

Mr. CRERAR: If he is in that country legally they cannot refuse to allow him to return.

Mr. CAHAN: I do not wish to complicate the matter, but taking the illustration given by the minister—it is not necessary that the man should be Chinese or Japanese; he may be a citizen of one of the South American states. He is first brought to the United States and from the United States he comes to Canada. Then you wish to deport him and to provide for the cost of deportation. How can the Department of Immigration in Canada impose upon a steamship company, which has no relations with Canada whatsoever, the expense of a deportation from Canada? What jurisdiction would you have over some South American steamship company running from Buenos Aires to New York which brought in a citizen of Argentina, or a company running from Rio de Janeiro to New York which brought in a citizen of Brazil? How could you exercise any control over that steamship company which is not connected with Canada, which never calls at Canadian ports and which has no agency in Canada? How could you collect the expense?

Mr. CRERAR: In that case I would say we probably could not collect, but if that company ever sent a ship to any Canadian port then we could get at the company and collect the cost.

Mr. NEILL: Why not put the obligation on the company that actually brought the man to Canada, the steamship company that brought him from New York to Halifax? Then if they have any redress against the first steamship company, let them go to it. We can make the steamship company that brought him here from New York take him back, but we cannot touch the other company, so in that respect the statute is not worth the paper it is written on.

Mr. CRERAR: Taking the case of a Chinaman, a steamship company may bring a Chinaman to Seattle legally, we will say. Later he comes to Canada, but having entered the United States legally he can be returned to that country. If he comes to the United States illegally; that is, if he escapes the immigration authorities at that port and then walks across to Canada, he is in Canada illegally. The United States refuses to take him back, and then we put the obligation on the steamship company that brought him to Seattle to carry him back to China.

Mr. NEILL: All I say is that we are putting the obligation on the wrong company. In the first place he entered the United

States legally; later, owing to some action of his, the United States thought they were well rid of him and refused to take him back. Perhaps he had been accused of some crime, and they wanted to get rid of him. The person with whom we are dealing, and the only person with whom we can deal, is the person that brings him to Canada. Under this act we are asked to go out into the world at large and find some company which may have brought him over the first stage of his journey, a company of which we may have no knowledge and over which we have no control.

Mr. CRERAR: It has been the law for years and has worked very successfully.

Mr. BENNETT: It was intended to operate as a deterrent.

Mr. NEILL: Has there ever been a case where we could find this first company?

Mr. CRERAR: I cannot give any specific instance to my hon. friend, but I can imagine a case like this, where an immigrant may be brought illegally into a port such as Seattle. He is entered into the United States and is not carried into Canada by any transportation company. What recourse have we against him?—none, unless we can get after the steamship company which originally brought him in.

Mr. NEILL: Yes, you can arrest him. But, suppose the conditions are as the minister describes: What are you going to do with the man whilst you are hunting for the number one steamship company? You have to do something with him. He is here in Canada. You will put no obligation on the company which brought him on the last leg of the journey. What will you do with him while you are hunting for the original company? You impose no obligation on the company which brought him in here, so I suppose you are going to keep him in Canada. What are you going to do with him while you are hunting for this elusive company we know nothing about?

Mr. CRERAR: We will probably send him out of the country.

Mr. NEILL: To where?

Mr. CRERAR: To the country he came from.

Mr. NEILL: The party to do that is the company which brought him to Canada.

Mr. BENNETT: The provision has been there since 1910.

Mr. NEILL: That is a very poor reason.