Class in Turn-of-the-Century Novels of Gissing, James, Hardy and Wells

Christine DeVine, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, USA

This book argues that political and ideological shifts in the late nineteenth century made a new depiction of social class possible in the English novel. Writers such as Gissing, James, Hardy and Wells question middle-class Victorian views of class that had dominated the novel for decades. By disrupting novelistic conventions, these writers reveal the ideology of the historical moment in which those conventions obtained, thereby questioning the ‘naturalness’ of class assumed by earlier middle-class Victorian writers. The book contextualises novels by these writers within their historical moment with reference to relevant maps, journalism, artwork or photography, and specific historical events.

Examining the nineteenth-century English novel through the lens of social class allows the twenty-first century critic and student not only to understand the issues at stake in much Victorian fiction, but also to recognise powerful present-day vestiges of this social class system.

Contents: Introduction; ‘We are the working classes’: the London poor in Gissing’s The Nether World; ‘Is this democracy to prove fatal to England?’: international terrorism, The Times, and James’s The Princess Casamassima; ‘A cloud of moral hobgoblins’: gender, morality and class in Hardy’s Tess of the d’Urbervilles; ‘The splintering frame’: Wells’s Tono-Bungay and Edwardian class; Conclusion; Bibliography; Index.

Ashgate Online:
For further information about this, and other titles from Ashgate, please visit our website to view the full contents, sample chapters and index:

www.ashgate.com

All website orders receive a 15% discount
Building Cosmopolis
The Political Thought of H.G. Wells

John S. Partington, University of Reading, UK

‘Mr Partington’s book should be bought and read by all Wellsians.’

The H.G. Wells Newsletter

‘... an excellent book on Wells’s political philosophy ... a most stimulating and fascinating contribution by a Reading scholar ...’

Cahiers Victoriens et Édouardiens

Building Cosmopolis presents the worldview of Wells as developed between his student days (1884–1887) and his death in 1946. During this time, Wells developed a unique political philosophy, grounded on the one hand in the theory of ‘Ethical Evolution’, and on the other in late Victorian socialism. From this basis Wells developed a worldview which rejected class struggle and nationalism and embraced global co-operation for the maintenance of peace and the advancement of the human species in a world society. Following an examination of the development of his political thought from its inception to fruition, Building Cosmopolis argues that Wells’s political thoughts rank him alongside David Mitrany as one of the two founders of the functionalist school of international relations, an acknowledgement hitherto denied to Wells by scholars of world-government theory.

October 2003 208 pages Hardback 0 7546 3383 7 £42.50 £32.00

H. G. Wells Society Discount Order Form

Please complete all sections and return this form to:

Bookpoint Limited, Ashgate Publishing Direct Sales, 130 Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 4SB, UK.
Tel: +44 (0)1235 827730; Fax: +44 (0)1235 400454; Email: ashgate@bookpoint.co.uk

When ordering, please quote the reference: SC1412

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
<th>Special offer price*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Class in Turn-of-the-Century Novels</td>
<td>0 7546 5150 9</td>
<td>£40.00 £30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Building Cosmopolis</td>
<td>0 7546 3383 7</td>
<td>£42.50 £32.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Prices are subject to change without notice.

£ Postage is charged at £3.95 per UK order and £7.50 per order for an overseas order (orders sent by airmail)

□ I enclose a cheque for £................. made payable to Bookpoint Limited

□ Please invoice me/my company/institution (delete as appropriate)

□ Please charge my VISA/MasterCard/American Express (delete as appropriate)

Please supply your registered card address if it differs from the delivery address below

Account number ___________________________ Expiry date ___________________________

Signature__________________________________________

Name ___________________________ Position ___________________________

Company/institution ________________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________________

Postcode ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Telephone ___________________________ Fax ___________________________

VAT/IVA number ___________________________

Orders from companies/institutions within the EU (UK excepted) must be accompanied by a VAT/IVA number, without which we will be unable to process your order.

Do not send payment for books with approximate prices, your order will be recorded and an invoice sent on publication.

We endeavour to despatch all orders within 5 working days. In the event a product is not available, your order will be recorded and the product despatched as quickly as possible.

Ashgate Publishing Ltd, or other organizations, may mail offers reflecting your preferences. Tick if you do not wish to receive offers from us □ or from other organizations □.

Prices are valid until 31st January 2006.

SC1412