

this country. I noticed the other day, in one of the local papers, this item:

"Some months ago Congressman Mayberry, of Detroit, Mich., introduced a Bill in the House, which provides that hereafter no alien who has not declared his intentions to become a citizen of the United States shall be granted a license as pilot, engineer, mate, captain or other officer on any steam-vessel carrying the flag of the United States. The object of the Bill was said by its author to prevent Canadian vessel men from entering the service of the United States steamboat owners to the exclusion of Americans. The Bill was favorably reported from the Commerce Committee of the House some days ago, and passed Wednesday without a dissenting vote. It is believed that it will go through the Senate with equal facility."

Now, these men I refer to appear to have had some knowledge that such legislation was to be introduced into Congress, and for the purpose of protecting themselves and being able to follow their employment, they have left the Province of Ontario and removed to the State of Michigan. Now, Sir, if the United States think proper to pass such a law as that, excluding Canadians from commanding or working upon American steamboats in the capacities mentioned in this article, I think it is but right to our people on this side, that Parliament should pass a similar law. I believe there is a law upon our Statute-book preventing Americans from occupying these positions upon vessels above a certain tonnage; but on vessels below a certain tonnage, American engineers, mates and so on, are entitled, I believe, to take command and sail them. I think, on behalf of this large class, it is the duty of the Government to introduce such legislation as will place them upon an equality with men of their class in the United States. I promised these gentlemen I would bring the matter before the House, and I now discharge that duty. I hope the matter will receive the consideration of the Government, and that such legislation as may be necessary to give effect to the reasonable wishes, the simple rights of these men, will be passed, if not this Session, at all events at the next Session.

Mr. McCALLUM. Does the hon. gentleman complain that Americans come into this country and take charge of our vessels as masters, mates and engineers? If they do, of course there is a great deal in what the hon. gentleman says. But if they do not, certainly we cannot interfere with the legislation of the United States.

Mr. LISTER. Because they do not do it, we should give them the privilege of doing it—is that the hon. gentleman's reasoning? I know as a fact that American engineers are working on our vessels.

Mr. McCALLUM. I do not think I know a single instance where Americans have come in and taken charge of our vessels; but, on the other hand, I know that many Canadians go to the United States, and that one-half the American vessels on inland waters are to-day commanded by Canadians. The hon. gentleman says that now they must become citizens. Formerly, I believe, if they lived there it was sufficient to declare their intention. But as long as that does not affect Canadians here, of course we cannot put an embargo on people going into the United States to take charge of American vessels. But do American citizens come into Canada and take charge of our vessels as masters, mates and engineers? If they do, there is a cause of complaint, and the Government ought to look into it.

Mr. LISTER. The hon. gentleman forgets that although many Canadians have gone into the United States and many American vessels are commanded by Canadians, these men heretofore have not been obliged to sever their allegiance to this country. But under this new law they are obliged to do so, and to become American citizens. Because none of these men come over to Canada, the hon. gentleman argues that we should allow the law to remain as it is. The hon. gentleman must not forget that while our people heretofore have gone to the United States, it is only reason-

Mr. LISTER.

able to suppose that under the National Policy, which the hon. gentleman supports, the shipping interest ought to become very great and prosperous in this country. It is hardly creditable that it is in a depressed condition, and if it booms up, as we have a right to expect, we will find Americans coming over here to take the place of our own engineers and seamen, and we ought to stop the possibility of such a thing. As a matter of fact, American engineers are working on boats in our waters to-day, numbers of them. I say this should not be so. If the Americans think proper to place restrictions upon Canadians working on their boats the same restrictions should be placed upon Americans working on our boats. There should be reciprocity.

Mr. McCALLUM. I am very glad the hon. gentleman has become a convert to the National Policy, and that he now goes in for protection.

Mr. LISTER. It does not involve payment of any duty.

Mr. McCALLUM. Certainly it does. If American engineers come here to work, they have to pay a fee on examination. I am very glad the hon. gentleman has become converted and is now a National Policy man. I do not, however, see that it is necessary to have an Act of Parliament passed to accomplish that result. His only complaint is in regard to engineers. There is nothing to hinder the Government passing an Order in Council, providing that all engineers on Canadian boats shall be British subjects.

Mr. LISTER. Let such an Order in Council be passed. But from the feeling way in which the hon. gentleman speaks, I should judge he has an American engineer on one of his own boats. I believe he has; if he has not this year, he had last.

Mr. McCALLUM. I always speak feelingly what I believe is right. The hon. gentleman says I have an American engineer on some boat owned by me. I never employ American engineers when I can get Canadians. He had no right to make that statement. I may say I have no engineer at all now. I did not come to this House, however, to represent myself, but my constituents, and to say I am interested, because the hon. gentleman brings up a point in the discussion in which I cannot agree with him, that the Government should bring in a law which I do not consider necessary, is surely improper. I agree that we should exclude Americans, if it is necessary to do so, but they do not come here.

Mr. LISTER. The hon. gentleman must pardon me for having charged him in some way with interested motives. I had entirely lost track of the fact that the hon. gentleman had the great misfortune some years ago to have lost that vessel.

Mr. McCALLUM. What vessel was that? I want an explanation as to what vessel is referred to, as I have lost several vessels. Does the hon. gentleman refer to the vessel for which the Government paid me. I can tell him that what I got from the Government I got by a vote of this House, and further there were only eighteen Grits who voted against the grant.

Mr. LISTER. I did not charge the hon. gentleman with anything of that kind; I am not complaining about his getting the money.

Mr. McCALLUM. If you have any dirt to throw, over with it, and I am ready to meet you.

Mr. MILLS. Down with your cash.

Mr. McCALLUM. So far as my acts have gone they have been straightforward. There was another hon. gentleman who talked in somewhat much the same way about me. It is true a few years ago I had a vessel going through