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## PARASITES

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To live habitually at the expense of another, makes a parasite, whether in the vegetable, the animal, or the human world.

Scientists tell us that there are parasites which have in the beginning a number of organs that if used would develop, but which gradually become dormant and often disappear entirely for want of use, so that in the end this parasite becomes simply a sack with a food-sucking mouth.

Among human kind there are two classes of parasites. There is the "hanging on" class, from the beggar to the well-dressed flunky and cad, who act the part of servility to secure favors; and, second, the insidious parasite whom conditions or institutions have placed in a position where he can suck the substance of other people's toil.

The effect of parasitism is to weaken and destroy all that is of worth in the parasite.

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*The Cost of Something for Nothing*

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This comes, not as a punishment inflicted by an extraneous power, but as a natural consequence of inaction. The principle of life in this universe depends entirely on action,—constant, ceaseless action. Inaction stops growth and development, and decay sets in.

The man who eats bread that is earned by others is a parasite; in the social economy he is but a sack with a sucking mouth. Not being compelled to exert his other organs or faculties, they cease to grow. Astonishing as it may seem, [there is an almost universal desire among men to become a parasite; that is, a desire to get into a position where they can gratify their appetites and tastes without labor, a desire to take things rather than to make things,—a desire to get something for nothing.]