

Dominion Elections Act

\$10,000, but it was also considered that this should not necessarily apply to any new appointee. It was thought that the salary should have a limit of \$10,000, but that provision should be made whereby a new appointee could be appointed at a salary ranging between \$8,000 and \$10,000.

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

Sections 3, 4 and 5 agreed to.

On section 6—Qualifications.

Mr. WINTERS: There is an amendment here which I shall ask the Minister of Public Works to move and which reads:

That section 14(2)(i) as set out in section 6 of Bill 198 be deleted.

Mr. FOURNIER (Hull): I so move.

Mr. KNOWLES: Hear, hear.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shall the amendment carry?

Mr. BROWN: I move, seconded by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni:

That section 6 be amended by deleting subsection 2 (f) of section 14 as set out in section 6 of the bill.

The purpose of this amendment—

Mr. MILLER: On a point of order, what happened to the amendment moved a moment ago in connection with section 14 (2) (i)?

Mr. KNOWLES: It carried.

Mr. MILLER: No, it did not.

Mr. PEARKES: I was on my feet to object to it.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): That is right; the hon. member was on his feet.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I did not know the hon. member for Nanaimo wished to speak.

Mr. BROWN: Which amendment are we dealing with?

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are dealing with the amendment moved by the Minister of Public Works.

Mr. PEARKES: Would the minister explain the purpose of that amendment?

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): The purpose is to enable Canadian citizens who are of Japanese race to be eligible to vote.

Mr. PEARKES: Is that irrespective of whether they were eligible to vote in the province in which they were residing?

[Mr. Gibson (Hamilton West).]

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): Yes, that is correct.

Mr. PEARKES: Is there any other case where people are not eligible to vote in a province, but who are being permitted to vote in federal elections?

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): Yes, there are others. For example, there are some who are inmates of charitable institutions.

Mr. PEARKES: Are they not permitted to vote in the provinces?

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): In some provinces they are not permitted to vote.

Mr. SINCLAIR: Also the Doukhobors of British Columbia are covered by subsection 2 (i). I believe those in charitable institutions are covered by another section of the bill.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): Yes.

Mr. SINCLAIR: Does the deletion of subsection 2 (i) mean that henceforth in British Columbia Doukhobors and Japanese will vote in that province in federal elections? Perhaps they would come under paragraph (j)?

Mr. PEARKES: The Doukhobors will be permitted to vote as well.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): No; they come under another section of the act which is not being amended.

Mr. PEARKES: Can the minister explain why? Are the Doukhobors not a race?

Mr. MacINNIS: I will explain the point. They are debarred from voting because they refuse to accept military service. They are exempt from military service because of the order in council under which they came to Canada. The situation is altogether different.

Mr. PEARKES: Are the Quakers debarred for that reason?

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): No; they do not come under this section. The Doukhobors came to this country under a special agreement. I shall read paragraph (j), which is not being repealed. It states:

In any province, every person exempted or entitled to claim exemption or who on production of any certificate might have become or would now be entitled to claim exemption from military service by reason of the order in council of December 6, 1898, because the doctrines of his religion make him averse to bearing arms, and who is by the law of that province disqualified from voting at an election of a member of the legislative assembly of that province.

Amendment (Mr. Fournier, Hull) agreed to.