

come. "When the Sleeper wakes" develops the early results. Those following, in about two hundred years of our present tendencies, and the "Time Machine" carries it further. Both books are scientific and absolutely logical. The latter displays the author's kinship to Darwin and Huxley in his development of the theory of evolution. The earth, as in the beginning, in its last stages, creates too much carbon dioxide, allowing thereby only amphibians to survive.

Wells is undeniably a socialist, but not of the type to which Upton Sinclair belongs. The latter maintains that the rich suppress the poor and do evil intentionally. On the other hand, Wells declares that the wealthy class are parasites, causing injury to others. He is a Fabian for though he accepts socialism and wishes it success he has little faith in its possibilities. In all his books the ideal states of society he pictures are purely socialistic but they become so, not through natural causes, legislatures or revolutions, but through supernatural agencies. As, "In the Days of the Comet," before this ideal state could be realized, a comet was utilized to strike the earth, emitting a green vapor which cleared the world of all its jealousies, unmeaning contentions and cruelties, whereupon a new socialistic order of things grew up.

A logical theme of Wells' is that our form of life, of evolution, is mere accident in the process. It is not complete in itself, not permanent. There is no reason, therefore, to believe that other planets have a life similar to ours.

In his "Message from Mars" he formulates the theory that that planet has a greater civilization than ours. He conjectures that Mars is like a great ant hill within which the Martians, a sexless race, live. There is no useless expenditure of physical energy among them as the people have no digestive system, no bones, but a framework of cilica and are parasites, living upon the blood of other animals. Thus they do not need sleep to recuperate their systems and are active through twenty-four hours. The same economy of life forces produces laborers bred to be all muscle, chemists all nose and the leaders all brain. On reaching earth they remorselessly exterminated its peoples, as useless, inferior beings, by throwing huge shells which exploding discharge a gas, deadly fatal.

In his works, Wells offers no practical solution for the evils he sees, as he is a pronounced skeptic. The rich will continue to