

plunged ourselves into all sorts of difficulties and inconsistencies. The only reason given for introducing this measure in the other House was that it was desirable that we should have a uniform franchise, but nature, and the circumstances, and the prejudices of the people of the different provinces are too strong, and it is impossible to have the desired uniform franchise. I think the better way to avoid those absurdities, as we are going to have a general franchise, would be to put the Indian in the same position as the white man.

HON. MR. PLUMB—That is what we are trying to do.

HON. MR. POWER—I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon, it is not so.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—That is what this clause was put in for.

HON. MR. POWER—The Consolidated Indian Act which we passed last year provides that under certain circumstances Indians can become enfranchised. I think that every facility ought to be offered to intelligent and industrious Indians to become enfranchised—to get from under the control of the Indian Office—and then every Indian who is qualified in the same way as the white man is qualified should have a right to vote, and I think that is the only logical and fair way to put it—make no distinction of race at all.

HON. MR. PLUMB—I see there is a discrepancy between the hon. gentleman and his leader.

The clause was adopted.

On the 13th clause,

HON. MR. POWER—I give notice that I will move an amendment to that clause. This officer should not prepare the list. The same person should not prepare and revise. The name that you give the officer is a misnomer. You call him a revising barrister when he is not a revising barrister: he is a list maker

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—That is only the first list.

HON. MR. POWER.

HON. MR. POWER—I am calling attention to that. I think the proper way would have been to let the municipal officers make up the list in the first place, and let the revising barrister do what the revising barrister in England does—revise the list made up by the local authorities. As the clause is going through committee I wish to call attention to it, and say that that is one of the clauses to which I think an amendment should be moved at the third reading. I think the Minister himself must feel that the proper way would be to let the local officers make the lists.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—No, I do not agree with the hon. gentleman at all, but I will reserve my explanation until the third reading.

HON. MR. POWER—It would not take so long to discuss it now.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I will undertake not to be so long as the hon. gentleman generally is.

HON. MR. POWER—The course adopted in the other House was to discuss these matters in committee and to put the amendments and votes on record at the third reading.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I think a better suggestion is the one made by the hon. member from Ottawa—that the discussion should take place on the third reading when the amendments are moved.

The clause was adopted.

On the 14th clause,

HON. MR. TRUDEL—I would suggest that after the provision concerning the Province of Quebec—that either a judge of the Superior Court, an advocate or a notary of the province shall act—the Minister should add the names of judges of the sessions, of the peace, recorders and stipendiary magistrates. I have received a letter from a gentleman well versed in these matters, and he agrees with my suggestion. I think it should be taken into consideration.