

secution and trouble, and it certainly is not the intention of my hon. friend to produce any such result.

HON. MR. POWER—With respect to the necessity of this Bill, I presume that the hon. gentleman from Lunenburg, like other members of the Senate, is in the habit of reading the newspapers, and he must have seen that every year fishermen in dories have lost their vessels, and sometimes have reached land after suffering severe privations, and in some instances have not reached land at all, but have been found dead in their boats. The object of the Bill is to prevent the occurrence of these misfortunes—at all events, with respect to vessels owned in Canada. All our legislation with respect to sailors is more or less of a paternal character. Sailors are looked upon almost as children, and are protected by Parliament. Sailors resemble fishermen, in that they are unselfish people, and do not look out for their own interest, as they should. I am quite satisfied to leave the question of construction to the hon. leader of the House. If he says that any court would raise a question about the construction of this Bill I am perfectly satisfied that it should be amended in the way suggested. The Bill was submitted to the inspection of the Law Clerk and amended by him; and I am satisfied that it expresses just what I say, and is not open to the objection taken by the hon. members from Lunenburg and Acadie.

HON. MR. LACOSTE—I do not see what objection the hon. gentleman from Halifax could have to inserting the amendment proposed. There is room for a doubt, which I think it would be well to remove.

HON. MR. POWER—Then I have no objection to the amendment.

The clause was amended at the end of the 8th line by inserting the word "similar."

HON. MR. KAULBACH—Would not my hon. friend insert the words "deep-sea fishing?"

HON. MR. POWER—No; I move that in the 12th line drinking water be struck out, and that the words "liquids suitable for drinking purposes" be substituted. (Cries

of No, no.) The fishermen might prefer to take tea or coffee with them.

HON. MR. PROWSE—I do not think we need put ambiguous words in a clause of this kind. It would be almost an intimation to the fishermen that they could take spirituous liquors with them. If they want to take oatmeal with them to mix with the water there is nothing in this clause to prevent them. In my experience there is nothing worse for fishermen than to take intoxicating liquors to be used as an ordinary beverage while fishing. In my opinion, the clause as it stands cannot be improved by inserting the proposed words.

The amendment was rejected.

HON. MR. KAULBACH moved to insert the words "bank or deep-sea fishing."

HON. MR. POWER—The amendment proposed by the hon. gentleman is unnecessary and mischievous. In the first place, it will be observed that the Bill only applies to the case of dories and other boats sent out from vessels which go fishing. When a schooner goes fishing with a number of dories she does not lie ashore; she goes some miles from the shore and fishes on the banks.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—Not always.

HON. MR. POWER—My view is, that whether a schooner goes out on the banks 150 miles away or fishes 30 miles from the shore, which might possibly not be called deep-sea fishing in some instances, she should come under this Bill. In every case where boats are sent from a schooner to fish there is a risk of a fog coming on and boats being lost, whether a schooner is fishing on the banks or somewhere else. There is no object in the amendment of the hon. gentleman, except to raise some question as to the meaning of the Bill.

If this measure does not apply to the county of Lunenburg, if fishermen of that county have been intelligent and wise enough to take the steps recommended by this Bill, why does the hon. gentleman seek now to hinder the people of other counties, who have not been as wise, from having the benefit of this Bill? Last year the Senate passed this Bill unanimously, the then leader of the House concurring in it, and in effect the whole House approving, with the exception of the hon. gentleman