

done. Events change so rapidly that it is sometimes necessary that we should, to a certain extent, change with them. The reason for deferring the revision of the voters' lists this year is very simple. A Bill was introduced in the House of Commons to simplify the mode of revising the list, making it less expensive than it has been in the past. A large number of members on both sides of the House thought it did not go far enough, and after a discussion in the House it was deemed advisable to further consider the provisions of the measure dealing with the mode of revising the list, and if possible to make it still less expensive. That being the case, and as I intimated before, it is not at all likely that there will be an election before the next session of Parliament, it was deemed advisable to save the expense that would be incurred in revising the lists, and to adopt if possible a much more economical mode, and probably change to a certain extent—although I do not say that it will be the case—the franchise in the direction intimated by the hon. gentleman from Lunenburg. That is a point of view from which I will not discuss it, neither do I desire it to go on record that that is the intention of the Government. There is a variety of opinions on that question. Many old Tories, if I may use the expression, think that the extension of the franchise has gone so far that it is scarcely worth while stopping short of manhood suffrage, while there are others who adhere with a good deal of tenacity to a restriction of the franchise—not placing it in the hands of everybody.

Hon. Mr. MACINNES (Burlington), from the Committee, reported the Bill without amendment.

The Bill was then read the third time and passed.

#### FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

Bill (109) "An Act further to amend the Dominion Lands Act." (Mr. Bowell.)

#### CIVIL SERVICE INSURANCE BILL.

#### FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

A Message was received from the House of Commons with Bill (11) "An Act respecting the Government Civil Service Insurance."

The Bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL moved the suspension of the Rule and that the Bill be read the second time.

The Bill was read the second time and referred to a Committee of the whole House.

(In the Committee.)

Hon. Mr. BOWELL—This Bill requires very little explanation further than what has already been given in the discussion on the Superannuation Bill. It is simply a system of insurance by which civil servants can insure their lives for the benefit of their families at a cheaper rate than they can obtain it in the regular companies. The Government have come to the conclusion, after many years' experience, that as the Superannuation Act only provided for those who lived long enough to be retired and draw upon the funds, and no provision whatever was made for the widows and orphans, many of whom were left in destitute circumstances, that the system proposed in this Bill is advisable. Under this Bill every civil servant in the employ of the Government will be enabled to insure his life in the manner that I have indicated by paying a small sum annually, and thus will leave something for his wife and children at his death. The provisions of the Bill are simply to carry out that system of insurance.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—I believe the intention is to leave it entirely voluntary with those who now pay into the fund, and by an abatement they can come in.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL—Yes.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—But it is compulsory on all who may hereafter come into the service?

Hon. Mr. BOWELL—No.

Hon. Mr. DEVER—They simply get the benefit of insurance at a cheap rate?

Hon. Mr. BOWELL—Yes.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I am sorry that it is not compulsory on those who come into the service hereafter.

Hon. Mr. MACINNES (Burlington)—Whether is it compulsory or not, it is an exceedingly good Bill. It is not only in the public interest, but it is also in the interest of the civil servants themselves. It was always a complaint against the Superannuation Act that it did not contain a pro-