

rates proposed in the White Paper is overdue and highly welcome, but it in no way resolves this dilemma of a wage-related insurance program which is most evident in relation to low-income people.

6. These are a few of the general reservations and questions which will be raised in more detail under the rubric of "Broad Issues" in our statement. It is in the light of such reservations that we find ourselves unable to respond enthusiastically to some of the more rhetorical passages in the White Paper. It seems to us that in reality the proposals made deal essentially with specific changes in the unemployment insurance program which has long been in need of reform. However, the White Paper cannot be judged solely in that context; it must also be assessed in relation to its broader claim that "If enacted, the proposed unemployment insurance program, will be the first step in a self-help program which will reflect the more humane and more productive social development policies planned for this decade".⁽²⁾

I BROAD ISSUES

The Piecemeal Approach

7. A major concern is that Unemployment Insurance in the 70's has unfortunately been issued in advance of the long-promised federal

(2) Unemployment Insurance in the 70's (Ottawa: Department of Labour, Queen's Printer, 1970), pp. 6-7. (Hereinafter referred to as the White Paper.)