

Members of the Public Accounts Committee are deeply concerned over the serious problem felt by the Auditor General regarding the classification of 28 of his office staff. In order to deal with this urgent and complex problem, we recommend that a suitable bench mark be established within the Auditor General's office to which his staff classifications can be related, and we urge that such a bench mark be established in consultation with the Auditor General prior to February 1, 1971.

In the event that satisfaction is not achieved suitable to the Auditor General and his staff, it is recommended that they then employ the approved grievance procedures available to them.

Copies of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issues Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7*) are tabled.

(The Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence accompanying the said Report recorded as Appendix No. 15 to the Journals).

Mr. Weatherhead, from the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration, presented the First Report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Wednesday, June 17, 1970, which reads as follows:

"That the White Paper on Unemployment Insurance tabled this day be referred to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration";

your Committee commenced its study of the White Paper on Unemployment Insurance during the Second Session of the Twenty-Eighth Parliament.

In response to an invitation contained in a Press Release of June 26, 1970, and in individual letters issued by Mr. David Weatherhead, M.P., Chairman of the Committee, 53 briefs and 18 letters from organizations and individuals pertaining to the White Paper have been received by the Committee.

Your Committee began its hearings on Tuesday, September 15, 1970, and completed them on Tuesday, November 3, 1970. Since the Committee had not completed its study during the Second Session of the Twenty-Eighth Parliament, it presented a report to the House recommending that the same Order of Reference and the evidence adduced be referred to it again as one of the first items of business in the Third Session of the Twenty-Eighth Parliament.

On October 9, 1970, the House made the following Order:—

"That the White Paper entitled Unemployment Insurance in the 70's, laid before the House, June 17, 1970, and the evidence adduced by the Committee in its study of the aforementioned matter during the Second Session of the Twenty-Eighth Parliament be

referred to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration".

Your Committee held 18 meetings in the Second Session and 12 in the present Session, bringing the total number of meetings on the White Paper to 30.

During the course of its hearings, the Committee heard evidence from 33 organizations. Attached is the list of witnesses in the order of their appearance and dates of appearance (See Appendix A). Briefs submitted by organizations but not presented orally at sittings of the Committee were considered by the members in their written form. (For list of those organizations see Appendix B). Letters submitted by organizations and individuals containing comments and recommendations were distributed to the members of the Committee (See Appendix C).

In accordance with the wishes of the Committee, all briefs and letters submitted to it, irrespective of whether organizations and individuals appeared before it or not, have been printed as appendices to its Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence. (See Issues 10 to 20 Second Session, Twenty-Eighth Parliament and Issues 1 to 9 Third Session, Twenty-Eighth Parliament).

The Honourable Bryce Mackasey, Minister of Labour and officials of the Unemployment Insurance Commission appeared before the Committee at the beginning and the close of the hearings.

Your Committee wishes to thank all organizations and individuals who submitted briefs and letters or appeared as witnesses at the hearings.

Your Committee also wishes to express its gratitude to Miss Santosh Sirpaul the Clerk of the Committee and its consultant, Professor Gilles Paquet, for their tremendous help and cooperation during the hearings and in the preparation of this Report to the House.

Finally, your Committee wishes to express its thanks to all the Branches and related Services of the House for their assistance.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The White Paper on Unemployment Insurance in the 70's presents a new strategy to deal with interruption of earnings as a source of economic insecurity.

In order to deal effectively with the White Paper proposals, we have patterned our report after the main sections of the White Paper. Consequently our report falls into four broad sections as follows:—

- (1) Philosophy
- (2) The major dimensions of the proposals:—
 - 1.—Coverage
 - 2.—Eligibility
 - 3.—Benefits
 - 4.—Financing