

three provinces which had not yet given their assent, the government took the view that the need for unemployment insurance had been greatly enhanced by wartime conditions. The government considered that a system of national unemployment insurance, if established now, would go far to prevent much of the insecurity and industrial dislocation which might otherwise be the aftermath of war.

We were also encouraged to hope that the manifestation, since the outbreak of war, of a greatly enhanced sense of national unity would make it possible for the remaining provinces to co-operate in the realization of a measure which, we believe, will contribute so materially to the national security of Canada in the broad sense of the term.

Response of provinces in 1940

The ready response which the renewed overtures of the Federal government met in the three provinces of New Brunswick, Quebec and Alberta, not only justified our hopes but justified as well, I believe, I may fairly say, the whole course pursued by the government in its endeavour to accomplish this great advance in social security. It