

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. Did you examine the British Columbia system?—A. Of registration?

Q. Yes, and voting, where if a man or woman does not vote he or she is stricken from the list?—A. Yes, I did. I was rather attracted by it.

Q. The members of the committee did not hear your reply; would you just inform them again?—A. The system followed in British Columbia is a system of continuous registration with a monthly revision. At an election all those who have failed to record their votes are automatically left off the list, and if they want to go on they have to make another application.

*By Mr. Heaps:*

Q. It is voluntary registration?—A. Voluntary registration.

Q. What percentage of the people vote there?—A. I asked that question in writing of British Columbia, but I did not obtain an answer, but I did obtain this: I received information from a very high election official that the system was not found altogether satisfactory and there was more or less a suggestion that they should revert to the system the Dominion followed prior to 1930; that is an enumeration immediately prior to an election.

*By Hon. Mr. Stirling:*

Q. It has this great advantage, all these people disappear from the list?—A. Yes; it would have that effect; it would have the effect of purging the list entirely.

*By Mr. Turgeon:*

Q. Is there a monthly registration of new names?—A. A monthly revision.

Q. They have had a system of purging the list for a number of years, but it has been amended during the last year or so by adding the monthly revision?—A. That may be so.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. How is that monthly revision conducted?—A. By the registrar.

*By Mr. Heaps:*

Q. How does the cost work out in British Columbia?—A. I have not that information.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions?

*By Hon. Mr. Stirling:*

Q. Under the compulsory voting in Australia there must have been a very minute sum collected after an election for those who failed to vote?—A. Yes, very little.

Q. Have you got that figure?—A. No.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: At the 2 per cent referred to, it would run about 16,000.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions to be asked of Mr. Butcher this morning? I might state to the committee that Mr. MacNicol last evening informed me that he was going to be away to-day, but that he has a lot of material that he has gathered together over the past several years in connection with compulsory registration and compulsory voting, and he would be glad of the opportunity of giving the committee the result of his investigations.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: I should like to suggest, Mr. Chairman, that we should let this question rest for the time being; and if Mr. Butcher would make those inquiries that I have suggested from the Bureau of Statistics, we might have a subsequent meeting and a further report from him. Then Mr. MacNicol or any one else who has anything further to say could be heard.

The CHAIRMAN: Under those circumstances I think we had better just adjourn at the call of the chair.

The committee adjourned at 12.30 p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.