

The 3d solution, and the only one worth considering, is that offered us by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Let love take the place of selfishness, and let the golden rule be the basis of every contract between owner and workmen. Let there be a sense of responsible leadership in the employer and of personal loyalty in the employed. Let progress mean to us the elevation of humanity rather than the amassing of riches, and then this will be an age of progress indeed. Let our people care less for what they have and more for what they are. It has been well written of this age :

“For we throw out acclamations of self-thanking, self-admiring,
With at every mile run faster, O the wondrous, wondrous age,
Little recking if we work our souls as nobly as our iron,
Or if angels will commend us at the goal of pilgrimage.

“If we trod depths of ocean, if we struck the stars in rising,
If we wrapped the earth intensely with one hot electric breath,
’Twere but power within our tether, no new spirit power comprising,
And in life we were not better men nor nobler ones in death.”

All possible political wisdom (I weigh my words), is summed up in one short sentence of Scripture, “Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” And the law of Christ to be fulfilled is as brief—“A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another.” When that law is made the rule of human business ; when employer and employed, capitalist and laborer, do indeed bear one another’s burdens, then shall strikes be forgotten, dynamite be no more, while rich and poor will meet together in one grand brotherhood before the Lord, the maker of them all. All classes are burdened and need help in their burden-bearing. The rich are burdened in ways of which the poor never dream. Ill health, family troubles, the worry and care of large estates, are burdens as heavy as is poverty with all its ills. The most careworn and anxious faces one meets upon the streets are those of the largest property-holders. They are the ones who drop overburdened and exhausted into early graves, and who have time for nothing outside the narrow round of business cares. They are the ones, too, on whom falls heaviest the trial of worthless, inefficient, dissipated sons and sons-in-law. And in all these burdens they need the help of love and sympathy.

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” Let the employe bear the employer’s burden by doing all he can to relieve his anxiety that all shall go well in factory or mill or whatever the establishment may be. Let the workman see that his work is well done and promptly done; that the articles he uses are in good order, and that there is as little wear and tear on what he handles as care and skill can secure. Let him look upon his employer as a good soldier looks upon his colonel, and take in the establishment the loving pride which a soldier takes in his regiment. Thus he will lighten his employer’s burdens, while his own hardships will be sweetened and his toil glorified.