

to discharge the duties with which he was vested as a revising officer.

Mr. McLENNAN (Inverness). Not as revising officer, but as municipal councillor, having the right to appoint those who applied the law.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Very well, he went on to state that he had been engaged in preparing the lists of voters.

Mr. McLENNAN (Inverness). Not at all. I said that I was a municipal councillor, and as such had the right to appoint those who applied the Act.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Then the hon. gentleman occupied the time of the House in speaking of something that is not under consideration at all. No one has been questioning the right of a municipal councillor to put all the parties, qualified by law, on the assessment roll.

Mr. McLENNAN (Inverness). If the hon. gentleman puts it in that way, I am afraid I am not alone in my opinion.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. So far as the duties of the revisers go, they are laid down in this Act, and this Act shows that the revisers are bound, in making up the lists, to leave off the name of every man who is disqualified by the law of Nova Scotia from voting for a member of the House of Assembly. That law declares that the names of such men shall not be put on the list. It instructs them to leave these names off the list. Therefore, what he might have done in the discharge of his duty as municipal councillor we have nothing to do with. That is not the question before the House. The question is that of the voters' lists, and if he is not speaking of what he did in the character of a reviser, what he said had nothing whatever to do with the subject under discussion. The question we are discussing is whether, in the construction of the voters' lists, the revisers may put on the names of parties who are disqualified by the law of Nova Scotia.

Mr. McLENNAN (Inverness). Will the hon. gentleman answer this question? Let us suppose he was a reviser himself, and that he was given a list by the assessor, how could he determine in revising that list and checking over the names of persons with the required property qualifications, that certain of these persons were Dominion officials.

Mr. MILLS. The party machine would tell him in every county.

Mr. McLENNAN (Inverness). How is he to determine which of these were Dominion officials, and which were not?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. It is a matter of notoriety who are Dominion officials. Does the hon. gentleman mean to say that he or the reviser in the county of Inverness

did not know who were postmasters in the municipality and who were customs officers, and so on.

Mr. McLENNAN (Inverness). Let us suppose that there were a half dozen people of the same name, how could the reviser tell which one of those was a postmaster or a customs officer? There might, for instance, be half a dozen John Macdonalds.

Mr. McINERNEY. The hon. member for Inverness (Mr. McLennan) made one important statement in the first speech he made tonight. He said that, as proof of the fairness of the lists made in Nova Scotia previous to 1895, that the same lists were used in every constituency, both for local and federal elections. I am informed by the hon. member for Cape Breton (Mr. McDougall) that in his county such was not the case, but that a separate list was made for the local elections and a different list for the federal elections, and that in the list for the federal elections, the officials disqualified by the Nova Scotia Act, enumerated in the memorandum attached to this Act by the Solicitor General, were kept off the list prepared for the federal elections. If that be so, Sir, then the argument of the hon. member for Inverness (Mr. McLennan) loses its foundation, and the basis of his argument being gone his conclusion is quite unjustified.

Mr. McLENNAN. I mentioned the lists of 1882.

Mr. McINERNEY. I said that. But that does not weaken the point I made, because the Dominion Franchise Act was only enacted in 1885. So that, in 1882, or 1879, what ever year you take previous to 1885, it reduces the hon. gentleman's argument to an absurdity. He says that the lists were fair because the same lists were used in both elections, the federal and local. Now, I am informed, and believe that the information is correct, and the hon. gentleman does not contradict it, that in the constituencies of Nova Scotia one list was made for local elections and a totally different one for federal elections, and in the federal lists the names of Dominion officials disqualified by the provincial law, did not appear.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Chairman—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. RUSSELL. I desire, with the hon. member's permission, to ask a question.

Mr. McINERNEY. The hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Russell) has made about half a dozen speeches on this subject so far.

Mr. RUSSELL. And how many has the hon. gentleman (Mr. McInerney) made?

Mr. McINERNEY. This is the only one. I have risen several times, but have always given way, notably to the hon. member for Inverness. I rose before he did and