

those engaged in the Naval Service of Canada. I do not see any reason why they should be enfranchised. I do not believe that they will appreciate it. Many female relatives of the men engaged in the Naval Service will be laughed at by their neighbours if they exercise the right of franchise under this Bill. Is the mine-sweeping in Halifax harbour now carried on by tug boats or small steamers chartered from private individuals? I do not think that the crews of those boats are within the naval service; yet they are engaged in mine-sweeping and the Secretary of State says that their wives and sisters and other female relatives will have the right to exercise the franchise.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: As to the first part of my hon. friend's observations, consideration will be given to them. As to the second part of his remarks, I think that he is mistaken. The mine-sweeping is done by boats chartered by the Department of Naval Service and the men engaged on those boats are in the service of that department. I move—

Mr. BUREAU: Do I understand that this Bill was to be reprinted?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: At the suggestion of hon. gentlemen on the other side we are printing Part II of the Dominion Elections Act as it will stand after the amendments affected by this Bill have been adopted. This is being done in order that hon. gentlemen may have before them a clear view of what Part II of the Dominion Elections Act will be with these amendments. This course is not usually taken, but I thought that the request was a reasonable one; having regard to the way in which this Bill is framed. I move that—

Mr. DEVLIN: Before the Prime Minister moves that fatal motion, I should like to point out to him that the suggestion was made to-day that the Bill be reprinted.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: We are not reprinting the Bill. We are printing as I have already explained more than once, Part II of the Dominion Elections Act as it will stand after the amendments effected by this Act shall have been adopted.

Mr. DEVLIN: I have been in my seat since three o'clock. I have not asked many questions, but as a result of this legislation a good deal of new law will apply to the province of Quebec. I direct the attention of the Prime Minister to the fact that up to the present moment there has been no Bill before the committee. We

[Mr. A. K. Maclean.]

have been considering amendments to an Act that has already been passed, amendments to a law already in existence. What we are considering is not a Bill proper; it will be a Bill when the law is reprinted containing the amendments. It is really impossible to say that we are considering a Bill until we have the Bill before us.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I think my hon. friend and I hold the same view although we express it differently. If we have not a Bill before the committee, I do not know what we have been engaged in considering all day to-day or what we were engaged in considering yesterday.

Mr. CARVELL: We have words before us, not a Bill.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I move:

That the further consideration of this section be postponed in order that we may proceed to section 3.

Motion agreed to.

On section 3—Questions to naturalized aliens:

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Are there any observations with regard to this what we ought to take into consideration before we come back to-morrow? I do not think it is a very important section.

Mr. PARDEE: I did not know that the Prime Minister was going to move that we proceed to another section. Why does the Secretary of State go back to the non-resident vote? That has been done away with long since. What is the object of non-resident voting being brought into vogue again?

Mr. MEIGHEN: The non-resident vote is done away with provincially, I presume because the man who moves from one place to another can get on the list in the other place. Now that he cannot get on anywhere else because we maintain the lists as they are, and the enumerator has not power to put him on, we prefer to give him the right to vote where he formerly resided than that he should have no vote at all.

Mr. PROULX: Suppose an elector leaves my county and comes to the city of Ottawa to reside, there will be registration in the city of Ottawa and he will be put in the list here.

Mr. MEIGHEN: He can get on the list where he resides, but he can vote only in one place, although he may have his choice.