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ELECTION BILL

Chinamen, Whether Naturalized
or not, to Have no Vote—
Some Penalties.

The new election bill which has been submitted to the legislature contains some drastic proposals which are sure to evoke spirited discussion. By it Chinamen and Indians are disqualified from exercising the franchise. Registration of voters is provided for in the cities. Some of the penalties have been greatly increased. The persons disqualified to vote are: Indians, judges of the supreme and district courts, and Chinamen. The expression "Chinamen" means any native of the Chinese empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Chinese race, whether naturalized or not.

No election shall be declared invalid by reason of: (a) Any irregularity on the part of the returning officer or any of the proceedings preliminary to the poll; (b) Failure to hold a poll at any place appointed for holding a poll; (c) Noncompliance with the provisions of this act as to the taking of the poll or the counting of the votes or as to the limitations of time; (d) Any mistake in the use of forms contained in the schedule hereto. If it appears to the tribunal having cognizance of the question that the election was conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in this act, and that such irregularity, failure, noncompliance or mistake did not affect the result of the election.

No person who is incompetent to vote or who, within eight years has been convicted of corrupt practices, shall act as agent for a candidate.

Persons otherwise qualified to vote and who have resided in the province for one year immediately prior to the closing time of registration, but have not been resident of such electoral district for three months immediately prior to the date of the closing of registration, may register in the constituency within which he was last a resident for three months during the period of one year.

The qualification for registration is British citizenship by birth or naturalization, 21 years of age, three years residence in the province and three months residence in the constituency. The residence of a person shall be the place in which his habitation is fixed, and to which, if absent, he intends to return. A person shall not lose his residence who leaves home for another part of Canada for temporary purposes only. Temporary residence in the province with the intention of making it his home shall constitute residence.

The residence of a single man shall be where he usually sleeps; he can have only one residence.

and revised on or before the first of July, and annually thereafter on or before the first of May the Lieutenant-Governor in Council shall appoint by commission proper persons to act as registrars in and for the several electoral divisions of the province; (2) appoint by commission a district court judge to be a revising officer for each electoral division.

The hours of registration shall be from 9 a.m. till 9 p.m. with interruptions from 12 till 2 o'clock and from 6 till 7.30 o'clock. The time from 7 till 9 o'clock shall be as far as possible set apart for the registration of workmen.

Provision is made for the registration of sick and absent persons.

Within five days after the closing of the registration the deputy registrar shall prepare a list of the persons registered and post a copy in the municipal council's place of meeting and, at least, two conspicuous places in the polling subdivision to which it refers. The list shall remain posted up for fifteen days after the closing of registration. Objections to registrations may be made within ten days after the posting of the list.

The judge of the district court shall be the revising officer for the electoral division for which he is appointed, and he may appoint a registrar in his place.

The Lieutenant-Governor may appoint a day not more than twenty days nor less than sixteen days from the date of the writs of election for the nomination of candidates; polling to be seven days later.

In the case of a general election the nominations shall be held on one and the same day for all electoral divisions.

Bribery is punishable by a penalty of \$200 and imprisonment for six months with or without hard labor. A candidate convicted of corrupt practices shall be disqualified for eight years from sitting in the assembly and being entered on any voters' list or registered as a voter or of holding any office at the nomination of the crown or of the Lieutenant-Governor or any municipal officer.

A returning officer or deputy who, having the custody of a poll book or registered list of voters makes an alteration or insertion in such a way as to falsify it, shall incur a penalty of \$2,000 and imprisonment for one year.

Offences relating to ballot papers shall be punishable by disqualification from voting for eight years, and election officers are liable to imprisonment without the option of a fine, for a term not exceeding two years nor less than six months. Persons

unlawfully destroying documents relating to elections shall incur a penalty of \$2,000 and imprisonment for one year, if the offence is committed after the first of July, and liable to a like penalty. L.

The most pleased man in the Weyburn district is Mr. Hill. He has now a family of ten healthy boys. This number was reached on Sunday last, when his wife presented him with triplets, three splendid boys, who are in the best of health. Dr. Eaglesham and Nurse Humble were the attendants at this interesting event. Mr. Hill is receiving the congratulations of his many friends and the Herald joins in them, hoping that the three brothers may be as good citizens as their father—Weyburn Herald.

Gazette Appointments

The following appointments have been gazetted:

Justices of the Peace:
W. A. McLeod, of Alandale.
William J. French, Daysville.
Einar Thomas August Johannes Schiönnemann, of Stockholm.
Samuel J. Gould, of Gladwin.
Robert Ewart, McTaggart.
Arthur M. Smith, Marshall.

Notaries Public:
Alexander Cameron, of Rocanville.
Hugh C. MacColl, Regina.
George Wyatt, Poynton.
H. W. Wadsworth, Swift Current.
A. W. Schunke, Nokomis.
Ferdinand Breker, Engleford.

Commissioners for Oaths:
A. H. O'Brien, Ottawa, Ont.
Norman F. Black, Regina.
Hugh M. Barrett, Moose Jaw.
Chas. Nivins, Oxbow.

Henry H. Smith, Prince Albert.
John Howell, Moosemin.
Augustus H. Ball, Yorkton.
Elton B. Hutchinson, Regina.
Duncan P. McColl, Regina.

A. C. Garner, South Qu'Appelle.
Harry Chawner Adams, Battleford.
Thomas M. Sloper, of Una.
W. F. Ferguson, Luxemburg.
H. T. Bryce, Brycelton.

Ounfrey Zilinsky, of Beresina.
Arthur J. Boyer, Muriel.
J. S. Burns, Yellow Grass.
William Ney, Beeston.
Abner Hamilton, Willow Hill.
Donald Mitchell, Francis.

Thos. W. Anderson, of Disley.
Frederick A. Cantrill, Hirsch.
Robert McCool, Buffalo.
W. J. Schmitt, Muenster.
Jas. M. Scott, Yellow Grass.
Wm. A. Monck, Kutawa.
Arthur Seguin, St. Antoine.
James Wilson to be Deputy to the

Local Registrar of the Supreme Court for the judicial district of Prince Albert, and deputy to the clerk of the district court, and deputy to the clerk of the surrogate court.

Inspector of Land Titles and Legal Offices:
C. J. Milligan, Regina.
Ellas J. Shaver, Arcola.
Jas. F. MacLean, Yorkton.

Official Trustee:
A. E. Benge, Lanigan.
Official Auditor:
E. Challen Clerk, Fort Pelly.

Official Assignee:
J. P. Walker, Saskatoon.
A. M. Matheson, Arcola.

Process Issuer:
John Hewitson, Lumsden.
Reginald J. Gwynne, Grenfell.
Leon Delorme, Duck Lake.

Issuer of Marriage Licenses:
Robert Buchanan.
J. R. Maline, Melville.

Thos. R. Preston, Glen Ewen.
D. Jamieson, Nokomis.
Samuel J. Latta, Govan.

Coroner:
George H. Carlisle, of Grayson.
Councillors L. I. D.

John Mathew, Prairie Rose.
Arnold Dank, Annahelm.
Game Guardians:
Eugene Androchowitz, of Vondal.

Robt. Cruickshank, Saskatchewan Landing.
Fire Guardians:
R. Cruickshanks, Rush Lake.

B. Henson, Saskatchewan Landing.
H. B. White, Saskatchewan Landing.
G. Valentine, Saskatchewan Landing.

M. Wilson, Swift Current.
H. Atkinson, Swift Current.
Jno. Owen, Swift Current.

E. McArthur, Swift Current.
J. L. Benson, Swift Current.
Fred Hansman, Swift Current.

W. H. Woolsey, of Webb.
Thos. McCauley, Walpole.
Resignations and Retirements:
D. S. McGregor, official trustee.

A. G. McLean, of Govan, issuer of marriage licenses.
J. J. Hamm, of Rosthern, justice of the peace.

Wm. C. Fletcher, of Kelsey, herd pound keeper.
Geo. Cargo, Fort Qu'Appelle, herd pound keeper.

Jacob Purdy, North Portal, herd pound keeper.
Michael Krauss, of Krauss, herd pound keeper.

Frank Cooper, Indian Head, game guardian.
A. Hemingway, Strassburg, game guardian.

Henry D. Kusch, Saskatoon, herd pound keeper.
Hugh Smith, Nutant, herd pound keeper.

Keep Minard's Lignum in the house.

**THE WEEK'S
WORK**

Synopsis of the Important Business Done in the Legislature.

The principle matters of interest that came before the legislature this week were the budget speech of the provincial treasurer, convening of the committee on redistribution, the resolution by the government of a motion for government rural telephones and the debate on the taxation of railways, out of which grew a general demand for the guaranteeing of the Canadian Northern bonds. This demand came from the rural members of the government.

An important ruling was given by the speaker on the subject of papers once laid on the table of the House, which merits mention, as it may have an important bearing on subsequent events. It will be remembered that in the file of papers, relating to the Calder-Morag readers contract which was laid on the table last week, was a copy of the report on the proceedings of the joint committee on school readers, which it will be further remembered was, at the request of the Deputy Minister of Education prepared by Secretary Black. The opposition members have been very anxious to scrutinize it, but had not much opportunity for suddenly it disappeared. Mr. Haultain referred to the matter and, as the members of the government did not return—a very satisfactory answer, he asked the speaker for a ruling as to whether or not such returns were the property of the House. The speaker ruled that once a paper was laid on the table it was the property of the House.

The provincial treasurer's budget speech was a short and dry presentation, containing nothing which had not already appeared in reports. He estimated the total expenditure at \$4,164,157 and the total revenue at \$3,771,079. Of the expenditure \$1,169,564 is chargeable to capital account, in other words it is to defray the cost of permanent undertakings, of which \$250,000 is for long distance telephones. This is an increase of \$1,749,757 over last year's expenditure. The increases over last year's actual expenditures are as follows: Civil government \$53,000; Justice \$14,082; Public works chargeable to income \$15,440; public works chargeable to capital \$882,842; Education \$250,000; Agriculture \$85,742; Telephones \$250,000. The decreases in the estimated over actual expenditure of last year aggregated \$88,000. Among the items is \$200,000 for legislative buildings; \$98,000 for court

houses at Moose Jaw and Arcola, \$70,000 for the Moosemin goal; \$68,000 for land titles offices at Moose Jaw and Saskatoon; \$100,000 for an insane asylum; \$140,000 for Battleford bridge; \$105,000 for Prince Albert bridge; \$90,000 for Regina bridges.

As for the estimated revenue the provincial treasurer maintained that there was a surplus of \$329,194; but his statement showed that there was only \$1,167 in the bank. Of this so-called surplus \$328,926 is money spent out of current revenue on capital account and which is expected to be paid back when a loan is floated. So that \$328,926 of the total revenue exists only in expectancy. Of course the money will come in, but to place it at credit before it is received is bad book keeping. The estimated receipts from the supplementary revenue tax are placed at \$300,000, which is \$30,000 less than last year's estimate. Already the fund is \$170,000 behind, or at least it was at the end of the financial year. The railway tax is expected to yield \$50,000. The announcement is made that a loan would be negotiated or debentures sold to raise probably about \$2,000,000. Of this amount \$328,926 has been spent already, while this year's capital expenditure will eat up another \$1,489,564.

The provincial treasurer claimed a great deal of credit for what he called the splendid financial position of the province. But he did not explain that the small balance on hand was due to the fact that the expenditure had been cut nearly \$1,000,000 below the sum voted last year. Nor did he mention that slightly over \$200,000 of the receipts came from a quarter, unexpected as far as his estimates were concerned. Further he did not tell the House that the actual current expenditure for the year exceeded the actual revenue by \$124,391. These facts were only ascertained by examination of the returns.

The committee on redistribution agreed that the number of seats in the new legislature should not be less than 38, or more than 42. A seat has been given to Saskatoon city and all the country north of a point about 50 miles beyond Prince Albert is included in one seat. The unit of representation will be about 8,000, on the estimated population at present. No other information will be available until the committee meets again next week.

On the motion for a second reading of the Rural Telephone Systems Bill Mr. Haultain submitted the following amendments: "This House regrets that the principle of provincial ownership and operation of telephone lines has not been applied for the rural portions of the province where the greatest need for a provincial

system exists." Speaking to his motion, Mr. Haultain said that the last session the House had committed itself to the principle of government ownership, asking however, that action be deferred pending investigation. Since then the report of an expert had been received committing the House still further to the principle. But in its telephone measures the government had practically rejected the public ownership and operation principle as it related to rural parts, and was bringing into operation a large number of independent companies. The long distance part of the system was important, but it was a secondary matter to the average farmer who wanted connection with his neighbors and the town or village storekeeper. Mr. Calder and Mr. Motherwell combatted the opinion of Mr. Haultain saying that last year's resolution called chiefly for a more enquiry which, he said, had not endorsed the proposal of government control and operation of rural systems. Dr. Ellis replied in particular stress upon the argument that the government's policy was antagonistic to the principle of government ownership, since it endeavored to bring into existence a number of private companies. The amendment was lost.

The proposal to guarantee the bonds of the C.N.R. came up on resolution of Mr. Calder moving the House into committee to consider a resolution for taxing of railways. The bill provides for the taxing of the gross earnings of all railways in so far as received from operating in the province. Lines in operation under five years are exempt; on lines in operation between 5 and 7 years the tax is not to exceed 1 1/2 per cent, over that period not to exceed 3 per cent. The contention of those who favored the guarantee proposal was that the settlers were suffering great hardship and financial loss through the lack of railway connections, which, in many instances would be supplied by the C.N.R. Had it the necessary capital to build and the government should come to the railway's assistance. Some members were very outspoken on the matter. The premier said the government had done what it could do; the guaranteeing of railway bonds was a big question on which he could not pronounce an opinion.

As a result of a motion supported by an able speech from Mr. Wylie the government will increase the amount of wolf bounty. The member from Maple Creek brought a formidable argument well supported to bear on the minister, who agreed with the opinions of the mover and promised an increase.

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