

in western Canada. I am not saying that one party is any better or any worse than the other. But whenever you give to a political partisan the right to draw up a voters' list and make him the sole arbiter, there is bound to be injustice, and there is sure to be trouble in the end.

I do not see why the minister could not adopt some method, so far as eastern Canada is concerned at all events, of appealing from the decision of the enumerators. Let some man set the enumerator right if he is wrong. If that is done, then, so far as the working out of the Act is concerned, we will be satisfied. But if it is left entirely to the enumerator, an injustice is bound to be done in certain portions of eastern Canada.

Mr. MARCIL: I cannot understand why the Government are providing for these enumerators. I question very much if it will be an improvement on the system we have at the present time in the province of Quebec. As I pointed out the other day, the secretary treasurer of the municipality prepares the lists. He knows every man, woman and child in the municipality, knows all their circumstances and everything about them. He submits the lists to the municipal council, which represents the people, both Liberals and Tories, and is therefore a non-political body. Why should not the secretary-treasurer of the municipalities in the province of Quebec be empowered to prepare the lists? He has a list already and all he would have to do would be to strike off the aliens who are disqualified under this Bill and add the names of the women whom this Bill enfranchises. He is the most competent man in the municipality for the work and his list could be submitted to the municipal council for ratification. If it was found that he had made a mistake, the municipal council could have it rectified at once. The municipal council, in case objection was taken to the secretary-treasurer's list, could act as an appeal tribunal, to sustain or overrule the decision of the secretary-treasurer. But if the lists are to be prepared by enumerators, one of them could come into a municipality and ask for the existing list and keep that list in his possession until ten days before polling day, when he could issue a new list. I am sure that no member from the province of Quebec would declare this to be an improvement on the system we now have. The people are not used to that way of preparing the lists, and if the minister insists on this method, he is simply heaping up a lot of trouble for him-

self and the candidates at the next election. There will be general dissatisfaction because conditions are being changed entirely. Suppose we have an enumerator for each polling district. The enumerators for the municipalities would vary in number because some municipalities have only one polling district, and others have two or three. I repeat that the secretary-treasurer is the best man for this work. He is a permanent official, and generally a man of education and standing in the community. He would simply have to make the necessary changes under this Bill in the existing list, and everybody in the municipality would be satisfied.

If you take the other course suggested, which may be a good and proper course in the West, but with which we are not familiar in the province of Quebec, you reverse the whole position of affairs.

Mr. HAZEN: I did not hear the first part of the remarks made by my hon. friend from Carleton, but from what I heard I judged that he was claiming that the revision in New Brunswick at the present time was not satisfactory, and that as a result the lists were not satisfactory.

Mr. CARVELL: I was complaining of the provision in this Bill for enumerating the women voters in New Brunswick, and I was giving as an illustration the conditions which have existed there in the past and pointing out that they are very unsatisfactory and should be changed.

Mr. HAZEN: I think I correctly caught the tenor of what my hon. friend said. The counties of New Brunswick are divided into parishes, which, with the exception of two, each elect two representatives to the county council. There are two parishes in the county of St. John, where the representation is three instead of two, but practically the representation of every parish on the county councils is two. The lists are revised every year, and the revisers are the two county councillors who are elected every second year, I think, the third member of the board being a reviser who is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. As a result you have for your revisers in the parish at least two men who must be very familiar with the parish, because as county councillors it is their duty to know the people, and having to run elections every second year, they naturally have a thorough knowledge of their people. In my experience there has been little fault found with the lists as we