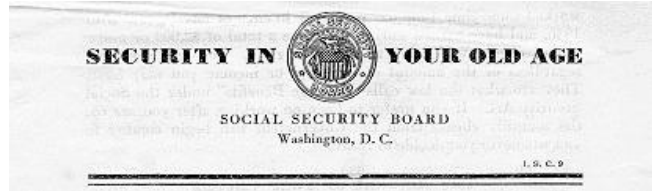


**Resource 2****Excerpt from “The 1936 Government Pamphlet on Social Security”**

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**WHAT THIS MEANS TO YOU**

THIS means that if you work in some factory, shop, mine, mill, store, office, or almost any other kind of business or industry, you will be earning benefits that will come to you later on. From the time you are 65 years old, or more, and stop working, you will get a Government check every month of your life, if you have worked some time (one day or more) in each of any 5 years after 1936, and have earned during that time a total of \$2,000 or more....

**The Amount of Your Checks**

How much you will get when you are 65 years old will depend entirely on how much you earn in wages from your industrial or business employment between January 1, 1937, and your 65th birthday. A man or woman who gets good wages and has a steady job most of his or her life can get as much as \$85 a month for life after age 65. The least you can get in monthly benefits, if you come under the law at all, is \$10 a month....

**TAXES**

THE same law that provides these old-age benefits for you and other workers, sets up certain new taxes to be paid to the United States Government...

**YOUR PART OF THE TAX**

The taxes called for in this law will be paid both by your employer and by you. For the next 3 years you will pay maybe 15 cents a week, maybe 25 cents a week, maybe 30 cents or more, according to what you earn. That is to say, during the next 3 years, beginning January 1, 1937, you will pay 1 cent for every dollar you earn, and at the same time your employer will pay 1 cent for every dollar you earn, up to \$3,000 a year. Twenty-six million other workers and their employers will be paying at the same time.

After the first 3 year—that is to say, beginning in 1940—you will pay, and your employer will pay, 1.5 cents for each dollar you earn, up to \$3,000 a year. This will be the tax for 3 years, and then, beginning in 1943, you will pay 2 cents, and so will your employer, for every dollar you earn for the next 3 years. After that, you and your employer will each pay half a cent more for 3 years, and finally, beginning in 1949, twelve years from now, you and your employer will each pay 3 cents on each dollar you earn, up to \$3,000 a year. That is the most you will ever pay.

**YOUR EMPLOYER'S PART OF THE TAX**

The Government will collect both of these taxes from your employer. Your part of the tax will be taken out of your pay. The Government will collect from your employer an equal amount out of his own funds....

**Source:** Social Security Administration. (n.d.). Social Security numbers: The 1936 government pamphlet on Social Security. Retrieved from <http://www.ssa.gov/history/ssn/ssb36.html>