

United States Immigration Office and be inspected by Mr. O'Brien, of that office. We naturally objected to such proceedings, but were compelled to go. Upon entering the office, we were questioned by Immigration Inspector O'Brien as follows:—Q. Where are you from? A. St. Catharines. Q. Are you Canadians? A. Yes. Q. What are you doing on this side? A. Going to Buffalo on a pleasure trip. He said he did not believe this, and that we looked like a couple of young fellows looking for work, &c.

That is the kind of treatment accorded to citizens of Canada who may choose to cross the border. More serious than that is the fact, that those living on the Canadian side are precluded from working on the American side, under a harsh interpretation of the law, if the law itself does not practically sanction such a course. I believe that this Bill now before us should be amended in several particulars. In the first place, you cannot enact this Bill at all against Great Britain, and by the reading of the Bill as at present, I assume that it is general in its character.

Mr. POWELL. It does not apply to British subjects.

Mr. WALLACE. Then, the next feature in it is this. It was stated by the member for East Simcoe (Mr. Bennett) that it would not prevent men coming from the United States on American vessels to lumber in the Canadian woods during winter. My own opinion is that the first clause will, but if not, special attention should be paid to that clause, and it should not be permitted that men holding timber limits in Canada can bring across large crews of men in the fall to work in Canadian woods during winter, thus depriving Canadians of work to which they are entitled. These men should not be permitted to work here in the winter and then to return to their own country in the spring. The United States do not permit Canadians to do that.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. Oh, yes. I do not think they go so far as to exclude Canadians from that work. I think the hon. gentleman (Mr. Wallace) will find that a very large number of Canadians go every winter to the State of Maine and work in the lumber camps there.

Mr. INGRAM. And there was a great outcry made about it.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. I have never known a case where they were stopped. I think we had better proceed cautiously on that point.

Mr. WALLACE. There are restrictions under which they may go, and stringent conditions under which they must return to Canada at a fixed period. At any rate, the effect of the United States law has been, that in the border towns of Windsor and Walkerville on the Canadian side, they are preventing the citizens from going to

Mr. WALLACE.

Detroit to their daily labour, to return in the evening.

Mr. MCGREGOR. That is a mistake. They go backwards and forwards three times a day. They come over and get their dinner.

Mr. WALLACE. Where?

Mr. MCGREGOR. In Detroit and Walkerville. Five or six hundred each day. They come from Detroit to Walkerville and Windsor, and they go from Windsor and Walkerville and Sandwich to Detroit.

Mr. WALLACE. And no interference with them.

Mr. MCGREGOR. About five or six hundred go from Canada to the United States daily to work, and about three or four hundred come from the United States to Canada to work.

Mr. WALLACE. On the Niagara frontier it is quite different, and the law is being put stringently in force. We are informed that the same interpretation of the law would be enforced on the Detroit River. Now, Sir, there is another very important matter closely connected with this question, and it is this. Under the American law, Canadian contractors cannot go to the States and obtain contracts from the American Government. The very opposite is the case in Canada. American contractors come over here, and if they are the lowest tenderers they obtain Canadian contracts, just as we saw the other day when an American company came over and got the Government lithographing contract.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. They are committing the further crime of spending \$60,000 to erect a building here.

Mr. WALLACE. They are committing the public crime of depriving many Canadian workmen of employment by doing a large portion of the work in the United States.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. Oh, no.

Mr. WALLACE. Oh, yes, but I will not discuss that further now, because it will come before the House in connection with a motion for the papers and then we will have a complete discussion on it. I say that under our law, American contractors can come to Canada and compete with Canadians for Government contracts, while a similar privilege is not permitted our contractors by the law of the United States. On the other side of the line the contract must be obtained and carried out by American citizens, and I believe that we in self-protection must enact a similar law here. Why should we permit Americans to come over here and obtain contracts, competing against our Canadian contrac-