

CITIZENSHIP

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649154722

Citizenship by Shaw Desmond

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

SHAW DESMOND

CITIZENSHIP

CITIZENSHIP

BY
SHAW DESMOND

AUTHOR OF
"THE SOUL OF DENMARK," "DEMOCRACY"
"PASSION," ETC.

THE NEW CULTURE LIBRARY

LIBRARY OF
CALIFORNIA

HODDER AND STOUGHTON
LIMITED LONDON

270

Contents

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE THING MOST WORTH WHILE ✓	I
II. THE CITIZEN THROUGH THE AGES	7
III. "THE ASCENDING SPIRAL" .	13
IV. THE CITIZEN UNDER SLAVERY .	20
V. THE MEDIÆVAL AND MODERN CITIZEN	32
VI. CITIZENSHIP—PAGAN AND CHRIS- TIAN	46
VII. CHRISTIANITY AND CITIZENSHIP .	60 ✓
VIII. THE DEMOCRATIC IMPULSE .	68 ✓
IX. THE MACHINERY OF CITIZENSHIP	76
X. A GENERATION AGO—AND TO-DAY, OR MUNICIPAL TRADING v. PRIVATE ENTERPRISE	84
XI. MODERN EXPERIMENTS IN CITIZEN- SHIP	106 ✓

CHAPTER	PAGE
XII. THE BOLSHEVIK EXPERIMENT .	133
XIII. THE ENGLISH AND THE AMERICAN CITIZEN	143
XIV. THE LIMITATIONS OF CITIZEN- SHIP	153
XV. PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY	165
XVI. THE MAN AS CITIZEN—AND THE WOMAN	170
XVII. THE TRAINING OF THE PUBLIC SERVANT	188
XVIII. THE DUTIES OF THE CITIZEN .	193
XIX. THE TRAINING OF THE CHILD AS CITIZEN	211
XX. THE CITIZEN OF THE WORLD	228
XXI. THE FUTURE OF CITIZENSHIP .	239

CITIZENSHIP is of all earthly things to-day the thing most worth while. Perhaps it has always been so.

It is only, however, in our times that this statement could have been made without fear of contradiction. Because it is only now that men and women, for the first time in the history of the world, are, in any great number, beginning to *consciously* realise the social interdependence of all human beings and, with it, the urgency of placing this realisation upon an ordered basis. Such basis, in the considered opinion of vast and increasing numbers of people in all countries, alone makes possible human advance—scientific, artistic, social—in these days of new horizons and world-concepts.

You, my fellow-student in this thing most worth while, may be of either sex—you may be workman or professional man, doctor or dustman, clerk or clergyman, artist or athlete, but whatever you are, your work and you

yourself will gain vitally from the study of citizenship, which is the study of man in relation to his fellows. That is, the study of life itself.

In a very real sense, as you are good or bad citizen, so will you be good or bad doctor, artist, or workman.

The individual, however brilliant, who is ignorant of citizenship, is heavily handicapped in the life-race. For citizenship, giving as it does a knowledge of one's fellows, is for every man and woman an essential to progress.

We sometimes forget that it is only through our fellow-creatures we can make our way in life. Whether they help or hinder us depends upon our understanding of them. That is, it depends upon our knowledge of citizenship.

You and I can look at citizenship in one of two ways. As a dead formula or as a living organism. As a corpse for arid dissection by the scalpel of the intellect, or as a living thing. As I take it we are both interested in life and living, and as, in the only sense that matters, citizenship is life itself, we can only regard it from the latter standpoint.

In doing so, we have recognised that our concept of citizenship, to be effective and

guiding, must not be based upon dull formulas, soulless and mechanical. We have realised that citizenship is concerned with living, breathing men and women and not with sociological ciphers.

There is no patent short-cut to a knowledge of citizenship any more than there is a patent recipe for the production of the best citizen. Living experience alone can make the citizen as it alone can give that citizen a conscious citizenship. In this study, every man, in a sense, starts equal. For citizenship is living, not theorising; thinking, not dogmatising.

That is why writers and thinkers, when they are not mere theorists, differ so widely in their conceptions of citizenship. Each has given his contribution according to his individual experience of life. Each has been dealing with the infinite variety that is life—not with an exact science. But you and I can learn from each.

There is only one theory about multiplication or division as about the chemical constituents of water or air. There are a thousand theories about life. And, as we have said, citizenship is life.

From the first man who entered into

social relationship with one of his fellows, down to the last man who issued the last pamphlet for or against Bolshevism or Conservatism, or the writer of the last letter to the papers upon rates or gas, each has contributed to the concept of citizenship. It is for us to learn from these contributions. It is for us to draw our own conclusions.

At the outset we are faced by an outstanding fact. The fact that in our times man in a thousand ways, direct and indirect, conscious and unconscious, is, throughout the world, concentrating upon this thing, concentrating with a sort of painful eagerness. The thinking European is making the study of citizenship his chief business in life. The American with febrile energy has initiated a series of experiments in citizenship and is developing an entirely new type of citizen. It is beginning to be the new and desperate concern of Asia, whether yellow or brown. Even the North American negro, in his 1920 Universal Negro Improvement Association congress in New York, is feeling the first stirrings of the essential problem of the twentieth century.

Statesmen at Westminster are making this thing their study, and it is a fact that