

1926

(B) (8)

Pensions - Old Age ✓

Old Age Pensions

Part of Social Insurance Scheme

MR. KING:

(Mar. 26, 1926, Revised Hansard p. 1977)

Old age pensions
first part of
social insurance
scheme

In this country, I should like to see the annuities plan which, as my hon. friend has said, was inaugurated by Sir Richard Cartwright, developed into a comprehensive system of social insurance. But I do not believe that this can be accomplished solely by the federal government; it would have to receive the co-operation of the provinces. [We must in some way establish that link between the provinces and the dominion which will conduce to the working out of a great social insurance scheme along these lines. That will not be achieved in a year; as in other countries it will require time.] The old age pension phase of the question is one that has an immediate bearing in respect of people of advanced years. Surely, then, we shall not be running any great risk so far as future generations are concerned if we put upon the statutes this year legislation which will hold out an inducement to the provinces to come together in conference for the purpose of discussing social legislation generally.

(2)

(Mar. 26, 1926, Revised Hansard p. 1978)

So far as the purpose of the immediate legislation is concerned, it looks to providing a pension for men and women of the generation that is passing away, or will have passed away in the course of a very few years. That is primarily what we are considering at this moment, and in considering men and women of that category we will, I think, be taking the first necessary step to bring about that larger measure of contributory social insurance which is one of the great needs of our time.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers

Memoranda & Notes

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA