

All the evil in this world is brought about by persons who are always up and doing, but do not know when they ought to be up and nor what they ought to be doing. The devil, I take it, is still the busiest creature in the universe, and I can quite imagine him denouncing laziness and becoming angry at the smallest waste of time. In his kingdom, I will bet, nobody is allowed to do nothing, not even for a single afternoon. The world, we all freely admit, is in a muddle, but I for one do not think that it is laziness that has brought it to such a pass. It is not the active virtues that it lacks but the passive ones: it is capable of anything but kindness and a little steady thought. There is still plenty of energy in the world (there never were more fussy people about), but most of it is simply misdirected. If, for example, in July 1914, when there was some capital idling weather, everybody-- emperors, kings, archdukes, statesmen, generals, journalists, had been suddenly struck with an intense desire to do nothing, just to hang about in the sunshine and consume tobacco, then we should all have been much better off than we are now. But no, the doctrine of the strenuous life still went unchallenged; there must be no time wasted, something must be done. And, as we know, something was done. Again, suppose our statesmen, instead of rushing off to Versailles with a bundle of ill-digested notions and a great deal of energy to dissipate, had all taken a fortnight off, away from all correspondence and interviews and what not, and had simply lounged about on some hill side or other apparently doing nothing for the first time in their energetic lives, then they might have gone to their so-called Peace Conference and come away again with their reputations still unsoiled and the affairs of the world in good trim. Even at the present time, if half the politicians in Europe would relinquish the notion that laziness is a crime and go away and do nothing for a little space, we should certainly gain by it. Other examples come crowding into

the mind. Thus, every now and then, certain religious sects hold conferences; but though there are evils abroad that are mountains high, though the fate of civilization is still doubtful, the members who attend these conferences spend their time condemning the length of ladies' skirts and the noisiness of dance bands. They would all be better employed lying flat on their backs somewhere, staring at the sky and recovering their mental health.

The Misguided Humans

The world is at the verge of chaos today due to ~~the~~ misguided humans. There is a lot of energy in the world but the dimension to use this energy is absolutely wrong. So, the lack of direction for actions is the main cause of destruction instead of lack of actions. The writer criticized his statesmen for their wrong actions in the past. They did not challenge the evil powers despite having all the energy and wasted their time in useless conferences. The writer believed that their actions should be better than the rest of the world that was not challenging the evil powers. But ^{They} showed the same wrong actions as of today due to lack of proper (guidance) direction for their actions. Similarly, at present time various religious leaders ~~do~~ even well-aware of the threat to their civilization waste their time in useless actions. Thus, if politicians give up their wrong actions and realize the importance of right direction for actions then ~~the~~ it will be more beneficial for the mankind.

(148 words)
Total: 453 words

Passage: A bird of many legends is the cock, considered almost universally a sun-bird and the enemy of ghosts and spirits. Once sacred to the god of war, the cock was said to have been the herald of the Christ's birth and one superstition had it that all cocks, including the metal and wooden ones on church spires and towers, would crow loudly on the last day to awakens the dead. A cock crowing at mid-night was taken to mark the passing of a spirit, and if it crowed three times at a house, the ^{angel} (death) of death ~~was~~ himself was about. A cock's crowing at a house door foretold the coming of strangers and if one perched on the gate to crow at night the next day would surely be wet. 130

Superstitions Associated with the Cocks

There were many superstitious beliefs associated with the cocks. Many great people considered it as a symbol of spirituality so possessed it to prevent evil powers. Some people wrongly believed that the cock's crowing would mark the Doom's day and could also predict the weather.

(45 Words)

Given = 130 words