

generally recognized that any number of men may, if they choose, agree not to work. The only action on their part which it is necessary to provide against sternly and strictly, is the prevention by intimidation or force of other people working, and as respects this they are perfectly at liberty to refuse to work individually or by concerted action if they choose. There are a good many clauses to which I have not yet referred, but they are mainly such subjects as we can better discuss at the table in committee. They are simply matters of procedure. I have referred to all the important matters in which the law itself is altered in what I have said about the first four or five chapters.

**HON. MR. MACDONALD**—I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he will consider when the Bill goes to committee the desirability of inserting a clause respecting polygamy, to disqualify persons accused of that offence from serving as jurors? I took a good deal of trouble in the early part of the session to prepare a Bill regarding Mormonism, and in that Bill I had a clause to prohibit persons convicted of polygamy from serving on juries or voting in elections.

**HON. MR. KAULBACH**—It seems to me that the provision as to jurors would be a matter for the Provinces to deal with.

**HON. MR. MACDONALD**.—Not in the North-West Territories.

**HON. MR. ABBOTT**—Certainly not, and that is a matter we will consider when it comes up in committee. With regard to disqualifying such persons from voting at elections, there is a Bill before the Commons to amend the Franchise Act, in which such a clause might be inserted. I shall call the attention of my hon. colleague to it.

**HON. MR. POWER**—This is an important Bill, making serious modifications in the existing criminal law, and I am glad to be able to say that I can cordially endorse nearly all the amendments proposed to be made. I was very glad, indeed, to hear the leader of the House say that he proposed to amend clause 4 of the Bill with respect to the age of consent. While

it is the duty of Parliament to protect those who are too young and helpless to protect themselves, persons of mature age should be taught to rely on their own honor and religious influences to protect them rather than on the criminal law. I think that is the sentiment of the House, and I am glad to hear that the leader of the House proposes to move in that direction. There are some other points in connection with certain clauses under the second heading, to which I propose to call attention when the Bill comes before committee. I am glad that the Government have undertaken to deal with the practice of polygamy. It is understood that some Mormons have settled in our North-West Territories, and the probabilities are that if the Government and Parliament of Canada did not take some steps to indicate that they did not propose to allow those people to continue to indulge in their nefarious practice in this country, we might ere long have a wholesale exodus from the United States, where they are now being followed up energetically by the law into this country. I think it would be a great misfortune, and upon this point I am pleased that the hon. gentleman from Victoria has referred to the objection there is to have such characters serve on juries or voting in elections. It is desirable that no one holding views which Mormons do should be allowed to vote or serve as jurors. Perhaps the House will pardon me for reading a letter recently received from Utah, written by a most intelligent man—a Canadian, I understand, who has been for some considerable time in that country. The letter is very long; it gives a vivid picture of the state of things in Utah, and a clear idea of the dangers which might arise if those people were allowed to multiply in Canada, and to live in the way that they wish to live. The letter is dated 12th April, 1890. It was written to a prominent member of the House of Commons, and it reached him too late to be of any use there.

“Having seen much of Mormonism during the last few months I take the liberty of submitting some further observations for your consideration in relation to that body.

“In the first place, I find that but few Americans, comparatively speaking, belong to the body, and those chiefly from the New England States. The business men whose interest it is in a worldly sense, to maintain Mormonism, are chiefly Englishmen, and next in number Scotchmen and then Americans. The