

returning officer, on the request of any elector entitled to vote at one of the polling stations, who is appointed deputy returning officer or poll clerk, or who is named the agent of any of the candidates for a polling station other than the one where he is entitled to vote, shall give to such elector a certificate that such deputy returning officer, poll clerk or agent is entitled to vote at such election at the polling station where such elector is stationed during the polling day, and, on the production of such certificate, such deputy returning officer, poll clerk or agent shall have the right to vote at the polling station where he is placed during the polling day, instead of at the polling station where he would otherwise have been entitled to vote: Provided that no such certificate shall entitle any such elector to vote at such polling station unless he has been actually engaged as such deputy returning officer, poll clerk or agent during the day of polling and that no more than two agents of any candidate shall have the right to vote at any one polling place under such certificate.

Section 144 as amended by this Bill will read:

144. The returning officer of any electoral district in the province of Ontario which contains in whole or in part any city or town to which Part II of the Ontario Franchise Act, 1917, applies, on the request of any elector entitled to vote at one of the polling stations, who is appointed deputy returning officer or poll clerk, or who is named the agent of any of the candidates for a polling station other than the one where he is entitled to vote, shall give to such electors a certificate that such deputy returning officer, poll clerk or agent is entitled to vote at such election at the polling station where such elector is stationed during the polling day, and, on the production of such certificate, such deputy returning officer, poll clerk or agent shall have the right to vote at the polling station where he is placed during the polling day, instead of at the polling station where he would otherwise have been entitled to vote. Provided that no such certificate shall entitle any such elector to vote at such polling station unless he has been actually engaged as such deputy returning officer, poll clerk or agent, during the day of polling and that no more than two agents of any candidate shall have the right to vote at any one polling place under such certificate.

The further amendments effected by this section are to strike out the the whole of sections 149, 150A, 151, 152, 152A and 247. It is hardly necessary that I should read all those sections because they are before hon. gentlemen in the provisions of the Dominion Elections Act, and a supply of copies of that Act has been placed on the Table available for their use. I think the rest of the section does not require any particular explanation because it is all embodied on the face of the Bill.

Mr. ROSS: I understood the Solicitor General to say that, on account of the repeal of section 151 of the Act, if a voter left a riding in which he was on the list [Sir Robert Borden.]

and went to another riding, he could come back to vote.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes.

Mr. ROSS: That is not in the Dominion Elections Act. That applies only to a voter who moves to another electoral district in the same city or incorporated town. In that case he could go back to the former electoral district to vote, but if he removed from one riding to another, he could not go back to his own riding.

Mr. MEIGHEN: This Bill provides, by section 2, which has just been read by the Prime Minister, that any elector may vote wherever his name is. That is the new section 143:

Except as otherwise provided in this Act, each elector shall be entitled to vote at the polling station of the polling division, or of one of the polling divisions, upon the list of voters for which his name is entered as an elector, and at no other.

The only place where there is any exception at all is in section 151, or section 152. As those two are repealed, a man can vote wherever his name is.

Mr. CARVELL: I was very sorry to see that, although it does seem to follow very largely the provisions of the section as it stood before. In my province there has for some time been a provision that if a man moves from one electoral district to another he applies to the secretary treasurer of the district or county in which he resided, who gives him a certificate. That is taken to the secretary treasurer of the new district, and a certificate is granted to the man by which he can vote where he lives. In New Brunswick the question of residence plays a very important part. A person can vote only in the county in which he resides. What I am afraid of in this legislation is that you will break up all that idea. If a man's name is added to the list we shall say in St. John, he may have removed to Restigouche, two or three hundred miles away, and that would mean he would have to go back to St. John to vote. I am afraid that will be the way in which the matter will work out if this section is permitted to go through. While it is true, under the provincial law—and we are taking the provincial law as the basis of this list—they would have the right to change that man's name from the county in which he formerly lived to the one to which he removed and make it a part of the voters' list. I am somewhat doubtful, if this is put through as it is, if they would have