

history. It is unmaking it, holding it up, if indeed history be a record of the development of human civilization.

It was not the Pharaohs who made the history of their age, they held it up with their wars. Moses, who led a people forth from bondage to build up a new civilization and to make laws that are of value today, made a very large chunk of the history of that epoch. It was not the Spanish Emperors with their Armadas and armies who made the history of medieval Europe. They tried their best to unmake it, but Columbus and Gutenberg, and a few others of that kind, managed to keep up a forward movement in the development of the human race. It was not Crecy nor Agincourt that made history for England, but it was the signing of Magna Charta and the Repeal of the Corn Laws which marked well-defined strides forward in the history of England's development. The discovery of steam did more to make history than a dozen of the most famous battles, however they turned out. Every great thinker, every great artist whose dreams inspire mankind to make them a reality—these are the history makers of all times.



No, gentle reader, we are not "making history now"—we are unmaking it—more's the pity.

GRACE ISABEL COLBRON.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

UTOPIA IN MARYLAND.

Oxford, Maryland, September 1.

Oxford is a curiosity. It is a democracy where there are no rich or poor, or at least where there are no sharp drawn lines or contrasts. There is no poverty. No workless class, and as for work, well, they don't do much after providing for their simple wants. It's hard to get help because of the abundance of opportunities for self-employment—oystering, fishing and crabbing. In oystering season a man and boy in a boat can earn from \$30 to \$50 per week if he works all the week and the weather permits. I have known men to earn \$10 and even \$25 per day. Do you suppose you can hire those fellows to work? The bottoms of the water abound in oysters and crabs. They are free, and what a man gets are his wages. He doesn't work all the time. He is satisfied with three days a week. They have a baseball team here, and I thought the fellows were the ordinary loafers you see around a ball ground. Fellows that lie on the grass and look up to the floating clouds, as I did when a five-year-old. So I "jacked" them on being in the easy class when some one said: "Why, Mr. Bingham, these boys have been to work. Got up early, caught a boatload of crabs and sold them to the canning factories, and have the money in

their pockets." Three days' work in a week is enough. There is no drunkenness. Living is cheap and house rent low, so are land values. The town is older than Baltimore and doesn't grow. They don't want the improvements (so-called). They are satisfied. If you want help, be good-natured and jolly them and perhaps you can get it. If you put on "airs" and are not considerate, you can't get any help. I had a whole crowd of colored people "just quit me," because I pushed them on some work. They don't starve. They get another job. Or, this being fine climate, they could sleep out of doors, and a confiscated chicken would give a sumptuous repast.

MILLARD F. BINGHAM.



HOME RULE CAMPAIGN IN CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco, Sept. 10.

The outlook at this moment is very encouraging. If all "good weather signs" do not fail us, and our ammunition and supply trains make connection, we shall surely win a great victory, not alone for California but for the cause all over the country.



In 1911 the California League of Municipalities at their annual conference held at Santa Barbara, after a thorough discussion of the local tax problems that confront every town and city administration, unanimously passed a resolution endorsing "Home rule in the matter of local taxation." At this conference there were 231 delegates, mayors, councilmen, city attorneys and others, from 87 cities of the state. The state controller and other prominent citizens participated in this discussion. At Berkeley in 1912, at their annual conference, "home rule in taxation" was endorsed by a five to one vote, of those voting. At this conference there were 308 delegates from 104 cities.

Again at Venice, California, 107 cities and 417 delegates endorsed the home rule amendment by a unanimous vote.

The 1913 Legislature passed the measure by a two-thirds majority vote.



The Farmers' Educational Co-operative Union, the Fruit Growers' convention and the State Federation of Labor have endorsed the amendment, while thirty-seven individual city councils have also endorsed it.

It would seem foolish, in the face of such facts, to have any fears of the measure carrying; but a similar measure was defeated in 1912, largely, as we believe, because the people did not understand it, and this will be the reason, or the principal reason, if it should be defeated this fall. This lack of information, coupled with a conservative fear based upon prejudice (preconceived and illogical opinions) that obtains with the masses, must be overcome in some way. The printed page is the most potent agency by which to do this. But this means money for stamps, for printing and clerical help. To send leaflets explaining the matter to each voter would mean thousands of dollars for a one-cent stamp to each one, aside from other expenses.

Our friends must not forget that we have 48 amendments and initiative measures to vote upon this fall and that the local papers are deluged with demands for space from the friends of each measure. The wet and the dry amendments and the eight-hour-a-day amendment all are calling for funds and favors.

Aside from these obstacles, we must not forget that the friends and diplomats of special privilege, tax dodgers and the brigands of speculative values are now using the purchasable columns of newspapers, both in the city and country, to befog and deceive the people.

If you want this amendment to carry, send your pennies, dimes and dollars to the Joseph Fels Fund. Prompt action will help us to win the day—delay may mean defeat.

J. W. WELLS.

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, September 15, 1914.

The European War.

The general course of the war now favors the Allies. The French and English are forcing back the Germans in France, the Belgians and English are clearing them out of Belgium, the Russians, while retiring in Eastern Prussia, are meeting with marked success in Austria. No great sea fight has taken place. The losses of life and property are enormous, but very few accurate details have been published. [See current volume, page 874.]



Japan.

Japan's censorship has been so thorough that no information regarding military operations in the neighborhood of Kiau-Chau has been allowed to leak out. A German dispatch says 20,000 Japanese have landed at Lung-Kow. The Chinese government is trying to maintain strict neutrality.



Turkey.

The Ottoman Empire still holds aloof from the war, but has seized upon the present opportunity to abrogate the conventions, treaties and privileges whereby foreigners in that country were exempt from local jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases. Heretofore foreign subjects in Turkey have enjoyed extraterritorial rights, through which they have been tried by their own judges, diplomatic representatives or consuls. The announcement as given out by the Turkish Ambassador at Washington, A. Rustem Bey, reads:

A cablegram to the Turkish ambassador from the Ottoman minister of foreign affairs states that by imperial irade the Ottoman government has abrogated as from the first of October next, the conven-

tions known as the capitulations restricting the sovereignty of Turkey in her relations with certain powers.

All privileges and immunities accessory to these conventions or issuing therefrom are equally repealed. Having thus freed itself from what was an intolerable obstacle to all progress in the empire, the imperial government has adopted as the basis of its relations with the other powers the general principles of international law.



These conventions extend back to the eleventh century, when the Venetians had the right of trial by judges appointed in Venice and resident at Constantinople. Similar conventions covered the economic field, and prevented the Turkish government from fixing tariff duties without the consent of foreign powers, or of imposing professional taxes on foreigners. The Turkish government takes the position that this is humiliating to Turkey, as well as being a hardship.



The Franco-German Campaign.

The German advance in France was checked on the 8th. Up to that time the great army that had come down through Belgium, reinforced by the armies that had crossed through Luxemburg and Lorraine, had swept without a pause to the environs of Paris. But though the Allies had given way before the invaders, they had not been broken or disorganized, and their presence in the field made it impossible for the Germans to invest Paris. This led to a change of campaign that involved the swinging of the German right wing clear to the eastward of Paris, with the apparent purpose of bending the Allies' left back upon their center, and so bringing on a decisive battle. This plan failed; and after driving the Allies across and beyond the river Marne the advance ceased. On the 7th began the battle of the Marne, engaging, it is reported, the largest number of men ever participating in a single battle. On the 8th the German forces began to give way at the extreme right. The defeat extended up the line, as the invaders recrossed the Marne; and by the 10th and 11th the whole German army from Lorraine south and west, with the exception of Verdun and in the forest of Argonne, was in retreat. The retirement of the army has been so rapid quantities of guns, ammunition, supplies, the exhausted and the wounded were left to the pursuers, but there has been no rout. The army has reformed beyond the river Aisne, where there is promise of another battle, which will determine whether or not the Germans will have to quit French soil.



A war loan of 1,000,000,000 marks was announced in Berlin on the 9th. The loan will consist of 5 per cent treasury bonds and government notes, which are to be offered at 97.50, and will be