

Resolved,—That the Committee recommend that provision be made, either by amendment to The Dominion Elections Act, 1938, or otherwise, that every person who, while on Active Service with the Naval, Military or Air Forces of Canada, became a prisoner of war and is officially recorded as such at Headquarters, shall be entitled to vote by proxy, on a special certificate issued by the Chief Electoral Officer. Such certificate shall be issued not earlier than two weeks before polling day to the person officially recorded as such at Headquarters as the next of kin of such prisoner of war, provided such next of kin is qualified to vote as a civilian elector in the electoral district in which the prisoner of war ordinarily resided prior to his enlistment.

Discussion followed as to the practicability of distributing manifestos of the various political parties to war service electors stationed outside Canada.

At 12 o'clock noon the Committee adjourned until Wednesday, April 26, at 11 o'clock a.m.

WEDNESDAY, April 26, 1944.

The Special Committee on The Dominion Elections Act, 1938, met at 11 o'clock a.m., the Chairman, Mr. Factor, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Blanchette, Factor, Fair, Gillis, Green, Isnor, MacKenzie (*Neepawa*), MacNicol, McCuaig, McLarty, McNiven, Sinclair.

In attendance: Mr. Harry Butcher, K.C., Counsel to the Committee; Mr. Jules Castonguay, Chief Electoral Officer; Mr. Donald Stewart, Assistant Chief Electoral Officer.

On motion of Mr. Isnor, the proposed *Canadian War Service Voting Regulations, 1944*, as amended, were approved.

The Chairman presented a draft of a final report to the House and the Committee proceeded to consideration thereof.

By unanimous consent, the question of proxy voting by prisoners of war was re-opened for further consideration, and Mr. Sinclair moved that the resolution passed at the meeting of April 25 be amended to read as follows:—

That the Committee recommend that provision be made, either by amendment to The Dominion Elections Act, 1938, or otherwise, that every person who, while on Active Service with the Naval, Military or Air Forces of Canada, became a prisoner of war and is officially recorded as such at Headquarters, shall be entitled to vote by proxy, on a special certificate issued by the Chief Electoral Officer. Such certificate shall be issued not earlier than two weeks before polling day to the person officially recorded at Headquarters as the next of kin of such prisoner of war, provided such next of kin is qualified to vote as a civilian elector. After discussion, motion passed in the affirmative.

The report having been considered and amended, it was adopted unanimously. Discussion followed regarding distribution of political manifestos to war service electors overseas.

At 12.46 o'clock p.m. the Committee adjourned *sine die*.

A. L. BURGESS,
Clerk of the Committee.