

While the time at the disposal of your Committee has been too short to make as comprehensive a report as the importance of this matter demands, your Committee submits the following recommendations:

1. That the necessity of providing some method of unemployment insurance is one that will inevitably have to be dealt with before long, as a solution, in part, of the industrial problems of the present day.
2. That we accept and endorse the principle of unemployment insurance, based on compulsory contributions derived from the State, the Employer and the Employee. In this connection, we would point out that a somewhat similar decision was arrived at by a Royal Commission on Industrial Relations, which dealt with this subject in 1919.
3. That the evidence of the Justice Department makes it clear that the responsibility for such legislation rests on the Provincial authorities, it being within their jurisdiction under the provisions of the B.N.A. Act, but that it would be within the power of Parliament to contribute by grant, to such Provinces as adopted such legislation, following the precedent set in the matter of Technical Education, Highway Construction and, more recently, the Old Age Pension Act.
4. That, whereas the conditions of unemployment vary so much more from Province to Province, than those relating to old age, it would be very desirable, for the success of any plan of unemployment insurance that several of the provinces should be willing to act simultaneously. In view of these circumstances, we are of the opinion that this matter should be referred to the various provinces, to ascertain which of them would be prepared to consider adopting legislation of this character, and to what extent.
5. On the very important subject of the cost of unemployment insurance, your Committee has experienced great difficulty in arriving at any definite conclusion owing to the lack of data as to the amount of unemployment, either constant or occasional in character. There appears to be no definite method of ascertaining the unemployment at any given point for any length of time. We, therefore, recommend that the Government immediately devise some means whereby the amount of unemployment, over a period of years, could reasonably be calculated.
6. That as unemployment insurance has been in operation for a number of years in Great Britain, and has recently been thoroughly investigated by a strong committee, and the system re-organized on the basis of their report, your Committee would suggest to the Government the advisability of obtaining, from Great Britain, expert advice on the subject, which would be of service in the formulation of a plan or plans suitable to conditions in Canada, and in arriving at the approximate cost.
7. In order that this matter might be further dealt with, your Committee recommends to Parliament that at the next Session this question be again referred to the Committee on Industrial and International Relations.
8. Your Committee further recommends that 8,000 copies, in English, and 2,000 copies, in French, of this report, and the evidence upon which it is based, be printed in Blue Book form, these to be distributed by the Department of Labour, and that Standing Order No. 64 be suspended in relation thereto.

C. R. McINTOSH,  
*Chairman,*

WALTER HILL,  
*Clerk of Committee.*