

office in 1896, the result of which has been that in one or two of the provinces voters have a right to vote in more than one constituency, while in all the other provinces they are limited to one vote for one member of parliament only, a most unfair and unjust discrimination in favour of one or two provinces against the rest of the provinces. Like many other Acts of the late administration that Act requires to be rectified in the interests of the people of Canada in order that we may have proper legislation and proper means of electing our legislators without any unfair advantage to one province or one part of the country in its representation in this federal tribunal.

The Bill therefore reads as follows:

1. Section 10 of the Dominion Elections Act, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906, chapter 6, is amended by inserting at the beginning of the said section the words 'Subject to subsection 2 of this section,' and by adding to the said section the following subsection:—

Section 2 of the section of the Bill I am now introducing, reads :

2. No person shall vote in more than one electoral district for the same year, and if by the laws of any province he is entitled to vote in more than one electoral district he shall for a Dominion election be entitled to vote only in the electoral district in which he is domiciled at the time of the election.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read for the first time.

RAILWAY ACT AMENDMENT.

Mr. LANCASTER moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 5) to amend the Railway Act.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Explain.

Mr. LANCASTER. Briefly, this is the same legislation which was introduced by me two years ago and which was discussed in the House and upon which a party vote was taken. I have no doubt that the present government will adopt the Bill because at that time every man of the Conservative party in the House voted for this legislation which was defeated by a party vote at the instance of the government of the day, which thanks to Providence is now in opposition. Those who were not in the House when this legislation was formerly discussed are entitled to a little explanation. The object of the Bill is to remove a very unfair taxation upon municipalities in regard to the protection of level crossings. As the law is to-day the municipality has to pay a portion of the cost of protection, the railway company a portion, and the Dominion of Canada a portion, so that the municipality pays twice: once as taxpayer to the Dominion and also as a municipality. This Bill provides that unless a municipality, in order to get some extraordinary and special protection makes a

special agreement, the Railway Commission shall not put upon the municipalities any cost of the protection when the railway persists in running on the King's Highway, or, what is commonly known as a level crossing. I am in hopes that the Bill will be passed by a vote of the majority of this House as at present constituted.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO THE SPEECH OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the speech of His Royal Highness the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT (Calgary) moved :

That a humble address be presented to His Royal Highness the Governor General in reply to the speech from the Throne.

He said, Mr. Speaker, the constituency which I am privileged to represent in this House—a constituency which comprises within its boundaries the third largest city west of the Great Lakes—is deeply sensible of the high honour conferred upon it by the selection of its representative to move that an address be presented to His Royal Highness the Governor General, thanking him for the gracious speech with which he has been pleased to open the first session of the twelfth Parliament of Canada. The very title 'His Royal Highness' by which the Governor General is designated, gives cause for satisfaction and congratulation to Canadians. For the first time in the history of our world-wide empire the parliament of an overseas Dominion has been opened by a Governor General who is a member of the reigning family—a Prince of the Blood Royal. We can assure His Royal Highness that if he esteems it a privilege to be called upon to administer the affairs of this prosperous and growing Dominion and to associate himself with us in the important duties which we are about to approach, we appreciate the honour that has been conferred upon our country by his appointment which implies a recognition of the growing importance of this Dominion as a part of the British Empire, and of the loyal devotion of the Canadian people to the Throne and person of His Majesty the King. But we welcome His Royal Highness not only because of His Royal birth and high station, not only because he is the brother of our late beloved Sovereign whose solicitude for the welfare of his subjects and devotion to the cause of peace have given him in history the name of Edward the Peacemaker; not only as the sole surviving son of that great Queen and mother whose