

forming the important economic function of holding shovels until the demand increases to where the shovels can be profitably used. The thousand who think work is a dead loss, hang around trying to beg the price of a meal off those on the job.

Under such circumstances, I figure that the ten thousand perform labor equivalent to that of eight thousand steady workers.

It is because this industrious remnant keeps shoveling that productive activity does not halt entirely. Were this to occur, the entire superstructure would fall; for those who shovel are in one way or another maintaining those who do not, since they go home each night with the only wages paid in the camp, whence the profits of all are drawn.

## 14

Among these workers is Tom Morgan who is unconvinced of the soundness of Martin's theories of wealth. His doubts increase as he surveys the luxury on one hand and deprivation on the other that are its consequences, and the division of the camp into top-hatters and down-and-outers.