

model for writing the history of other European regions, amongst them Vojvodina, whose capital is Novi Sad, which is a twin city to Timisoara.

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Slavica Popović Filipović, *The Great War Revisited*, Valjevo: Istorijски arhiv, 2017, 273 pages.

(Slavica Popović Filipović, *Svedočanstva iz Prvog svetskog rata*, Valjevo: Istorijски arhiv, 2017, 273 str.)

The history of the Great War has become even more enhanced in the Centennial Year since the end of the War thanks to the publication of the book *'The Great War Revisited'* by Slavica Popović Filipović. According to the author, 'the book is dedicated to heroes, heroines, humanists, and philanthropists from all around the world, and in memory and great respect for all charitable deeds and noble sacrifices made to the Serbian people in the most turbulent time in the First World War'.

The author has written the history of foreign medical missions and philanthropy in Serbia during the First World War on 258 pages. The revision (pages 259–260) was done by Velibor Vidić, a historian from Valjevo, the translations were done by Bob Filipović, while the author's words of gratitude follow up on pages 261–262. The references are on the final pages (263–273). The photo illustration of the Scottish Women's Hospital on the front and back cover give an additional dimension to the text inside. This monographic book is divided into two discrete parts that are complementarily interrelated.

The first part of the book, *The Foreign Medical Missions in Serbia during the First World War*, encompasses medical assistance from Russia, France, the United States, Greece, Holland, Denmark, the Czech Republic, and the British hospitals and individual humanitarians. Special attention is given to the medical

assistance from Russia and the medical missions that came to Serbia to provide medical assistance – The Mission of the Petrograd Slavic Humanitarian Society headed by Dr. Nikolay Ivanovich Sichev and other Russian medical missions. The greatest portion of the first part of the book involves the British medical assistance by the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service headed by Dr. Elsie Maud Inglis. These were located in Serbia, Russia, Dobruja, the Salonica Front, and in France. As well as the Serbian Relief Fund Units in: Skopje (two units), Kragujevac, Belgrade, Požarevac, Corfu, the Salonica Front, Corsica, and Tunisia – both during the war, and after, and other British medical missions. The rest of the first part of the book relates to medical missions and assistance from France, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, and Japan.

The second part of the book relates to the humanitarians, volunteers, and philanthropists, who came to help the Serbian people, such as: Mihajlo Pupin, Dr. Elsie Maud Inglis, Mr. John Frothingham and Mrs Jelena Lozanić Frothingham, Sir Thomas Lipton, Lady Paget and Sir Ralph Spencer Paget, Dr. Ludvik Hirschfeld, Dr. Catherine MacPhail, Dr. Isobel Emslie Lady Hutton, Mrs Mabel St. Clair Stobart, Madam Mabel Grouitch and Mr. Slavko Grouitch, Dr. Rosalie Slaughter Morton, Dr. William Hunter, Dr. Edward William Ryan, Dr. Sergei Kvantilianovich Sofoterov, Dr. Nikolai Ivanovich Sichev, Mrs Alexandra Pavlovna Hartvig, Honorable Evelina Haverfield, Miss Olive Kelso King and Sir George Kelso King, Miss Annie Christitch, Mrs Hanna Henkin Hardy, Miss Flora Sandes, Mrs Helen Harley Jenkins, Lady Cornelia Wimbourne, who sent help or came to Serbia all the way from the Pacific and the Atlantic to the Balkans, during the most perilous period of the First World War.

In addition to all the above named, this chapter also includes passages about the typhoid epidemic: *'The Terrible Truth about Serbia'*, by Sir Thomas Lipton, *The Springtime in Vranje After the War* by Dr. Isabel Emslie, Lady Hutton, *All Women Doctors, Hospital Under Shellfire and the Serbian Character* by Dr. Agnes Bennett, Australian doctor, *Experiences in Serbia, 1914–*

1915, by Dr. James Morrison, the Report by New Zealand doctor Mary Blair on *the Voyage of the First Group of Serbian Refugees to Corsica*, a letter of Mihailo Đokić, *Our People on Corsica*, a report by Miss Mary Josephine Bedford about *the Serbs at the Salonica Front*, as well the Diary of the Australian nurse – Jane Edith MacKay.

The book by Slavica Popović Filipović lists the names of great world humanitarians and physicians who, by coming to help at such a decisive and turbulent time, contributed to Serbia becoming a cosmopolitan state. At the same place and time there gathered such outstanding and elite medical doctors and numerous humanists, writers, and chroniclers, like: Rudolph Archibald Reiss, Henri Barbusse, John Read, Fortier Jones, Mrs Mabel Stobart, Lady Margaret Leila Paget, Miss Francesca Mary Wilson, Stella Miles Franklin, who as participants and eyewitnesses of hardships in the wartime period wrote valuable accounts of the terrible suffering of Serbs in the Great War. Despite all the hardship and suffering the book *The Great War Revisited* proves, according to the author, that ‘there is no oblivion in the history’. We see the proof of those words in the postage stamps ‘The British Heroines of the First World War in Serbia’, published by the ‘Post Office of Serbia’, which included: Miss Flora Sandes, Dr. Elsie Maud Inglis, Dr. Katherine Stuart MacPhail, Dr. Isobel Galloway Hutton, Dr. Elizabeth Ross, and the Honourable Evelyn Haverfield, and thus paid respect to these courageous women.

The Second Part of the Book contains highly valuable written accounts and memoirs of the humanist volunteers, who thanks to the author’s diligent research and the translations by Bob Filipović have been brought back from the past to see the light of day again and thus made a significant contribution to uncovering new facts and historical truths. The chapter begins with a quotation from Dr. Elsie Inglis: ‘You see we are in a very sad country, but it is the pluckiest country in Europe, without exception. Here they are with their best men perishing on every side, and they make no complaint, and never think for a moment of giving in...’ The value of this translation is in the fact that when this book was published it was a centennial of the death of Dr.

Elsie Maud Inglis, the founder and head of Scottish Women’s Hospitals, the Honorary Secretary of the Scottish Federation of Women’s Suffragettes Society, and the first woman doctor to be awarded the Serbian Order of White Eagle.

The Australian writer Stella Miles Franklin, a famous Australian writer, in her text written at the Salonica front and dedicated to the Serbs ‘Ne mari ništa’ noted: ‘Serbs are worthy of preserving for eugenic, if from no other purpose, but for the genetics. Serbs are the most hospitable people on earth... In spite of everything, Serbs had not lost loving kindness, courage, cheerfulness or a sense of humour, but the shadow on their faces compared with the brightness on the Canadians, showed that hope, which rarely be killed outright, was at least very thickly clouded.’

Lady Paget, a volunteer nurse, and the Head of the First Serbian Relief Fund Unit in Skopje, wrote some of the most touching accounts of the history of Serbian women: ‘One of our most trivial statements about women refers to the fact that trouble seems to bring out their best qualities. Perhaps that is another reason why Serbia’s history is not only a history of crushed hopes and sacrifice without end and without worthy reward, but a history of great women. All down the path of their story they form a long line – like the gallery of Mestrovic’s caryatides – and when the road plunges into gloom, it seems that it is they who carry the lamps that light up the darkness from one generation to another until better days.’

Personal accounts of Mrs Mabel Stobart represent historical records of the participation of women in the First World War. In her book *The Flaming Sword in Serbia and Elsewhere* she left an interesting account about women doctors: ‘I was a little surprised at the matter-of-fact way in which Serbian men all accepted women doctors and surgical operations by women. Indeed, they highly approved, because women were, they said, more gentle, and yet as effective as men doctors.’

This book by Slavica Popović Filipović uncovers new and updated information about philanthropists and medical missions from the Netherlands, Denmark, Greece and the Czech Republic, which had been little known before in historical records. Detailed information about

medical history in the Balkans provides records of numbers of foreign doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff, their location, numbers of medical examinations, surgical operations, hospital treatments, etc. The book elaborates the British Medical Missions that were located in Kragujevac, Belgrade, Požarevac, Skopje and Vrnjačka Banja. Also just uncovered are the first mentions of the three Irish women who worked under Mrs Mabel Stobart in the Third Serbian Relief Fund Unit in Kragujevac. This invites further research into the Irish medical help in Serbia.

The last passage in the Book (p. 258) records history, memories, and a message: 'Here we are, 100 years after these historical events. Is everything lost and gone, or is the recovery of these great witness accounts able to ensure that the history of certain events can be preserved and maintained in future memories of them?'

The author in her book *The Great War Revisited*, besides moving and reaching the new limits of knowledge of the history of medicine and philanthropy, also proves that Clio is an unlimited source of discoveries, which enables the historical truth to see the daylight even a century since its origin.

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Marco Cuzzi, *Dal Risorgimento al Mondo Nuovo. La Massoneria italiana nella Prima guerra mondiale*, Milano: Mondadori Education S. p. A, 2017, 406 pages.

An uncompromising loyalty to the universal principles of world masonry embodied in anticlericalism and cosmopolitanism, or skillfully adapted to the current, unequivocal foreign policy – it is something necessary to be understood in the complexity of Italian Masonry, its aims, intentions, activities and plans during the First World War. All this is covered in interesting study entitled *Dal Risorgimento al Mondo Nuovo. La Massoneria italiana nella Prima guerra mondiale* by the

historian and professor of contemporary history at the University of Milan, Marco Cuzzi. Based on rich archival material documents, the subject of this research is the policy of Italian Masonry according to the idea of Italy's entry into the war on the side of the Allies, but also its overall attitude toward the horrors and difficulties of the First World War.

The strong rootedness in the ideals of Risorgimento did not discourage the representatives of Italian Masonry that with the flow of time and the complication of European imperialist politics at the end of the 19th century, they turned to the means of 'just war' (*guerra giusta*), which implied the general increase of the Italian irredentist projects. This gradual radicalization of the leading Italian mason lodge – Great Orient of Italy (*Grande Oriente d'Italia*) – should be viewed in the context of the pressures made by socialists, nationalists and the Catholic, clerical public – the three groups whose actions the Masons in the socially and politically divided Italian society were most concerned about. The author underlines, especially in the first chapter entitled *La massoneria nella neutralità (1914)*, the difficulty of the masonry to prove to Salandra's government in the first months of the war its inconspicuous and legalistic character. Their work was reflected in the collection of volunteers and the organization of committees (*comitati massonici*) that would become committees for civilian assistance to the families of the wounded and dead. Italian masons also organized the propaganda and mobilization committees through lodges in Italian cities. In this chapter it is explained that, for example, the GOI maintained good ties with Hungarian and German obediences despite the policy of pressure on the Italian government to enter the war.

The book is chronologically divided into four major chapters which follow the intertwining of war events with the events in which the leadership of the Masonry was drawn into the years 1914–1918. Through a multitude of archival documents and official journals of the two leading and most influential Italian lodges, the aforementioned GOI, and *Serenissima Gran Loggia Nazionale (SGLN)*, an emphasis is placed on press and newspaper articles. The author describes, especially in the chapter titled *Intervento e*