

Instead of suggesting that section, I would suggest something of this kind: That a clause be attached to the Bill which would state in effect that whenever the United States feel like withdrawing their legislation, or withdrawing it so far as regards Canadians, then the Parliament of Canada will withdraw this legislation, or drop it from the Statute-book. We should have immediate legislation, instead of postponement, because several Canadians have been subjected to very grave annoyance in crossing the line. It has been said that the Bill would not be effectual. It may be that it would not be so effectual as it should be. But I see on the Order paper that the hon. member for South Essex (Mr. Cowan) will introduce a Bill to amend the immigration laws of Canada, and I presume when he introduces the Bill it will be found that he will suggest something in the direction of the laws of the United States. Mr. DeBarry, of Buffalo, and some others who have enforced the law there, have taken advantage of the immigration law of the United States for the purpose of keeping Canadians out of their country, the Act relied upon being the Pauper Immigration Act. The hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Davin) mentioned section 9 in particular, and he found fault with it because railway men at Moosejaw had not been allowed to go into a contiguous state of the United States. It may be that that state has some state law against railway employees entering it when employed in a foreign country. But if we pass such a law and apply it to Maine, Michigan and New York, and to railwaymen, we will be doing very great injustice, and it is quite proper that this particular section should be embodied in the Bill, because, taking the constituency of the hon. member for North Essex there are three lines running there, the Canadian Pacific, the Grand Trunk and the Michigan Central passing from Windsor to Detroit, and the railway men complete their runs at the latter city. At Welland we have different railways passing into Buffalo, where Canadian men complete their runs, and no opposition has been offered to the men entering the United States there. But there is one thing that should not be tolerated in this country, and that is this: We have a railway in this country which employs a large number of railway men. These men in certain lines of service are compelled to wear uniforms, and orders have been given these men that they must wear cloth sold in the United States, they are not permitted to wear cloth made in Canada. Those men have told me they can buy superior cloth in Canada and get a suit of clothes made for less money; yet the company insist that the men should buy their clothing on the other side of the line, even though they are obliged to pay increased prices. That is unjust, and if the company persists in that course, the Government should take some action to stop

them. I should have liked to hear from the hon. member for Lambton (Mr. Lister), as Sarnia and Point Edward are two very important points, and I should have been glad to have had the opinion of that hon. gentleman as to the necessity of passing a law of this kind in the interest of the railway men whom he represents very largely there.

Mr. WALLACE. I think this is a very opportune time for the introduction of the Bill now before the House. I am sorry that the hon. the Premier has not yet declared his opinion in respect to it. I remember very well, that during the last session of Parliament the hon. gentleman (Mr. Laurier) expressed full sympathy with the Bill, and from the tone of his remarks then we might fairly have expected that the Government would have introduced a measure at this session of Parliament. The hon. the Premier went so far as to state then, that if, after looking over the correspondence that had taken place between the late Government of Canada and the United States there seemed to be no way of settling the question satisfactorily to Canadians, then this was a measure that should receive the endorsement of this House, as well as his own sympathy and support. We might fairly have expected that the Government should have assumed the control of this Bill, and given us a measure commensurate with that which the United States have enacted. This Alien Labour Law has been enforced against Canadians for a number of years. The hon. member for South Leeds (Mr. Taylor) took the matter up several years ago and persistently brought it to the attention of this House. I remember that Sir John Thompson thought, that because of the international character of this Bill, and in view of our relationship with Great Britain, it should not become law. The present Prime Minister of Canada agreed with Sir John Thompson in that, so that at that time the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Taylor) had neither of the leaders of the parties in sympathy with him. But, circumstances have changed, and the United States Government from year to year, either by new legislation or by a harsh and strained interpretation of the Act, have made this law exceedingly obnoxious to Canadians along the border, and to those citizens of Canada who choose for any purpose to visit the United States. I have in my hand a letter written a short time ago, detailing the treatment of two young men who were going to Buffalo for the purpose of attending an entertainment.

They say:

In crossing the Suspension Bridge on the Grand Trunk Railway train, and near the American side, we were approached by a customs-house inspector, who asked if we had any baggage, and we replied that we had none. He then informed us that we would have to go with him to the