

at the time of the enumeration, an elector in the polling division acting on such absent person's behalf) may within four days after the posting up by the enumerator of such list, appeal to such Revising Officer by notice in writing stating the facts and mailed to the enumerator and to said Revising Officer respectively. An appeal shall also lie in like manner, and on the like and further notice by registered letter to the person entered on the list, from the entry by the enumerator under authority of this paragraph of the name of such person on such list. The registered letter shall be mailed to the address of the person as appearing on the list, or to his last known address. The Revising Officer shall first sit at such place as he may fix and notify by public advertisement, ten days before polling day. He shall continue in session as Revising Officer until all appeals have been disposed of but in any event for not longer than six days, or, if any one of the five days following his first day's session is a Sunday, he shall arrange to conclude his business as such Revising Officer in five days. He shall make and initial the alterations in the lists of voters, rendered necessary as a result of his decisions, and shall append and sign to each of such lists the following words:—

I certify that the foregoing is a correct list of the voters in polling division No. (or as the case may be) of the electoral district of _____ as revised on appeal by me _____ day of _____, 1917.

this _____
"Revising Officer of the Electoral district of _____ in the province of Nova Scotia.

Four days before polling day the Revising Officer shall deliver or mail by registered letter to each of the candidates in the electoral district a statement of such alterations as he has made in the lists of voters on appeal, and on the same day he shall deliver to the proper returning officer the lists revised on appeals and as well all other lists received by him from the various enumerators, but respecting which no appeals have been asserted, or, if asserted, no changes have been made. The returning officer shall deliver such lists to the proper deputy returning officers forthwith or before six o'clock on the morning of the polling day. All such lists shall be deemed closed and section 62 of this Act shall not apply thereto, or to the persons whose names appear thereon.

Honourable gentlemen will see that under the provisions of paragraph 2 of this draft the provincial lists in Nova Scotia are completely set aside, except that in preparing the lists the enumerator will take the last provincial lists as a basis; but he may strike out names or add to the list as he deems advisable. Therefore the enumerator is entrusted with the duty and is given the power of preparing an entirely new list. The electors of the province will be placed in this position. Under the list as at present prepared, if provision is made for revision, the name of any person who happens to be on the list remains there unless it is attacked and unless it is shown that the name has no right to be there; whereas, if this suggestion were adopted,

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE.

it would result in an entirely new list, and it would be incumbent upon any person whose name was not placed on the list as prepared by the enumerator to claim that his name should be put on the list, and to establish his right to have it there. That would be altogether unfair. It would be putting the whole electorate of the province to the trouble of having a new list made, and of establishing de novo their right to be on the list, instead of merely having to answer to the revision of the list as made, and as it may be amended by the revising judge, if the system as suggested by this side of the House were adopted. In other words, the proposition announced to-day is that the Government shall be allowed to appoint enumerators who shall have the power and the opportunity to stuff the electoral lists as they like, and to give to the other side the opportunity to try, by way of revision, to clean it up as well as they can before the list is finally closed at six o'clock on the morning of the voting day. Honourable gentlemen can understand that it would be quite easy to obstruct the revision of the list to such an extent that it could not be properly revised within five days. The root of the whole difficulty, and the main objection to the suggestion, is that it wipes out the provincial list and provides for the making of an electoral list de novo.

I am asked to explain more clearly the difference between the one plan and the other. I think I have already given a clear explanation; but I will repeat it. Under the plan as suggested by myself and some of my friends, the provincial list will be taken, and it will be open to any elector or any candidate, or to the enumerator himself, to ask a judge to revise the list and to strike out any names which should not have been added to the list, or to add any names which should have been included, and we give ample time for that by allowing the judge to appoint nominees, as was suggested by the other side, so that all facilities might be afforded for the revision. We also consented by way of compromise to allow any person who had no right to vote in April last, or in January last, when the list was made up, but who, between that time and the first of September, became qualified by age or otherwise, to be added to the list. Under the draft as now suggested by the other side, we are asked to consent to a new list being prepared by the enumerator, and when that list has been so prepared, the other party has five days within which to appeal from the list, and to ask either that names be struck