

direction throughout the civilized world, and as Doctor Watson has made a record for himself in discoveries of a similar character, we are anticipating a good deal from his present investigations.

Mr. COOTE: With further reference to the power at Spray lakes, I would urge upon the government the desirability of reaching a decision as soon as possible. There has been a great deal of agitation in Alberta for the development of that power. I would ask the Minister of Labour (Mr. Heenan) another question, which is of very considerable importance. I refer to a serious explosion which took place in one of our coal mines in Coleman, Alberta, a few weeks ago in which ten men lost their lives. The mine had to be flooded to put out the fire that resulted from the explosion and considerable damage occurred. I know the Minister of Labour has received a request from the relief committee in the town asking the Dominion government to make a small grant to meet the distress. Has this request received the minister's favourable consideration, and will a small grant be made to assist the people of Coleman to relieve the distress caused by this disaster.

Mr. HEENAN: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member has stated, we have received such a request and we are waiting for further details. The matter is under consideration.

Mr. COOTE: I would like to ask the Minister to give it his very best consideration. I would like to emphasize the fact that this is a very grave disaster. The miners in this town were working only three days a week for about two months prior to the accident, and the closing down of the mine has thrown them all out of work. Most of the men left families dependent upon them, in some cases aged parents, with very little means of support. The town is absolutely dependent upon the mining industry; I know that in the rush of departmental business sometimes these things are not given the consideration to which they are entitled. The government of the province of Alberta, after careful consideration has seen fit to make a grant to this relief committee. I might also remind the government that in 1924, at the time of the serious disaster at Hillcrest, a disaster much worse than this, when sixty men lost their lives, the government of the day made a grant of \$50,000 to the sufferers. We are not asking the government to make any such grant, but we trust that they will be as generous as was the provincial government.

[Mr. Motherwell.]

Mr. WOODSWORTH: May I call the attention of the new Minister of National Defence (Mr. Ralston) to item number 89, "Cadet Services." In the main estimates \$400,000 is provided, of which \$100,000 was supplied through interim supply, and \$252,587 under governor general's warrants. It would take a considerable stretch of the imagination to understand that this was a very necessary service in Canada. Notwithstanding the reiterated protests in this House with regard to the policy of cadet training, that amount has been expended. It is not my desire at present to delay the House with regard to this policy—

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): May I ask the hon. member a question? When did this House enter a protest against that service?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I stand corrected; members of this House protested. I would like to say that the organized bodies of labour and farmers in Canada have again and again protested against this policy.

Some hon. MEMBERS: No, no.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Yes, yes.

Some hon. MEMBERS: No, no.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: If necessary, I can read the resolutions in that connection, and I will do so when I am speaking again on this matter. What I should like to reiterate is that these large representative bodies, as well as other bodies of citizens, have taken a strong stand on this matter and have laid their protests before the government. Therefore I would suggest to the new Minister of National Defence that in the preparation of next year's estimates he give due consideration to those protests.

Sections 2, 3 and 4 agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

ROYAL ASSENT

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following letter:

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that the Right Honourable F. A. Anglin, acting as deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber to-day at 3.15 p.m. for the purpose of giving the royal assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES F. CROWDY,

Asst. Secretary to the Governor General.