

who has quite a large house on land which he has leased from the Crown.

HON. MR. POWER—I do not think those people had votes under the Ontario Act.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Yes.

HON. MR. SCOTT—Not where the land is not taxed.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—But it would be taxed. I know there are ten or twelve persons who have houses at Kingston, near Fort Henry, on land which they hold in that way. They do not own the land but they are taxed.

The clause was adopted.

On clause seven,

HON. MR. HAYTHORNE—I wish to point out what I conceive to be a grave objection to this clause in principle and in practice. In principle, the land confers the franchise on the farmers' sons without reference to their fitness at all. Suppose the land should not be of sufficient value, while the sons might be desirable voters, the land may not be sufficient to qualify them, or it may happen that there is some encumbrance on it for which neither the owner nor his sons is blameable; it may be an accident of the situation, but that encumbrance prevents two or three eligible persons from voting. Has the Minister of Justice any proposition to offer to prevent such an anomaly?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I do not understand the difficulty.

HON. MR. HAYTHORNE—Suppose a farm worth say \$2,000 is encumbered to the extent of \$1,400 or \$1,500, and that there is not value enough left unencumbered to qualify the owner and his sons to vote?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—It does not depend on the encumbrance at all; it depends on the value of the property on the assessors roll—how much an acre it is worth, whether it is mortgaged or not.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL.

HON. MR. HAYTHORNE—Then I point to another difficulty. You bring the mortgagee into the question, and he may exercise an undue influence on the parties.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—If he is the man in possession he votes; if he is not he does not vote. You cannot prevent a creditor exercising influence on a debtor.

The clause was adopted.

On the 9th clause,

HON. MR. POWER—This is the clause which exempts British Columbia and Prince Edward Island from the operation of the law to a certain extent. I do not know why those two provinces should be excepted more than the other provinces. In New Brunswick a very large number of persons will be disfranchised by the operation of this Bill.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—There is to be an amendment offered to that, and had we not better defer the discussion until the amendment is proposed?

HON. MR. POWER—Do you propose to amend it?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—No, but I understand the hon. member from Prince Edward Island to say, in his speech the other day, that he would move an amendment.

The clause was adopted.

On the 10th clause,

HON. MR. POWER—Sub-clause C excludes Indians in Manitoba, British Columbia, Keewatin, and the North-West Territories, and any Indian on any reserve elsewhere in Canada, who is not in possession and occupation of a separate and distinct tract of land in such reserve, and whose improvements on such separate tract are not of the value of at least one hundred and fifty dollars, and who is not otherwise possessed of the qualifications entitling him to be registered on the list of voters under this Act. I think, in the interest of uniformity, the Indian ought to be allowed to vote every-