

would help matters very much and take away the cause for complaint and that would be very much toward the betterment and contentment of man.

Mr. B.—You leave this impression with me that if there were no accumulations of money capital at all, affairs for the laborer would have a millenium fragrance about them.

Mr. A.—In the first place a shorter hour is a humane desideratum. In the second place, it is a social requirement. In the third place, it is an economic necessity.

Mr. B.—If I am vanquished in argument or in soundness of position I do not know when I'm "bicked," that is all. So I resume, we observe that all these benevolent schemes propose to draw upon the employer, make him the keeper of the funds with the idea that capital is like the widow's cruse of oil.

Mr. A.—Again your reasoning is wrong. Labor desires only its fair share of the earnings—no more.

Mr. B.—I still affirm that eight hours can be no permanent good, and in rerum natura cannot be.

Mr. A.—And I just as stoutly deny your affirmation and say that a great step forward will have been made when shorter hours are secured for labor.

Mr. B.—I would from the bottom of my heart that all men could make wages that would insure them against disease and old age.

Mr. B.—I agree there. I shall not undertake here now to show the ought or the how. I want to say this: As to the second reason generally adduced for wanting the hours of labor reduced one-fifth, it may be said that no schemes have been devised yet for making those idle hours profitable to men.

tribute] the products of labor. It is common for labor to say it has made all things that are, and is therefore entitled to a share in them—just as if it had had no share in them, just as if a contract was of no validity even though the laws of nations declare that it shall not be impaired.

It must be done by reference to results; that is by estimating accumulations and by summing up distributions embracing investments, pro rata division of general income to capital and to labor, and personal economy and expenditures.

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