

The motion was agreed to, and the report was concurred in under a suspension of the rules.

### SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

#### FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill (40) "An Act further to amend the Act respecting the Senate and the House of Commons."

The bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved the second reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—I think eight days more ought to be added in the case of members from the North-west.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—Why?

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—Because they cannot get home. Hon. gentlemen who live at Belleville, and other places near Ottawa, can take advantage of the eight days. If eight days more were added, making the period sixteen days, it would be a very commendable act.

Hon. Mr. McKAY—I suppose we shall have the usual remarks from the hon. gentleman from Halifax with respect to this bill.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—It is much more important, from a financial point of view, than the little matter he spoke of a short time ago.

Hon. Mr. POWER—If hon. gentlemen are anxious to divide the House they will see where my vote will be.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill passed through its final stages.

### NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES REPRESENTATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

#### FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill (38) "An Act to amend the North-west Territories Representation Act by dispensing with the preparation of new voters' lists in certain cases."

The bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved the second reading of the Bill. He said: Under the North-west Representation Act, it is necessary that there should be a new enumeration for each election. As this would entail a very considerable expense, and inasmuch as the voters list was prepared some three months ago for the elections that recently took place, it was thought desirable to avoid the expense of having a new list made, and any election to take place during the coming year should be on the present lists. In addition to that, there are two clauses which are re-enacted, providing that any voter, whose name has been omitted from the roll, may, by making oath to that effect, have it restored. That provision was in existence some years ago, but was changed, and it was provided that the affidavit should be made two days before polling day. That was found to be a great hardship, because people having to travel fifty or sixty miles were obliged to go two days in advance of the election and remain over until polling day. There was no object to be gained by that, so this amendment is made.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—I think the amendment is a very proper and wise one, and I should like to see its application in a much wider sense. I know in the last election many persons were cut out of their votes in consequence of the revision not having taken place for two years, and young men, who had become twenty-one years of age shortly after the revision, will now not enjoy the right of the franchise for five years or longer, so that they will not begin to vote for members of parliament until they are twenty-eight or twenty-nine. The amendment, so far as this particular constituency is concerned, is in the right direction, only I think its application might be widened.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The bill was agreed to by both sides in the House of Commons.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I have not had time to look at that amendment to the law. Is it intended to make that change permanent?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—No, only for the present, because the law will have to be altered.