

possibly be given them before the next session. And it must also be remembered that this would be a very bad time, owing to the financial depression, to put added expense on many groups of these allied industries which we have grouped under the Act.

MUST PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY

For instance, take our mills. If we had this Act in force now, and an accident took place in a mill on the Coast, which might be operating, perhaps, with half a crew, and an assessment was made for that accident on the industry all over the Province, you would be inflicting assessments on many mills—scores of mills—in the Kootenay country which are not operating at all, and which today, I am sorry to say, in some cases are in the hands of the bank. They cannot sell their lumber now, owing to depression in Alberta and Saskatchewan. So that you can see how unfair it would be to have this Act in force this year. Making a decided change like this, which means so much in a financial way to those industries, you can quite see the reason for the Government taking time in order to find out what is the very best bill that can be brought down under the circumstances.

My friend, of course, because of rumours of election during the last few days, will say this is an election bait. I do not know that it is a bit more an election bait than the little bill which Mr. Oliver drafted himself some few months ago, and which appeals entirely to the employee. He does not recognize the employer at all—Mr. Oliver does not—in his bill, because he is looking for the largest number of votes, and he knows there are more workmen that have votes than capitalists. (Laughter and applause.) It is noticeable through his whole Bill that the employer, so to speak, is wiped off the map. He has followed to a great extent the Bill of the State of Washington. Without the employer, of course, you cannot have the employee; you cannot make your demands upon the employer so stringent that you are actually going to wipe out the industries themselves, because that will nullify the very effect of the legislation itself.

IN CONCLUSION

Now, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, you have been very kind in listening so carefully to the remarks that I have offered in connection with this Bill. There is only one thing more I wish to point out, that we, in this Act, have made dependants come under the Bill so as to receive the benefits even if they are foreign dependants. Mr. Oliver's Bill is slightly different. I think he gives it to the father and mother only of foreign dependants living out of the Province. Well, our reason for putting in all the