

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

ROOM 430, HOUSE OF COMMONS,

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 1948.

The Special Committee on The Dominion Elections Act, 1938, met this day at 8.30 o'clock p.m. Mr. Walter E. Harris, Chairman, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Beaudry, Bertrand (*Prescott*), Cournoyer, Fair, Gladstone, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Kirk, MacInnis, MacNicol, Marquis, Mutch, Richard (*Gloucester*), Richard (*Ottawa East*), Zaplitny.

In attendance: Mr. Jules Castonguay, Chief Electoral Officer, and Mr. Nelson Castonguay, Executive Assistant.

The Committee resumed the adjourned study of Bill No. 198, An Act to amend The Dominion Elections Act, 1938.

On Section 6.

Subsection (1) was adopted without change.

Subsection (2) on motion of Mr. Mutch, was amended by adding to paragraph (i) thereof the following:

"Provided that this paragraph shall cease to have effect on the 31st day of March, 1949, and be deemed to have been repealed as from that date."

Subsection (2) as amended, was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Zaplitny, the Committee resolved to reconsider subsection (1). Whereupon, Mr. Zaplitny moved that paragraph (a) thereof be changed to read 18 years instead of 21 years.

After some debate thereon, and the question having been put on the amendment by Mr. Zaplitny, it was resolved in the negative on the following division: Yeas, 2; Nays, 9.

Subsections (3) and (4) were in turn adopted.

Section 6, as amended, was adopted.

On Section 37.

Mr. Jules Castonguay was called. Witness read a statement which appears in the Minutes of Evidence.

Section 37 was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Mutch, it was,

Resolved,—That Section 2 of the Bill be repealed and the following substituted therefor:

2. (1) Subsection one of section four of the said Act is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

Rank, powers, salary and tenure of office of Chief Electoral Officer.

4. (1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall rank as and have all the powers of a deputy head of a department, communicate with the Governor in Council through the Secretary of State of Canada, devote himself exclusively to the performance of the duties of his office and be paid a salary of not less than eight nor more than ten thousand dollars