

The strikers were early down at the Union Station, but the expected visitors have not yet arrived. The strikers' committee will to-day seek legal advice as to the alien labour law, and what action they can take, if any.

Mr. J. D. King, when asked this morning if it was correct that Mr. Brown was away seeking for men from the other side, replied that even if it were correct, he did not know that the public had anything to do with it.

"All I will say about it," said Mr. King, "is that we are looking for men. It does not matter to us where they come from. Our factory is open, and, of course, we want men to fill it. I think I am within my rights there, am I not? We are getting men. And we are teaching them, and so far we are getting along very comfortably," said Mr. King, who takes the matter coolly, and went on to speak rather sarcastically of the "sympathetic cutters," as he called them, who went out to stand in the rain "from sympathy."

"We are the best of friends, all of us. They are good boys. I think they were foolish for going out, but we shall fix it up again in time. It may take three months, perhaps, but we shall fix it up as we did before. As for bringing men here from the States, if they come I shall have to pay them, and not the public."

Now, Mr. Speaker, it strikes me that this dispute between Messrs. J. D. King & Co. and their employees, is a domestic dispute, not an international one; and that it can best be settled without the aid or intervention of these aliens and foreigners. My opinion is that their importation and their being placed at work in the factory from which these men have struck, will cause a great deal more friction than would otherwise arise, will delay rather than hasten an amicable and satisfactory readjustment of this dispute; and will create a more bitter feeling between the employee and the employer than would otherwise be the case. The first section of the Alien Labour Law, which was passed at the last session of this Parliament, provided:

From and after the passing of this Act it shall be unlawful for any person, company, partnership or corporation, in any way to prepay the transportation, or in any way to assist or encourage the importation of any alien or foreigner into Canada, under contract or agreement, parole or special, express or implied, made previous to the importation or immigration of such alien or foreigner, to perform labour or service of any kind in Canada.

This Act was placed on the Statute-book, I understand, to provide against the importation of foreigners or aliens into Canada under contract when conditions were normal or ordinary, but there is not a normal condition of things existing now in connection with the firm of J. D. King & Co., and their employees. There is an extraordinary and unfortunate condition of things existing there; and if this Parliament thought it wise and prudent and just to enact that, in ordinary conditions, if the Governor in Council so decided, a proclamation should issue prohibiting the importation of alien labourers into Canada to take the place of

Mr. CLARKE.

Canadians, surely it is all the more incumbent upon us that on such an occasion as I allude to, the aid or assistance of aliens and foreigners should not be tolerated in the settlement of this dispute. The eighth section of the Alien Labour Act of last session provides that:

No proceedings under this Act or prosecutions for violations thereof, shall be instituted without the consent of the Attorney General of Canada, or some person duly authorized by him.

I do not wish to go further than to draw the attention of the Government to this unfortunate condition of things which now exists, and to enter my protest against permission being given J. D. King & Co., or any person else, under such circumstances, to call to their aid foreigners and aliens in order to crush out their own men who have faithfully worked for them for years. Knowing the character of many of the employees of that firm as well as I do, and knowing also the high character of their employers, I am satisfied that a very wide divergence of opinion must exist between them, and I repeat that the bringing in of these aliens will intensify and embitter the relations that exist, not only between that firm and its employees, but between employers and employees generally. If this alien labour law is to be of any value, it should be put into operation on an occasion of this kind, and the employer and employees in this dispute at any rate, should be permitted to settle their grievances amongst themselves. Those who are out on strike, fighting for what they believe to be justice, should not be handicapped, as they undoubtedly will be, by our allowing the importation of men who probably cannot speak the language which is spoken here, in order that the employees may be able to crush out their operatives. I move that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. WALLACE. Some time ago, during the present session, the question was asked of the Government whether any steps had been taken to bring this law into force, which requires, as the previous speaker has said, that no proceedings under this Act or prosecution for violation thereof shall be instituted without the consent of the Attorney General of Canada or some person duly authorized by him. The question was asked of the Government, and the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries told the House that steps had been taken in accordance with that provision. Now we are brought face to face with the facts as detailed by the hon. member for West Toronto (Mr. Clarke), and which we find in all the papers. I read in the Toronto "Evening Telegram" of yesterday the following:—

The position of affairs between J. D. King & Co. and the locked-out shoemakers is becoming more serious. This morning the executive committee of the men received a telegram from their chief officers in Boston to the effect that Superintendent