

and employers, who recommended certain amendments. Is that not right?

Mr. MITCHELL: That is correct.

Mr. CHURCH: I wish to support this resolution. The more a person pays in, whether it be employee or employer, the better the results will be. I have seen a good deal of the working of this act and it has been a great thing for the country. Long may it continue. I believe that the amendments now proposed will clarify the existing regulations which are issued by the minister and his officials. I want to say that he has some very good men in that department. I know because I have seen a good deal of them. I shall await the bill with interest and in the meantime give general support to this resolution.

Mr. J. H. HARRIS (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, I should not like this occasion to pass without my word of commendation for this resolution. I think earlier today the Minister of Labour (Mr. Mitchell) was perhaps a little dubious on which side of the fence I leaned.

Mr. MITCHELL: Never.

Mr. HARRIS (Danforth): Thanks so much. I am firmly convinced that legislation of this kind is good for the weal of Canada. I remember so well reading what the late Mr. Lloyd George had to say prior to the introduction of his unemployment insurance measure in the British house and before he made that great speech on the subject of wastage—the wastage of manpower, the wastage of the energies of the British people, the wastage of water-power, waters tumbling down a mountainside, leaping from rock to rock, but grinding no corn. We of the present generation have learned how to harness that waterpower, and my imagination was gripped by his words. When in this honourable assembly we had to wait until 1940 for unemployment insurance legislation, I thought we, too, had waited too long.

I do not want to be confined in my remarks, Your Honour, to the individual clauses of the bill which will come before us in a day or two, but rather I want to make a few observations in a broad general way, as one of this chamber who is privileged to see, on the one hand, a couple of hundred employees contributing each week to this unemployment insurance fund, another 350 in another place, and another forty out west. The fund today amounts to \$450 million. I ask the Minister of Labour if that is not the correct figure.

Mr. MITCHELL: Close to it.

Mr. HARRIS (Danforth): It is earning \$30,000,000 a year. It is like a snowball going

down hill growing in magnitude. But when the July sun of unemployment finds its place in the changing of things that snowball will melt away. The day may yet come when this fair Canada of ours will be short of funds wherewith to pay back to those who have subscribed to the unemployment relief fund, and we shall find ourselves—pray God not for a while or in our time—borrowing money with which to provide the funds necessary to pay unemployment relief. I hope that day will not come. I am thinking of those with whom I am associated when I say that I hope that for a long time no one of them will find himself unemployed and unable to contribute to unemployment insurance.

I must from the Conservative point of view ask the minister when bringing down his bill to give consideration to this: Do not be carried away with the requests for the enlarging of the provisions of this bill which you propose to introduce. You have been asked to give consideration and to grant benefits which do not belong to this bill. I heard mention this afternoon of sickness insurance and whatnot. That is the responsibility of all of us, but it is not the responsibility of those with whom it has been my privilege to associate who have contributed each week, out of their pay envelopes, a mite for unemployment insurance for the time when they are unemployed. That mite is not for sickness but for unemployment only.

I charge this administration, or any administration which follows it, to take full responsibility for all these other features of social welfare. They should be considered individually. Let every herring hang by its own tail. Since 1940 this administration has extracted from the people \$450 million, for what? For unemployment insurance. Put that \$450 million into the category where it belongs and do not be carried away by any socialistic ideas of putting it elsewhere.

That strikes a common note with the Minister of Labour. Without reading the resolution which is in front of me, I say to him not to be tempted to dabble into this large reserve created by payments made by honest employees for one purpose and one purpose only. Keep it where it belongs. We will rise in our places and vote, if we are in power at that time, for sickness insurance and whatnot, or if someone else happens to be there we will support any measure of social security which is reasonable and right. Speaking for myself, I will not support any resolution which expands the payment out of this fund for sickness insurance, as was suggested this afternoon, or for any other kind of insurance.