

as well as witty. Then there was Herbert S. Bigelow, Henry George, George L. Record, Amos Pinchot, Louis F. Post, Joseph Fels, William Kent and others.

S. D.



HENRY GEORGE SENTIMENT IN BULGARIA.

Chicago, January 8.

In the spring of 1912 I went to Bulgaria, my native country, on a short visit. The war broke out before I could get away and I was compelled to join the army and march against the Turks. Last October I returned to Chicago.

Seven years before I first came to this country, the name of Henry George was very popular among the intelligent people of Bulgaria. Tolstoy's friends, who were publishing in Sofia a monthly, "The Renaissance," printed therein articles about Henry George, his life and work. "Thou Shalt Not Steal," different chapters from "The Perplexed Philosopher," "Social Problems," and so forth, were published in Bulgarian. Tolstoy's "The Great Sin" ("A Great Iniquity") was translated and over a thousand copies sold. A year or so after, some of the men around "The Renaissance"—all young idealists at the time—were put in prison for two, three or four years for refusing to serve in the army (military service there is compulsory, as you know); others went abroad and joined different colonies of sympathizers in Western Europe and Russia. After five years of hard existence the monthly was temporarily dropped.

While in Bulgaria last year I learned that almost everybody among the intelligent people knew something about Henry George; but that knowledge has come to them mostly through the enemies of the Singletax, who never stopped to find out what it is really about. To enlighten the people on this question, Mr. Andreychin, the foremost among the friends of Tolstoy in Bulgaria, has undertaken to translate "Progress and Poverty," from the Russian version of Mr. Nickolayeff, of whom Tolstoy used to say that none in Russia was better fit to express in his language the teachings of Henry George. This translation of the great man's book cannot see the light for years to come on account of lack of money.

The Bulgarians are very tolerant, open-minded and progressive. The Romanians, Greeks and Servians, who have been free for about 200, 150 and 100 years respectively are far behind us on the road of Progress, though we were under the Turks up to 1887. In those countries there is not much religious tolerance or political freedom. In Roumania they blame the Jews for the misery of the country. In Serbia and Greece it is almost a crime to be a Socialist, while in Bulgaria that party is represented in Parliament by 40 members. Professor Dorsey from the University of Chicago, who was studying those people a few years ago, has a good word to say only about Sofia and the Bulgarians. In 1910 the Minister of Public Instruction in France called the Bulgarian system of education one of the best in Europe. We have been independent for only thirty years and there are no illiterate persons under that age. In no country of Europe—some cantons in Switzerland being probably the only exception—can the people express their will on elec-

tion day, without obstructions and political tricks. And the very fact that 4,000,000 people could rise up and deal the final blow to a great empire, under which rule they have been for over five centuries, in only twenty-six days, shows the strength, vitality and possibilities of such a nation,

Our people have been blackmailed and represented as savages and barbarians by the politicians of Greece, Servia, Roumania and Russia; but there are political reasons for this and I hope you are not under the influence of the false reports that were spread abroad at a time when we were surrounded by 1,000,000 bayonets and for two weeks could not communicate with the outside world.

C. M. STOYCOFF.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

THE PAGES OF HISTORY.

Johnstown, Pa., December 4.

History: Page One.

"Here is the moral of all human tales,
'Tis but the same rehearsal of the past:
First freedom and then glory, when that fails,
Wealth, vice, corruption, barbarism at last
And history with all her volumes vast,
Hath but one page."

—Byron.

Ridpath quotes these words of Lord Byron, and asks if his gloomy picture is justified. I believe it is not, and I would offer the following lines as—

Page Two.

Here is the startling moral, drawn from this tale of fate:
Great were the unearned riches, taken by those called
great,
Wrested from those who earned them, through blood and
tears and toil,
To sate the greed of the war-crowned czars, the barons
of the soil.

The spirit of justice was far-flown, from Carthage or
Greece or Rome;
The loveless heart of the baron, reaped hate from the
joyless home;
And life was the price that the nation gave, gave for the
brotherless sin;
When justice, the soul of the state, passed out, the
shadow of death stalked in.

C. SHEPHERD.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, January 20, 1914.

The President's Anti-Trust Message.

Before both Houses of Congress in joint session on the 20th, President Wilson in person read his message against private monopoly. He spoke in part as follows:

Gentlemen of the Congress: In my report on the state of the Union, which I had the privilege of read-