

Unemployment Insurance not feasible on a provincial basis

The first course would have involved the abandonment of a national scheme to which the government was pledged. Further, all authorities were agreed that unemployment insurance on a provincial basis would not operate fairly or satisfactorily.

Concurrent legislation not practical

Full consideration was given to the second course by the legal advisers of the government. They reached the conclusion that no arrangement for concurrent action by the Federal and Provincial authorities would ensure the uniformity, stability, and flexibility necessary to the successful operation of unemployment insurance.

Amendment to British North America Act first step

The government accordingly reached the view that it was not possible to establish a national system of unemployment insurance on a sound basis until the Parliament of Canada obtained the legislative competence to enact the necessary legislation. This authority could only be secured through an amendment to the British North America Act.