

review of what has already been reviewed; that is to say, of the lists as already made up in the counties of Ontario, in Quebec, in New Brunswick, and in Nova Scotia. There is no review of those lists except, of course, so far as the work of the enumerator goes, and the enumerator has power only to add the women vote and to strike off by reason of alienage. He can strike off for no other cause. That work and that alone is subject to final review by a judge. The rest of the list is already completed and revised, and that stands for this election.

Honourable gentlemen will see that it was well said by the Government itself when the Bill was introduced, and that principle was respected when the Bill was put through the other House, that as far as the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were concerned the provincial lists were not to be disturbed. I think we went a long way when, because it was alleged that there might be complaints, we consented to open the revision anew, and have that revision made by judges; and I submit that honourable gentlemen in this House should have been satisfied with that concession, and that it is altogether unreasonable to ask that new lists be made, especially when it is done in violation of the principle laid down by the Government in introducing the measure both in this House and in the House of Commons. For my part, I must say that I cannot explain the attempt now made to change the system and to have a new list made, except that it is for the purpose of taking an undue political advantage by one side over the other. I do hope there will be found in this honourable House a number of men of sound and impartial judgment, who will understand and appreciate the unreasonableness of the motion which has been made, and will give their vote against the amendment and support the sub-amendment. My sub-amendment simply asks that the Bill be amended in such a way that the electoral lists may be revised by the county judge at any time within thirty days from the passing of this Act. This motion embodies merely the principle I have laid before this House as the true one on which it should act, and if this amendment is adopted it will be the duty of the House to proceed to arrange the proper machinery to carry it out.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE: I would like to ask if the Government, or honourable gentlemen on the other side, wish us to discuss the proposal which has come from the other side? If so, it will be impossible for us to discuss such an important matter

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE

intelligently unless we have before us the terms of the proposal. Both sides are accusing each other of partisanship, those on the other side saying that they cannot accept the lists for Nova Scotia because those who revise them were appointed by the local Government, which is a Liberal one. On this side we say: supposing that is true, we offer to you the proposition to have the list revised by the county judges of that province. But the other side will not accept that, saying that they have no confidence in lists prepared by officers of the local Government. They go further and insult the judges by saying that they have no confidence in the judges revising the lists, and they propose to appoint enumerators to prepare the lists, to be afterwards revised by the judges. For one, I am not willing to discuss the counter proposal without the opportunity of reading it; but I consider the sub-amendment of my honourable friend from De Salaberry fair to everybody, and will support it. I would like to ask the leader of the Government what the intention is—whether to go on with this proposal, or drop it and go on with the real amendment and the sub-amendment; or to adjourn again in order to give time to the members generally to look over this matter when it is printed in *Hansard*.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: All I can answer to my honourable friend is this: that a conference took place lasting the most of yesterday and almost until midnight last night; that, when the Government came to put into workable shape the proposals agreed upon, my honourable friends on the Liberal side would not accept those proposals.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE: Then what is the consequence?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: There is no other alternative than for the debate to be proceeded with.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: Do I understand the honourable gentleman to say that the agreement come to last night was not accepted to-day on this side of the House? Is it not a fact that the agreement entered into last night was on the basis that I have claimed it should be—that there should be a revision of the list and not a new list?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: We have accepted as the basic list the provincial list, but when we come to apply the machinery which the Government considers absolutely necessary for the purpose of completing that