

is applied to our people on the other side. We possess in our Masters and Mates Qualification Act a provision that a man shall not receive his certificate as a master or mate of a vessel unless he shall have been three years domiciled in Canada. In that Act, however, it is provided that employment on a Canadian vessel shall be equivalent to a domicile, so that he may either live in Canada for three years, or may be employed on a Canadian vessel for three years, or he may have part of one and part of the other qualification. I propose simply to adapt to this Act the same provision which has existed for some time, and is now on our Statute-book with reference to masters and mates. With that view, I shall propose to the committee to amend this Act by inserting, as a second sub-section to section 1 of the Bill: "But such applicant, if not a British subject, shall only be entitled to a certificate if, in addition to the qualification required by this Act, he shall have been domiciled in Canada for at least three years; and service as an engineer of any class upon any Canadian steamboat shall be deemed to constitute a domicile in Canada while so serving." This is exactly the provision I find in the Revised Statutes with reference to masters.

HON. MR. POWER—Would not service on any British vessel do as well as service on a vessel in Canada?

HON. MR. ABBOTT—We thought it better to confine it to steamers.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—I think this is an important alteration, and on the second reading I suggested some amendment of this kind when the House would go into a Committee of the Whole on the Bill. We find in Nova Scotia this grievance has been very great. Our men there, who are loyal subjects of Canada, have gone over to the United States and have been refused employment, and have been dismissed from service there in consequence of not being naturalized citizens of the Republic. It has had this bad effect, that in order to obtain employment it has induced some of our subjects to transfer their allegiance to the United States. On the other hand, American engineers can come over to Canada, serve for the season on Canadian vessels and afterwards return to the United States. The amendment proposed is in the line of

what I suggested to the House. It is certainly an improvement, and it will be an inducement for American engineers who come over from the United States to serve in Canada to become residents for three years, and subsequently become citizens of our country. It does not deprive any citizens of the United States from coming into this country. I know that the laws of the United States are very stringent against Canadians going over there and getting employment, but I do not think it would be wise for us to adopt the same rule. However, this is a wise provision, and I think it is in the right direction.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I think there is no valid reason why service on a ship should not create domicile, as well as service on a steamboat and I am inclined to take the suggestion made by the hon. gentleman opposite that it be extended to ships.

HON. MR. POWER—My suggestion was to include service on a British ship as creating domicile.

HON. MR. MILLER—I think it should be service on board one of our own vessels to create domicile.

HON. MR. POWER—I see that subsection 2 of section 41 of the existing Act says: "If the report of the inspector or inspectors certifying to the fitness of the applicant is made at the time when the Board of Steamboat Inspection is not sitting it may be signed by such inspector or inspectors, who may grant a certificate to the applicant, to be in force only until the then next meeting of the Board." I presume there is some reason for making the change in the present Bill.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—The reason is one of convenience rather than anything else. There seems to be no possible object, after a man has gone through the proper examination, in compelling him to seek for two certificates when one would answer every purpose. The certificate of the Minister is substituted for the certificate of the Board, and the former practice of requiring an engineer to come before the Board again for another certificate, which would be practically based upon the certificate already issued, is done away with.

HON. MR. POWER—The explanation seems reasonable.

The clause was agreed to.