

time provinces, I am not prepared to say, but we know very well the practice in Ontario or on the western lakes has been for citizens of the United States to cross the border and pass that examination and occupy positions that should be occupied by our own subjects; but a Canadian who crosses the line and enters the United States, will not be permitted, no matter what his qualifications may be, to obtain a certificate to sail a ship, or to become master of a ship.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—Unless he takes the oath of allegiance.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I am speaking of those who are not United States subjects.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—We want to get all these people into our country—Yankees and everybody else.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I am speaking of those who have gone to the United States, who have not taken the oath of allegiance, and I am speaking of the privilege given in the past to citizens of United States who have come to Canada who have not become British subjects, and I am glad to see the government has adopted this principle. It is true that according to this clause it leaves the question optional with the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. I would go much further and prevent it altogether. If my opinions were of any value, I would place the United States citizens in Canada, in reference to the certificate to enable them to sail a vessel, in precisely the same position that the United States places a Canadian or British subject when he goes to that country. I sincerely hope that the Minister of Trade and Commerce will not hold to the suggestion which has been made, to leave the law as it has been on the statute-book for years; but will enforce this new provision. If an extraordinary case arises by which it would be necessary to obtain a master of a vessel, and a Canadian was not obtainable at the moment, the minister then has the privilege of admitting an alien to an examination and to grant him a certificate, and those are all the concessions I would be willing to give under the circumstances.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—You talk about the maritime provinces; we are right alongside of the United States people. We like them as well as we like our own people, and some of us like them better than they do a good many of our people, and they are a very respectable class. My hon. friend from Hastings was down in my county, on one occasion, and he was well treated there; but what I do not like of my hon. friend's position is this: that he, as a Conservative, is backing up a Liberal motion, which is illiberal in its provisions. Then my hon. friend must have joined our side.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I am somewhat at a loss to understand what the hon. gentleman means.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Does he understand himself?

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I do not think he does. I repudiate the statement he makes, that I spoke as a Conservative. I spoke as a British subject and a Canadian, and I say I would extend to the United States no further privileges than they extend to us. That may be a Conservative doctrine; I hope it is, and I should like to see every Liberal adopt it.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—I differ from my hon. friend entirely. If the United States or Hungary, or South Africa, choose to enact laws which are against the present day Christian religion, I cannot agree with him.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—We should set a noble example.

Hon. Mr. MCGREGOR—We should be as generous as the United States. They do not require a man to be there three years. If he is only one month in the United States and makes a declaration, he can clear a ship.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I am quite in accord with the legislation, notwithstanding the anticipations of the hon. gentleman from Halifax. I think the time has arrived when there should be reprisals of this sort as between the United States and Canada. If our men are not good enough to be admitted as masters of ships in the United States, then their citizens are not