

Our objection in Washington to the English Act and the New York Act are discussed in that paper. They are principally:

1. Dependents cast off on to charity after a brief term of years.
2. The slow and costly court machinery retained.
3. Economic waste in payment of unnecessary lawyers and casualty companies.
4. Employers' funds drained out of the State.
5. State activity and public education for accident prevention not emphasized.
6. Rates governed by competition and conditions in other states rather than our own.
7. Statistical work by the state important to public welfare not performed.

With due seasonal greetings, I am

Very cordially yours,

The Industrial Insurance Commission.

By HAMILTON HIGDAY,

Commissioner.

APPENDIX VIII.

COPY OF CIRCULAR.

WASHINGTON STATE FEDERATION OF LABOUR.

To the Trade Unions of the State, Greeting:

The Workmen's Compensation Act which became effective October first, is daily demonstrating its value to the injured workmen. Under its provisions many victims of industrial accidents are receiving compensation, who, under the old system, would have become a burden upon friends or subjects of charity. Two months of experience has, however, demonstrated the necessity of every organization, whether labour, fraternal, or social, that has the welfare of its membership at heart, participating more actively in the securing of prompt attention in behalf of its membership.

Employers who have hitherto felt called upon to guard against the possibility of recovery of damages are slow to awake to a realization of the changes effected by the new law.

Casualty Companies that have derived immense profits under past conditions, are opponents of a system that takes away their source of revenue. Ambulance-chasing lawyers, who have lived off damage suits, which they were able to promote under the old liability system, are joining hands with agents of Casualty companies and opposing employers in an endeavour to discredit the new law.

It is the duty of our organizations to rally to its support, and gain for our membership full and prompt returns for injured workmen. To that end each organization should instruct its officers or the proper committees:

First: To secure from the Industrial Insurance Commission, Olympia, Wn. copies of the law and necessary blanks to be filled out in case of injuries to employees received in the course of their employment.

Second: To thoroughly familiarize themselves with the law.