

and so far as I know they took no action whatsoever to implement it. I feel a bit indignant when I find the Liberals of to-day hammering the government because of what the government is attempting to do.

Mr. LAPOINTE: What are you doing?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: As every hon. member knows, we have only a small group, but we have tried in season and out of season to urge that the interests of the people should be protected.

Mr. DUPUIS: Is the hon. member satisfied with this legislation?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Morand): Please address the chair.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I am not satisfied with this legislation. As I have said, I would gladly see this section eliminated because it seems to me that by including the section the government is giving a false impression. That is why I am speaking now. At the same time, I say that the Liberals are not proving very helpful when they are standing pat, as they did before, on purely technical and constitutional questions, and not offering any way out. Let me proceed with this report—

Mr. VENIOT: What is the date?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: It is the 1929 report.

Mr. VENIOT: You should correct your statement; you said the Liberals were in power several years after the report was issued.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): There was one the year before that.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: This report is dated Wednesday, May 1, 1929.

Mr. VENIOT: That is not "several" years.

Mr. BENNETT: There is one before.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I would say it was; this report reaffirmed the position taken by the committee in the previous year. It continues:

3. Your committee find that the provinces on being consulted by the Department of Labour with regard to their attitude towards the establishment of a general scheme, do not appear to be prepared to take immediate action.

That is the practical difficulty; that is true to-day. The provinces are not prepared to take immediate action.

An hon. MEMBER: Some of them are.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: They have come a little nearer to it since 1929.

An hon. MEMBER: British Columbia.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: British Columbia is the exception.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Morand): Hon. members must address the chair.

Mr. VENIOT: Were you not a member of that committee?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Yes I was.

Mr. VENIOT: That is a unanimous report.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Yes, it is a unanimous report.

Mr. DUPUIS: Very good.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Why condemn the report, then?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I am not.

Mr. LAPOINTE: He is condemning the Liberal party.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: My point is, as I shall show in a minute if hon. members will have the patience to listen, that the action contemplated by this clause now under discussion was clearly before the country in 1929. The report continues:

Under these circumstances, your committee submits the following recommendations:

(a) That with regard to sickness insurance, the Department of Pensions and National Health be requested to initiate a comprehensive survey of the field of public health, with special reference to a national health program. In this it is believed that it would be possible to secure the cooperation of the provincial and municipal health departments, as well as the organized medical profession.

Since Liberals have been interrupting me, I ask them this: Since their government was in power for nearly two years after this report—

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): One year.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Did they take any action towards implementing that report?

Mr. VENIOT: Only one year.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: The recommendation was first made in 1928, and then the principle was reaffirmed in the report made the following year.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): You are reading from the 1929 report.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Did they take any action?

Some hon. MEMBERS: No.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes, they communicated with all the provinces.