

to come into our territories and secure claims under our regulations coincident with British subjects wherever they may come from, and can go over the line into Alaska and get a double advantage. The United States miner can divide his time between the two and do just what he chooses. That is a disadvantage we should not continue to labour under. Here are two contiguous territories, one belonging to the United States government and the other to the Canadian government. The United States miner has the right to mine in Canada, but his government excludes the Canadians from mining in the United States territory, although the natural conditions are exactly equal, and the United States miners cannot reach the mining country in Alaska excepting through Canadian territory.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (B.C.)—Oh, yes, they can.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—What way?

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (B.C.)—The Yukon River and other ways.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—But they have to traverse five thousand miles in order to reach the territory I am speaking of. They can only utilize the Yukon River about three months in the year and the steamboat can make only two trips in the season, so you see the difficulties they have to contend with, they are absolutely excluded from that territory excepting during the three months and a half when navigation is open. They want to have continuous communication in prosecuting the industry if it is to grow to any size at all as a mining industry and that is the position in which they are placed. The position they place us in is claiming the right to mine in Canadian territory while excluding the Canadians from mining in their territory. I say the Canadian government should approach the government of the United States and say "If you will equalize things, if you will allow the same advantages in the matter of transportation to Canadian citizens across the Alaskan coast strip that you ask of us in the hinterland, and that we are giving to United States citizens in our own territory, it is a very easy thing for sharp shrewd men like the United States people to see that it is to the advantage of miners that their industry should be prosecuted upon the basis of equality and upon a basis

that will give advantages to the miners of both countries and not place restrictions and create contentions and make difficulties which affect the miners themselves, and instead of the miners of the United States and the miners of Canada working harmoniously shoulder to shoulder doing their best and assisting one another, they are made contentious in consequence of the difficulties that their respective governments place in the way of their operations. Now I look upon it that that is a most unfair condition to leave our people in after having read the bill of the United States Senate and the mining regulations of the United States. I have therefore introduced a bill into this House to-day to amend the Canadian mining regulations for the Yukon. The bill reads as follows:—

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CANADIAN MINING REGULATIONS FOR THE PROVISIONAL DISTRICT OF YUKON.

HER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. The regulations governing placer mining in the provisional district of Yukon, North-west Territories, as established by Order in Council, dated 18th January, 1898, are hereby amended by striking out section 1 thereof and substituting the following:—

1. Every person over, but not under 18 years of age, if he is a British subject, or if he has taken and subscribed, as provided by section 8 of the Naturalization Act, chapter 113 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, the oaths of residence and allegiance, or the oaths of service and allegiance, and every joint stock company, if a majority of its directors are British subjects or have so taken and subscribed the said oaths, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a free miner, under these regulations and under the regulations governing quartz mining, and shall be considered a free miner upon taking out a free miner's certificate. A free miner's certificate issued to a joint stock company shall be issued in its corporate name. A free miner's certificate shall not be transferable.

2. This Act shall not come into force until a day to be named by proclamation of the Governor General.

3. At any time after this Act has come into force, if it appears to the satisfaction of the Governor in Council,—

(a.) that, by the mining laws and regulations of the United States of America in force in the Territory of Alaska, British subjects may, in the Territory of Alaska, explore, occupy and purchase mineral deposits and the lands in which these are found and may obtain patents for public lands of the United States of America in the Territory of Alaska, without in either case being required to become citizens of the United States of America or to declare their intention to become such citizens; and

(b.) that facilities the same as or, in his opinion, equivalent to those afforded by Canada to citizens of the United States of America for the transport of persons and goods through the province of British Columbia and the Provisional District of Yukon, are afforded by the United States of America to British subjects for the transport of persons and goods through the territory of Alaska;

the Governor in Council may by proclamation declare that, on and after a day to be named in such