

**INDUSTRIAL AND VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION: UNIVERSAL AND
SELF SUSTAINING (PAGAN
VERSUS CHRISTIAN
CIVILIZATIONS)**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649613045

Industrial and Vocational Education: Universal and Self Sustaining (Pagan Versus Christian Civilizations) by S. H. Comings

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

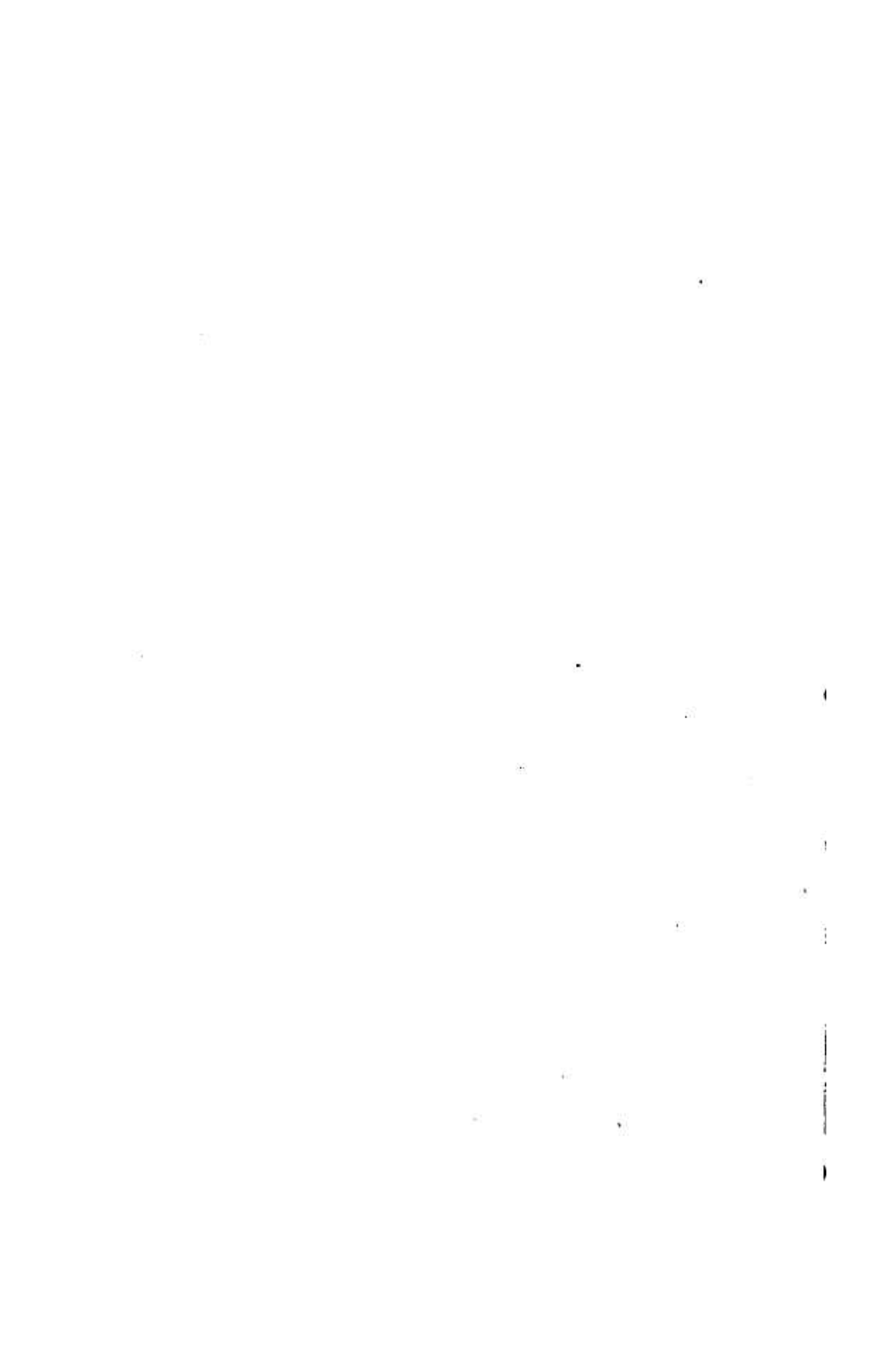
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S. H. COMINGS

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**Industrial and Vocational
Education**



**Industrial *and*
Vocational Education
Universal *and* Self
Sustaining**

(Pagan versus Christian Civilizations)

By S. H. COMINGS

SECOND EDITION

Revision *and* Supplement by

Mrs. S. H. (Lydia J. Newcomb) Comings



BOSTON

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

LC1081
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Dedicated

TO ALL WHO WOULD SEE THE SUPREME AMBITION OF OUR CIVILIZATION TURNED FROM THE EFFORT TO DEVELOP THINGS, TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE AVERAGE TYPE OF MANHOOD AND WOMANHOOD; AND TO ALL WHO WOULD SEE LABOR SPIRITUALIZED, AND MAN'S CREATIVE ATTRIBUTE CHANGED FROM THE IDEAL OF DEGRADATION TO THAT OF COMMUNION WITH EACH OTHER, AND WITH THE INFINITE.

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Introduction to Second Edition

I HAVE been asked to write an introduction to this reprint of Mr. Comings' little book on Industrial Education. I do so very willingly. In the first place, I had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Comings personally, and the discrimination to esteem him very highly. Through a certain community in our educational ideas Mr. Comings was moved to write to me and later to invite me to visit him at Fairhope. This must have been at least eight years ago, that is to say, in 1907. In November of that year I found it possible to accept the invitation. I spent a happy week with Mr. and Mrs. Comings at The Gables. The visit was timely—a little later, and my host would not have been there to welcome me, and the opportunity of knowing him would have been lost. As it was, his health was already failing. But his mind was alert, and his interest in the possibility of self-supporting industrial schools and colleges was eager and intelligent. And the visit was timely for a second reason. During the week of my visit, Mrs. Johnson began the Organic School. She had only three pupils, if I remember rightly, but her equipment was superb—it consisted of all outdoors!

And in the second place, my willingness to write springs from the fact that with Mr. Comings' major thesis, that self-supporting institutions are vastly more desirable than endowed institutions, I so heart-