

to continue our campaign of education another season.

W. I. SWANTON,
Secretary Tax Reform Ass'n of the Dist. of Columbia.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

WHAT IS THE REMEDY?

Chicago, August 4.

The United States Industrial Commission, which recently visited Chicago, held public meetings at the La Salle hotel, for the purpose of taking testimony of the men and women who are supposed to know the real cause of the general unrest of the people of the United States, that some conclusion might be reached and a remedy applied. That there is unrest is apparent, and that the present administration recognizes it is commendable. At no session of these commission meetings, which I attended, did I hear, or have I read a report of any witness having suggested an intelligent remedy which could be universally valuable.

There were suggestions, such as arbitration in labor troubles, and raising of wages of working people, such suggestions which would apply only to a small portion of the people in any community, and thus these meetings were disappointing to the laymen who were not supposed to be competent to give testimony or suggest remedies. It was surprising to listeners to find that our professional reformers were so uninformed in regard to ways and means of social, political and industrial betterment—in fact, they seemed to be ignorant that there is a real effective specific.

In the first place, it is true that there is "discontent and restlessness," all of which is a sign of universal health, and shows a receptive condition, and that the masses are ready to adopt a remedy; it also indicates, if a change is not forthcoming, and the restlessness settles down to despair, that there is a danger of revolution.

In my humble opinion the cause of discontent is due to the fact that the great masses of the people are disinherited.

The ground or soil upon which they move and have their being is not their own, and thus the landlord is forever calling "Step lively," "Be quick or you're dead."

Human beings being land animals and unable to exist without land, and having no land upon which to exist, feel consciously or unconsciously unsafe, insecure, for the only people who are really safe are those who have access to the land.

Now, then! Feeling unsafe, being insecurely situated, is quite enough to create restlessness, is it not?

For a concrete example, review the Philippine Islands. Americans had not titles to the lands of the Philippines before we invaded that territory (so a learned bishop who visited those islands for the purpose of investigation, said recently in an address to a Chicago audience. "But," he further said, "the first thing the splendid big business men of our country did was to secure titles to their

lands," and this bishop declared it a great stroke of successful diplomacy.

He then told of the fine roads that have been built by the Filipinos for the use of the Americans and their automobiles, while the roads for themselves were inferior. He declared the Filipinos a happy class of people, and "all they needed today was an opportunity to work." "They want jobs," he said. Now, then, why are they thrown out of jobs? Why are they jobless and becoming restless and discontented? Any one capable of reasoning from effect back to cause will see that it is directly traceable to the fact that these Filipinos were disinherited when the "American gentlemen" secured deeds and titles to their lands, and the Filipinos must now "step lively" to the tune of their landlords.

History is repeating itself, and our industrial commission need look no further. Let them investigate the Henry George idea and experiment with his theories, and put a stop to the cause of inequality of opportunity.

The Henry George idea can be put in operation without working hardship to any living thing.

There is another kind of restlessness which is temporary and artificial, and is founded upon pure cussedness on the part of men who have been deprived of political power, political office, or some special privilege. These people are willing to lose money, to lay off help, to shut down factories, to refuse to loan money, to talk panic, to exhibit fear and mistrust, to fake news for the purpose of educating the people to believe that there is no prosperity possible unless the Republican party is in power and they spend money to prove it, and so they breed discontent and restlessness, but the people are no longer to be fooled. The Missourian spirit "Show me," is becoming dominant.

MINONA S. JONES.

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, August 18, 1914.

The European War.

Western Europe.

The formation of the gigantic battle-line on the Franco-German frontier, where along the amazing distance of 216 miles millions of German soldiers have been preparing soon to meet millions of French, English and Belgian troops—this stupefying fact has dominated the news from Europe since August 11. During the long resistance of the Liege forts in Belgium, almost regardless of such repulses as that of August 15 at Dinant in Southeastern Belgium and both defeats and victories in Alsace, the Kaiser's infantry battalions, well screened by cavalry, have moved hugely on

against France, their purposes and objectives in the silence of complete censorship and telegraphic isolation left to the conjectures of the world. And their somewhat more communicative opponents, the armies of France, Belgium and England, have been massing and deploying in millions, too. Along the whole curving boundary from Belfort near Basle at the Swiss-German border up through Muelhausen, that the French occupied and then were forced back from, through Luneville and Nancy and Thionville in the French Province of Meurthe et Moselle across from Alsace and Lorraine—where the French are reported to have met with successes and even to have taken the aggressive—up to Dinant on the Meuse river in Belgium and probably northwestward from there to the English Channel, here pressing forward across their frontiers, these pressed some distance backward by their opponents—along the same vast battle-line as the Germans, the combined hosts of France, Great Britain and Belgium have made ready to resist the German invasion of France.



The official press bureau of the British war office said on August 12:

Of the twenty-six German army corps the bulk has been located and it is evident that the mass of German troops is concentrated between Liege and Luxemburg.

That unification of the French and Belgian forces had been established by the exchange of officers was officially announced at Paris on August 14. And Paris also reported that Field Marshall Sir John French, the Commander-in-Chief of the English field army had joined General Joseph Joffre, the French Commander-in-Chief at headquarters, the locality being kept secret. A dispatch from London on the 15th said:

Communication with the armies has virtually come to an end while the commanders in Belgium and along the Franco-German frontier are preparing for a trial of strength which promises to develop the greatest battle in history. It is known that the Germans are attempting to swing their right around toward Brussels and Antwerp, but with what success nobody outside the field of operations knows.

A British military expert in a letter in the London Times of the same date writes:

The delay in the German advance probably has not been due to the obstruction of Liege and the general resistance of the Belgians alone. The massing of such enormous numbers of troops has never been attempted before, and doubtless it has taken longer than was expected. Even small armies cannot fight in advance of their commissariat. One of the reasons Belgium has taken so many cavalry prisoners is that the German cavalry seems repeatedly to have got out of touch with their supplies. The test will be far more severe when this battle develops. Every great army contains many generals who can command 10,000 men, but there are very few who are capable of directing 50,000 or 100,000 in actual war.

Not many human brains, however gifted, can control the operations of half a million men in a battle that has sixty to eighty miles front.

On the 15th, too, the French Minister of War issued a bulletin on the impending conflict, declaring this engagement would "differ profoundly from the battles of other times," for "the whole of the French army will battle with the whole of the German forces with the exception of those German troops concentrated on the eastern frontier of the Empire."

The violation of the neutrality of Belgium has extended the Belgian and French lines to the frontier of Holland. The next battle, therefore, will be from Basle to Maastricht, with several millions of men on each side.

It is this enormous extension of effectives and of front which will characterize the battle, and it will be profoundly different from all other battles.

When two adversaries engage in battle along a front of from twenty to thirty kilometers (thirteen to twenty miles), the engagement is characterized by two features—it is rapid and immediately decisive. With a front extending over 400 kilometers (266 miles) it is not likely to be the same.

It would appear impossible, from all the evidence, that one of the adversaries would be able to gain decisive advantage upon this front of 400 kilometers.

The operations along so great a line would have varying fortunes. We will have an advantage at one or several points; the Germans will have an advantage at other points, and the line of battle will continue to be modified until one of the adversaries succeeds by co-ordination of movements and mass of effort in gaining some point the superiority of which will dislodge the adverse front and mark the end of the first battle.

These observations have for their object the preparation of the public for a battle in new form and without precedent in history.

The communication adds that news of definite results need not be expected for at least eight days, or longer.



Dispatches of the 17th state that there is "little doubt that a great battle is being fought in Belgium near Waterloo," that Brussels is preparing for defense and the seat of government has been moved to Antwerp. [See current volume, page 776.]



Eastern Europe.

Austria-Hungary has been sending her troops in three directions; northwest across the German boundary, northeast against Russia, and southward to Servia. Servian reports on August 17 admit the crossing of the Save river by the Austrians after an only partly successful attack in great force along the whole frontier. The bombardment of Belgrade has been continued by Austria, being reported as especially heavy on the 15th. Servia, with the aid of Montenegro—which country had formally declared war against Austria-Hungary on

the 8th, was said to have invaded Bosnia on the 12th. Austria-Hungary on the same day officially announced her complete blockade of the Montenegrin coast. Russian and Austrian conflicts have been reported in both countries, neither army being largely engaged and neither on the whole victorious.

At the German-Russian frontier the Russian army is reported as still mobilizing and as invading the German Polish Provinces while German troops entered Russian Poland. There have been frequent skirmishes. Several towns have been captured by each invader but no news of a great or decisive engagement. The Russian Czar on the 14th addressed the following manifesto to Poland, signed by himself and all the Grand Dukes:

The hour has sounded when the sacred dream of your fathers may be realized. A hundred and fifty years ago the living body of Poland was torn to pieces, but her soul survived and she lived in hope that for the Polish people would come an hour of regeneration and reconciliation with Russia.

The Russian army brings you the solemn news of this reconciliation, which effaces the frontiers severing the Polish people, whom it unites conjointly under the scepter of the Czar of Russia. Under this scepter Poland will be born again, free in her religion, her language, and autonomous. Russia expects from you only the loyalty to which history has bound you. With open heart and a brotherly hand extended, Great Russia comes to meet you. She believes that the sword which struck her enemies at Grenewald is not yet rusted. Russia, from the shores of the Pacific ocean to the North Sea, marches in arms. The dawn of new life commences for you. In this glorious dawn is seen the sign of the cross—the symbol of suffering and resurrection of a people.



On the Sea.

Minor naval engagements have been reported from all over the world. Off both American coasts, German, French and British cruisers have been sighted. In the Mediterranean, where the major French fleet is stationed, Algerian French towns were attacked by German ships on August 5, being later reported as being pursued toward the Adriatic and finally as at anchor in the Dardanelles. Sea-captures of single merchantment by all the belligerent powers have been announced.

Persistent rumors of a great naval battle in the North Sea have not been confirmed. But on August 11 the British official press bureau announced that the interrupted North Sea steamship service to Denmark had been resumed, and by the 15th the British admiralty office gave notice that the Atlantic Ocean steamship lanes were clear of German cruisers. The whereabouts of the great British and German fleets of dreadnoughts and destroyers is unknown to the watching world.



Diplomacy.

Great Britain proclaimed on the 13th that it

felt itself "obliged to announce" that "a state of war" existed "between Great Britain and Austria-Hungary because of the way in which the Austrian rupture with France had been brought about."

Turkey, after giving out the information on the 4th that the forces were being mobilized, gave assurance that this was only a precautionary measure and that Turkey would remain absolutely neutral. Later, however, believable rumors were in circulation asserting that two German cruisers, the Goeben and the Breslau being pursued in the Mediterranean had not only been granted refuge in the Dardanelles, but had been purchased by Turkey from Germany and the German crews kept aboard. On the 13th Great Britain, France and Russia sent a demand to Turkey for immediate repatriation of the officers and crews.

Greece, according to official dispatches of the 17th, had received information that Turkish troops were crossing Bulgarian territory and marching in the direction of Greece. The Hellenic government in consequence of these reports notified Turkey that if this news should be confirmed corresponding military and naval measures would be taken immediately by Greece.

In Asiatic waters there have been warlike activities on the part of Germany and Great Britain since July 30 when British gunboats at Hankow, China, and at other ports were dismantled and deserted, and their crews sent to Hongkong, the British "sphere of influence" in China. Next day the British fleet left Wei-Hai-Wei and sailed for Hongkong. Meanwhile German reserves throughout China were hastening to Tsing-Tau, the fort in Kiau-Chau, Germany's "leased province" in China, and all German merchant ships in Adriatic as well as other waters were ordered to seek neutral ports. On August 5 the German warships which had gathered in Tsing-Tau were said to have sailed away.

The Japan government—which as early as August 4 had voluntarily proclaimed their intention to abide by Japan's treaty with Great Britain and had later reiterated this decision—gave on the 11th Japan's treaty obligations with Great Britain as the reason for her not accepting China's suggestion that China, the United States and Japan should endeavor to mediate the European conflict. And on August 16 the following ultimatum was sent by Japan to Germany:

We consider it highly important and necessary in the present situation to take measures to remove the causes of all disturbances of the peace in the far east and to safeguard the general interests, as contemplated by the agreement of alliance between Japan and Great Britain.

In order to secure a firm and enduring peace in eastern Asia, the establishment of which is the aim of the said agreement, the imperial Japanese government sincerely believes it to be its duty to give the advice to the imperial German government to carry out the following two propositions:

First—To withdraw immediately from Japanese and Chinese waters German men-of-war and armed vessels of all kinds, and to disarm at once those which cannot be so withdrawn.

Second—To deliver on a date not later than September 15 to imperial Japanese authorities, without condition or compensation, the entire leased territory of Kiaochau, with a view to the eventual restoration of the same to China.

The imperial Japanese government announces at the same time that, in the event of it not receiving by noon on August 23, 1914, an answer from the imperial German government signifying its unconditional acceptance of the above advice offered by the imperial Japanese government, Japan will be compelled to take such action as she may deem necessary to meet the situation.



Mexican Affairs.

The Constitutionalist General Alvaro Obregon with about 10,000 men entered and took possession of Mexico City on August 15 in the name of General Carranza. This was in fulfillment of an agreement entered into between Carranza and Governor Turbide of the federal district of Mexico City. Provisional President Carvajal had evacuated the city on August 13. Before leaving he issued a manifesto stating that his peaceful overtures had been met by Carranza with uncompromising demands for unconditional surrender. Thus being forced to choose between fighting and yielding, he chose the latter and said further:

The whole responsibility for the future rests with the revolution, and if we should behold with affliction a repetition of the situation which I am trying to put to an end, the truth will be manifested once more that by violence society cannot be reconstructed.

[See current volume, page 781.]



General Carranza is due to enter Mexico City on August 18 and begin arrangements for establishment of a permanent government.



United States and the European War.

Treasury experts completed a statement on August 12 indicating shortage of revenue through falling off of imports from the war zone. The normal revenue on imports from the countries affected approximates \$116,000,000.



An inquiry was made at the State Department on August 13 by J. P. Morgan and Co. concerning legality of a war loan to France. An answer was given on August 15 by Secretary Bryan as follows:

Inquiry having been made as to the attitude of this government in case American bankers are asked to make a loan to foreign governments during the war in Europe, the following statement is made:

There is no reason why loans should not be made

to the governments of neutral nations, but in the judgment of this government loans by American bankers to any foreign nation which is at war is inconsistent with the true spirit of neutrality.

Morgan and Co. accordingly announced that the loan would not be made.



That persons of foreign birth within the United States, whether naturalized or not, can not be compelled to return for military duty to their native lands was announced in a statement by Secretary Bryan on August 15.

"The United States," the statement declares, "holds that no naturalized citizen of this country can rightfully be held to account for military liability to his native land accruing subsequent to emigration therefrom, but this principle may be contested by countries with which this country has not entered into treaties of naturalization. The United States has concluded treaties of naturalization with Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Norway and Sweden."



The President has still under consideration the question of cable censorship. Protests lodged by representatives of Great Britain and Russia have caused a call for legal opinions on the attorneys for the Department of State and also on the Department of Justice. The matter is held up pending receipt of these legal opinions. The German Ambassador has protested against the censorship of wireless stations and this protest will also be passed upon by the Department attorneys. [See current volume page 781.]



Congressional News.

The conference report on the Ship Registry bill was vigorously opposed in the Senate. The opposition objected to the provision which allowed foreign vessels admitted to registry to at once engage in the coastwise trade. The conference bill was forced to a vote on August 17 and defeated by 40 to 20. Twenty Democrats and twenty Republicans voted nay and seventeen Democrats, two Republicans and one Progressive, aye. On motion of Senator O'Gorman the original House bill was then brought up and passed by 40 to 20. It once more passed the House on August 18. The bill, as adopted, removes restrictions against admission to American registry of all foreign built ships and allows the President to suspend laws requiring watch officers of American vessels engaged in foreign trade to be American citizens. [See current volume, page 783.]



The Senate on August 13 ratified eighteen of the twenty peace treaties with foreign nations providing for commissions of inquiry before resort to