THREE MONTHS IN A WORKSHOP; A PRACTICAL STUDY

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Three months in a workshop; a practical study by Paul Göhre & A. B. Carr

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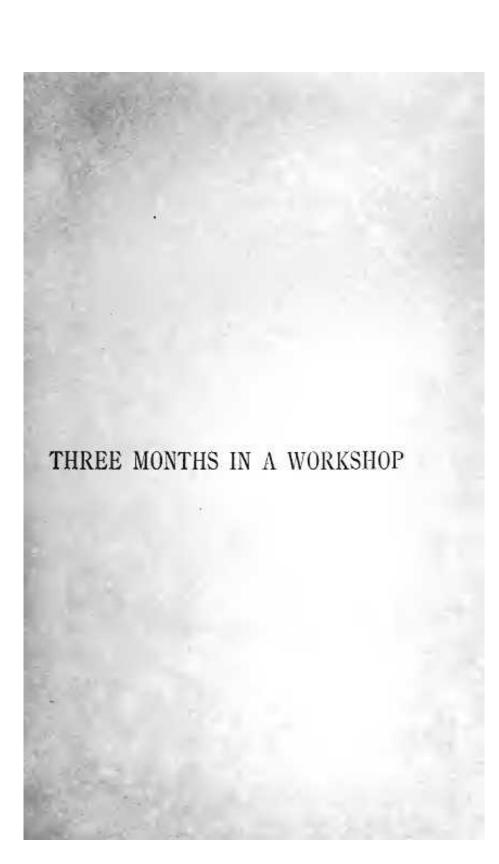
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PAUL GÖHRE & A. B. CARR

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THREE MONTHS IN A WORKSHOP

A PRACTICAL STUDY

BY

PAUL GÖHRE

General Secretary of the Evangelical Social Congress

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY A. B. CARR

WITH A PREFATORY NOTE BY PROFESSOR RICHARD T. ELY



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Dedicated

TO HIS FELLOW-WORKMEN IN THE FACTORY
BY THE AUTHOR

PREFATORY NOTE

WHEN the present work appeared in Germany, it produced a profound sensation and led to important social action in several directions. The chief result was perhaps the formation of a Society, the Evangelical Social Congress, for the study of social questions by adherents of the Evangelical Church; and of this Society the author was made Secretary.

The Society holds annual gatherings which are notable, and publishes reports of these and also leaflets, its aim being two-fold, vis. to throw a light on the social problems of our day, and to stimulate the conscience of Christian people to a better performance of duty.

The story is a very simple one. The author, a theological student, perplexed by conflicting theories and reports touching the lot of the wage-earners, their habits of thought, their struggles and their aspirations, determines to become a wage-earner himself, and, donning the garb of a workman, finds employment in a large manufacturing establishment in industrial Saxony. He mingles for three months with his fellows, who never suppose him to be anything else than a wage-earner; he shares their life, participates in their amusements, attends their political meetings, and then tells what he has seen and heard with that simplicity which is in itself literary art of a high order. The narrative is plain, straightforward, truthful.

The book was greeted by the wealth and culture of Germany like a revelation. As one of the most Conservative newspapers of Germany put it, it was as if some one had returned from the heart of Africa and described the ways of a strange and hitherto unknown nation, so great had been the actual separation of classes.

The book was never more timely than to-day, and it is as instructive in England and the United States as in Germany. Modern industrial conditions are similar in all lands where our civilisation is found, and in the main what holds true for one country is equally true for all others.

RICHARD T. ELY.

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