

tract. A man has no right to sign the rights of his heirs away under our laws, and our courts have upheld that principle in the case I have stated. There were many lawyers in Montreal who held that the deputy sheriff's family had no ground for action against the company, and some lawyers took it up and fought it and it was upheld, and it should be upheld.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—The same principle was upheld by the Privy Council in another case.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Would it not be well to go further, and compel the railway companies to pension the wives and families of members?

Hon. Mr. POIRIER—We will stand in the same position as all ordinary travellers. If any accident occurs, and no negligence is attributable to the company, there is no recourse against the company, but we will stand in the same position as ordinary travellers if it is the fault of the company or its servants. Otherwise there would be no security for us travelling under such conditions.

The committee divided on the amendment, which was rejected.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I would suggest to the hon. gentlemen who are in favour of this that the words should be added 'first class trains,' or perhaps they might send us by freight trains or cattle trains.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—I object to that. If a first class train is broken down on a road and I have to be here for a vote in the House, and the first train that comes along is a cattle or any other train, I should be entitled to take that train. The clause is properly drafted. The member shall be the judge of what he ought to do, whether senator or member of the House of Commons, and I think the clause is perfectly well drafted and should be left as it is.

The clause was adopted.

On clause 275, subclause 3,

3. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the carriage, storage or handling of traffic free or at reduced rates for the Dominion, or any provincial or municipal government, or for charitable purposes, or to or from fairs and expositions for exhibition thereat, or the car-

riage, free or at reduced rates, of destitute or homeless persons, transported by charitable societies, and the necessary agencies employed in such transportation; nor to prevent the issuance of mileage, excursion or commutation passenger tickets, or the carriage at reduced rates, of immigrants or settlers and their goods or effects, when coming from foreign countries, or any member of any organized association of commercial travellers with his baggage; nor to prevent railways from giving free carriage or reduced rates to their own officers and employees, or their families, or for their goods and effects, or to members of the provincial legislatures or of the press; nor to prevent the principal officers of any railway, or any railway or transportation company, from exchanging passes, or free tickets with other railways, or railway or transportation companies, for their officers and employees and their families, or their goods and effects; provided that the carriage of traffic by the company under this subsection may, in any particular case or by general regulation, be restricted, limited or qualified by the board.

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—The hon. gentleman from Portage la Prairie moved an amendment to this clause this afternoon and perhaps the clause had better stand.

Hon. Mr. POWER—If this clause is to be taken up now, I wish to call the attention of the committee to what I think is an objectionable provision. It says that nothing in this Act shall prevent the issuance of mileage, excursion or commutation tickets, or the carriage at reduced rates of immigrants or settlers when coming from foreign countries. When we were in committee the first time on this Bill, I said that foreign countries might be understood not to include the United Kingdom. The hon. gentleman from Calgary suggested this afternoon in conversation that these words, 'When coming from foreign countries' should be left out; so that there would be nothing to hinder the company from giving reduced rates to persons who were coming from the eastern portion of the Dominion to settle in the western portion; and certainly persons coming from the United Kingdom to settle in Canada should have the same privileges as those coming from foreign countries. I move to strike out the words 'when coming from foreign countries.'

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I thoroughly concur with what the Speaker has said in regard to this clause. It would certainly prevent the company from making special rates for immigrants coming from any part of the empire.