

obtaining certificates within their own country, and it is necessary to keep up the standard of these certificates as well as their validity. I have listened most attentively, and with that respect which a layman should always pay to the arguments advanced by lawyers, on perhaps a technical question; but from the standpoint of the ship-owners, I think we are wasting a great deal of time in the further consideration of this clause.

Mr. LISTER. This matter only applies to inland waters.

Mr. KENNY. And to coasting.

Mr. LISTER. Well, coasters are small vessels that always keep in sight of the shore.

Mr. KENNY. Coasting means from Nova Scotia to British Columbia.

Mr. LISTER. The hon. Minister should expunge a portion of this section. If he will put it this way it would answer: "The examinations may be instituted for persons who intend to procure certificates"—eliminating from the word "domicile" to the word "who." Surely it can be of no consequence whether a man has been a resident or not, so far as the certificate is concerned, provided he is a British subject, and has served upon a Canadian, British or foreign vessel. If he has the proper qualifications, surely it will make no difference whether he has been a resident of this country or not. To be a British subject is all you require. So far as the seamen on the inland waters are concerned, if it were not for the employment they receive on American vessels the merchant marine in the inland waters would be very small indeed. Our purely Canadian shipping is comparatively small and the American is very large. The seamen who are adapted to become masters of vessels in nearly all instances become so adapted by service in American vessels. Still, if they have become qualified by such service and live in the United States, without ever having surrendered their allegiance to Great Britain, we should not prevent their coming back here and qualifying. It is a matter of no consequence what is being done in England, so far as our inland waters are concerned, because the men holding certificates on these waters are not entitled to sail ocean-going vessels. We are now legislating for the inland waters of Canada pure and simple, and that legislation should be such as to meet the necessities of the people principally interested.

Mr. EDGAR. I am rather surprised that the Minister of Marine should make such a strenuous fight in favour of the principle of domicile, when not very long ago he made an equally strenuous fight against that principle when it was proposed to attach it to the right to vote. However, let us assume for a moment that he has convinced himself, if not us, that it is right to maintain the three years domicile. I would draw his attention to the fact that either he or his draughtsmen have made a mistake in this clause. They have introduced the words "or service" into this clause. That makes the domicile of three years apply to examinations and to the granting of certificates of service.

Mr. TUPPER. Certainly.

Mr. EDGAR. That is a change in the law.

Mr. TUPPER. No.

Mr. EDGAR. Under the present Act, section 8 of the law, as it is to-day, provides that certificates of service may be given under special circumstances without any condition of domicile whatever. So, unless I read the Act altogether amiss, the Minister is introducing a very radical and serious change here which he did not know he was introducing.

Mr. TUPPER. No; I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon.

Mr. EDGAR. If the Minister can show the Committee that, under section 8 of the Revised Statutes affecting this matter, three years domicile is required, I shall be surprised.

Mr. TUPPER. It is not under section 8; but under section 5 the hon. gentleman will see that the regulations in regard to qualification, and so on, are provided for by Order in Council.

Mr. EDGAR. Very likely that is what the hon. Minister intended, but it is not what the Act says. The Act reads:

"The domicile for three years is necessary for certificates of competency or certificates of service, as hereinafter mentioned."

That means, "as hereinafter mentioned" in the main Act, and these certificates come under section 8 and nothing else, and there is no provision requiring domicile, so that, inadvertently, the draughtsman has included the words "or service," which should not appear here.

Mr. TUPPER. The hon. gentleman will see that the satisfactory service required must be on a British ship, and this section says that that constitutes a Canadian domicile. The hon. gentleman has not read that carefully. He will see that it does not make any difference whatever whether these words are there or not. Under section 8 the service must be the service laid down, that service must be satisfactory, and to be satisfactory it must be for three years, and that three years' service must be on a British ship. This Bill says precisely the same thing.

Mr. KING. What will the effect of this Bill be in regard to St. John River?

Mr. TUPPER. No change will take place as to the St. John River. I have been careful to avoid any changes. I have already impressed upon the House that one of the principal reasons for this Bill is to make valid what was supposed to be the law of 1883, but which has been administered on all the waters of Canada under rules and regulations when, on investigation, it appears an Act was required.

Mr. CHARLTON. I believe that the principle established in this Bill requiring three years' domicile in Canada, without any reference to qualification, before a man can appear for examination, is a wrong principle. The Minister of Marine, some minutes ago, cited the example of the United States as a justification of the course taken by him on the present occasion. Whatever may be the example of the United States, whether the United States adopts the same principle as that which is adopted here or not, is, in my opinion, entirely foreign to the question. It is not customary for hon. gentlemen opposite to avow that they are following the example of the United States, although we know that they do follow their example. We see that they profess to have adopted this plan, they have