

MODERN MECHANIZATION AND ITS

mechanization that accompanied and has followed the late war.

I have begun with these familiar, perhaps too familiar, facts and generalizations because I think it is necessary to have them clearly in mind in order to keep a due sense of perspective and proportion as we look at the many-faceted phenomena of modern mechanization. I shall now comment in turn upon the special features which this presents as compared with the earlier mechanization of the last century; and the changes which it seems to indicate in our economic and financial system, in our forms and methods of government, in our educational policy, in our social structure and social ethics, and in the kind of life which man may hope to enjoy in the generations ahead of us. Let us throughout remember, and remember equally, that mechanization offers a conditional promise to man of all the material elements of happiness and civilization for the whole of the world's population; that the condition is that man should reform the organization he has himself created and learn to control his own human relationships; that mechanization is at once new in the scale of human history, but old by the scale of the lives of individual man; and that, while the accelerated developments of recent years present us