

arising out of the reply made recently by the minister with regard to Chinese employed on coastal boats in Canada. It seems to me it is very serious if the fact that a ship is under British registry entitles that ship, when chartered by a Canadian firm, to employ Chinese sailors or workers on it. I take it that we ought to have complete control—and I think we have—over the people in Canada or on boats in the coastal trade. To have Chinese brought in whether in bond or in any other way when that work can be done by our own white people does seem to be absurd. I should like some explanation from the minister as to his powers in this regard.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): I think my hon. friend will agree that we have very little power outside of our own shores, and strictly speaking, when a ship ties up to one of our docks, if the crew does not leave the ship and does not commit any misdemeanour against the crown I understand that we have absolutely no control over them. If the ship is of Canadian registry it is a different situation, but foreign ships coming to Canada and plying in these waters have a right to bring their own crews.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: These ships are engaged in coastal trade.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): My hon. friend will understand that there are very many American ships and Canadian ships engaged in coastal trade between Canada and the United States. My hon. friend would not argue that because an American ship was on the great lakes, plying between Canadian and American ports—

Mr. WOODSWORTH: This case covers Canadian ports.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): I do not think we should say to the Besco people that they cannot charter foreign ships for cargo carrying purposes. If they charter foreign ships, then the ship is under foreign registry.

Item agreed to.

Amount required for soldier land settlement advances and cost of administration of soldier land settlement, \$1,445,000; amount required for general land settlement advances and cost of administration of general land settlement, \$870,000; total, \$2,315,000.

Mr. LUCAS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to call the attention of the minister to a long-standing grievance in my constituency with reference to a returned soldier who has an account for a barn built upon one of the soldier settlement farms. In 1919 a soldier settler by the name of Ogilvy purchased a

farm from the board, and undertook to build a barn the material for which cost over \$1,600. He then engaged a carpenter, also a returned soldier, to erect the barn. This man undertook the work, built the barn and overhauled the house, at a total labour cost of \$480. Shortly after this time Ogilvy found himself unable to carry on and he abandoned the farm, and because this was crown property the carpenter was unable to file a lien and thus protect his interests. I have brought this matter to the attention of the government practically every year since I have been in the house, and I trust that this year the minister will be able to find some method of settling this account.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): The hon. member has spoken to me already about this matter, and there is another case before the department based on practically the same fact. The one difficulty in a settlement of these matters is the fact that the board has no authority to pay an account of this kind. It does seem to be a hardship that because of lack of knowledge of the act a man should perform services and then be denied his wage, especially in view of the fact that the farm has been considerably improved by the construction of the barn. I will promise my hon. friend that this matter will be looked into very carefully to see if something cannot be done.

Mr. LUCAS: The government has received a certain value through the erection of the barn. Fifty-five hundred dollars was paid for the farm which Ogilvy abandoned and it was resold to a British settler for \$5,200. I have been advised by the officials of the department that had this barn not been on the property the farm could not have been sold for within \$1,000 of the price received. I have seen this barn myself; it is 60 feet by 28 feet, one of those fine hip-roof barns you see when driving through the country. This man is a returned soldier who has received no benefits or assistance from the government and who is attempting to carry on in the district. He is finding it hard to make ends meet and I think the government should attempt to meet this situation.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: Mr. Chairman, owing to the fact that a bill has been brought in as a result of the labours of the pensions committee, which bill will ameliorate many of the conditions pertaining under the act, the necessity of my speaking at length is obviated. However, there are one or two matters I should like to discuss with the minister.

Under present conditions there is a possibility, and indeed the probability, that many