

think it probably within our power to try to find some solution for these boys who leave their homes some time in March and who do not get back probably until November or December—to arrange that they will be able to exercise their franchise.

I know that it is not for me to make any suggestions as to how this could be brought about; but I think, with the able men who are on this committee, you will probably find some solution to our problem in Bruce.

Mr. MACNICOL: What would you suggest?

Mr. LOCKHART: Your difficulty is just the same as we have in Lincoln county where men ship on boats, and the boats will be going through the Welland Ship Canal. They may meet their boats or go over to Toronto to meet them and they are out on the lakes at the time of election day. We have much the same situation that you have.

Mr. ROBINSON: The majority of our boys up there who are on ships do not get home from the time they leave home until the season is over, because they work twenty-four hour days, and seven day weeks, and they work all through the season until it is over, unless they tie the ship up.

Mr. LOCKHART: I fully understand your situation because I have it too.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, thank you, Mr. Robinson. The committee will consider this question somewhat later, along with the subject of fishermen. I think, in view of the representations you have made, we can review our discussions and see if something cannot be done for those who are on the lake ships.

Mr. MUTCH: Where did we end up on that discussion last year?

The CHAIRMAN: I think, in order to refresh our memories, we ought to tackle it entirely anew at another meeting so that we can start with an understanding of what we did and follow it through.

Mr. MUTCH: I am under the impression that we did meet that situation.

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, yes, but not quite in the manner which Mr. Robinson has in mind.

Mr. MUTCH: Did we not make an attempt to meet it?

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, yes; there was considerable discussion on it, but there was no real decision made. You gentlemen explored it rather fully; but we will take into consideration the representations made at our next meeting. We can start over again with a statement by the Chief Electoral Officer and consider it further from there.

Mr. RICHARD (*Gloucester*): Do I understand, Mr. Chairman that these men go somewhere else to engage on those boats?

The CHAIRMAN: The boats sail up and down the great lakes and, on election day, they may be in port somewhere else other than in their own constituency.

Mr. RICHARD (*Gloucester*): But they ship from that constituency at the first of the season?

Mr. MUTCH: They would probably sign their articles at a port outside their own riding.

Mr. RICHARD (*Gloucester*): You can see the great difficulty there. If you are going to bring them in as a class, would that not apply as well to men who follow bush work and who have to move out at certain times in the year into the woods or somewhere else?

The CHAIRMAN: Well, we can go into that at another time and spend a few days on the problem before us.

Mr. RICHARD (*Gloucester*): They belong, therefore, to a certain electoral district where they should be; but on election day they may be in another electoral district. That is the point.