

may appoint deputies and other officers as he sees fit. The Bowser Act ignores the paymaster of the Canadian forces, the regimental paymasters and commanding officers, and the whole military organization. The federal Act surrounds the election proceedings with the safeguards of military precision and discipline and its proper administration is guaranteed at every point by a Canadian officer's honor. The Bowser Act throws the whole conduct of the elections into the hands of partisan appointees to be selected by Sir Richard McBride or Mr. Bowser. What this means has been amply evidenced by the first prime selection, that of Mr. F. W. Welsh, snatched from a serious investigation as a brand from the burning.

Under the federal Act the volunteer is entitled to vote in the electoral district in which he last resided for thirty days, with the important proviso that if at the time he enlisted he was qualified to vote in any other electoral district he shall vote in that district only.

Under the Bowser Act he may vote in the electoral district in which he was last resident for thirty days without the proviso. He need not vote on the list on which he was enrolled as an elector. A thirty days' residence somewhere is the only determining factor. The check afforded by the election lists is entirely done away with. Thirty days' residence in an electoral district may be construed to mean thirty days under canvas in Vancouver, Victoria, Vernon, Sidney or Anyox, or thirty days' residence in the volunteer's home district, according as Mr. Bowser with the able assistance of Mr. Welsh and his horde of partisan deputies and officials choose to construe the Act. They can throw the vote as they like.

Under the federal Act scrutineers for all parties interested may be present at the distribution of ballot papers and envelopes, the making of affidavits, the marking of ballots, the closing of envelopes and the posting of the same, and may exercise all the rights which may under the Domin-

ion Elections Act be exercised by candidates or their representatives at any poll. At every stage of the proceedings from the opening of the ballot boxes till the final count a complete scrutiny is provided for.

Under the Bowser Act candidates, agents and scrutineers are excluded from every poll. Only one scrutineer for the United Kingdom is allowed for all the opposition candidates, and he is permitted to appoint one deputy, but they are excluded at every stage except "on the opening of bags and receptacles" and "the counting of the ballots." They are permitted to oversee the results of the six weeks' secret effort of Mr. Welsh and his corps of partisan colleagues. They are allowed to inspect the ruins after the house is burned.

Under the federal Act each commanding officer is empowered to take the votes of the men under his command, which will be done at the camp where his company or unit is stationed.

Under the Bowser Act Mr. Welsh and his assistants are required to give notice of the time and place of holding a poll, but it can be held anywhere. Only in Canada or Bermuda must the poll be held at each military camp or base. Under this provision full opportunity is afforded for every species of skulduggery owing to the absence of military surveillance. Operators of the Frank Slavin ex-prize fighter type should be of great assistance to Mr. Welsh.

Under the federal Act all scrutineers for all parties are paid out of the Dominion treasury.

Under the Bowser Act it is especially provided that no scrutineer shall be paid. The one representative for the opposition in the United Kingdom must go there and remain the rest of the summer at his own expense, or stay away.

Mr. Bowser has complained that it is an insult to state that his Act has been drawn for the purpose of facilitating manipulation of the soldiers' votes. Why, then, have all the safeguards provided by Sir Robert Borden and his government been carefully