

being intimidated, the secret ballot was invented, so that a man might vote as if he were committing a crime; and the secret ballot has come to be the source of all political corruption, since a man may commit an act of treachery against his principles from which he would shrink if all the world were there to see. A corporation can venture to control the votes of its employees under cover of the secrecy of the ballot. If it were known that these men voted unanimously, then there would be proof where now there is only suspicion; and no corporation which is dependent upon the public for its profits could venture to engage in this kind of politics. With open voting the men would be free and the corporation would be shackled. None but a government can afford to play the part of the tyrant and dismiss its employees for the free exercise of their franchise.

Next, education was tried, and it was found useful in freeing men from the necessity of doing useful work, although it made them more capable of suffering from the work which they did. It ministered to laziness, and crippled craftsmanship by withdrawing from handiwork all those who had a certain facility in reading and remembering what is contained in books. It produced inefficient workmen and gave a kind of education which is worse than no education at all. When failure was encountered along this line of march a departure was made into industrial education instead of a frank retreat, but it will be many years before we discover that trades cannot be taught so casually as that. A trade must be learned for its own sake and not under the delusion that it is being acquired for some ulterior purpose of education.

Democracy has come to an impasse because it can find no one to do its work on the terms which it imposes; and the assumption is quite unwarranted that a mass of men will automatically transact its business and regulate its public affairs by the mere calling of itself a democracy. It is not to the interest of all the people that they should be governed well. It is to the interest of so many persons that the people should be governed badly that enough persons are