

The Honourable
W. L. Mackenzie King, M.P. -3-

repealing section has force at the present time. And, as a consequence, no one can say - or at all events I cannot - whether or not the Act of 1915 is at the present time repealed or in force. It ought to be expressly repealed by the Bill now before the House.

Coming then to 1917 we have first this chapter 34, the Military Voters Act - and secondly chapter 39, the War Time Elections Act.

Each of these Statutes was to be in force only for the duration of the war and till demobilisation. And this at once raises the question whether or not - as a matter of law - "the war" is yet over. I suppose there is no doubt that Canada is still technically at war with Turkey - and with Bulgaria also. And, therefore, on the best consideration I can give to the language used in these two Statutes, my opinion is that each of them is, at the present time still in force, so that if the House were to be now dissolved the consequent general elections would have to be held, just as the general elections of 1917 were held, with the Military Voters Act, 1917 and the War-time Elections Act both having full application.

The Statute of 1918 (8 & 9 Geo. V. c. 20) conferring the franchise on women would, of course, be applicable also. The second section of that Statute is an express recognition by Parliament that the War-time Elections Act was on that date (24th May 1918) still in full force. And so also is chapter