

### The Joy of Work.

By D. Herbert Moore.

**T**HINK NOT, Sir Man-of-Lesurs, as you peep lazily through your heavily curtained window at the scurrying seven-o'clock crowd on the way to its daily toil, that you have the best of it because you can snuggle back beneath your luxurious covering and sleep until Jeems or Meadows brings your morning coffee and paper and asks if you prefer the Yo'ow Dragon or the Green Devil for your forenoon spin.

Do not lay the flattering unction to your soul that yours is the happier lot. Yonder youth with swaying step, with fists dug deep into the pockets of his threadbare coat and a cold luncheon wrapped in paper tucked beneath his arm, tastes a finer, sweeter joy than all your luxury can bring.

His is the pleasure of incentive—the glory of work. For there is a zest to it all. The quick spring from bed at the alarm clock's summons, the hastily swallowed breakfast, then out into the wine-like air of early morning. To work—vigorous work of brain or brawn, whether it be scratching away at a desk or directing the eternal grind of cranking machinery.

It is occupation—accomplishment! Do not pity these work-day folk. Save your sympathy for the hapless and hopeless idle fellows—the unfortunates or unwilling; alike commiserable. Joy goes with the working masses. There is joy in the noonday luncheon, whether in a glided cafe or a cold snack hastily devoured "before the work blows."

The evening meal is a feast to the weary man, and his well-earned rest is the greatest joy of all. Hard work is the greatest of all cures for insomnia. Thank God you can work!

Though your office labor strains your nerves and racks your brain, though the "shop" takes the best of your strength and vitality—be glad to be living, an active part of the working world.

You must earn your amusements before you can enjoy them. Ennui has no part in the strenuous life.

Be glad, for conscience' sake, that you are not one of those most miserable of all men, a fellow without a job—a human machine standing idle, rusting and losing its value from disuse.

Thank God you can work! When sorrow and grief come, when you seek to forget, to crush out cruel thoughts, thank God that you can absorb yourself in your occupation, plunge deep into the details of your duty.

Thank God that you can work—that you can grasp your pay envelope and say: "This is mine, the rightful pay for the labor of my brain, the just earnings of my strong right arm."

Be thankful, employer as well as employee, for the joy of working. You know the pleasure of it.

Do not deceive yourself by the promise (nine times in ten a pleasant little fiction), that by and by you will retire, ease up, and end your life in idle luxury.

The business game is not alone for the pleasure of the spoils, but for the joy of playing. What the world may call greed and avarice you know to be the fascination of success—the intoxication of accomplishment, and it will keep you untiringly at it—on your mettle in the battle—till the end of life.

For life is work. And work is life.—Judicious Advertising.

Why should a small, lean man pay as much to ride on a railway car as the bulky individual of large girth and weight? The man of much adipose not only takes up more room but it certainly costs more in coal or electric energy to haul him. Then why not make him pay by the pound, same as other live stock? These questions have been asked since the beginning of railway development. The unfairness of making the lean man pay as much as the fat man is readily conceded, but railway managers have been slow in evincing a willingness to correct the inequality. But at last we have a railway president who is willing to put his beliefs into practice and to set the pace for the timid ones who adhere to the old practice of hauling sheep and cattle and coal by the pound and human beings by the piece. The president of the new Pueblo and Benlah Valley Electric Railway in Colorado announces that when the road is completed each person will be required to step on an automatic registering scale at the ticket office, and the clerk will charge for transportation at the rate of a cent and a half a pound. The decision is a hopeful augury of the good time coming when there will be an "evening up" of all the inequalities and unjust discriminations from which man suffers, when the man who has a chin beard or side whiskers will not pay as much for a shave as the man with a smooth face, and the man with a number seven foot will not pay as much for shoes as the man with a number ten foot. Moreover, it may then be possible to figure just what it costs a railroad per ton per mile to haul "freight."

Indeed spin out the discussion at greater length than our predecessors and can introduce a far greater number of more or less irrelevant facts, but of serious argument, either for or against, we are entirely destitute.

Sudden prosperity is known to be a severe test of character. The "scientist" who lately said that really arid land was almost certain, sooner or later, to be ruined by irrigation, may have been reasoning from this trait in human nature. The Department of Agriculture does not support the "scientist's" charge. On the contrary, both Secretary Wilson and Professor Mitchell, of the National Irrigation Association, declare that long-continued experiments in Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California and other Western States confirm the wisdom of the government plans. The modern agricultural physician does not deny water to the patient who is burning with fever.

Oh, for just one more sight of those old girls who used to scream and giggle when an eligible man was mentioned, who liked to have their hands held by moonlight and who "felt as if they should sink" if a petticoat was mentioned in their presence. Where are they now? Go ask your grandma and see what she says. Perhaps she was there.

Somebody has remarked that the primary aim of all sorts of associations for good government is to reform not politicians, nor boodlers, nor scamps of any kind, but the entire body of citizens. The point is well taken. If all citizens will discharge all their duties as such there will be no use for these special associations.

It almost scares a mother to think how smart her son would be if he did not have some of the blood of his father's family in his veins.

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