

**INCOME: AN EXAMINATION OF
THE RETURNS FOR SERVICES
RENDERED AND FROM PROPERTY
OWNED IN THE UNITED STATES;
NEW YORK, 1915**

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Income: An Examination of the Returns for Services Rendered and from Property Owned in the United States; New York, 1915 by Scott Nearing

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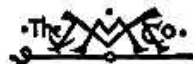
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SCOTT NEARING

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INCOME



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INCOME

AN EXAMINATION OF THE RETURNS FOR
SERVICES RENDERED AND FROM
PROPERTY OWNED IN THE
UNITED STATES

BY

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THE COST OF LIVING," ETC.

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1915

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DEDICATED TO THREE MEN WHO GRASP
THE REAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE
CONFLICT BETWEEN SERVICE AND
PROPERTY INCOME,—

JOSEPH E. COHEN,
J. A. HOBSON,
EDWIN CANNAN.

MS. A. 19 Feb 27 118

PREFACE

AMONG all of the basic principles of economic life, none is more vital than this—that every able-bodied adult should have a job; that he should work at the thing for which he is best suited and best fitted; and that he should be paid the full value of what he produces. Society is built upon the idea that the people who can shall contribute their time and energy to the advancement of those things in which society has an interest.

Modern economic discussions are being turned toward the conservation of human values. Thinking men realize that the wealth of nations rests upon the fiber of the people; that the progress of civilization is built out of service.

Service is of preëminent importance. In the home, in the street, in the shop, in the mine, on the railroad, the greatest single law of life is the law of service—doing for others and sharing with others the burdens and rewards of effort. The work of the world, directed and performed by the hand of man, should have as its final object the greatest service to mankind, or, as Ruskin put it, “the largest number of happy and healthy human beings.” Above the rights of property there must be placed the rights of humanity.

The industrial system, like every other social institution, must serve the human race, and serve it efficiently. To-day some of the chief questions of eco-

nomics involve the method of apportioning income. Shall the values created by industry go to those who serve? There seems to be no other basis upon which economic society may finally rest.

An effective system of income distribution will recognize service as the greatest economic asset; will reward service with the values that service creates. Until those who serve receive a return equal to the value of their service, the questions of income distribution can never be settled, because until then they never can be settled right.

SCOTT NEARING.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA,
March 22, 1915.

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