

to retain the powers which are contained in that section for the chief superintendent. I therefore move that the clause be amended by striking out the first nine lines, and inserting the following words: 'The chief post office superintendent shall have power to.' My motion is that the Bill be not now read the third time, but that it be amended in the direction I have indicated.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Is that the correct procedure, to amend a Bill at the third reading?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Our practice has been to amend it either by referring the Bill back to a Committee of the Whole, or to make correction in the House.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I think Bourinot, in his work, says the Bill must be re-committed, but the Senate has often adopted the course proposed by the hon. gentleman.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved that the Bill be not now read the third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole for the purpose of making the suggested amendment.

The motion was agreed to.

(In the Committee.)

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—As I have said, when section 12 was struck out it was thought there were other clauses in the Post Office Act which enabled the official to make the inquiry, but the hon. member for Marshfield maintained there was no power, and by repealing clause 12 we were depriving the chief superintendent of the powers which originally belonged to the chief inspector, and he said a part of that clause ought to be retained. On submitting his opinion to the Deputy Postmaster General, and coinciding myself with that view, they authorized the change.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND, from the committee, reported the Bill with an amendment, which was concurred in.

The Bill was then read the third time and passed.

MILITIA BILL.

THIRD READING.

The House resumed in Committee of the Whole, consideration of Bill (5) An Act respecting the Militia and Defence of Canada.

On clause 136,

136. The following Acts of the parliament of Canada are repealed, in so far as the active and reserve militia land force is concerned:—Chapter 41 of the revised statutes intituled 'An Act respecting the Militia and Defence of Canada;' chapter 19 of the statutes of 1898, intituled 'An Act further to amend the Militia Act and chapter 18 of the Statutes of 1900, intituled 'An Act to amend the Militia Act.'

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—If those Acts are repealed, the Acts on the statutes before them come in force, do they not?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—This Bill will not come into force until there is a proclamation.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—But if you repeal those three Acts of the revised statutes and another one passed in 1898, the old law will come into force.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—This Bill we are now passing will supersede all those Acts.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—Then why do you say here that such and such Acts are repealed?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Because all preceding Militia Acts are repealed when this comes in force.

Hon. Mr. POWER—The Interpretation Act in the revised statutes contains an express provision that the repeal of a repealing Act shall not revive the original Act.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—This repealing clause repeals all Acts affecting the active and reserve militia land forces, so that any law or portions of laws now on the statutes, referring to the navy forces still remain in force.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Yes.

The clause was adopted.

On clause 19,

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—In the brief that was handed by the department to me, clause 19 was said to be similar to section 15 of the Act as it stands. On examination, I found it did not agree with that clause. On looking through the Act in the revised statutes, and the amendments, I did not find there was any Act corresponding to clause 19: therefore, after a conversation with the Minister of Militia, we have decided to substitute section 15 as it stands in the original