

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Of course, politics is the science of what is possible, and at last we have come to the time when this sort of legislation is apparently possible—although there are some people who are of the opinion that we are still somewhat ahead of the times. But here, however, we have a resolution that has never been repudiated by the Liberals, in convention or anywhere else, for an adequate system of insurance against sickness—that is, medicare;—and I am rather proud to say that we are here carrying out that long-since resolution. It goes on to say:

dependence in old age—

We have also accomplished that in the interval.

widows' pensions—

There is something in legislation with regard to that, particularly in the provinces.

and maternity benefits, should be instituted by the Federal Government in conjunction with the Governments of the several provinces; and that on matters pertaining to industrial and social legislation—

That is what this is, social legislation and not socialism.

—an effort should be made to overcome any question of jurisdiction between the Dominion and the Provinces by effective co-operation between the several Governments.

That has taken a long time to work out, and I am not quite sure it has been worked out yet.

**Hon. Mr. Choquette:** Those promises were good for 20 elections!

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Oh yes, the general principles of the Liberal party have been endorsed in election after election, and I have no doubt they will continue to be in the future.

There is just one other part I would wish to read—and perhaps you will smile when I do so:

**Hon. Mr. Stewart (Acting Chairman):** The resolution will be seconded by Mr. Arthur W. Roebuck, of Toronto.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** May I ask the honourable senator when unemployment insurance was first introduced?

**Hon. Mr. Smith (Queens-Shelburne):** In 1940.

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** I think it was introduced by the Bennett Government.

**Hon. Mr. Smith (Queens-Shelburne):** No; in 1940.

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** I think it was introduced by the Bennett Government between 1930 and 1935.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** No, my friend is in error there. I was on the committee, and I was in the House of Commons in 1940.

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** The Liberal committee—you were on the political committee at the 1919 convention, is that not right?

**Hon. Mr. Choquette:** Senator Roebuck, we all remember the Bennett administration originated unemployment insurance. It was sent to the Supreme Court of Canada, and they decided, on some technical point, it was *ultra vires*—until the Liberals got hold of it and passed it.

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** My second question of Senator Roebuck is: Who are you quoting from the Conservative side? You said at the outset you wondered if my friend Senator Phillips would listen to one of his own. Who is "one of his own"?

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Myself!

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** I do not consider you a Conservative sir.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** I do not think my honourable friend Senator Phillip doubts a word of what I have said when I read it from the original record of the convention.

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** You said "one of his colleagues," and I assumed wrongly it was a Conservative.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** No.

**Hon. Mr. Willis:** I am glad to know it was not.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Senator Phillips has a number of colleagues—and I will go further than that—he has a number of friends on this side of the house.

**Hon. Mr. Sullivan:** Honourable senators, after such an extreme degree of tranquility as we have witnessed, I wonder if I could make a special plea to all senators to use the expression "medical services" in future?

**Hon. Alan Macnaughton:** Honourable senators—