

Eugen Rosenstock-Hussy

*and 'Out of Revolution'*

This man, like other innovators, breaks one law common to our knowledge, and illustrates another law of a profounder level.

For the tragedy of most lives, and of most societies is not that they must end in death, but that they do not, while still living, actually inherit their own experience.

The French saying, "si jeunesse savait, si vieillesse pouvait," expresses, with neat incompleteness, this deeper irony.

For the shattering nature of the greatest events tends to destroy the receptive powers, of persons, or of nations. And when that is true the event must be, in part wasted. For no later comers, though they may record and digest past happenings, can wholly incorporate them. True fusion must take place at a high temperature, before the folios are piled up!

The great men in history transcend this law of loss. They fully know their own moment and act within it's frame. And this book is the record of a man whose six years apprenticeship in the World War, made him indeed a member of this new world. The experience of all European mankind, all the illusion, despair and hope possible to humanity in its most terrible modern chapter, has been his own experience and has liberated him, as his book will liberate others, to face the future with new faith.