

(4) Any officer or director of the Company who does, causes or permits to be done, anything contrary to the provisions of this section shall be liable for each such offence to a penalty of not less than twenty dollars and not more than five thousand dollars in the discretion of the court before which such penalty is recoverable; and any such penalty shall be recoverable and disposed of in the manner prescribed by section ninety-eight of the Loan Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. COPP: I do not observe any change.

Section 5 was agreed to.

On section 6—application of Loan Companies Act:

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: In Bill 15 this section reads:

Except as otherwise provided in the Act, the Loan Companies Act, chapter twenty-eight of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, excepting therefrom paragraph (f) of subsection one of section sixty-one, paragraph (c) of subsection two of section sixty-one, subsection three of section sixty-two, sections sixty-four, sixty-five, sixty-six, sixty-seven, eighty-two and eighty-eight, shall apply to the Company.

Hon. Mr. COPP: It is the same in Bill D.

Section 6 was agreed to.

Section 7 was agreed to.

The preamble and the title were agreed to.

The Bill was reported.

THIRD READING

Hon. Mr. COPP moved the third reading of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the third time, and passed.

DOMINION FRANCHISE BILL

FIRST READING

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 101, an Act respecting the Franchise of Electors at Elections of Members of the House of Commons.

The Bill was read the first time.

SECOND READING

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said: Honourable members, three purposes are served by the present Dominion Elections Act: first, it determines the qualification of voters; secondly, it provides for the preparation of voters' lists of all qualified electors; and thirdly, it provides for the holding of elections and for the making of returns of the persons elected. If honourable members will keep these three purposes in mind they will find it easier to follow the disposition that has been made of that Act by this

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN.

measure and the companion measure, Bill 115, an Act respecting the Election of Members of the House of Commons.

The objects of the Franchise Bill correspond to the first two of the purposes served by the present Dominion Elections Act, regarding qualification of voters and preparation of voters' lists. The Elections Bill contains provision for the holding of elections and the making of returns.

The Franchise Bill is divided into six parts. Part I is of general application and provides for the administration of the Act under a Commissioner. Under the scheme there is to be a registrar for each of the 245 electoral districts. It is appropriate to mention here that the Chief Electoral Officer, whose title will hereafter be the Commissioner, will no longer appoint returning officers. These appointments are to be made by the Governor in Council.

Hon. Mr. COPP: Not permanently, but for each election?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes, for each election. The Governor in Council can appoint and rescind.

The registrars in the various divisions are to make out the electoral lists. Consequently there will be 245 lists made up and superintended by these registrars, who will follow two processes. The first process will be used only once, for the making of a basic list. In the past it was the custom to use the old provincial lists, but hereafter, under Part II of the Bill, a basic list is to be made. Part III provides for the second process, that is, the annual revision of this basic list. The lists will be printed once a year, at Ottawa, and are to be closed lists. The idea of the change is that a shorter period of time shall intervene between dissolution and an election. Instead of ten to twelve weeks being required, as in the past, four weeks will be ample.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Is it intended that the type for those lists shall remain standing from year to year?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I am unable to answer that detail, but I presume it would.

The lists are to be made under the registrars or enumerators very much as is now done, except that the registrar for the electoral district will revise the lists in urban polling divisions and the enumerator will prepare the lists in rural districts, the major feature being that an appeal may be made from both the registrar and the enumerator to a judge.

Part III, which provides for the annual revision of lists, is the very essence of the