

[page ix]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROLOGUE

CHAPTER ONE: The New Age of Plenty.....	1
CHAPTER TWO: Is the Intelligence of Man Capable of Creating a Stable Civilization?....	15
CHAPTER THREE: The Place of Religion in the History of Morals.....	24
CHAPTER FOUR: Christianity Builds a Kinder World.....	32
CHAPTER FIVE: Islam Transmits the Classic Culture.....	52
CHAPTER SIX: The Rise and Decline of Religions.....	67
CHAPTER SEVEN: The Need of a Spiritual Renaissance.....	78
CHAPTER EIGHT: A New World Movement.....	89
CHAPTER NINE: A World Wide Appeal.....	97
CHAPTER TEN: The Universal State.....	111
CHAPTER ELEVEN: Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself.....	122
CHAPTER TWELVE: Occident and Orient.....	141
CHAPTER THIRTEEN: Science and Religion.....	153
CHAPTER FOURTEEN: The New Economic State.....	164
CHAPTER FIFTEEN: Youth and the Modern World.....	177
CHAPTER SIXTEEN: Christianity and the New World Order.....	184
CHAPTER SEVENTEEN: Making a Better World.....	101
EPILOGUE.....	
.....	198

[page xi]

PROLOGUE

[page xiii]

Herein we may read the signs of the times

SECURITY

THE need for economic security is the most urgent requirement of our age. —
Prestonia Mann Martin.

THE basis of life must be made secure.--Henry Ford.

THE cry today is for order, for order and for security, as a refuge for a
disorganized, atomized, self-destructive society. It is the desire for order
and security which is behind every movement in the world today. — Dorothy
Thompson.

BOUNDLESS WEALTH

"Man's inventive genius has placed within mankind's reach boundless wealth,
sufficient for every inhabitant of this planet to enjoy life without
encroaching upon supplies of any of his fellows....

"And yet amidst all this abundance, we are inundated with myriads of starving,
ragged people, all because we have not the intelligence to see that the old
economic theories have become fallacies...

[page xiv]

and that just as our productive methods to which we owe this age of plenty have
been revolutionized, so our entire economic system must be reorganized." —
Arthur Kitson, British engineer, inventor and economist. Living Age, January,
1934.

THE FUTURE OF MANKIND

"Never before was man more powerful, never did he have more mechanical aids,
and never was he less able to see what the morrow would bring forth.... The
violent transformations of our material values and of our economic life have
found no corresponding developments in respect to new political and moral
creations. We look for some kind of redemption. We yearn for new values that
will make life worth living....

"You ask what recipe I would recommend. Well, my own private recipe is that we
must make every effort not to do anything that could increase the suffering in
the world — and at the same time we must try to make the distance that
separates men and beasts as wide as possible." — Paul Falery, Living Age,
November, 1933.

THE NEW CAPITALISM

"Capitalism itself is not a static concept. It, too, can evolve, is evolving.
If it has its faults, it has demonstrated also that it has its virtues.

Certainly

[page xv]

under capitalism alone has the paradox we have been considering [want in the
midst of plenty] ever existed. Up to the present, depressions have been
characterized by want in the midst of want. This depression is characterized by
want in the midst of plenty. Plenty is the new factor. If capitalism has been

responsible for the want, it is also responsible for the plenty. To change scarcity into potential abundance has been a tremendous feat. Capitalism has achieved it. To make abundance permanent, to distribute it more equitably, are steps that could not even be considered until the fight against scarcity has been won.

"Chronic insufficiency has been changed to actual and potential abundance. All the attitudes which we brought to our economic and social and political thinking have been developed out of a past in which there was not enough to go around. We have out-grown that past. We must begin to think with reference to new actualities." — From "Compulsory Spending," by Julius F. Stone, Relief Administrator for the State of Florida.

THE NEED OF SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

"The spiritual powers of the human heart are the only powers which are destined to banish and exterminate selfishness and greed, hatred and fear, from the soul of man. But who can arouse these dormant powers of the human heart and develop their irresistible force? Not the scientists and engineers,

[page xvi]

the leaders of the physical world. We must have similar leaders in the spiritual world. It is the highest mission of our civilization to find and to train such leaders and to aid them in their gigantic task of delivering the soul of man from the demons of materialism. The family and the school, the college and the university, and above all the church are called upon to carry the burdens of this sacred mission. They will receive every aid which science and engineering can give and are already giving today. This is my Message from Science." — Michael Pupin, Scribners, May, 1933.

THE IMPOTENCE OF STATESMANSHIP

"Humanity, whether viewed in the light of man's individual conduct or in the existing relationship between organized communities and nations, has, alas, strayed too far and suffered too great a decline to be redeemed through the unaided efforts of the best among its recognized rulers and statesmen — however disinterested their motives, however concerted their actions, however unsparing in the zeal and devotion to its cause. No scheme which the calculations of the highest statesmanship may yet devise; no doctrine which the most distinguished exponents of economic theory may hope to advance; no principle which the most ardent of moralists may strive to inculcate, can provide, in the last resort, adequate foundations upon which the future of a distracted world can be built.

[page xvii]

"No appeal for mutual tolerance which the worldly-wise might raise, however compelling and insistent, can calm its passions or help restore its vigor. Nor would any general scheme of mere organized international cooperation, in whatever sphere of human activity, however ingenious in conception, or

extensive in scope, succeed in removing the root cause of the evil that has so rudely upset the equilibrium of present-day society. Not even, I venture to assert, would the very act of devising the machinery required for the political and economical unification of the world — a principle that has been increasingly advocated in recent times--provide in itself the antidote against the poison that is steadily undermining the vigor of organized peoples and nations.

"Little wonder if one of Europe's pre-eminent thinkers, honored for his wisdom and restraint, should have been forced to make so bold an assertion: 'The world is passing through the gravest crisis in the history of civilization.' 'We stand,' writes another, 'before either a world catastrophe, or perhaps before the dawn of a greater era of truth and wisdom. It is in such times,' he adds, 'that religions have perished and are born.'

"Might we not already discern, as we scan the political horizon, the alignment of those forces that are dividing afresh the continent of Europe into camps of potential combatants, determined upon a contest that may mark, unlike the last war, the end of an epoch, a vast epoch, in the history of human

[page xviii]

evolution? — Might it not happen that out of this world eruption there may stream forces of such spiritual energy as shall recall, nay eclipse, the splendor of those signs and wonders that accompanied the establishment of the Faith of Jesus Christ? Might there not emerge out of the agony of a shaken world a religious revival of such scope and power as to even transcend the potency of those world-directing forces with which the Religions of the Past have, at fixed intervals and according to an inscrutable Wisdom, revived the fortunes of declining ages and peoples? Might not the bankruptcy of this present, this highly vaunted materialistic civilization, in itself clear away the choking weeds that now hinder the unfoldment and future efflorescence of God's struggling Faith?" — Shoghi Effendi, World Leader of the Bahá'í Movement.

[page 1]

single page

chapter 1

METADATA

Views49035 views since posted 2015-09-04; last edit 2026-04-18 16:37 UTC;

[previous at archive.org.../cobb_security_failing_world](#)

Language

English

Permission

fair use

History

Formatted 2015-09-04 by Jonah Winters.

Share

Shortlink: bahai-library.com/2129

Citation: ris/2129

select Collection:

Archives

Articles

Articles-unpublished

Audio

Bibliographies

BIC

Biographies

Books

Chronologies

Compilations

Compilations-NSA

Compilations-personal

Documents

East-asia

Encyclopedia

Essays

Etc

Excerpts

Fiction

Glossaries

Guardian

Histories

Introductory

Letters

Maps

Music

Newspapers

NSA-documents

NSA-letters

Personal

Pilgrims

Poetry

Presentations

Resources

Reviews

Scripts

Software

Statistics

Study

Talks

Theses

Transcripts

[Translations](#)
[UHJ-documents](#)
[UHJ-letters](#)
[Video](#)
[Visual](#)
[Writings](#)

[home](#)

[sitemap](#)

[series](#)

[chronology](#)

[search:](#)

[author](#)

[title](#)

[date](#)

[tags](#)

[adv. search](#)

[languages](#)

[inventory](#)

[bibliography](#)

[abbreviations](#)

[links](#)

[about](#)

[contact](#)

[RSS](#)

[new](#)

— Security for a Failing World (Used by permission of the curator)