# THE ABOLITION OF POVERTY

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The Abolition of Poverty by Jacob H. Hollander

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### **JACOB H. HOLLANDER**

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#### PREFACE

THE purpose of this little essay is to set forth the needlessness of poverty. Like preventable disease, economic want persists as a social ill only because men do not desire sufficiently that it shall cease. There is still much mumbling of old commonplaces, and it has seemed worth while to emphasize anew this definite corollary of modern political economy, that the essential causes of poverty are determinable and its considerable presence unnecessary.



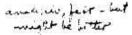
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### THE ABOLITION OF POVERTY

#### CHAPTER I



#### THE NATURE OF POVERTY

Social unrest is the keynote of twentiethcentury life. The disquiet shows itself in unmistakable ways: the ferment of industrial classes,
the realignment of political parties, the sensitiveness of public opinion, the intentness of economic
inquiry. Such malaise is neither local nor transient. Every modern state exhibits its presence;
each month discloses its greater intensity. For
this impressive phenomenon a single cause is accountable. Specific conditions of time and place
affect the degree of unrest, and influence the
mode of expression. But the primary force is
everywhere the same — the presence and sting
of poverty. This is the heart and center of social
disturbance.

Clear thinking, here as so often in social discussion, is impeded by the vagueness of terms. The word "poverty" is, in ordinary usage, applied