more of us who have the profound intellectual conviction that justice and right reason bespeak equal rights for all in nature's gifts and opportunities. Before the law could permanently prevail, it is necessary that the knowledge of the truth must be far more widely spread. It is necessary

that many more of us should be convinced not only of the justice and advantage of equal rights, but of the far-reaching harm that has come from going against these rights, and of the effectiveness of Henry George's simple method for the execution of these rights.

It is in the spread of these convictions that each one, be he rich or poor, learned or unlearned, has the call and the chance to do his part, to use his influence, to profess his thought, to give what he can of time and means, to make sacrifice, to be patient and yet persistent. And what is more worth living for than to be true to one's conviction? Being true to a conviction means doing something for it, that is, doing something for its progress in the thoughts of men. And herein, as I have said, lies the fine appeal to all of us, the humblest as well as the most powerful. In the spread of a thought each has his influence, each can give his tithe, each can make his effort, and every dime, every effort has its effect.

J. H. DILLARD.



### THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE.

Peace societies place entirely too much confidence in treaties as instruments of peace. Their defective character is seen in the fact that Russia destroyed the autonomy of Finland, Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina, and now Germany has invaded Belgium in defiance of their solemn treaty obligations.

"To be always ready for war is the best way to avoid war," says Roosevelt. Stubborn facts now prove not only that this theory is false but that the direct contrary is the truth. Of all the great powers, Germany was best prepared, yet her very preparedness has arrayed against her such a number of enemies that her tremendous military strength may cause the destruction of the great German empire.

The greatest influence either for war or peace is self-interest. The self-interest of the builders of battleships and the manufacturers of all other military and naval equipment is always on the side of war. They exert a constant unseen influence stimulating public opinion in favor of costlier war equipment, and when international differences arise they try to use the press to play up and keep alive national prejudices and jealousies and thus attempt to force the nations into war.

The remedy is the government ownership and operation of all shipyards and factories necessary to the supply of all war equipment.

Of still greater importance as a deterrent to war is the abolition of the tariff. Free trade would