

the Local or Educational Authority should provide a kitchen and cooking, and should send the meals to the schools; and that two paid and two voluntary assistants should receive the food and distribute it.

It is also suggested that a guild of servers should be formed to supply the voluntary workers required.

The essence of the plan is said to be that the State would supply funds, authority, and a guarantee of continuity, "while charity would supply the personal interest and enthusiasm to soften the harshness of the law, and to adjust the machinery to the circumstances of each case."

So far as State assistance is concerned, this scheme is very similar to that suggested in the report of the Physical Deterioration Committee, and would, no doubt, secure that all the children attending school would receive food at school if not at home. The want of food, however, is by no means the only or even the principal cause of suffering, and the relief provided would be but partial, and would fail to accomplish in any real sense the object aimed at, namely, the relief of suffering children.

Incidentally Mr. Barrow gives a striking example of the way in which his system of school feeding may operate to the detriment of the children themselves. Writing apparently with the object of illustrating the "severity" and deficiency of the methods of the Charity Organisation Society and the inadequacy of the Poor Law as a resource, he gives five instances in which the provision of occasional meals seems to him to be the only appropriate remedy, "short of forcibly deporting the whole family to a farm colony." As the parent referred to in each of these cases is the mother, the fathers being either dead or absent, it is not easy to see what advantage would be gained by deportation to a "farm colony."

In all these cases the position is the same, the widow or the deserted wife is making a gallant effort to perform an impossible task; we are not told the sequel in the last case, but in all the others the end is the same; after a struggle more or