

Bellamy's Intellectual flaws and Inconsistencies in looking backward

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Deskripsi Lengkap: <https://lib.ui.ac.id/detail?id=20471708&lokasi=lokal>

Abstrak

ABSTRACT

The Appearance of Looking Backward in the United State at turn of the nineteenth century was due in part to several significant events occurring during that phase of the nation's industrial development: Firstly, the unfavorable socio-economic condition of the capitalistic society; secondly, the vanishing of the frontier; and thirdly a developing interest in socialistic concept of life.

The ideal society described in the book is one with conditions identical to those of the messianic age of the biblical account. It is a society of human perfection, in which men live prosperously and peacefully together, marked by the end of agitation and struggle between man and man and between man and nature. The introduction of this ideal society constitutes a sort of socio-psychological escape replacing the no-longer-available escapism of the frontier.

In introducing this utopian concepts of life, Bellamy lacks consistency to a degree that makes his work intellectual weak. This inconsistency is marked by Bellamy's frequent shifts from his own premise underlying his utopian order to certain significant aspects of capitalistic principle which he is in fact attacking. This intellectual flaws in Bellamy's ideas constitutes the origin of his failure as a social re-former