

midnight preceding. The prohibition should start with the commencement of the polling day.

Mr. GUTHRIE: That was always the law; for the whole twenty-four hours of election day the sale of liquor was prohibited.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: What is the advantage of adding the words "whether or not intoxicating" or the words "before, during or after"? If the prohibition is to apply during the whole of polling day these words are unnecessary; and if you retain the words "whether or not intoxicating," you would prohibit the use of ginger beer.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I move that subsection 5 be struck out, and the following be substituted therefor:

No spirituous or fermented liquors or strong drinks shall be sold or given at any hotel, tavern, shop or other place within the limits of any polling division during the whole of the polling day at any election.

Mr. MORPHY: I repeat the objection I raised to the clause as it stood before, and I would ask the minister to insert before the word "place" the word "public," or to adopt some other language that will safeguard the liberty of a man's home.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I think we should adopt the section as amended.

Amendment agreed to and section as amended agreed to.

On section 66—counting and reporting the vote:

Mr. GUTHRIE: There are some clerical errors in that clause. On page 47, line 3, the word "defaced" appears. Throughout the other sections the word "spoiled" is used. I beg to move:

That clause 66 be amended by striking out the word "defaced" in line 28, and substitute the word "spoiled."

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. GUTHRIE: On page 48, subsection 7 it says: "This large envelope shall be sealed." I beg to move:

That the word "then" be inserted after the word "shall" in the 51st line, page 48.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Subsections 8 and 9 are new, and with that exception this is practically a repetition of the old Act?

Mr. GUTHRIE: Yes.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Subsections 8 and 9 are good subsections.

Mr. GUTHRIE: There is little change in the language but it is really a consolidation of the old sections.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: There is some qualification about Prince Edward Island.

Mr. GUTHRIE: That is omitted from this section.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. MORPHY: In subsection 8 it is provided that the ballot box shall "be carried free in the Canadian mails as registered matter." It occurred to me that under the regulations that might involve the delay of a day unless the words were added "by special delivery." Under the regulations with reference to registered matter you practically lose a day because notice is given on one day and the parcel is sent the next.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I like the old section.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: There is just one point in connection with the suggestion that the hon. member (Mr. Morphy) has made. The provision about the ballot box being carried as registered matter seems to have been put in for the purpose of safety and security in delivery. If you introduce the words "special delivery" it will take the ballot box out of the hands of those persons specially entrusted with registered matter and put it in the hands of messengers who are simply handling special delivery matter.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I think if it goes by registered mail it would be satisfactory. I believe that we can expect the Post Office Department to deliver the boxes with reasonable speed.

Mr. J. M. DOUGLAS: Subsection 1 of section 66 provides that the ballots shall be counted in the presence of at least three electors. Is that a provision that has always been in effect under the old law?

Mr. GUTHRIE: It has been in effect for a long time.

Mr. J. M. DOUGLAS: It has not been carried out.

Mr. GUTHRIE: As a rule there have been more than that present where I live.

Mr. J. M. DOUGLAS: In a rural district there may not be that number in a poll.

Section as amended agreed to.