

HARD TIMES FOR WORKERS

QUESTIONS DURING VIEWING

THE ENEMIES WITHIN

1. The Communist movement gained popularity among unemployed young men. What did R.B. Bennett do to control this?

Unemployed men were sent to work camps in the wilderness and paid a tenth of a normal wage. Officials were give authority lock up dissidents. Immigrants, mostly from Eastern Europe countries, were deported.

2. How did R.B. Bennett's plan backfire?

The unemployed were all put together and the influence of Marxist views created a real threat of revolution against capitalism.

NEEDLES & PINS

1. Describe working conditions in the factories.

Conditions were difficult and unsafe but they couldn't risk losing their jobs. There was constant pressure to work harder but pay was low.

BLOWN AWAY

1. What happened in the prairies during these hard times?

Along with economic struggle, there was drought in the prairie and farms failed. People left their farms. Dust storms destroyed farmland.

☐ CPH, Series 3
Episode 13
The Enemies Within
Needles & Pins
Blown Away
Dear Mr. Prime
Minister
(22:54-44:55)

☐ Complete
Questions During
Viewing

Assignment

☐ Employment
Insurance in Canada
Part 1

☐ Textbook

Counterpoints pp. 96-100

Think History pp. 98-102

Lesson 24

Assignment

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Part 1

Use the information in the chart below to compare continuity and change to Employment Insurance between the period before the Great Depression and after the Great Depression to the present.

Changes to Employment Insurance			
	Views Regarding Unemployment	Financial Aid Provided by:	Details of Changes
1879's Depression	It was an individual/local issue The problem was with individual	Municipalities Churches Charitable groups	
After WW 1 Returning soldiers	Viewed unemployment as a permanent and national issue	Federal government subsidized provincial programs for selected individuals	Views by government Funding available Department of Employment Services 1918 Employment Officers Co-ordination Act
Prosperity of 1920s	In normal times unemployment is a local issue	Financial aid cut	
Great Depression 1930s	Unemployment viewed by government and society as a social problem requiring government intervention	Federal government first, then reverted back to provincial government in 1936 under Liberals	Employment and Social Insurance Act (1935)
1940s	Continuous	Employees, employers, federal government	Constitution (British North America Act) amended to recognize unemployment insurance as a federal responsibility Unemployment Insurance Act 42% workers covered
1955	Continuous	Continuous	Included seasonal workers 75% workers covered
1960	Manpower training and job placement necessary due to technological change		
1971	Continuous	Continuous	96% workers covered
1990	Continuous	Employees, Employers (no government funding)	Employees, Employers (no government funding)
2020-2022	COVID-19 Economic shutdown and social assistance is likely to lead to future social program changes.		

Lesson 24 Assignment

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

PART 1

Record information that helps you to identify what has changed and what has remained the same.

Continuity and Change regarding the unemployed		
Characteristic	Before Great Depression	After Great Depression
Societal & Government Views	Problem predominantly lies with individual and local communities	This is a societal problem requiring government intervention
Groups responsible for aid for those in financial hardship	Municipalities Churches Charitable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial & Federal Government Employers Employees Municipalities Churches Charitable groups
Persons covered by aid	Returning soldiers	Changed from small select group to 96% of workers, though there are many unemployed not eligible for EI

To what degree was there change and continuity and how did The Great Depression accelerate change?

The Great Depression caused society and governments to recognize unemployment as an issue which was not just the problem, or fault, of the unemployed. The problem was so large that it was apparent that local municipalities and charities could not provide solutions. Government intervention was necessary. Though only providing support for a select few at the beginning, Employment Insurance now covers 96% of workers.

While EI covers most workers, there are still unemployment hardships for people, such as those unemployable. Municipalities, churches and charities still provide help to individuals with financial hardship.

PART 2

Research and write a paragraph about what the Canadian Social Insurance Number (SIN) is used for, where and when you should use it, and when you should not use it. (Try simply entering your question in the online query field)

Change

Continuity