

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**  
**General Certificate of Secondary Education**

**HISTORY B (MODERN WORLD)**  
**PAPER 2 (British Depth Study)**

**1937/2**

Tuesday                      **21 JUNE 2005**                      Morning                      1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials:  
8-page answer booklet

**TIME**    1 hour 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number on the answer booklet.
- Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, in the answer booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what to do before starting your answer.
- Write the numbers of the questions you have answered in the box on the front of the answer booklet.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **50**.

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**This question paper consists of 8 printed pages and 2 blank pages.**

**FOLD OUT THIS PAGE**

**Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.**

**In answering the questions, you will need to use your knowledge of the topic to interpret and evaluate the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.**

**Answer ALL the questions.**

**1** Study Source A.

What is the message of this cartoon? Use details of the cartoon and your knowledge to explain your answer. [6]

**2** Study Sources B and C.

Do you trust Source B more than Source C as evidence about the condition of people in Britain in 1909? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

**3** Study Source D.

How true is this picture of how British children lived 1906–1914? Use details of the advertisement and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]

**4** Study Source E.

How useful is this source to historians studying this period? Use details of the speech and your knowledge to explain your answer. [7]

**5** Study Sources F and G.

Why do these two sources give different views of how far the Liberals helped the poor? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

**6** Study **all** the sources.

‘The Liberal welfare reforms were successful in improving the lives of the poor.’

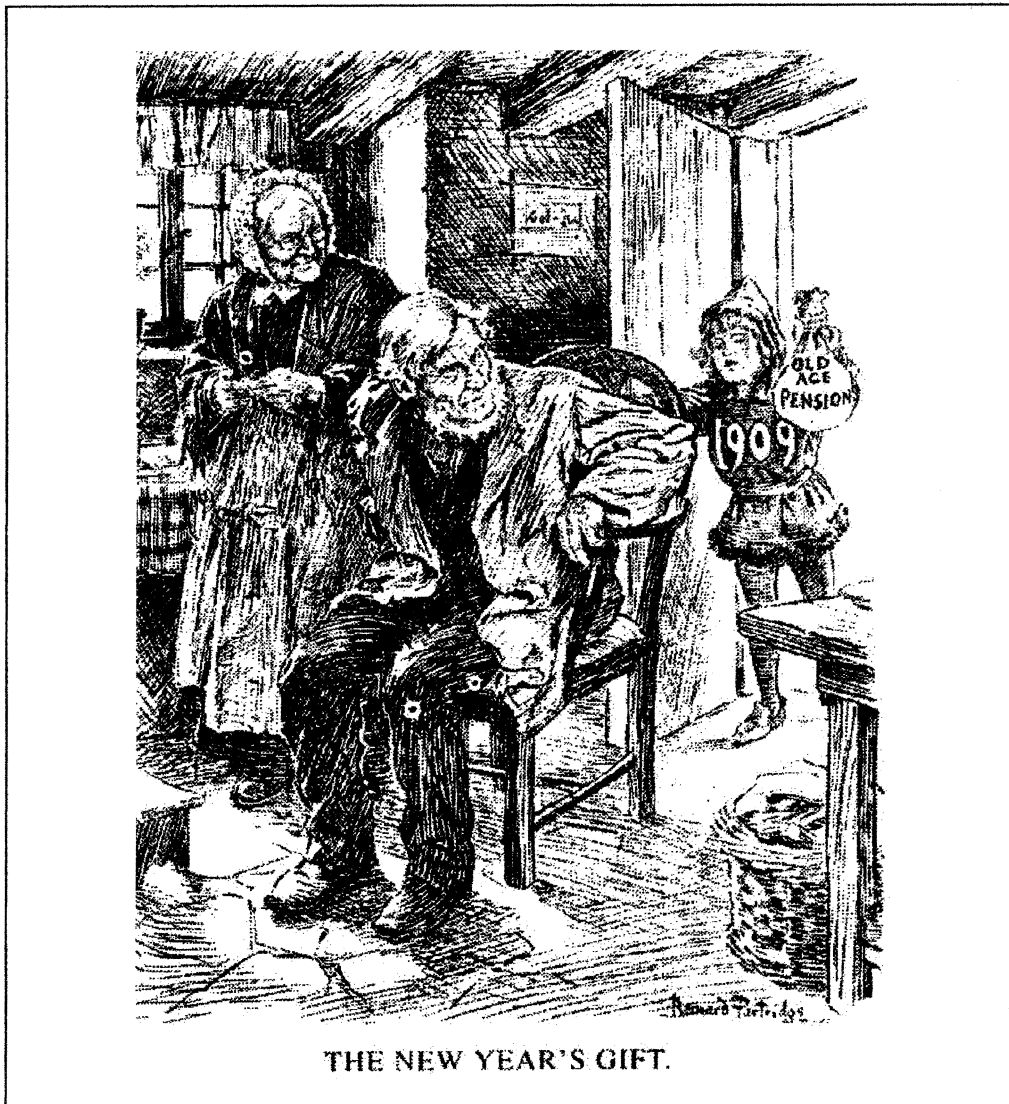
How far do the sources in this paper support this statement? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. Remember to identify the sources you use. [12]

## HOW EFFECTIVE WERE THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT WELFARE REFORMS?

### Background Information

After a massive victory in the general election of January 1906, the Liberal government began to introduce many welfare reforms to help children, the old, the sick and the unemployed. Liberals said it was natural to help poor people improve their living conditions. Others have argued that the welfare reforms made little difference and the Liberals were trying to 'buy' the support of the working classes to stay in power. So, did the welfare reforms really make a difference to the poor?

### SOURCE A



*A cartoon from a British magazine, January 1909.*

**SOURCE B**

Our investigations prove that there exists at the heart of our society a class of people whose living conditions are a disgrace and a danger to the stability and prosperity of the whole nation. For many of them, possibly because of their own weakness and failure, there is very little hope in this life.

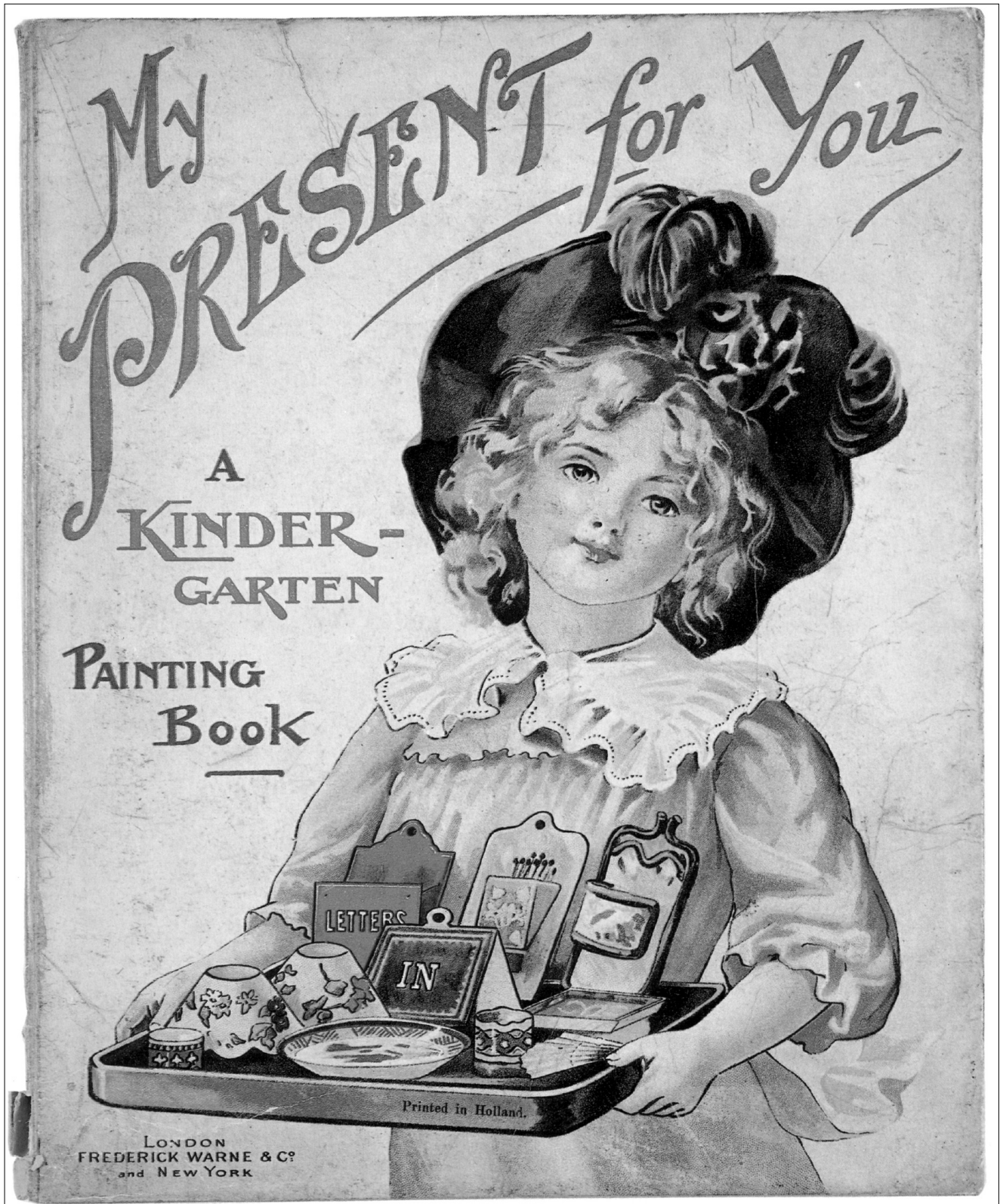
*An extract from the Majority Report of the Poor Law Commission (an official body to help the poor) 1909. The report was requested by the Liberal Government.*

**SOURCE C**

Look at the people who swarm about the East End of London. They are poor, drunk with gin, only half-grown, with diseased faces and ragged clothes hanging off deformed bodies. Nowhere else in Europe is there such filth, such pinching poverty, so many plainly and revoltingly diseased people as here. How can Britain hope to compete with other nations?

*Written by an American who visited Britain in 1909.*

## SOURCE D



*A British advertisement for a painting book published in 1910. It shows useful gifts which children can paint and cut out.*

(Kindergarten = school for very young children)

**SOURCE E**

Since the Liberals came to power in 1906, every social evil in this wealthy country of ours has got worse. The cost of living has increased 12%, but the wages of the working class have increased only 1%. National Insurance is a confidence trick because working men and women are forced to make a contribution as well as paying tax. The miners' minimum wage increased the cost of mining coal by 2 or 3 pence a ton, yet the consumer in London is to pay an extra 30 pence a ton!

Socialism is the only solution to these problems – use the wealth of the nation for the benefit of its people.

*Keir Hardie, a Labour MP, speaking in the House of Commons in 1912.*

**SOURCE F**

It was shameful that the old were bleeding and footsore as they struggled through the thorns and brambles of poverty. We cut a new way for them – an easier way, a pleasanter way. We are raising money to pay for the new way and to widen it, so that hundreds of thousands of the poor can benefit.

*Lloyd George making a public speech at Limehouse, London, in July 1909.*

**SOURCE G**

For the whole of England 12% of new born babies die before they are one year old. In the East End of London and the industrial areas of England twice as many babies die before their first birthday. The reason for this great evil in the East End is that children are so very badly neglected. Their mothers go out to work, shutting the children up in a room for the whole day with just a loaf of bread and a jug of milk.

*Mrs Green, Secretary of the National Society of Day Nurseries, writing in 1910.*





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