

ment the remarks of the honourable Minister of Labour. May I ask the honourable Minister whether he can form an estimate of how much of the \$20,000,000 will be spent in actual wages to people who are now unemployed? I venture to say that the amount so spent will be less than \$7,000,000.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: My honourable friend may be a better prophet than I. I have no information that would enable me to answer his question, and I prefer not to make a guess.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: Well, that is my guess.

Hon. W. E. FOSTER: Honourable senators, before the Bill is reported I should like to make a few remarks respecting the lumber industry, which has been referred to by the honourable the Minister of Labour. I have in my hand a copy of some papers relating to unemployment which were placed on the Table of this House a few days ago, and there is included a copy of correspondence between the Department of Labour and the Provincial Governments. I find in the file a communication from the Minister of Labour of the Province of New Brunswick to the Minister of Labour of Canada, and this communication is based upon a letter, a copy of which is enclosed, from a Mr. Fenderson, a lumber operator in the northern part of that province. Mr. Fenderson wrote:

With supplies approximately 25 per cent lower and a liberal reduction in stumpage, it might be possible to operate to some extent at least, and I further believe that the lumbermen are desirous of trying to help out the situation in so far as it is possible to do so.

In the letter, dated August 18, 1930, from the Minister of Labour of New Brunswick, he says:

The last paragraph of his letter—

—that is, Mr. Fenderson's letter—

—suggests a possible solution to the unemployment problem.

That is, in the Province of New Brunswick.

Already the cost of supplies is virtually 25 per cent less than last year, and if in any way a liberal reduction of stumpage can be brought about (and it would seem to me that this can only be done by federal aid, as stumpage rates are already fixed for the present year), it seems to me the unemployment situation will be greatly relieved.

I should like to call the attention of the honourable the Minister of Labour particularly to the fact that the Minister of Labour of New Brunswick implies that the Government of that province is prepared to make certain concessions to the lumber industry

Hon. Mr. FORKE.

if the Provincial Government is reimbursed by the Government of Canada. I should like to ask the honourable the Minister of Labour if the letter from which I have just quoted is the communication to which he referred when replying to a question by the right honourable gentleman from Eganville (Right Hon. Mr. Graham). I desire to emphasize that the Province of New Brunswick is not primarily a manufacturing province, and therefore the benefits which it is alleged will flow from the other two Bills to come before us will not apply in New Brunswick to the same extent as in provinces where manufacturing is carried on to a large extent. Therefore it is highly important that the lumber industry of New Brunswick should be given favourable consideration by the honourable the Minister of Labour if he receives any request for aid to enable the province to reduce stumpage.

I was deeply interested in the opposition expressed by the right honourable the junior member from Ottawa (Right Hon. Sir George E. Foster) to the introduction of the dole in this country. I think, honourable senators, that all over Canada there is a strong sentiment against any relief measure of that kind. Canada has a brilliant record of achievement, tremendous natural resources, and a people possessed of great ability to make the best use of the natural resources that are around us, and it is to be hoped that no legislation of what might be called a pronounced social character will ever be passed here.

I happen to have occupied for a number of years the position of Prime Minister of the Province of New Brunswick, and in 1918 or 1919 I was primarily responsible for the introduction into that province of the Workmen's Compensation Act. As might be expected, there was strong opposition to the Act on the part of manufacturers particularly, and I told them at the time that they themselves were principally to blame for legislation of that kind, because they had not taken the initiative to provide safety regulations and appliances for their workmen. An honourable gentleman mentioned the other day, with reference to the Unemployment Relief Bill, that he thought the Federal Government had placed the cart before the horse, but in the Province of New Brunswick the horse had disappeared altogether, and then, when it was too late, the stable door was locked. When the manufacturers and other employers of labour in that province were faced with an assessment to pay compensation to injured workmen, they took steps which they should have taken years be-