

**VENTURES IN
COMMON SENSE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649286294

Ventures in common sense by E. W. Howe

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

E. W. HOWE

**VENTURES IN
COMMON SENSE**

**VENTURES IN
COMMON SENSE**

THE FREE-LANCE BOOKS

Edited with Introductions

BY H. L. MENCKEN

I YOUTH AND EGOLATRY

BY PIO BAROJA

*Translated from the Spanish by
Jacob S. Fassett, Jr.*

II VENTURES IN COMMON SENSE

BY E. W. HOWE

Further volumes will be published
early in 1920 and each season there-
after.

For sale at all bookshops

ALFRED A. KNOPF, PUBLISHER

THE FREE LANCE BOOKS. II

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTIONS BY H. L. MENCKEN

VENTURES
IN COMMON SENSE

By E. W. HOWE



NEW YORK ALFRED · A · KNOPF MCMXIX

COPYRIGHT, 1919, BY
ALFRED A. KNOPF, Inc.



PS
1919

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION BY H. L. MENCKEN, 7

- I WOMEN, 31
- II POLITICS, 50
- III RELIGION, 64
- IV MAN, 84
- V THE POOR, 95
- VI BUSINESS, 108
- VII LITERATURE, 118
- VIII PHILOSOPHY, 128
- IX NEWSPAPERS, 134
- X PROFESSORS, 144
- XI THE PEOPLE, 152
- XII FOOLS, 162
- XIII INDUSTRY, 167
- XIV LIBERTY, 174
- XV SENTIMENT, 178
- XVI CONDUCT, 186
- XVII WAR, 196
- XVIII OLD AGE, 203

CONTENTS

- XIX FAME, 209
XX CRITICS, 211
XXI THRIFT, 214
XXII GREATNESS, 219
XXIII MATERIALISM, 230
XXIV FRIENDSHIP, 233
XXV REVOLUTION, 235
XXVI SOCIOLOGY, 240
XXVII CHILDREN, 242
XXVIII PROVINCIALISM, 244
XXIX RUMOR, 247
XXX SELFISHNESS, 251
XXXI ADVERTISING, 254
XXXII THE MISCELLANY OF LIFE, 256

INTRODUCTION

This collection of aphorisms and arguments is made up chiefly of extracts from *E. W. Howe's Monthly*, perhaps the most curious as it is certainly one of the most entertaining of all the 25,000 periodicals now issuing in the United States. Retiring, in 1911, from the management of the Atchison (Kansas) *Globe*, a newspaper which, in a quarter of a century, he had brought up from the utmost obscurity to great influence and prosperity, Howe established his *Monthly* in order to soothe an old journalist's incurable itch to have his say. Here, even more than when he edited his daily, he had an organ all his own, and here, once he got into his stride, he began to unfold a body of ideas that gradually won him a national audience. He had been, of course, by no means unheard of before. Far back in the 80's he had written a novel that won the praise of W. D. Howells, and in the *Globe*, as I have said, he had wielded a good deal of power in