

Beveridge Explained

WHAT THE BEVERIDGE REPORT ON SOCIAL SECURITY MEANS

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PREFACE

This pamphlet is meant to explain the Beveridge Report to those who want its main proposals stated briefly and in unofficial language. It is an explanation, and not a criticism of the Report : for, though there are points at which the proposals are open to criticism, these are to my mind all of secondary importance. The essential thing, for the time being, is to get the Report understood and accepted as a whole, in principle, both by public opinion and by the Government, and to get quickly into being the administrative machinery needed for carrying it into effect. I have written this pamphlet in the hope that it may help to get the Report quickly understood among the public, and may contribute to that general expression of public demand for its acceptance which is most likely to be effective in getting it implemented promptly by legislation. No more important social document has been issued for a generation; and it is now for the public to see to it that Sir William Beveridge's notable contribution to reconstruction policy is neither rejected nor pushed aside.

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