

## PAPER CONTROL BILL.

## FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 180, an Act to provide for the completion, after the declaration of peace, of work begun and the final determination of matters pending before the Commissioner and Controller of Paper and the Paper Control Tribunal, or either of them, at the date of such declaration.

The Bill was read the first time.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said: It will be remembered that under the War Measures Act a Controller and Commissioner was appointed for the purpose of determining many questions of dispute which had arisen chiefly between the many paper manufacturers and the newspaper men of the Dominion. For the purpose of providing for an appeal from the Paper Commissioner and Controller, the Paper Control Tribunal was established. Upon the declaration of peace, the powers of those tribunals will, of course, cease, except so far as they relate to the completion of matters in hand at that time. Naturally there are pending not only many matters before the Commissioner and Controller, but also many appeals from his judgment to the Paper Control Tribunal. The object of the Bill is to provide that those matters may be completed, notwithstanding the declaration of peace.

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

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Does my honourable friend wish to go into committee on the Bill?

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I was going to ask my honourable friend if this does not deal with a large number of other Orders in Council?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Just the Orders in Council affecting this particular subject. I move the third reading of the Bill.

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

## DOMINION BY-ELECTIONS BILL.

## FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 178, an Act to amend the Dominion Elections Act.

The Bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. BLAIN.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said: Honourable gentlemen, this Bill is the product, so to speak, of conferences which took place between both parties in the House of Commons, and with one or two exceptions, may be said to be the result of an agreement between them.

This Bill affects only by-elections. It is not a Franchise Act that will be in force for any other purpose than by-elections which may take place between now and probably the next session of Parliament. It is the intention of the Government, and I understand that it has been so stated, that at the next session of Parliament a general Franchise Bill will be introduced. Should by-elections take place between now and that time, they would necessarily have to take place under the War-time Elections Act if this Bill were not passed. That Act has been subject, I will not say whether justly or unjustly, to more or less criticism; but it does not affect us so seriously as it does the House of Commons, for which we may be devoutly thankful.

This Bill will certainly be more acceptable to those who disagree with the War-time Elections Act than that Act was. This Bill provides very substantial concession to that section of the political public who did not favourably view the War-time Elections Act. It in no way affects for future franchise purposes the views entertained by both political parties; it is an agreement for a particular purpose, namely, the by-elections which may take place between now and the adoption of a Franchise Act. It does not affect the view of either political party as to whether Dominion or provincial lists should be used. Under this Bill the provincial lists will prevail, where available, and where not made up for longer than one year.

Parts 1 and 2 of the present Dominion Elections Act have been repealed, and parts 1 and 2 of this Bill have been substituted. Part 3 of the Act will be in force, with the exception of certain sections which have been repealed.

Schedule B of the Bill makes provision for enumerators in cities and towns. Schedule C makes provision for the enumeration in places other than cities and towns, particularly rural districts. That is to say, the provincial lists which at present obtain, and which are not more than a year old, will be the basis of the new lists; and wherever it is necessary to add to those lists the machinery will be found in schedules B and C.