

dependants, and we do not necessarily confine them to relations—it is any person who is dependant upon the work of the workman, and who, if he had not received the accident, would have expected some remuneration towards their upkeep. Now, we had, some time ago, a decision of the Privy Council in the case of *Krzus v. The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company*. Perhaps you will remember that was a case brought under our own Workmen's Compensation Act. The coal company took the ground that as the dependants in that case were foreign dependants, not residing in British Columbia, that the Workmen's Compensation Act did not apply to them. This case was carried by the Trades and Labour Council, I think, or the Union in Fernie, to the Privy Council, and they finally succeeded in defeating the aim of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, the Privy Council holding that it did apply to foreign dependants. That being the law, we believe that we should follow the decision of the Privy Council and make all the foreign dependants come under this Act.

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And there is a reason from an economic standpoint for that as well, because, if the foreign dependants were not to receive anything for any accident under the Act, the employer might very well go to work and fill up his shop or industries with foreign employees, knowing that there would be no claim upon him for the foreign dependants, who might be living in Europe or any of these other countries over the sea, in case of an accident. So that there is a reason why, in that case, outside of the decision of the Privy Council entirely, that this line should be followed. (Applause.)

Now, I do not intend to take up further time, for I wish to give an opportunity to those who are on the platform with me to discuss the merits and demerits of this legislation. We have made this Act essentially to meet the economic condition, and not right a legal wrong. We seek in a systematic and economical way to furnish certain and reasonable compensation for disabled workmen and their dependants without the necessity of expense or delay, withdrawing the matter from the jurisdiction of the courts and placing the administration under a special department, with Government supervision. It does away with any necessity of a casualty company or other medium coming between the injured workman and his compensation, out of which they expect to make a profit. It does away entirely with a situation which tended to a concealment of fault in accidents, and makes possible a frank study of causes, which must result eventually in lessening the number of preventable accidents and reducing the cost and suffering they inflict. It also removes a fertile source of much ill-feeling