

in the interest of the country. Mr. Higgins had maintained that some of

is inconsistency and absence of logic
red in his innocent way that it was
red in his innocent was that it was
to the advantage of the government
disfranchise the members of the civil

would support the government nationally. Here again he had been inconsistent. In conclusion, the member for South East Kootenay denied that he had any time, or that the late government had at any time interfered in any way

exercise of his citizenship—his privilege and his right, as that of every other subject of the British Empire.

MR. MUNRO denied that the bill before the house presented any contradictions, and was pained that unworthy

s of the government side by gentleman opposite. It had been said that one of this bill had been brought in because certain voters of Esquimalt district not vote for Mr. Higgins at the last election. He now saw that the gentleman who made this assertion knew something about what they were talking about. He contended that in England soldiers or sailors were allowed a vote as soldiers or sailors, and also that

late government and not asked any member of the civil service how he voted on the simple fact that if it was not known that he was a friend of the party would never have got a place in the service. He denied too that the Attorney-General was in any way a Napoleon, and charged that he had been grievously misrepresented in connection with his position on the voting of the civil service.

the government was very peculiar in its measure. In the first place the province paid good salaries for the purpose of getting the most intelligent men in the province in its civil service; then it was declared by this bill that these men should not exercise their admitted superior intelligence in choosing the directors of the country's affairs. There was a time when the civil service might perhaps have been rightly excluded from receiving the franchise, but that was an open voting prevailed, and all conditions were dissimilar to those now pre-

ing. He would go further, and say that in his opinion, with the secret ballot there need be no exceptions—he could not the slightest argument against the judges of the land exercising their rights as citizens, with the ballot. Every one who was qualified should have the right to cast his vote—
Mr. Turner—Hear, hear.
There was, he was sorry to say, Mr. Johnson continued, one class in the prov-

the franchise—the class who were every day to trade upon their vote, and if use could be excluded there might be the reason for satisfaction. But it was the only class, and the Attorney-general in this bill said nothing concerning it. The whole point was that this government proposed to utilize the power which it had become possessed not the voice of the people, but by accident and a diversion of constitutional

With respect to the courts of reason, in the past they had been kept absolutely fair, the collector of votes being a purely clerical officer, passing on applications only, and not permitted to tamper with the lists at his pleasure.

s permission alone opened the door to the widest kind of abuses, and deserved the severest censure of the house and the province. As to petitions and appeals, by the British Columbia system, the voters in the past the elections had no voice in the past the electors had decided at the polls as to who should represent them in parliament, and no one had the right of appealing against the elected members of the legislature. Now the

the province of Manitoba had been introduced and the elections became a mere preliminary to the fight in the courts, by which it was to be determined who should sit—if the legislature did not take a decision of this matter upon itself. In such being the case, it was perhaps well that such a provision should be made as the clause of the bill, providing that there should be some interregnum in the holding of election petitions, in which the

MR. TISDALL favored section 3, as did all things else tending in the direction of separating the civil service from active politics, and section 22 as a measure of great benefit to all voters.

ks of the silver-haired orator from
wdney in connection with the Water-
of the government, it had been said
t they would find it at the meeting of
house; then it was to come before
session closed; now it was again
tponed until August. For his own
t, he thought the government was
te capable of running the four years

Mr. Helmcken opposed the contented disfranchisements, the latter moved the adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

Just before the adjournment, the certificate of the election of Mr. W. C. Wells North East Kootenay was read by clerk, and on motion ordered entered the journals of the house.

OTHER LICENSES.

which Minister of Finance Coté has now before the legislature, proposes for the issue of licenses to a number of special businesses, all of which are prohibited except when licensed under penalty of \$250, in all places within the province not under municipal direction and control. Here is the tariff of license charges: Each public billiard or pool table, \$5 for every six months; each public saloon, \$5 for

ry six months; every person keeping
 dance house, \$100 every six months;
 ry person selling opium, except chem-
 ists and druggists, \$250 every six
 nths; every wholesale or wholesale
 d retail merchant or trader, \$50 every
 months; every retail trader or merch-
 t, \$5 for every six months; every
 son owning a pack train or more than
 animals, etc., \$5 every six months;
 than six animals, \$2.50; every lively

ble, \$10 months six months; every
drover, \$50; every banker, \$400 per
year; each other place of business, \$100
year; every practising barrister or
solicitor, \$25 every six months; every
advancer or land agent or both, \$25
every six months; every auctioneer,
\$10 every six months, with $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
all returns of sales, exclusive of sales
real estate; every persons occupying
any crown lands, \$2.50 for every month;

hawking or peddling, any fish, game
farm produce, \$20 for every six
months.