ENGLAND’S ROAD
TO SOCIAL SECURITY
What a pity it is to see a proper gentleman to have such a crick in his neck that he cannot look backward! yet no better is he who cannot see behind him the actions which long since were performed. History maketh a young man to be old without either wrinkles or gray hairs; privilleging him with the experience of age, without either the infirmities or inconveniences thereof. Yea, it not only maketh things past, present; but enableth one to make a rational conjecture of things to come. For this world affordeth no new accidents, but in the same sense wherein we call it a new moon, which is the old one in another shape, and yet no other than what hath been formerly. Old actions return again, furbished over with some new and different circumstances.

Thomas Fuller, The Historie of the Holy Warre, 1659
ENGLAND'S ROAD TO SOCIAL SECURITY

From the Statute of Laborers in 1349 to the Beveridge Report of 1942

By Karl de Schweinitz

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