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MEMORANDUM RE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT 1940

If the Unemployment Insurance Act is passed in its present form we shall be handing to the radicals of Canada their greatest opportunity, a fact of which they are probably well aware and which possibly they have themselves planned.

The main obstacle to the progress of radical socialism in Canada according to socialist writers has been "the contentment of the working class", a condition which they must overcome to make any progress. They are ominously quiet at the moment except to insist occasionally that the present bill shall pass at once. But it is significant that Mr. Coldwell (C.C.F) says, 'we are going to vote for it but it doesn't go far enough'. And Mr. Blackmore says, 'it is a bauble but this group is going to vote for it so that the people can bump their heads on it'. Mr. Tom Moore says, 'we favour the passage of the bill as it stands -- but there are some things we hope will be adjusted by the Advisory Committee'.

Post war conditions will provide the radicals with the best opportunity they have had to spread discontent, suspicion and dissension, an art in which they are past masters -- 'why should the workers of Canada make contributions for Unemployment Insurance? -- the workers of the United States have larger benefits and pay nothing -- why should you? -- Are you responsible for unemployment? -- No! -- Then why should you be saddled with the cost of it -- nothing but a capitalist trick to saddle the cost of necessary social services, including relief, on the people least able to bear it, the wage earners -- you cannot expect anything else from the capitalist class and the old parties who are their servants -- it has always been so. Now is the time to elect a C.C.F. Government at Ottawa and set up a new Canada that will be fair to the worker and put an end to the rotten profit system -- every C.C.F. candidate elected, whether many or few, will fight for the immediate elimination of the employee contribution from the Unemployment Insurance law and for other changes to the benefit of the worker'.

What would an appeal like that do for 75% of the voters in Canada? It would have to be met instantly by the same offer from one or both of the major parties. If not, the C.C.F. would unquestionably emerge as the official

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 5 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 199)

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