

to measure up to the assistance minimum standard, which is \$30 monthly for the breadwinner, \$15 for his wife and \$45 for the two; graduate the increase so the percentage improvement is greatest for the lowest scales.

2. Sickness Benefits: (cash, contributory, Dominion administration, related to unemployment insurance) - closely assimilated to unemployment benefit scales (approximately half normal wages).

3. Maternity Benefits: (contributory, Dominion administration, related to unemployment insurance) - suggested for women in wage earning employment only; rates closely assimilated to unemployment benefit scales, subject to possibility of minimum rate being established for this class of benefit as a special measure.

4. Industrial Disability, Fatal Accidents, Etc: (contributory by employers, provincial administration through workmen's compensation boards) - substantially unchanged, although extended and more standardized as between provinces.

Financial Considerations: Government sponsored programs of peacetime investment and development - probably \$1,000,000,000 for the first post-war year.

Tentative estimate of cost of principal social security items (other than employment program): about \$900,000,000 a year. Not all of this would be new expenditure. About \$400,000,000 is anticipated from insured contributors and from employers, and about \$500,000,000 would be required from tax sources. Some part of this would replace existing expenditures on public assistance, medical care paid for privately, etc. It is the experience of countries with comprehensive schemes or proposing them that 10 to 12% of the national income can be devoted to social security disbursements.

Approximate and average calculations of rates:

Farmers, rural groups - 75 to 90 cents a week  
Employees of various wage levels - 75¢ to \$1.85 a week  
Employers - average about 90 cents a week per employee

(x) On July 24, 1943, in the House of Commons, Finance Minister Ilsley announced that the Dominion would increase the maximum pensions payable under the Old Age Pensions Act from \$20 to \$25 a month. The Dominion pays 75% of the pensions, and the provinces the other 25%.