

Professional men and men in sedentary occupations are the principal buyers, and the result must be that there shall be a drawing together of the various classes and the formation of a bond of sympathy between them which cannot fail to benefit both.

The handicraftsman shall reap a value in respect and consideration and progress made in the direction of that goal toward which Tolstoi looks so earnestly. However little I may regard Tolstoi the mystic, I have a large respect for Tolstoi the humanitarian.

It has been said that the Mechanical Hobby trains the faculty of observation and stimulates the desire for knowledge, and I am convinced that the reason for the poor work turned out by the average artisan is not so much low wages and the desire for cheap goods on the part of the public as it is to carelessness on the part of the workman.

The workman who studies carefully the requirements and observes closely the best examples of work done in his own line cannot fail to improve as a workman and will succeed proportionately.

The workman who can and does turn out the best that is in him can always find those who are willing and able to pay for his product.

The Mechanical Hobby is a quiet but powerful spirit working out the salvation of character and opposed strongly to the prevailing commercialism which is madly given to measuring all things, even men, by the sordid standard of dollars and cents.

In hundreds of factories, thousands of workmen turn out tens of thousands of chairs daily.

Down in his cellar or up in his garret or out in his woodshed the Amateur Mechanic will make an oak chair in six months, working at odd moments, putting his time, his labour, his thought, his individual self into that chair.

He knows each piece of wood, each joint, each screw—yes each scratch that refused so stubbornly to be rubbed out.

What are the tens of thousands of factory-made chairs alongside of this one?

It may be inferior, it may be wholly execrable—it matters not. The valuable element lies in the spirit in which the work was done.