

have been promised, because the Opposition in this House stood up for the rights of the people and pointed out to the amazement of hon. gentlemen opposite, what the provisions of the Bill are, but we have had only one amendment of those which have been promised, thus far. There may be an amendment with reference to the revising barristers, but we do not know what it is to be, we are discussing the Bill as it is now, we have no such amendment before us, and I repeat is any hon. gentleman here bold enough to say that the control of the voters' lists will not be handed over absolutely to the gentlemen who are appointed revising barristers? I say that a more shameless provision never was found in any Bill. Hon. gentlemen talk about English practice and precedents, but can you mention any English statesman who would so far forget himself and the duty he owes to his country as to introduce a Bill into Parliament to give to the nominee of a Government the control which is given by this Bill to the revising barrister? These hon. gentlemen say in their papers that it is the same system that is in force in England, but hon. gentlemen do not say so here, because they know that it is not the same system. They know that the revising barristers in England are not appointed as it is proposed to appoint them here, and have not the power entrusted to them so absolutely as these men will have it if the Bill passes. Mr. Chairman, have you thought that the gentleman who rose last night and attempted a defence of this Bill—I refer to the hon. member for Lincoln—could be appointed a revising barrister under the provisions of this Bill.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. I do not think that is the clause we are discussing.

Mr. PATERSON. Yes.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. How does it come under the clause or the amendment?

Mr. PATERSON. It comes under the amendment, because if this amendment prevails the revising barrister clause would be wiped out.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. Not at all.

Mr. PATERSON. Besides, Sir, I am only following the line of argument adopted by the hon. member for Lincoln, and so I cannot be out of order—it is impossible. I am alluding to his argument with reference to this clause, I am speaking to the same motion, and I say that it must have struck you, Mr. Chairman, that under the provisions of this Bill, that gentleman being a barrister of over five years' standing, could have himself appointed as revising barrister for Lincoln, could fix up the rolls for himself, could then resign his office, and could run as a member of Parliament. The rolls might be fixed up by himself; no one could appeal against them; and that any man should support and defend such a proposition in connection with the amendment of the hon. member for North Norfolk, is something very difficult of comprehension. Shall it be said that it would be a shameless thing for a man to do anything of that kind? Granted; but how much more shameless would it be than that a member of Parliament should sit here and use his power along with the power of others, before a general election came on, to have Reform townships thrown off his riding and Conservative townships thrown in, in order to make his seat secure. I say there is a danger that, under this Bill, any hon. gentleman who is a barrister of over five years' standing might himself be appointed to that position, might make up the lists, might then resign, and be elected as a member of this House on those lists.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. The hon. gentleman will see that we are not discussing the Bill as a whole, but the third clause, and that the revising barrister does not come up under that clause.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant).

Mr. PATERSON. There is the amendment.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. Yes, there is the amendment, but the revising barrister is not discussed in the amendment, and I hope that the hon. gentleman will observe that I have so ruled.

Mr. CASEY. I do not think, Sir, you have ruled as to whether the amendment affects the revising barrister clause or not. If the amendment of the hon. member for Norfolk carries, change must necessarily be made, and the revising barrister clause must go out with the others, so it is certainly in order to discuss that provision in connection with an amendment which proposes to substitute something else for it.

Mr. MILLS. The amendment of the hon. member for Norfolk is a proposition to adopt generally the provincial franchise, instead of the third clause of the Bill, and one of the provisions of the provincial law relates to the way in which the voters' lists are prepared. I think it is quite open to my hon. friend in arguing this question to argue that you should get rid of this objectionable feature, the revising barrister, by the adoption of the amendment. It is an argument to show why the amendment should be adopted.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Under the provincial franchise we hold courts of revision whose functions are somewhat the same as those of the revising barrister, and it will be impossible to discuss this question of a provincial franchise without having to refer to the revising barrister, who is the chief functionary under this Bill.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). It seems to me that the question of the provincial franchises has nothing to do with the manner in which the lists are prepared. It has simply to do with the question of the qualification of voters under a provincial franchise. The third clause of this Bill declares what shall be the basis of the franchise in cities and towns. It is moved in amendment that the provincial franchises—that is to say, the qualifications under the provincial franchises—shall be substituted for these qualifications. That is all.

Mr. CASEY. No, no.

Mr. WHITE. That is all, as I understand it. The question therefore as to how those provincial franchises are to be embodied in voters' lists does not come up under the amendment.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would call attention to the fact that on a precisely similar amendment—unless I misunderstood it—the hon. member for Lincoln undoubtedly adopted a line of argument which would fully justify the reply of the hon. member for Brant.

Mr. RYKERT. Not at all.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I so understood it and others beside me understood the same. I have not *Hansard*, or I think, Mr. Chairman, I could convince you, on that question. No doubt you have not been as able as some of us to follow closely the intricacies of this discussion, but when *Hansard* comes, I think you will find that the hon. member for Lincoln took a great deal more latitude than the hon. member for Brant has taken.

Mr. CASEY. In answer to the objection of the hon. member for Cardwell, I would say that the amendment says that all persons qualified to vote shall be qualified and enrolled under this Act. Now, no person is qualified in any Province where there is a voters' list until his name is on the list and it has been revised with his name on. I think, therefore, the whole machinery of making the voters' lists comes up on this amendment.

Mr. LANDRY (Kent). If you say we are all out of order in this discussion, I am perfectly satisfied to take