

**GUILD SOCIALISM  
RE-STATED**

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Guild socialism re-stated by G. D. H. Cole

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**G. D. H. COLE**

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BY  
G. D. H. COLE

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## PREFACE

THIS book does not claim to be an authoritative statement of Guild Socialism in the sense that it would be accepted by all, or by a majority of, Guild Socialists. There is, I am glad to say, no such thing as a strict Guild orthodoxy; and for the most part it can only claim to be an expression of personal opinion. I think, however, that where the matters discussed in it have been the subject-matter of actual Conference decisions of the National Guilds League, the views here taken will be found to be substantially in agreement with those expressed by the League. This can be seen by a reference to the reports published by the League, in which the most important of its Conference decisions are contained.

I have to apologise, to some extent, for the compression of this book. I have found it very difficult to give, within the space afforded, anything like a comprehensive statement of the Guild position, and the account is in many respects incomplete. This is the case especially

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## PREFACE

with the brief section dealing with "transition," and many important problems are entirely omitted. Readers are referred for fuller treatment of many of the points discussed to the Guild literature mentioned in the bibliography.

I ought to mention that this study could not have taken quite its present shape but for the discussions of a study-circle of Guildsmen, of which I was a member, where many of the questions here dealt with were the subject of long contention. I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the circle for giving me the chance of commemorating their best ideas. I have also, of course, borrowed largely from other Guild writers.

G. D. H. COLE.

September, 1920.

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