

tive study and sympathetic inquiry, the lives of many individuals in another group, and thus enter into a kind of other-group consciousness—to think and feel, as it were, in terms of those whom we are trying to comprehend. In this spirit of trying to see the individual as an individual, and yet in the proper relation to his heritage and environment, the following studies are given. Until the poor are considered not only economically but individually, with all their personal equations taken into account, we cannot solve their problems, any more than we can solve their problems by regarding them merely as individuals without taking into account their economic relations.

This report is, then, largely a description of individuals, supplemented by a few cautious generalizations.

After interviewing a number of people, I decided to divide the aged persons studied for better understanding into six groups, according to their source of maintenance, giving, under each group, descriptions of typical people. This was rather difficult, because each person was very distinct and, in a way, each seemed unique. Still, there was enough similarity in their present conditions, if not in their histories, to make them fit into such a simple classification. Also, it was difficult to decide just which "cases" illustrated each group or chapter best—for some really illustrate several. The classification is thus not rigid, but it has the advantage of giving a few distinct pictures and contrasts, and of putting general facts and actual people into close juxtaposition.

As no statistics compiled from one hundred people would justify elaborate statistical analysis, statistical tables are introduced merely to show that the one hundred interviewed were a fairly varied group.

Here are a few general statistics:

<i>Sex</i>	
Women .....	65
Men .....	35

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100