

except that Algoma and Nipissing are not included in the exceptional districts.

The third subsection is new, and provides for simultaneous by-elections.

Clause 35.—Nomination, &c., in the exceptional counties, Algoma and Nipissing being dropped.

Clause 39, as to form of nomination, will re-enact the sections cited. This section will apply to the territories, as well as the provinces.

Clause 47, as to duties of returning officers, if poll is granted. The only change is that indicated by the brackets in paragraph (c), rendered necessary because under the new system there will in some cases be no lists.

Clause 48.—As to poll-clerks. No change except that it applies to North-west Territories.

Clause 64 provides for oath to be taken by agents of candidates, and is taken from the Ontario Act cited.

Clause 70.—Regulations for voting, &c. The amendment of subsection 2 provides for cases where there are no lists, and for cases under the Prince Edward Island Act, where the elector may be required to prove his qualification. The amendment of subsection 3 is also to meet the case of Prince Edward Island elections. (See Prince Edward Island Act, 53 Vic., c. 1, s. 55 et seq.)

Clause 76.—Voters unable to mark ballot papers. No change, except that indicated in subsection 2. Qy. Aimed at Japanese et hoc genus omne? It is taken from British Columbia Statutes.

Clause 79.—The changes are required, to provide for elections in Prince Edward Island. (See the sections from the Provincial Elections Act, above cited.)

Clause 81.—The change indicated by Mr. McCord's note is made because of the repeal of the Franchise Act.

Clause 83.—Change noted by Mr. McCord made because Franchise Act repealed.

Clause 90.—References to Franchise Act omitted, and subsection added as to scale of costs. At present there is no such provision, and this has given rise to differences of practice in the several courts.

Clause 92.—The change is explained by Mr. McCord's note.

Clauses 116 and 117.—The notes explain the change.

Clause 126.—From the Ontario Act cited. Corrupt practice by candidate, or with his knowledge and consent, committed in excusable ignorance, not to subject to penalties.

Clause 131.—From Ontario Act cited. Technical or unintentional breaches of the law on the part of persons other than candidates, not involving moral culpability or affecting the result of the election, not to subject to disqualification.

Clause 136.—The corresponding section of the Dominion Elections Act contained provisions that no person should be excused from answering on ground that an answer would tend to criminate him; but this is no longer necessary, on account of the general provision in the Canada Evidence Act, 1893, and is omitted.

Clause 142.—Corrupt practices not triable at Quarter Sessions. There is at present a doubt as to whether the offender cannot be so tried, notwithstanding the provisions in the Elections Act, arising from the very general language of section 539 of the Criminal Code. The amendment will remove the doubt.

Clause 146.—From the Ontario Act cited. Payment of expenses after one month, upon approval of judge.

Clause 148.—Tariff of fees. Subsection 2 gives Governor in Council power to make new tariff, and at present provides that such tariff shall be

Mr. FITZPATRICK

laid before the House of Commons at the next session. It is proposed to make this within the first fifteen days of the next session.

Clause 153.—Case of delay of nomination or polling, caused by riot, &c. Gives returning, or deputy returning, officer power to hold same on following day or days.

Clause 155.—Election not to be declared invalid for non-compliance with provisions as to limitations of time, unless court thinks result affected thereby, or non-compliance due to improper conduct of candidate or agent. (From Ontario Act cited.)

Mr. FOSTER. Before this motion is carried we must have a little discussion over the matter, not only of the Franchise Act but of some other matters which have been incidentally alluded to several times during the course of the session, and which it is my purpose to bring up a little more formally at the present time. In the first place, I want to call the attention of the House to the circumstances under which it is now sitting. Contrary to the often expressed opinion of the present leader of the Government, the House has been called together at a very late season of the year with all the inconveniences which arise therefrom. I think no man has been more insistent probably than the leader of the Government on that point. In looking at some remarks made by him not very long ago, it is a little amusing to us to see that I am forced to-day to take up and repeat the cry for principle in this matter from this side of the House which my hon. friend not more than a year ago made from his position upon this side of the House. at that time with very little, at this time I think with very great reason.

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier). Before the hon. gentleman proceeds further, I rise to a question of order. I submit, Mr. Speaker, to your ruling that the hon. gentleman is obliged to confine himself to the principle of the Bill now before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER. I must say that I was assuming that the hon. gentleman would turn this portion of his argument into presenting particular reasons against the second reading of the Bill on this occasion. The hon. gentleman knows perfectly well that he cannot go into a general discussion of the policy of the Government on a motion for the second reading of this Bill, and that he cannot do so by moving a motion to adjourn, but that he must confine his remarks to this particular Bill now under discussion. I assumed that the hon. gentleman would turn his remarks so as to show the impropriety of reading this Bill the second time now.

Mr. FOSTER. I am going to enter into a discussion of the impropriety of reading this Bill the second time, and I am going to make a motion that instead of the Bill being read the second time now, it be not now read the second time. I am perfectly