

even a consolation? I think that to some extent it may be both, for surely its lesson is that not by sudden revolt can the better social order be brought about, but by following the path of reason and truth.

The General Strike, part of the brutish paraphernalia of Class War, is no weapon for strong men. At best it is an outrageous denial of the immutable law of human evolution; that the path that 'broadens out from precedent to precedent' is after all the quickest because it is the safest and surest way. What therefore can it matter which of the shoddy leaders were to blame for calling the strike or for calling it off? Of what material concern is it now that officials heaped blunder upon blunder and quaked at the bare contemplation of their own folly? The General Strike—or the feeble fizzle which is dignified by that name—has been attempted and has failed. Its failure is its sole virtue, its only blessing and its only excuse.

THE END