

necessary condition to the acceptance by the Dominion of these added responsibilities.

Nevertheless, even though progress has not been as rapid as some might have wished, it has nonetheless been substantial. We are inclined to forget that, apart from Old Age Pensions, the important national instruments of welfare policy are less than ten years old. Unemployment Insurance dates from 1940. The first Family Allowances were paid in July 1945. Within eight years, therefore, the prospect of the "dole" has been banished from the minds of many tens of thousands of workers who have now been able to accumulate the right to receive payments over a substantial period in the event of unemployment, and the principle has been accepted that children are a national asset in which we can afford to invest on a substantial scale.

Much remains to be done. I should like to see improved health services and a better system of old age pensions, but these are matters which involve the provinces as well as the Dominion, and I cannot say when the difficulties that stand in the way of the required co-operation will be overcome.

The third test -- the test of political unity, of growth in our efficiency as a political organism -- is the most difficult to apply, for it is intangible, a thing of the spirit which cannot be measured or counted.

"Canadian statesmen", says Professor Lower in his stimulating book "Colony to Nation", "accomplished one of the greatest acts of state-building in history when in 1867 they brought together scattered provinces and two peoples into one