

In Self-Defense.

Canadians and the International Alien Labor Question.

What the Bill of Mr. Cowan, M. P., Means.

Important Explanations by the Premier and Mr. McGregor, M.P.

A Spirit of Fair Play, Not of Contention, Evidenced in Parliament.

(Special Editorial Correspondence of The Advertiser.)

Ottawa, April 20.—Mr. Cowan, member for South Essex, will at an early day take action to have the special committee on the question of the immigration and employment of aliens called together, in accordance with the promise of Premier Laurier that the necessary legislation will be pushed to a conclusion this session.

Mr. Cowan further emphasized his position in these words: "Sir, the Canadian laborer and the Canadian artisan need not, neither does he ask for protection in the open field of competition, but if any country is going to protect her citizens, and to debar the Canadian laborer and the Canadian artisan from the fruits of honest toil, then I say that the Canadian laborer and the Canadian artisan should be protected in the labor market at home, unfettered, unimpeded by restrictive laws of foreign countries."

This view was coincided in by the speakers on both sides of the House who followed the member for South Essex. The Canadian Parliament, from the Premier down, is loathe to pass any measure to restrict the liberties of workmen to make the best of their talents in this country, no matter from what civilized nation they may hail.

Premier Laurier, while saying that he had no sympathy with legislation of this kind, and regretting the necessity of resorting to it in self-defense, said the course adopted by the United States left the Canadian Parliament no option. He would not go one step further than was absolutely necessary, and for this reason he favored a full investigation by a special committee on the effect of the legislation at various points on the border before the measure came before Parliament for final passage.

Save the Timber.

Hon. Carl Schurz on the Forestry Problem.

Forest Reserves Set Apart in the United States.

by Executive Orders—The Progress of Ruin Must be Stopped on Successive Generations Will Suffer.

It has often been said that the Americans are spendthrifts. This may not be true in all respects, but it is certainly true that the wanton wastefulness with which our people have squandered their magnificent forest resources stamps them as most reckless spendthrifts in that line. It is a fact, well known to all who care to inform themselves upon such subjects, that while a century ago no country had forests as rich and magnificent as ours, there will be none of those forests left in less than twenty years if the present rate of destruction goes on.

Hon. Mr. Wallace having alleged that Mr. Cowan's bill was incomplete, and not sufficient to meet the United States measure excluding Canadian workers, Mr. Cowan explained: "The first seven clauses of the bill are the American law as it is on the statute books of the United States. The remaining clauses are the objectionable clauses of the American law which passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, but were vetoed by the President. These were put in so that if they should be re-enacted in the United States we would be able to bring them into force in Canada immediately without waiting for a session of Parliament."

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THE MIKADO.

The Ruler of Japan a Remarkable Man.

His Majesty's daily customs are very regular. He always goes to his study at 9 a.m. and remains at work there until 4 p.m. He reads and signs all parliamentary laws and decrees. When a Cabinet Minister addresses His Majesty about any public matter he inquires about the subject, and purpose and condition and decides it. He is firm and not changeable. He cannot after that be moved.

At the beginning of Matsukata's Cabinet Parliament decided to reduce the salaries of the Cabinet Ministers and other Government officers. The Prime Minister, Count Matsukata, addressed His Majesty about it. His Majesty did not consent, and he said: "Many officers cannot live upon a fixed salary. Some Cabinet Ministers have been obliged to borrow money, and I have advanced money from my treasury to support them. If the present Cabinet Ministers retain their positions by borrowing money all Cabinet Ministers hereafter cannot do so. Therefore I cannot consent to the reduction of salaries."

When it has been reported to His Majesty that some of his subjects have given the Emperor the Japanese picture, he has been much pleased; but he is anxious to discourage his subjects from such quixoticism, and to preserve them from any but necessary danger.

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