

and all that sort of thing, we will vote for it, but not otherwise. He was for making no bargain of any kind. Heaps was an English Jew, and Jews are generally practical people; the Scotch have the same characteristic, and the Jew and the Scot saw that this attitude was not going to get us very far. We had trouble in persuading Mr. Woodsworth to come down from these golden clouds, to emerge from the beautiful and idealistic condition he lived in and make a practical deal to get something for something. I am not ashamed of it; I do not regret from that day to this the action I took. I think we might not have got the bill yet had we not taken advantage of the political situation, when the government was in a parlous condition as regards its majority. I repeat that I am not ashamed of that; the deal was of no personal advantage to ourselves. I think the government which gave us old age pensions had no reason to regret it afterwards, either, because it was very well received when we went to the country later on. But I assure the committee—and Mr. Heenan, who was the other independent, would bear me out, as well as Mr. Heaps—that Mr. Woodsworth's attitude was that he would simply stand on the side-lines and, if he liked the look of the legislation, perhaps he would vote for it; perhaps he would not. But that is not practical politics. This is the inside history of that affair.

I would never have mentioned that but for my hon. friend claiming the whole credit for the two gentlemen he mentioned, and I am glad the opportunity has come, because I am fed up with this "holier than thou," this sanctimonious air of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, who claim all the credit for everything under heaven and above the earth, and say that they did it, if it was good, but if it was bad, that the wicked Tories or the worse Grits did it. They had nothing whatever to do with it, because the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation party did not come into being until 1932 or 1933, and did not run as such until 1935, and the Old Age Pensions Act was passed in 1926, nine years before.

I am surprised at the unusual methods adopted in this case of bringing in this important legislation in the last hours of the session, not introduced even by legislation, by a bill which we would have had an opportunity to study, but by a statement, one might almost call it a verbal statement, of the Minister of Finance. I went upstairs to try to get the record of what he said, so that I might appreciate the fullness of what he did say, but I could not get it. I shall have to wait until

Monday morning before I can see the record of what he really did say. I was not clear from casually listening to it, just what it was, but I am going to identify what I gathered, and he will no doubt correct me if I am wrong.

I understand that he is going to introduce this legislation by order in council, and he is going to raise the potential old age pension to \$25 a month. The dominion will continue to contribute seventy-five per cent and the provinces twenty-five per cent and whatever further sum the provinces may choose to give. That will make the dominion government contribution \$3.75 a month more than it is now. Of course that is a small sum expressed in that form, though it may take a large sum when it is multiplied by all the old age pension people. I am not clear; it is not because I was not attentive enough, but I could not find out when this thing was going to be effective, nor could I understand where the funds will come from. You can wave your hand and pass an order in council, but if the expenditure is going to run into large sums I do not know where the money is coming from. Would the minister be good enough to tell me that when I sit down. I am sorry that nothing was said as far as I could judge about lowering the age limit. I think any hon. member will realize that the one reform is just as necessary as the other.

A man who has worked manually at hard work, when he is over sixty-five is not fit to earn in the only way he knows, by hard manual labour. With the prospect of the war ending and a possibly lessened demand for labour, the money spent in this manner would be better expended than in some form of relief. I hope the minister will be good enough to tell us whether he has any idea of making a reduction in the qualifying age. The other question I should like him to answer is, when will this be inaugurated? We are going home; we are going to tell the people what will be good tidings in many and many a home. It is a step in the right direction, but when will it begin?

Mr. ILSLEY: In the statement which I made I said that supplementary agreements would have to be made with the provinces and that they would be made as soon as practicable, but that it would take a few weeks to work that out. That is the nearest I can come to it. Sometimes it takes a little time in dealing with the provinces, but the only way we can go about it is by supplementary agreements with the provinces. The money