

B. SPECIFICS OF CONCERNCoverage (White Paper, Part 2, Section 1)

8. While the White Paper emphasizes the universality of coverage, this principle is invalidated by the exclusion of certain groups and the provision for the exclusion of others. In a society that is largely based on private enterprise, the small entrepreneur is a most important element. He has an equal claim with his fellows to protection against the hazards of loss of income. This principle similarly applies in the cases of other self-employed persons

The provision for exclusion of provincial government employees represents a further serious anomaly which simply begs the problem of jurisdictional conflict.

Eligibility and Benefits (Section 2)

9. Though this section broadens the field of eligibility, it still restricts the benefit of an assured standard of living to those who have acquired eligibility by virtue of certain prerequisites instead of establishing this benefit as a natural right of all Canadians. In addition, it introduces serious inequities.
10. For teachers, the definition of eligibility presents a problem of special complexity. The definition of the contract year in relation to the school year varies from one province to another, and the salary year shows equal variation. Implementation of the White Paper would involve either inconsistency in the definition of unemployment from one province to another or the imposition of uniform conditions of employment by federal regulation, in a field in which the provinces have exclusive jurisdiction. Neither outcome is acceptable.