

EDUCATION: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

1944 Education Act

1938 SPENS REPORT

Accepted principle of free secondary education and higher leaving age

'Tripartite division' – modern, technical and grammar

Encourage 'progressive methods' – curiosity, exam focus

'Widely applauded by teaching profession'

Conservative view of Board of Education and threat and outbreak of war a brake on reform

Spens also recommended that the school leaving age should be raised to 16.

Not implemented until 1973

BY 1939

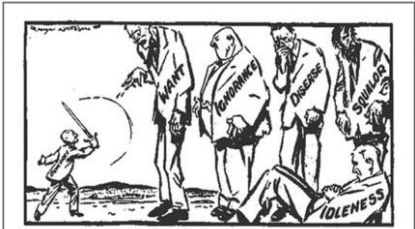
Free places were up from one third to 1/2

Total numbers up from 200,000 to nearly 1/2m

Total spending stayed about 6% of government expenditure

Local authorities doubled expenditure and paid for about 50% of education

BEVERIDGE AND THE 5 GIANTS OF EVIL



HOW TO ADDRESS THESE

- Education (1944-5)
- Health (1946)
- Social Security (1946)
- Housing (1947)
- Employment (1948)

SELECTION AT AGE 11?

1944 Butler Act
Tripartite system created – secondary modern, grammar schools and technical colleges
Question: can you think of any benefits/criticisms of selection at age 11?



TASK

In groups research and prepare feedback to the class on one of the following:

- 1. Grammar schools
- 2. Technical colleges
- 3. Secondary moderns

Consider the following:

What type of education were they offering and who to?

How was the curriculum organised? What about assessment, qualifications etc?

How successful were they at schools?

Any problems, concerns or controversies with these schools?

Anything else relevant?

HOMEWORK - THE RUSKIN SPEECH

Read and analyse the speech, look for key themes and important discussion points

The seeds of many policy debates, decisions and initiatives are contained in the speech. Try to identify as many contemporary policy debates or developments as you can in the text of the speech.

The Callaghan Speech is often viewed as very controversial, why do you think that might be?
