

# SPECIMEN — 1

One great defect of our civilization is that it does not know what to do with its knowledge. Science, as we have seen, has given us powers fit for the gods, yet we use them like small children.

For example, we do not know how to manage our machines. Machines were made to be man's servants; yet he has grown so dependent on them that they are in a fair way to become his masters. Already most men spend most of their lives looking after and waiting upon machines. And the machines are very stern masters. They must be fed with coal, and given petrol to drink, and oil to wash with, and must be kept at the right temperature. And if they do not get their meals when they expect them, they grow sulky and refuse to work, or burst with rage, and blow up, and spread ruin and destruction all round them. So we have to wait upon them very attentively and do all that we can to keep them in a good temper. Already we find it difficult either to work or play without the machines, and a time may come when they will rule us altogether, just as we rule the animals.

(C.E.M. Joad)

Modern man has become so ignorant that he doesn't know how to utilize the god-like powers of knowledge. He doesn't know how to use his own instruments. He has become slave to the instruments which were meant to help him in daily life. And, if it continued for long enough then it's not so far that these instruments start to rule him ~~altogether~~ entirely.

**Title:** Inefficiency of Modern Man