

dred per cent. This government should take over the whole scheme and itself pay out the money. That is the position that should be taken; that is the proper way to remedy what there is of unsoundness in the principle.

Mr. CHAPLIN: That is an extension of the vicious principle.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: No; on the contrary, it is getting rid of what is vicious. I wish my hon. friend to follow me in this. The principle of old age pensions is a thoroughly sound one. The hon. gentleman may never have to receive a pension, but no doubt he knows of a good many people who, after a life of severe toil, are in dire need and most deserving of such assistance on the part of the state. Obviously the principle is thoroughly sound. I have always taken that position and have fought strenuously for it; and to get that principle recognized by parliament I was prepared to go so far as to support a grant in aid, which I am perfectly frank to admit was, from the point of view of financing, an unsound method. Now I say, let us recognize that the principle of old age pensions itself is perfectly sound and involves an obligation which the federal parliament should assume. Let us undertake to administer the Old Age Pensions Act from Ottawa and have all the moneys which are necessary for the payment of those pensions voted by this parliament. But let this parliament control every dollar of expenditure in connection with the administration. The principle that is unsound—and it appears in the budget speech delivered in this house yesterday by the Prime Minister—is that this parliament should vote seventy-five per cent of the moneys necessary to pay these pensions without having any control over this vast expenditure beyond that of simply handing the cheques for total amounts to the provinces to deal with as they see fit. That is not a sound principle of financing; and no one, I believe, has uttered words in that respect more elo-

quent, more emphatic, or more logical, than the present Secretary of State did in a speech which he made in this house not very long ago with regard to old age pensions. I agree entirely with what he said in that respect. The body providing the money should be the one to control its expenditure.

The list cited comprises practically all the more important grants in aid from this dominion to the provinces. The figures I have quoted—and they do not give all the expenditures to date—amount to a total of \$57,911,259. That is what has been spent practically within a period of ten years in grants in aid to the provinces towards the few services I have mentioned, all of which services it was agreed at the time came within the purview of the provinces themselves. How much has the dominion paid to the provinces in the way of subsidies over a like period, say the last ten years? I regret I have not the figures here—I thought I had them; but it will be found that the subsidies under the statutes amount to a little more than double that sum—something like \$150,000,000. That, roughly speaking, is what has been paid to the provinces in subsidies in a period of about ten years.

I ask hon. gentlemen opposite to consider this question: Do they for a moment believe that the fathers of confederation would ever have made provision for the payment in ten years, from the federal treasury to the provinces, of the sum of \$150,000,000 or whatever the amount may be, with the knowledge that half that amount in addition would be voted by parliament in the way of grants in aid to be paid at the same time from the federal treasury to the provinces? One has only to consider these figures in such a relationship to realize how far-reaching and how far from the original mark the whole practice is becoming. Here, with the permission of the house, I should like to insert, in the form of a table, the statistical data I have just given:

Federal Grants in aid made by the Dominion to the Provinces in addition to annual subsidies provided by Statute

Statute	Object	First Payment	Last Payment	Provision		Expended to March 31, 1931	
				\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Agricultural Instruction Act, 1913. (Special Vote 51, 1924).....	For the advancement of agricultural instruction.	1914	1923	10,000,000	00		
		1924	.....	900,000	00	10,900,000	00
Employment Offices Co-ordination Act, 1918.	To aid and encourage the organization and co-ordination of employment offices.	1919	.....	150,000	00 annually.	2,183,016	00
Canada Highways Act, 1919..	To encourage the construction and improvement of highways.	1921	1928	20,000,000	00	20,000,000	00
Technical Education Act, 1919. (Extended 1929; 1934.)	For the promotion of technical education in Canada.	1920	.....	10,000,000	00	8,769,284	00