

## Topic Page: [Webb, Sidney, 1859–1947](#)

Definition: **Webb** from *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate(R) Dictionary*

Sidney James Webb 1859–1947 1st Baron *Passfield* Eng. socialist

Summary Article: **Webb**

From *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*

English social reformers, writers, and founders of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in 1895. They were early members of the socialist Fabian Society, and advocates of a radical approach to social reform. They married in 1892. They argued for social insurance in their minority report (1909) of the Poor Law Commission, and wrote many influential books, including *The History of Trade Unionism* (1894), *English Local Government* (1906–29), *Decay of Capitalist Civilization* (1923), and *Soviet Communism: A New Civilization?* (1935). They founded the *New Statesman* magazine in 1913.

Beatrice Webb was researching labour unions and working-class economic conditions when she met Sidney Webb in 1890. She wrote *The Co-operative Movement in Great Britain* (1891), *Factory Acts* (1901), *My Apprenticeship* (1926), and *Our Partnership* (1948). She also worked on English sociologist Charles Booth's *Life and Labour of the People of London* (1891–1903).

Sidney Webb was professor of public administration at LSE 1912–27. He is credited with drafting Clause Four of the 1918 Labour Party constitution (concerning the common ownership of the means of production). He was a member of the Labour Party executive 1916–25, entered Parliament in 1922, and was president of the Board of Trade in 1924, dominions secretary 1929–30, and colonial secretary 1929–31. He became a baron in 1929.

### quotations

Webb, (Martha) Beatrice

Webb, Sidney James

#### APA

Chicago

Harvard

MLA

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Webb. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. Abington, UK: Helicon. Retrieved from [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb\\_sidney\\_1859\\_1947](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb_sidney_1859_1947)

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## APA

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## Chicago

"Webb." In *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*, edited by Helicon. Helicon, 2018. [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb\\_sidney\\_1859\\_1947](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb_sidney_1859_1947)

## Harvard

Webb. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. [Online]. Abington: Helicon. Available from: [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb\\_sidney\\_1859\\_1947](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb_sidney_1859_1947) [Accessed 21 October 2019].

## MLA

"Webb." *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*, edited by Helicon, 2018. *Credo Reference*, [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb\\_sidney\\_1859\\_1947](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/webb_sidney_1859_1947). Accessed 21 Oct. 2019.