

Mr. ROBINSON: In the correspondence I had, it mentioned advance polls. Well, advanced polls, as far as those men are concerned, are of no use to them definitely.

Mr. RICHARD (*Gloucester*): Advance polls would not suit their purpose at all.

Mr. ROBINSON: It would have to be an advance poll of from four to five months previous to the election.

I appreciate being given notice of your meeting tonight. I had hoped to bring this matter up this afternoon, but I found it was not possible. I was going to throw out this suggestion for your consideration: The fact that I have served a considerable time in the army and that I did make more than one vote in the army, and there were arrangements made for those votes.

Could it be now—I am not saying it should be—but could it be that the captains of boats could be appointed as deputy returning officers, or could it be—I am just throwing out this as a suggestion—that there could be certain points along the great lakes and along the St. Lawrence appointed as polling booths over an extended period of time? I am just making these suggestions. I know that you people can probably think of some other idea, but I would like very much for these boys not to be disfranchised, because it is a very essential job they are doing.

Mr. RICHARD (*Gloucester*): How many would be affected, roughly speaking, just approximately?

Mr. ROBINSON: In the Bruce riding I would say—subject to the Chairman's revision because he knows about this as well—I would just say, roughly, 50 to 60 chaps, in the Bruce riding.

Mr. MACINNIS: But it would affect sailors similarly situated in any part of Canada.

Mr. ROBINSON: Oh, all over, yes.

Mr. LOCKHART: I have about 75 in my case.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, it would affect all lake ports. And now, gentlemen—

Mr. MACINNIS: This situation cannot be remedied, as far as the men who are on the water are concerned and who cannot make port, but for those who can make port, there is a possible arrangement which has been in existence in British Columbia for years, namely, the absentee poll. I have been trying to educate the committee about that for a long time, but they just won't be educated.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, gentlemen, I think we ought to allow section 37 to stand a while yet. That concludes the business for this evening. We still have 2, 6 and 37, of the bill.

Mr. MACINNIS: Why not deal with them tonight?

The CHAIRMAN: Because I made an engagement for people to be free of this thing at nine o'clock.

Mr. MUTCH: I move that we adjourn.

The CHAIRMAN: All those in favour?

Carried.

The committee adjourned.