

N. B. MEMBERS SPEAK ON THE ELECTIONS ACT

Mr. Caldwell Not Satisfied With Law and Says Threats Made in His Constituency—Baxter and Harrison Give Opinions.

Ottawa, June 12—When a bill to amend the Dominion Elections Act was before the house in committee today, amendments in reference to residence qualifications were declared by R. M. Johnson (Progressive, Moose Jaw) to be too indefinite and he wanted to know whether a man who had moved his residence was entitled to vote in his present or his previous constituency.

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter suggested a man should be entitled to vote in the constituency in which he had previously qualified. There might be some issue of certificates of identification.

Hon. Hugh Guthrie suggested an amendment which would qualify an elector who had moved from one constituency to another to cast his vote in the constituency where he had first resided. His suggestion was adopted.

N. B. Members Speak.

T. W. Caldwell (Progressive, Carleton-Victoria) strongly supported the proposal. He declared that there were lumbermen, mill employes and others in his constituency who if they voted "right" were given a holiday on election day, but if not they were dismissed.

R. E. Hanson (Conservative, York-Sunbury) thought such a statement was a serious reflection on the men of New Brunswick and a grave injustice to the men of Mr. Caldwell's constituency. He



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was against holidays on election day because no person wanted them, he believed.

E. M. Macdonald (Liberal, Pictou) supported the amendment, saying that election day was sufficiently important to be a holiday.

Premier King said the government had no intention of opening up the whole Dominion elections act for discussion at present.

T. W. Caldwell introduced another amendment declaring that when any new polls were established, they should be established at least two months before polling day. He said that during the last election, six new polls were established in his constituency two weeks before the election. He had the greatest difficulty in getting the lists to be used at these polls and found it necessary to threaten legal action before obtaining them.

Premier King repeated that this amendment would be in order when the act was being gone over. There was no doubt that the Dominion elections act would require amending, possibly in several respects.

Mr. Caldwell agreed to withdraw his amendment on the understanding that there would be opportunity given for introducing it when the elections act was under discussion.

The bill was given third reading.

BREACHES IN THE FISHERIES LAWS ARE CONSIDERED

Hants Member Hits at Certain Nova Scotia Magistrates—Burden of Proof on Defendant—Caldwell Protests Also.

Ottawa, June 12—Upon whom should rest the onus of proof in breaches of fisheries regulations aroused some discussion in the house today when amendments to the fisheries act were under consideration. Hon. Ernest Lapointe, minister, explained that the amendments are to ratify regulations already existing. They aimed to give control, by legislation of fisheries both inside and outside territorial waters. A challenge of the government's authority in respect to extra territorial waters was being made by certain fishermen and the justice department recommended that this legislation should be passed.

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter objected to a subsection which provided that the onus of proof under the act, should rest on the defendant.

It was too much to ask of any one that he prove his absolute innocence to the satisfaction of some magistrates. If a man were going before a judge and jury he might be able to prove a satisfactory case for acquittal, but some magistrates appeared to take the stand that once a man was charged with an offence, he was undoubtedly guilty.

Martell Says Magistrates Unfit.

L. H. Martell (Liberal, Hants) said he blushed to say that there were in Nova Scotia many magistrates who were unfit to try a case. It was going too far to place the burden of proof upon

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acre, \$72,719; garage, \$50,000; twenty-three lots and accessory and personality of the plant, \$2,340,000. Originally the property was disposed of in separate parcels, but it was announced that the sale would be continued on the whole tract in bulk, the higher price to constitute the deal. The total amount offered on the separate bids was \$2,000, and Mr. Day himself had given a lump bid of \$3,000,000 for it.

PRESBYTERIANS WILL MEET IN PORT ARTHUR

Winnipeg, June 12—The 1923 general assembly of the Presbyterian church will meet in Knox church, Port Arthur (Ont.), it was decided at the general assembly here this afternoon. An invitation was also extended from Knox church, Montreal, but the commissioners decided in favor of Port Arthur and the assembly will meet there at the time of the St. Paul's fiftieth anniversary celebration.

A strong attack by Rev. C. B. Picher, of Hagersville (Ont.) on the minimum stipend of \$1,800 and manse commended to self-supporting congregations by last year's assembly, featured this morning's session. Mr. Picher explained that he was making a personal overture because the Presbytery of Hamilton, to which he belonged, refused to endorse his views.

The home missions board, which dealt with this matter, brought in a recommendation this morning that the assembly give permission to the board to give grants to aid-receiving churches on the basis of the new minimum from Oct. 1, provided that in the judgment of the board the action would be warranted by crop and financial conditions and by the visitations of ministers.

Dr. McKinnon's Report.

In presenting the report, Dr. M. A. McKinnon, of Regina, said that 414 self-supporting congregations, formerly below the new minimum, had raised the stipend to \$1,800 and 170 were still to be heard from. He regretted that owing to the deficit of \$129,000 in home missions, the board had found it impossible to pay the new minimum to aid-receiving churches from Jan. 1, 1922, as recommended.

The board contended, Dr. McKinnon said, that \$1,800 and manse was still too small a stipend for ministers, who should also be in the position to carry insurance.

"If the men in the central offices of the Presbyterian church in Toronto will not set us an example in economy, it is up to us rural ministers to set it as soon as possible," Mr. Picher declared in opposing the board's recommendation. He said the leaders in the church union movement were using the minimum stipend question as a means of coercing the weaker congregations into church union. If a rural minister could not live on \$1,800 with a manse that minister and his wife should take one of the courses of domestic science at the agricultural colleges.

Rev. James Taylor, of Braside, Ont., also opposed the recommendation of the board. He forecast that the stipend in the home missions budget would be increased this year.

Mr. Taylor moved an amendment to the board's recommendation that the assembly scale itself down to the 1919 stipend of \$1,500 and manse, believing that last year's decision was reached in consideration only of the man of wealth and not with regard to the man of poverty, to whom the church was chiefly ministering.

The debate was adjourned, and probably will be resumed tomorrow.

SCHOLARSHIP FOR HEALTH NURSES. The establishment of a Women's Institute scholarship for public health nurses in New Brunswick was discussed at the annual meeting of the St. John Women's Institute held yesterday afternoon in the Natural History Society rooms. The matter was considered after Miss H. T. Meiklejohn had given an interesting address on general health subjects, in which she dealt with the work being undertaken in New Brunswick. While no action was taken, the meeting was in favor of the scheme, and it will be considered again later.

Reports were received from the various committees as well as the annual report of the secretary, Mrs. John Owens, and the treasurer, Mrs. R. J. Hooper. The president, Mrs. J. V. Lawlor, occupied the chair. Several papers were read, among them being one entitled "In His Time" by Mrs. Hooper. The institute is whole-heartedly behind

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a movement to encourage the growing of flowers in New Brunswick and to educate the people to the fact that many flowers, thought to be impossible of cultivation in this province, really flourish here. The election of officers resulted as follows—President, Mrs. T. N. Vincent; vice-presidents, first, Mrs. J. D. Sealey; second, Mrs. Frank Rowe; secretary, Mrs. A. J. Mulcahy; treasurer, Mrs. R. J. Hooper; additional members of the directorate, Miss H. E. Meiklejohn, Mrs. M. McGrath, Mrs. J. N. Taylor, Mrs. A. E. Wilson, Mrs. Kenneth Haley and Mrs. Arthur W. Adams; auditor, Miss Sharkey; delegates to the W. I. convention at Fredericton on Tuesday, Mrs. J. E. Owens. Other members who will attend the convention are Mrs. J. W. V. Lawlor, Mrs. R. J. Hooper, Mrs. Vincent and Mrs. Harold Lawrence. A vote of appreciation was extended to the retiring president, Mrs. Lawlor, on the motion of Mrs. Hooper, seconded by Mrs. Lawrence.

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