

Canadian—as I am, and I think he will see that to allow this amendment might authorize the formation of a board before which every true British subject would refuse to appear, and so would defeat the purpose of the Bill.

Mr. MONK. I think as I am as true a Britisher as my hon. friend the Minister of Labour (Mr. Lemieux)—

Mr. LEMIEUX. Hear, hear.

Mr. MONK—but the crucial point here seems to be to give satisfaction to the labouring party; and I do not see why in a matter of this kind, their selection should not be perfectly free. This board is to investigate, which is a very different matter from applying the law, particularly the criminal law, which would be the main point involved in the hon. gentleman's illustration of the justices of the peace. We have an analogy in our incorporation Acts, where it is quite commonly provided that a majority of the board of the company incorporated shall be British subjects. I do not see why it could not be provided that a majority of this board shall be British subjects.

Mr. LEMIEUX. There is no frontier for money.

Mr. MONK. And there is no frontier for labour. My hon. friend (Mr. Lemieux) knows that efforts made in very high quarters in the province of Quebec to prevent our labouring classes from affiliating with the international organization have been fruitless.

Mr. LEMIEUX. We should encourage those efforts.

Mr. MONK. I believe that it would be a great advantage from the national standpoint if our labour organizations were confined exclusively to this country. But they are not so, and, until that happy condition of things obtains I would be in favour of liberty in this matter.

Mr. RALPH SMITH. How would the hon. member (Mr. Monk) carry out the idea of having the majority of the board British subjects when both parties were free to select foreigners?

Mr. MONK. I would like to see the labouring men untrammelled in the selection of their representative.

Mr. RALPH SMITH. Then, he would have to give the same liberty to the other side, and, as the board consists of three I do not see how we could be sure of a majority of British subjects.

Mr. BARR. I think it is to be regretted that this section is not to be allowed to remain as it is in the Bill. We know that the most turbulent spirits we have in all

Mr. LEMIEUX.

strikes come from a foreign country. I think it would conduce to our national interest, and would also be much more dignified, and would even be more in the interests of both parties in a labour dispute if the clause were left as it is in the Bill, and all the members of the board were not only British subjects but residents of Canada. I do not think that any case could arise in which we could not find suitable men for this service. We know that in the Senate a few days ago, a Bill was introduced to prevent foreigners from coming here and agitating strikes, the object being to keep out the class known as walking delegates. One reason why that Bill was not received with greater favour in the Senate was because it was that the Bill now before us would prevent other than those that are British subjects and residents of Canada from being members of this board. I think we are doing wrong by changing this Bill. I think it would be to the interest of both parties if the board were to be composed not only of British subjects, but of residents of Canada.

Mr. MONK. I think there is a distinction to be made with regard to the walking boss. We know that legislation has been sought to prevent the interference of foreigners in our labour troubles, and that legislation has caused great dissatisfaction, the labour classes have all protested against it. Here we have a law which is designed to conciliate, not to irritate, and for that reason it seems to me a distinction ought to be made.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. I have been looking at the United States Arbitration Act, and I find in it no reference to the citizenship of the arbitrators.

Mr. LEMIEUX. I suppose that in the United States it goes without saying that the board must be composed exclusively of Americans. Public opinion would not stand any other but a British tribunal. Let us be as loyal to our country as the Americans are to theirs. We have often heard it said, once a British subject always a British subject. Whether a man resides in the United States or in Canada, provided he remains a British subject, we should not bar him out from serving on these boards. We know that in the county of Essex, for instance, and indeed in a great portion of the province of Ontario where the territory is contiguous to the United States there is a network of railways on which many Canadians are employed, who reside in the United States. In order to earn their living they are obliged to reside in the United States, although their families are in Canada and they have large interests in Canada. They are, and they remain, British subjects, and no one can deny them that right.