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# THE CAMBRIDGE EVACUATION SURVEY

*A Wartime Study in Social Welfare  
and Education*

*edited by*

SUSAN ISAACS

*with the co-operation of*

SIBYL CLEMENT BROWN & ROBERT H. THOULESS

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## PREFACE

IN JANUARY 1941, when this volume goes to press, some of the situations with which it deals seem already to belong to a remote past. A gulf of terrible experience and the most urgent need and effort divide us from the first quiet months of the war, when there was no more than a threat of danger and destruction. Even the summer months, after our friends and allies were laid low and yet the terror had not come to our own doors, now seem to be no more than a dim memory, so crowded, so intense, and so dramatic have our days and nights been since the full attack began.

Since then, the need for evacuation has been enforced by events and it has been carried out on a larger scale than at the beginning of the war. Many of its attendant circumstances have changed. Yet the essential problems remain the same. It still seems a wise thing to look with sober detachment into its first successes and its first failures. There is still ample scope to apply the lessons which can be learned from such an inquiry.

The work of the Survey was completed in July 1940, but the preparation of this report has had to be fitted by its authors and editors into the spare moments of busy practical lives.

The editors, on behalf of the Research Committee, wish to acknowledge the encouragement, help, and advice received from many sources. In particular, grateful acknowledgment is made to the following:

For permission to carry out the Survey, and for much detailed advice and help, to the Education Authorities of the Boroughs of Cambridge and Tottenham and the London County Council, and especially Mr. T. F. Foreman, as Education Officer in Cambridge, Dr. C. F. Strong, as Director of Education for Tottenham, Dr. E. M. Rich, and, on his retirement, Mr. E. G. Savage, as Education Officer to the London County Council.

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women, who consented to form a Consultative Committee and to give their criticisms and suggestions, as well as, in many cases, to share the financial burden.

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The London School of Economics, who kindly lent office accommodation for the headquarters of the Survey.

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Lastly, Miss Th. Alcock, founder and Hon. Secretary of the Child Discussion Group (in London), at a meeting of which, in October 1939, it was first suggested that this Survey should be made.

Owing to the present abnormal cost of printing and our wish to keep the price of the book within the reach of as many readers as possible, we have not reproduced, in their original shape, the four forms of inquiry used in the study of the child's relationships in the foster home and the school, of the children who went home and of the point of view of the teachers; but all the questions used in these forms are given in Appendix IV.

*January, 1941*

S. I.  
S. C. B.  
R. H. T.