

**ELEMENTARY
SOCIAL SCIENCE**

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Elementary Social Science by Frank M. Leavitt & Edith Brown

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SOCIAL SCIENCE**

BY

FRANK M. LEAVITT

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

AND

EDITH BROWN

INSTRUCTOR IN PREVOCATIONAL DEPARTMENT
ALBERT G. LANE TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, CHICAGO

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PREFACE

THIS elementary study was prepared primarily for that large group of pupils who leave school and enter upon their occupations without completing a four-year high school course. It seems highly desirable that such pupils have an opportunity to discuss, in the classroom, some of the more important economic and social phenomena.

The prime purpose of the book is to develop an interest in social, civic, and economic questions and to establish a point of view that will enable pupils to examine existing conditions and to consider without prejudice the problems that they suggest. It is believed that the study presented will develop an interest in the practical phases of economics and civics, and also in historical facts, particularly in such facts as reflect the life and the conditions of the common man.

The problems and questions suggested in each chapter are not intended to be used in all communities exactly as they stand, but they serve to indicate the kind of work that has been found stimulating to the pupils for whom this study was first prepared. In fact the teacher is warned against too strict conformity to the outlines given. Such conformity is entirely unnecessary, and the teacher who follows the spirit, rather than

the letter of the "Problems" and the "Questions" will find, without doubt, that new material will come to hand readily and in great variety.

As already noted, the material presented herewith has been selected with reference to a particular group of pupils. It is hoped, however, that the topics treated are so universal in their interest, and that the methods suggested are so elastic, as to render the book useful as an introduction to more extended courses in economic history, in civics, or in economics.

The book is intended to be a laboratory manual as well as a textbook, the pupil's own world being the laboratory in which the research work is to be done. While it is extremely elementary and somewhat fragmentary, it is complete enough to include brief consideration of many fundamental facts needed by the pupils for whom it is intended. This minimum may be supplemented by such references to works on elementary economics, civics, or history, as the individual teacher may find desirable for his own class. The book, however, will be found useful and adequate just as it stands, if the pupils be allowed to do original work in connection with the problems and questions.

It is hoped that this initial attempt to provide an elementary general course in social science will stimulate a new interest in this particular phase of training for citizenship.

THE AUTHORS.

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