

wink at violations of the law. This law should be made applicable to every part of the country, and any citizen be able to take proceedings under it.

Mr. MCGREGOR. So they can.

Mr. SPROULE. They cannot without the permission of the Attorney General has been obtained.

Motion to adjourn, negatived.

SUPPLIES FOR THE NORTH-WEST MOUNTED POLICE.

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier). Yesterday my hon. friend from Montreal Centre (Mr. Quinn), who is not in his seat, put a question with respect to a letter he had received from a friend with respect to a contract which had been given to a Chicago firm for supplies for the Mounted Police. The hon. gentleman read a newspaper extract to this effect: "A big contract for feeding the North-west Mounted Police has been awarded to Libbey, McNeill & Libbey, canners and packers." I asked the hon. gentleman to send me the extract so that I might be able to make inquiries, and I am now in position to tell him that there is not a word of foundation for this paragraph.

POSTAGE BILL.

Mr. ROSS ROBERTSON. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I desire to ask the Postmaster General whether, in view of the discussion that will ensue on the Bill to amend the Post Office Act, hon. members might be furnished, so that the question might be intelligently discussed, with the names of all publications enjoying free transmission throughout the country, their weights and the nature of such publications. I strongly favour the Bill re-imposing postage on these papers, and I think it would be well if the Postmaster General, prior to the discussion, would lay this information on the Table, so that we may thoroughly understand what we are doing in discussing the Bill.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL (Mr. Mulock). I will endeavour to meet the hon. gentleman's wishes at the earliest possible moment. I think it is proper that the information should be furnished in reasonable time before the Bill is discussed, and, therefore, I promise not to bring on the Bill for second reading until I have had an opportunity of meeting the hon. gentleman's wishes, or if I am not able to do so, of informing the House of that fact. I am not able to say whether all the information desired is procurable in the department, but all there is will be placed within the reach of hon. members.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. The other day, when the hon. Postmaster General intro-

duced the Bill, I suggested to him that it would be convenient if he submitted the financial scheme so far as he could obtain it from the department in order that we might be able to ascertain what his officials consider would be the gain to the department from the re-imposition of stamps on newspapers, and also in regard to the change with respect to stamps on foreign letters. The hon. Postmaster General will remember that we spoke about foreign letters, and it would be a very great convenience to members to know exactly the hon. gentleman's estimate of the amount that will have to be made up by charging 5 cents instead of 3 cents.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. The hon. gentleman has asked for information on two points. One is strictly applicable to the Bill to which he alludes, and that information I will endeavour to furnish to him in ample time before the discussion of the Bill. The other refers to information, which I fail to see has any connection with the Bill itself. In case the hon. gentleman thinks it has any connection, I will endeavour to meet his view on that point.

ELECTORAL FRANCHISE ACT.

The House again resolved itself into committee on Bill (No. 16) to repeal the Electoral Franchise Act and to further amend the Dominion Elections Act.

(In the Committee.)

On section 5,

Mr. McDOUGALL. Before you left the Chair last evening, Mr. Chairman, I met the argument made by the hon. members from Nova Scotia on the other side of the House with respect to what they contended was the universal practice under the Act there with respect to the preparation of the lists, and in support of the explanation I made to the House. I will now take the liberty of quoting the Act. There were two sets of lists prepared by the revisors under the old Act before 1855, namely, for provincial and Dominion elections. In 1871 the local legislature passed a disqualifying Act. That Act was read to the committee by the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Gillies) yesterday. In 1871, this Parliament passed what was called an interim election Act and clause 4 of that Act provides as follows:—

4. All persons nominated as revisors, under chapter 28 of the Acts of the legislature of Nova Scotia, passed in the year 1863, intituled: "An Act to regulate the Elections of Members to serve in the General Assembly," shall, in the present year, 1871, within three months after the passing of this Act, and in any future year at the time of their preparing the annual list of electors qualified to vote at elections of members of the General Assembly, prepare also and file with the clerk of the peace, a like alphabetical list of electors qualified to vote at elections of members to serve in the House of Commons of