ORGANIZED LABOR AND CAPITAL; THE WILLIAM L. BULL LECTURES FOR THE YEAR 1904

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ORGANIZED LABOR AND CAPITAL

THE WILLIAM L. BULL LECTURES FOR THE YEAR 1904

Being

THE PAST, by Rev. Washington Gladden, D.D.
THE CORPORATION, by Talcott Williams, LL.D.
THE UNION, by Rev. George Hodges, D.C.L.
THE PEOPLE, by Rev. Francis G. Peabody, LL.D.



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The Letter Establishing the Lectureship

Bishop Whitaker presented the Letter of Endowment of the Lectureship on Christian Sociology from Rev. William L. Bull as follows:

For many years it has been my earnest desire to found a Lectureship on Christian Sociology, meaning thereby the application of Christian principles to the Social, Industrial, and Economic problems of the time, in my Alma Mater, the Philadelphia Divinity School. My object in founding this Lectureship is to secure the free, frank, and full consideration of these subjects, with special reference to the Christian aspects of the question involved, which have heretofore, in my opinion, been too much neglected in such discussion. It would seem that the time is now ripe and the moment an auspicious one for the establishment of this Lectureship, at least tentatively.

After a trial of three years, I again make the offer, as in my letter of January 1st, 1901, to continue these Lectures for a period of three years, with the hope that they may excite such an interest, particularly among the undergraduates of the Divinity School, that I shall be justified, with the approval of the authorities of the Divinity School, in placing the Lectureship on a more permanent foundation.

I herewith pledge myself to contribute the sum of six hundred dollars annually, for a period of three years, to the payment of a lecturer on Christian Sociology, whose duty it shall be to deliver a course of not less than four lectures to the students of the Divinity School, either at the school or elsewhere, as may be deemed most advisable, on the application of Christian principles to the Social, Industrial, and Economic problems and needs of the times; the said lecturer to be appointed annually by a committee of five members: the Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania; the Dean of the Divinity School; a member of the Board of Overseers, who shall at the same time be an Alumnus; and two others, one of whom shall be myself and the other chosen by the preceding four members of the committee.

Furthermore, if it shall be deemed desirable that the Lectures shall be published, I pledge myself to the additional payment of from one to two hundred dollars for such purpose.

To secure a full, frank, and free consideration of the questions involved, it is my desire that the opportunity shall be given from time to time to the representatives of each school of economic thought to express their views in these Lectures.

The only restriction I wish placed on the lecturer is that he shall be a believer in the moral teachings and principles of the Christian Religion as the true solvent of our Social, Industrial, and Economic problems. Of course, it is my intention that a new lecturer shall be appointed by the committee each year, who shall deliver the course of Lectures for the ensuing year.

WILLIAM L. BULL.

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I THE PAST

By REV. WASHINGTON GLADDEN, D. D.

THE PAST

In preparing the composite picture which this brief course of lectures is expected to present, the task which has been assigned to me is simply that of painting in the background. It is not an unimportant task, for in sociology as in pictorial art, backgrounds are of great significance; and it is a task of such enormous difficulty, that if my wits had not been wool-gathering when it was proposed to me I should have promptly declined it. In an unlucky moment for me, and for you, I fear, I pledged myself to it and am here to-night to expiate my temerity. In justice to myself I ought to warn you that the work assigned to me is a sheer impossibility. To set before you within the space of an hour, ever so cursorily, the past phases of the labor question would be a much more difficult undertaking than to repeat, within the same space of time, the whole of the Encyclopedia Britannica. state, in any adequate way, the labor question as it presented itself in any single decade of the past two thousand years would take a volume: to set forth the multitudinous aspects which that question has assumed since the toil of hand and brain began on this planet, would require a library. All I can do is to bring before you a few of the changes which have taken place in the condition of the laborer in the progress of the ages. It must be the merest sketch; neither in outline nor in shading will it satisfy any student of history. But it may help us a little in tracing the lines of social development, in valuing the gains which have been made, and in discerning the lines along which industrial progress is likely to move in the years before us.

For the primitive forms of human labor we have to look elsewhere than to the records of history. Men had been at work,