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Canada's most vocal protagonist of the distribution of this nation's wealth among the provinces and people. But everyone in Canada remembers what happened when the same gentleman, then Premier of Canada's richest and most populous province, effectively teamed with Premier Duplessis of Quebec to block Health Insurance, Old Age Assistance at 65, and other such great measures in 1946.

4. LIBERAL MEASURES FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

I shall now review Canada's major measures of social security, all of which have been passed by Liberal Administrations. Let us consider the first great measure:

(a) Pensions for Canada's Aged Citizens:

A Liberal Government tried without success in 1926 to persuade a Conservative Senate to pass the Old Age Pensions Act. However, in the following year it was possible to push this measure through. The bringing in of this Act and every amendment that has been made to it is a monument to Liberal initiative. We do not claim that the provisions made have been perfect, but let us not forget that since 1927 more than \$575,000,000 has been made available by the Federal Government alone to assist Canada's aged and blind citizens. At the present time some 270,000 Canadians are being helped under this measure. As a result of a recent amendment I had the honour to introduce, raising the basic pension to \$40, federal payments this year will exceed \$100,000,000.

You of course know that Premier Smallwood has agreed to institute pensions for the aged and blind citizens in this Province. Already there are 3,000 receiving benefits and another 7,000 or so will soon be added to the pension rolls. Our Liberal goal is contributory pensions for everyone, but this, of course, depends on the attitude of the provinces. Until such a system is possible, the Liberal objective is to set the pension as high as the country can bear without overtaxing our citizens.

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