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INDUSTRIAL EUROPE SEEN THROUGH AMERICAN EYES

Why the Masses are Poor and the Classes are Rich—American Superiority—Competition and Dumping—Final Conclusion.

Liverpool, Eng., Sept. 2.—On the eve of my return to the United States I have been thinking much of the industrial revolution that has taken place in Europe since I read many years ago. Among the incidents of the revolution the one that most impressed me was the fact that agricultural laborers were no longer, as they once were, impressed laborers, but were free laborers, the result being that the masses were no longer poor, but rich. It is not the masses, but the classes that are poor, and the classes that are rich. It is not the masses, but the classes that are poor, and the classes that are rich. It is not the masses, but the classes that are poor, and the classes that are rich.

More Machinery in the United States.—One must be exceedingly cautious in making comparisons between the machinery in the United States and Europe. I have seen factories here that are equipped with about the same machinery as in Europe. Perhaps it is true, too, that there are more kinds of special machines in the United States than in Europe, but if European machinery continues to invest in machinery during the next decade as they have recently, an equilibrium is likely to be established. Though British conservatism is the counting room, as well as in the works, has made the introduction of new machinery slow, competition is compelling their use, so that no country can for any great length of time claim a monopoly in this respect.

Accounting for Differences.—There is no other way for accounting for the physical difference between the masses and the classes. The environments of the masses have tended to produce mentally and physically stunted aggregations of servile common people, the environments of the classes have tended to produce arrogant, vain, and sensual, and mental and physical superiority. And in each case the average European citizen considers that the inferiority of the masses and the superiority of the classes are of divine origin, and therefore not to be questioned. Thus does superstition hold us in a vice of the theories of the wage-working classes of Europe.

Competition With the United States.—The manufacturers of the United States are not going to send the manufacturers of Europe to the bottom of the sea. They will always be some things that we have done better in Europe than in America. We shall dominate those lines of manufacture where our raw material is best adapted to production. I doubt if the manufacture of the best grades of woolen fabrics can be created from England, or of silk from France. Perhaps atmospheric conditions have much to do with this. There are lines of steel production that will be next to impossible to shake out of England's grip. Our tariff can be placed high enough to keep some things out of the United States, compelling the American people to put up with inferior articles at monopoly prices, but this is a different proposition in winning markets by merit.

America's Superiority.—The United States is a better country for wage workers than the British Isles or Europe, because of the great quantities of cheap, fertile land open to them, a dry atmosphere, which is favorable to the human body; comparatively free land; freedom from governmental oppression; and the fact that the masses are no longer poor, but rich. It is not the masses, but the classes that are poor, and the classes that are rich.

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manufacturers of this Dominion are not so highly organized and their large and small financial interests so completely at the mercy of those who control the money market, that our employers in the building trades are unable to give us the wages we ask for, even when they are willing to do so. The problem before us is how we are to reach these high magnates of Canadian manufacturing. The business and sale purposes of trade unionism is to make things more happy and comfortable for the manual toiler. Even the old established and popular National Policy is no friend of trade unionism unless it works for the betterment of the toiler.

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