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FOUNDATION OF SOCIALISM

(Summary)

"Foundations of Socialism" is being published within the framework of the series La synthèse historique - dedicated to Peter Mihaylovich Bicilli. The ideas of Henri Berr, his book "La Synthèse Historique", his Centre de Synthèse Historique and his Revue de Synthèse Historique were a direct inspiration to Marc Bloch, Lucien Febvre and the Annales school. Peter Bicilli created, during much the same period, in Russia, Macedonia and Bulgaria, an East-European version of la synthèse historique. This version responds better to the psychological, philosophical and aesthetic needs of the Slavic soul. "Foundations of Socialism" analyses the basic socialist theories and their practical applicability. It criticises Marx's determinism upon the inevitable replacement of capitalism by socialism stating that "The historical resultant is composed of many forces. It is barely susceptible to a rough approximate estimate. That is why it is not possible this resultant to be outlined with absolute precision about the future". This makes "Foundations of Socialism" sound prophetic today, in 2008. The concept of a "historical resultant", reflecting the complexity and the unpredictability of the historical process, is basic in Bicilli's worldview. It grows into a concept of Fate in "Очерки теории исторической науки" - his main study upon la synthèse historique: "The fate of each individual, personality or people is an individual fate and because of this - a secret. And this is the most profound secret of life".