

Mr. DOHERTY: If he can answer either one then he is not in a position where he cannot answer one or the other.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Unless he answers both he selects his own district.

Mr. DOHERTY: This is brought to my attention in the middle of the discussion of another section. It is possible that the word "and" should be "or" and perhaps we will have to make it "or" when we get to it. But if we could keep to the section we are dealing with, possibly we could get at a practical result. I am anxious to receive criticisms and suggestions in a good spirit and try to meet them. I would remind hon. gentlemen that it is the section that makes the law, the form should comply with the section and if it does not, we will have to correct it.

Mr. C. A. WILSON: If the language of the law was as plain as the language of the minister, I would not complain. But what is reported in Hansard is not the law. What will be brought before the courts and before the electors will be this Bill after it is passed. I cannot read subsection 3 in any other way than as it is set down here.

If he cannot, because of non-residence or otherwise—

Or otherwise.

—so state or specify, he shall be deemed an elector of, and his vote shall be applied to, such electoral district as he may indicate.

Supposing he says "I am a resident of Ste. Rose; I do not know in what county it is now, and I do not care"—what county do you choose? If a man so state or specify his vote shall be applied by somebody, not himself, to such electoral district as he may indicate.

Mr. DOHERTY: If the hon. gentleman will read what the voter has to state or specify, he will see that it is one or other of two things. In subsection 2 we have no trouble about our conjunction:

2. If he can state the electoral district wherein he last continuously resided during at leastmonths of the year immediately preceding his appointment, enlistment, enrolment or calling out on active service, or so particularly specify a place or places within an electoral district whereat during such period of time he so resided that such electoral district can therefrom be ascertained, he shall be deemed an elector of the electoral district so stated or to be ascertained, and his vote shall be applied thereto.

Subsection 3 is for the man who cannot state his electoral district and who cannot specify the name or place where he resided so that from the name or place it will be

possible for the electoral district to be ascertained. If he can do either one or other of these two things the subsection does not apply to him. It is only if he can do neither of these two things that subsection 3 applies.

Mr. PUGSLEY: The minister ignores the form altogether.

Mr. DOHERTY: The form is not in the present section and we are dealing with the section. If the form has not been printed to conform to the section, we will amend the form when we reach it.

Mr. C. A. WILSON: What would the minister suggest will be the procedure with regard to the man who says: "I am from the United States; I do not know anything about the electoral districts of Canada; I want to vote and I want to vote for the Government," let us say. "I do not care where I vote." How will you apply that vote?

Mr. DOHERTY: If he cannot give information under section 2 which will indicate where he would like to vote, I am afraid he will have to do without voting. This is a Bill to afford an opportunity of voting; but it is not a Bill to compel people to vote. We are providing not to take the horse to the water but to take the water to the horse, and when we have got it there we cannot make the horse drink. If a man will not indicate any constituency you cannot make him vote.

Mr. C. A. WILSON: He does not know any.

Mr. DOHERTY: I should think that a man who desired to vote and who had the right to select a constituency would ascertain from his comrades.

I should think that, if he cared to vote, he would ascertain the name of some constituency from the other soldiers or from the representatives of the two parties who would be present. His one desire would be to register a Canadian vote, and he would have no trouble in ascertaining the name of a constituency.

Mr. NESBITT: That is the difficulty; he will have no trouble, but he will be influenced entirely by the officer.

Mr. DOHERTY: As things are in our elections at home people are apt to be influenced by men all around them. Is it a serious objection that a man should be asked to vote in a certain constituency? Perhaps I would say to him: I would be glad to have you vote in Ste. Anne, and