126602

- 3 -

General public sentiment would approve. The only disapproval would come from a few radicals who have their own reasons for pushing it at this time. The present strain and irritation over the many schemes for deductions from payroll, and the registration and war stamps and bond buying and training camps and the Defence Tax would be greatly lessened. More than half the workers of Canada who would come under the present bill are steadily employed, as I know from personal investigation and proved to the Senate Committee with figures from reports of the Industrial Commission of Wisconsin, who administer the Unemployment Compensation Act in that state.

- So far as getting the money now to assist in financing the war is concerned an Individual Savings Plan along the lines of the C.M.A. proposal will raise more money and with practically full approval of employees and employers (barring a few radicals and some labour leaders who do not like any idea that seems to increase friendly cooperation between employers and employees, for obvious reasons).
- Again, the apparent advantage of passing the law at once to start the money coming in is more than offset by the added financial liability incurred -- there will be during the war thousands of people off the farms working in the city and thousands of young married women working while their husbands and brothers are enlisted who are not part of the normal working forces of the nation -most of them will go back to the farm or to their homes when the war is over, having no intention of remaining in city employment. An Unemployment Insurance Act of the "pool" type coming into force now would pick up a little money from these people but would create six or eight times as much unnecessary post war liability. There are many better ways of raising money that contain less unpleasant possibilities.
- The C.M.A. Plan is not complete but the fundamental idea is absolutely sound and can be made the basis of the most satisfactory, the least expensive, the most easily administered Unemployment Insurance Plan in the world. Why copy the mistakes of others -- why not set up a better scheme? The quick and surprisingly favourable

