

the lists would be printed at Ottawa under the supervision of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, and that a compilation of these odd lists or parts of lists, was to be prepared by himself, that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery would be responsible for the legal list for each electoral district. There are cases in my own provinces too where the limits of the local electoral divisions and of those for federal purposes are not coterminous, and, therefore, it will be the duty of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to take from one list and another the necessary number of names to make the list for each electoral district. If the lists for the electoral districts are so prepared by the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery and are printed here as official lists, I do not see the necessity of making a provision for the returning officer to apply elsewhere for legal or proper lists. I think the returning officer should look to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery for the lists, and that he only should be the custodian of the lists of each electoral district. I do not know why there should be any provision to go outside of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Mr. INGRAM. I can quite understand the difficulties you are going to run up against in framing a Bill of this kind. In the city of London, Ontario, they have a system of registration. If the list is not more than twelve months old at the time that list will be in the Printing Bureau, and it will be the legal list for the city of London. Registration applies there, but a portion of the city of London, known as East London, is in the constituency of the hon. member for East Middlesex (Mr. Gilmore). In order to get the list for East Middlesex the returning officer would have to take a portion of the registration list of the city of London, and take from that the portion which belongs to the constituency of East Middlesex. In that case he would have to make an extract from the registration list of London. I have no doubt that cases of that kind will be met in other constituencies which include a portion of a city. Take East York, for instance. St. Matthew's ward, one of the several wards of the city of Toronto, belongs to East York. There is no registration in East York, but so far as the city of Toronto is concerned, registration applies to the whole city. There is another instance where you will have to take these extracts from this portion of Toronto and add them to the list for East York. The same applies in West York. All these difficulties have to be contended with. I say that it is much more difficult to frame this Election Act in view of the provisions of the Franchise Act. These are some of the difficulties we will have to contend with in the province of Ontario.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL. My hon. friend (Mr. Ingram) must not overlook the

fact that this is nothing new in legislation. The hon. gentleman would appear to be under the impression that we are dealing with a novelty that never was dreamt of before in Canada. As a fact, we are dealing with a condition of things that existed from confederation up until 1885.

Mr. INGRAM. No. We never had a system of registration in any portion of the Dominion of Canada until quite recently in the province of Ontario, and, therefore, the hon. gentleman's argument does not apply.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL. I am dealing with the question of the overlapping of constituencies as between the federal and the local, and I am also dealing with the question of provincial voters' lists. We had the provincial voters' lists in the Dominion elections from 1867 to 1885, and we had the overlapping of constituencies as we have them now. The only difficulty I can see is that suggested with reference to these migratory votes in the province of Ontario, a voter having to be a resident of the constituency in which he has a right to vote at the time of the election. That is a real difficulty, and one I think we will have to deal with. In view of the real difficulties, I do not see why we should be conjuring up imaginary ones.

Mr. E. F. CLARKE (West Toronto). Two sessions ago, the Solicitor General promised to inquire about the matter, and he promised to ask the provincial authorities to help him out of the difficulty.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). There is a difficulty in sections 21 and 22. Under section 21, the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery shall furnish a sufficient number of copies of the voters' lists. I suppose the draftsman had in mind the fact that the certified copy forwarded by the provincial officer to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery is to be the original list for Dominion purposes. Therefore, he took section 124 of the Election Act, chapter 8, Revised Statutes of Canada, and he added this particular provision to it which does not exist in that section as it stands in the Revised Statutes. The Solicitor General will see that section 124, from which this is taken, did not provide for forwarding copies of the voters' lists at all.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL. Because he was not the custodian.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). Yes. Then, in 1897 the Solicitor General amended section 13 of chapter 8, Revised Statutes of Canada, providing that the returning officer should, on receiving the writ of election, obtain from the revising officers the electoral lists. You see the difficulty is that you have added to section 124 a provision that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery shall provide voters' lists; the Franchise Act