

## NICOLAE IORGA AND "NEAMUL ROMÂNESC" ABOUT REBELLIONS IN 1907

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*ABSTRACT: NICOLAE IORGA WAS ONE OF THE MOST PRESENT FIGURES IN PUBLIC LIFE FROM THE EARLY DECADES OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. IN THE YEAR 1906, IORGA SET UP A PUBLICATION NAMED "NEAMUL ROMÂNESC", WHICH APPEARED UNTIL 1940, BEING WRITTEN ALMOST ENTIRELY BY THE GREAT HISTORIAN. FOR MORE THAN A MONTH THIS NEWSPAPER WOULD BE DEVOTED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO THE EVENTS OF THE SPRING OF 1907.*

*KEYWORDS: PEASANTRY, RIOT, IORGA, NEAMUL ROMÂNESC, LIBERAL PARTY.*

One of the greatest admirers of the Romanian village, unabashed sympathizer of peasantry, follower of the idea of reconstruction of Romanian society around the values represented by rural indigenous world, Iorga was in the midst of the events of the spring of 1907. Every issue of "Neamul Românesc" was devoted almost exclusively to the peasant rebellion, has tried to achieve the adoption of measures to come to the aid of the peasantry, and after the rebellion began a campaign to raise funds for helping farmers who had suffered as a result of clashes between them and the security forces.

In the pages of the newspaper "Neamul Românesc" Iorga critique the attitude of both representatives political parties toward "country" issue, the evolution of events, comment on the attitude of landowners and employers towards peasants and their claims.

In the March 15 of the "Neamul Românesc", three days after the Conservative Government's dismissal, appreciate that the Liberals were at that time the only solution to start "work of salvation". Entered in the unique atmosphere of the time of the formation of the new Government, unique rare solidarity displayed by the Romanian political class, Iorga called for all political forces to support the liberal government, arguing that "not doing that, would be to support the old enemies of our nation, of which some are called by Jews to break ground, and others over the Danube may have their hands in those horrendous acts from Teleorman, which do not bear the seal of good and forgiving nature of our nation"[1].

Being a sympathiser of the peasantry and a defender of its cause, Iorga found a moral justification of rebellion and characterize their movement as "fight with the law, humanity, with political, metaphysics, international diplomacy, with the ruling ideas of the civilized world, with the interests of aliens, oppressors and politicians, but not with those

of the everlasting righteousness which, more than all forms of top pre fleetinglink's eyes, to not see "[2].

Iorga believed that the Conservative Government's ruling on the first part of the rebellion, ought to turn to the meetings and negotiations between representatives of the peasants and the landlords and tenants on the other. Focusing the army reached the situation where "enemies found themselves face to face." The army rejected rebels assaults, but in the localities in which the authorities didn't sent troops, peasants have devastated these villages after they got in touch with the slums who most live only because it allows Jews parasitic"[3].

In Suceava where, according to press reports, minor incidents had taken place in comparison with those in other parts of the country, but where the reaction of the forces of order had been more promptly, "Neamul Românesc" consider that part of the blame for the escalation of the conflict would be returned and the Prefect "a violent man" to whom would be due, at least in part, "the harshness of the crackdown" wild. Iorga's opinion was influenced by the fact that the riots from Suceava were directed, in most cases, against the Jews.

In Covurlui County, where the riots did not burst yet, authorities responded violently to a petition filed by some peasants from Galați, the violence would have resulted, according to the "Neamul Românesc", with three victims (two women and one child). Commenting on this, Iorga concluded that "it turns out that our peasant put his hand on the club only when he sees in front, for him and for his people, the danger of death from hunger, you don't know which of the top bloated would receive her with his hands crossed"[4].

"Neamul Românesc" catalog as "stupid and unconstitutional" the action of the Conservative Government to stop the press access to the villages, action wich was revoked by the new Minister of the Interior Ion I. C. Brătianu. The Conservative Government motivated the measures by the need to convey to the country's only official information, accurate, undistorted.

In the March 16, "Neamul Românesc" made brief characterizations of the new Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of the Interior. Thus, as regards D. A. Sturdza, this "undoubtedly he was not an understanding of new times and new people, no great friend of reforms. But there's not a fanatic defender of the single order, be ready to collect it in the innocent blood ... it's appropriate at this point to be named at the Foreign, where is needed a name commonly known, giving itself a guarantee. " About Brătianu, "Neamul Românesc"noted that: "many are wondering if he, a personality more elegant irony and witticism, will find the energy it takes to be in a country where propitiatory today every moment ignites another fire and empties new blood"[5].

In an article of A. C. Cuza titled "Our own ones" published by "Neamul Românesc", he remembered a few words from the speech of Ion C. Brătianu in a session of the Assembly of deputies in February 1863: "entered the peasant idea that whole head caused evil suffering country, is the owner. If it beat the stone if it rains frogs, the cause is that the owners have properties. That is why the head of State, I said as I was in the Government not to touch the thing, seek first to fraternize, the light spirits on both sides "[6]. How true these words was, in adversity shown by peasants against the owners but also the ignorance of the latter against "county issue" after more than 40 years since they had been uttered by the founder of the Liberal Party!

With the expansion into the southern, rebellion grew and the intensity of the violence, which determine Iorga to write that: "there is choice between romanian and foreign, between good and evil man. Any mansion property is attacked. In any townsmen sees an enemy. Old hatred extinguished in the heart overflows in rivers of fire will destroy any "[7].

Although declaring against the violent character of peasant movements which they tabulate unworthy for a good Christian, Iorga made a call to the Romanian political class, urging him "to remove smoke and wrath of researching the true causes of the horrors what were happening". Iorga try to make the landowners understand that peasant movements would be primarily due to the inequality of the most important classes of society in our country, claiming that "the rough coat of peasant like the thin coat of the master, man's all man, with the same right to live with the same possible to feel the wounds, to insults them, to remember them, to seek to revenge "[8].

"Neamul Românesc"'s attitude to taunt Conservatory party against the liberal government's repressive action, considering that the military action could have been avoided if the former Conservative Government would use all "paths of reconciliation"[9].

From "Neamul Românesc" we find that a Jewish soldier of a company acting in Panciu, loaded his gun with ammunition for the war, although it was ordered a blind bullets attack upon the peasants. According to the reports, the soldier in question had already been sent to court"[10].

Iorga wrote that if they will not pursue the reforms after the Suppression of rebellion, the two "enemy" classes will be found again face to face: on the one hand the peasants with undying claim for appropriation, defeated only by suppressive force of the State, on the other hand "the tenant, frenchifield owner, the liberal politician, conservative, junimist, journalist who courts or journalist who sold himself for audience, burgeoisie, until the latter journeyman Barber, the society of women, they are all asking the crushing of barbarians, the estates cleaning of the peasant beast, agitators and instigators searching , their arrest and murder."[11].

"Neamul Românesc" posted and an article in which it was presented the German press image. Thus, the newspapers with large circulation papers, the ones that were forming public opinion in that country "throws the country's most egregious insults, the most tremendous facts in the backs of barbaric and lush peasant, things from way out of revolting that know good nature, shrouded in addition to edges of patience, of the Romanian people in General". On the other hand the local newspapers, as well as those belonging to political groups avoided to comment in any way rebellions, stating that "they are the ones that give the whole articles, researching facts and often on the basis of figures for economic state and highlights the causes in a enlightened way, remove the judge as hasty and biased news to the other newspapers"[12].

"Neamul Românesc" quote, in the edition of March 29, an article in the "Independence" wich "asks the owners to not believe that repression is an encouragement to the other of anarchy"[13]. In other words, suppression of the rebellion army should not be interpreted as giving the right propritarilor.

Signaling an article appeared in the "Patria" newspaper, which called for the Government to take measures to allow peasants to stop being tortured, "Neamul Românesc" join this request on the basis that "the crime committed is different from a culture that without desperat-and risk their lives, and something else the crime committed by a possessor of power, relatively human worship and not risk anything"[14].

"Neamul Românesc" play and an article in "Patriotul" in which insinuate that the uprisings were aimed to "disappearance", the surviving owners class made about a group of "pantolonari" and not of peasants who would not have had reasons of discontent because "our peasants are much better than those from abroad"[15]. In the same article that owners and leaseholders of Râmnicu Sărat believed that Government should not succumb to the rebellion, and therefore pressures not to grant any kind of "relief".

Through his newspaper, Iorga drew the attention to the fact that in several districts of the country to carry out massive arrests among the peasants, even in the case of "mere suspicion unfounded or misleading denouncements".

Changing attitudes of the privileged class towards the peasantry and the reforms was surprised and "Neamul Românesc", which finds that "peace is restored with the help of guns, as well as those that had lost his temper at some point begin to regain it and, with safety and order guaranteed by the power of the army, returns and intransigence of the interests that are not going to concede anything"[16].

"Neamul Românesc" declared against the measures tooked by authorities, of setting up the secret police structures: "is proposed the coating of a villages with a guard network that suppress any attempt to lift the rural masses to free culture and light", considering that such safety measures might not have any effect in our country: "these means of repression and of strangulation of possibility of free development for people will not lead to any result even though they would be as drastic. The repression of the possibility of revendication do not destroy any poverty nor injustice, economic exploitation[17]".

Ioanid tenant's facts, the fact that he had formed his own "army" which has punished peasants rebels by himself, recorded by all the press were interpreted ironically, as a "help" given the public authorities, "too poor ... looking and the fulfillment of the perpetrators"[18].

## REFERENCES

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