

American labor has dug the ditch at Panama.

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Why?

Because his employer worked for the welfare of the men who worked for him.

To wait until conditions are such as to bring on a strike or to wait until there is a painful bodily reaction, is courting trouble and paying for the doctors' care.

I don't mean to say too much but a small problem is often part of a big one. The world at present seems to be in a period of transition. Some people are trying to resist the natural evolution of things and some others are trying to force them along. Aristotle said the wise man adopted the means between extremes. You know he was a wise man. I feel that the progress of civilization is not attained by the will power of the individual but rather by that intelligence which accomplishes a successful adaptation to the prevailing and changing conditions of national, and now more particularly, of world environment. The Captains of industry are the men today who can level up or level down the standards of our life and citizenship. A farm is known by its fruits and a nation by its men. The real wealth of this nation is not measured by the bulk of the food and commodities produced but by the kind and character of the men who are its citizens. Industrial co-operation has produced an abundance of produce and commodities. Social co-operation should be able to spend the means more effectively.

Dr. Binder, Professor of Sociology of New York University, claimed in a talk I heard him deliver before the University Forum a year or so ago, that politically and industrially we were working at cross purposes. He claimed that we needed a socialized individualism and individualized socialism. As an illustrative gesture, he ran the fingers of opposite hands together. Germany is said to have an industrial socialism and a political feudalism and we are said to have a political democracy and an industrial feudalism.

Practically all forms of government as we find them today were made when our social conditions were radically different. A hundred years ago, the majority of the population in all countries was engaged in agriculture. Government was conceived in terms of land. In England the great landlords claimed a share with the King in making the laws and spending its money. After the House of Lords was formed, other persons seeking a share in the government formed the House of Commons. You are familiar with the Rotten Borough system. The men who formed the system of government conceived their plan as a system more or less static. That is the fault with many forms of government; they are conceived as a thing static. All conditions are more or less dynamic.

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