

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Yes, I will take it into consideration and mention it to my colleagues.

HON. MR. TRUDEL—In some towns of the province perhaps these might be the men best qualified for the work and the appointment would be optional, of course.

The clause was adopted.

On the 43rd clause,

HON. MR. POWER—This is a very important clause ; there is a general provision there that the revising officer shall not be bound by strict rules of evidence or forms of procedure, but shall hear and determine all matters coming before him in a summary manner, and so as in his judgment to do justice to all parties.

HON. MR. PLUMB—There is an appeal from his decision.

HON. MR. POWER—I think that the revising officer being a lawyer should be governed by the rules of evidence.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—In this case where the party is settling the list of voters, some allegation may be made, which if the rules of evidence were to be followed would take a long time to prove. The question of a man's title to his farm, for instance, would be very tedious and expensive to prove under the rules of evidence ; but it might be established under rules which might have the force of having completely established it to the satisfaction of the revising officer, without legal evidence. It is to provide for cases of this kind that the revising officer is not to be bound by strict rules of evidence or forms of procedure.

HON. MR. TRUDEL—If the evidence is not legal, then an appeal would be of no use. Are we to understand that an appeal will lie even on those proceedings?

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—So I understand.

The clause was agreed to.

On the 49th clause,

HON. MR. POWER—This clause begins by saying, "In case where the revising offi-

cer is not also a judge of any court." I have not noticed in any early part of the Bill a definition of the word judge, or any definition of court.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—Yes, in the 14th clause it is defined what the judge is to be.

HON. MR. POWER—It does not seem to confine the judge to the officer described in the 14th clause.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—The officer described in the 14th clause is the only one who can be appointed.

HON. MR. POWER—The revising officer might happen to be a justice of the peace and he would be a judge.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—The officer referred to here means the judge referred to in any of the preceding sections.

HON. MR. POWER—It says "A judge of any court," then supposing the Government appoint a man who is simply a magistrate, as a revising barrister.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—That cannot happen. A man who is simply a magistrate cannot be appointed as a revising barrister. He must be a lawyer of five years' standing ; and when he is a barrister of five years' standing there would be an appeal from him. If he is a judge there would be no appeal.

HON. MR. POWER—That appeal might be defeated by appointing some one who is only an inferior judge.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—The kind of judges are pointed out and no other can be appointed.

HON. MR. POWER—In this clause it says "A judge of any court."

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—There are several courts mentioned in the Bill, and when you say a judge of any court, it means a judge of any of those courts mentioned.