

Mr. BENNETT. That is neither here or there. We all agree that the costs are excessive. But there is no use agreeing that the horse is dead; what we want is to prescribe some medicine for the living horse.

Mr. McMILLAN. Why bring up the dead horse then?

Mr. BENNETT. To comfort hon. gentlemen opposite, because, when they have run out of everything else, they make an onslaught on the Franchise Act. Now, I say there is not a county court judge in Ontario but will revise the voters' lists in any one of these ridings at a cost of \$150. Let us come down to the case of honesty in the printing of the lists. Over here in the Printing Bureau, as I am informed, they have standing the galleys of type from which the last voters' lists were printed.

Mr. BURNETT. May I ask the hon. gentleman a question? Would the hon. gentleman be kind enough to tell what the county judge gets per day for attending the revisions of the lists?

Mr. BENNETT. I cannot tell the hon. gentleman that, but I can tell him that in the county of Ontario the judge got \$200 for revising the local lists. There must have been more appeals in the county of Ontario than there were in the county of Simcoe.

Mr. BURNETT. Would the hon. gentleman be kind enough to say how many municipalities there are in the county of Ontario?

Mr. BENNETT. The hon. gentleman comes from the county of Ontario, and he should know that. Now, as I have said, over here in the Printing Bureau the type of the last Dominion voters' list is standing. And when the last Dominion voters' list was printed, it was not necessary to reset all the type, but it was only necessary to make changes from the original, and the cost was only a trifle, comparatively speaking, for each riding. I think that the average was only about \$150 or \$200 for the corrections. There were twenty ridings in Ontario in which the correction of the list cost less than \$100 each. There were thirteen in Nova Scotia in which the average cost was \$130. In New Brunswick the average was \$130. Some of the others were even less than that. If we are to adopt the local franchise in the province of Ontario, give us a chance for our lives at all events, and, after the lists are finally revised, have them reprinted at the department here. Then the cost will be about \$200 per riding. But I ask hon. gentlemen, and I appeal to them in a spirit of fairness: Do not ask us to go into the elections with voters' lists like these. Do not give it into the power of every partisan deputy returning officer to permit his list to be tampered with by every one who comes along.

Mr. BURNETT. I want to call the hon. gentleman's attention to this fact. He

knows that the deputy returning officer receives his instructions and his lists from the judge's hand, it comes from no other person; therefore, no one else can tamper with them. The lists the hon. gentleman refers to are the lists that are first printed by each municipality. They have never been finally revised, and the hon. gentleman is trying to make this House believe that they are the revised lists all the time.

Mr. BENNETT. Now, the hon. gentleman is the possessor of more fireside law than I thought he was; and even at the cost of inflicting the law and its explanation on the whole House, I must do so for the benefit of the hon. gentleman. Now, when a court is held the lists have already been printed. I think we will agree on that. The judge then has in his possession a memorandum that all the changes that have been made, have occurred. That memorandum is handed to the township clerk, and the township clerk makes the changes on the printed voters' list and places it in the possession of the clerk of the peace of the county, with names written in and other scored out. Now, what is the result? The revised list is then in the hands of the clerk of the peace, and this Act says that from the clerk of the peace, who is the proper custodian, you shall receive a corrected voters' list. I ask the Solicitor General if that is not correct?

The SOLICITOR GENERAL. As I understand it.

Mr. BENNETT. It is folly to talk about such an absurdity as the judge writing stacks of names into books, it is all nonsense. The hon. gentleman is a terrible victim of fireside law. Now, what is the result? Let us have this given to us, let us have a chance for our lives, at all events. After the list has been revised by the judge, and after it has been deposited in the office of the clerk of the peace, let that list be sent down here to Ottawa, and let corrections be made in the galleys of the type that is standing over here, and the result will be that you will correct this list in the Printing Bureau at an expense of about \$200 for the riding. You will then give security to your political opponents that they are going to have an honest list. But if you force upon this House and upon the country a dishonest list like this, you are open to the suspicion that you are providing an engine that any honest man should be ashamed of.

Mr. HEYD. Will the hon. gentleman allow me to ask him a question? I do not do it merely for the purpose of finding fault. But I have listened to the hon. gentleman's representations of the manner in which these lists are corrected, and I do not think he has made it clear yet. He conveys the impression that the printed list is the genuine list. In the city of Brantford, for instance, after a judge has cor-