

the thirtieth day of June, 1948." That was the only amendment proposed by the parliamentary committee.

Mr. PEARKES: On what page was that?

Mr. GREGG: On the last page.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order. We had better wait until we come to that point.

Mr. GREGG: Yes, we will come to that. It is the last line of the section.

Section agreed to.

Sections 2 to 5 inclusive agreed to.

On section 6—Persons deemed to be discharged as of September 30, 1947.

Mr. GREGG: This is the section to which I referred. I would ask my colleague the Secretary of State to move that, in the last line on page 5, "June" be substituted for "September" and "forty-eight" be substituted for "forty-seven."

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): I move accordingly.

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

DOMINION ELECTIONS ACT

PROVISION FOR INCREASE IN SALARY OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Hon. COLIN GIBSON (Secretary of State) moved that the house go into committee on Bill No. 198, to amend the Dominion Elections Act.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Golding in the chair.

On section 1—Fishermen.

Mr. SKEY: I should like to bring a matter to the minister's attention, mainly with the idea of getting his advice. This is a problem which we have met with from time to time in large centres. I think it would be better if I described the situation rather than put a question to the minister. It is possible for a home owner on enumeration to register a considerable number of people who may be casual visitors but who are not necessarily residents in that particular place.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): I do not think that would come under section 1.

Mr. SKEY: Is this not a general section?

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): This section amends certain sections of the elections act.

Mr. SKEY: Would the minister tell me if there is any section under which I can bring this matter up?

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): It should have been referred to on the second reading of the bill.

Section agreed to.

On section 2—Tenure of office, salary, rank, and powers of chief electoral officer.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): There is an amendment to section 2 which I will ask the Minister of Public Works to move. This was suggested by the committee that considered this bill, and it deals with the appointment and remuneration of the chief electoral officer.

Mr. FOURNIER (Hull): I move:

2. (1) Subsection one of section four of the said act is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

"4. (1) The chief electoral officer shall rank as and have all the powers of a deputy head of a department, communicate with the governor in council through the Secretary of State of Canada, devote himself exclusively to the performance of the duties of his office and be paid a salary of not less than eight nor more than ten thousand dollars per annum to be fixed by order of the governor in council. He shall be eligible as a contributor under and entitled to all the benefits of the Civil Service Superannuation Act but, until he has attained the age of sixty-five years when he shall be compulsorily retired, he shall be removable only for cause in the same manner as a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada.

(2) Subsection one of this section, and subsection one of section four of the said act as enacted by subsection one of this section, shall become operative only upon the retirement of the person who is chief electoral officer at the date of the coming into force of this act.

(3) The person who is chief electoral officer at the date of the coming into force of this act, shall be paid a salary of ten thousand dollars, per annum as from the first day of July, nineteen hundred and forty-seven."

Mr. DIFENBAKER: It is difficult to follow an amendment when one has not it before him. There was some reference to a salary of between \$8,000 and \$10,000 to be fixed by the governor in council. Would the minister explain the reason for that and tell me in what other legislation is there a provision analogous to that, whereby the fixing of the amount rests with the governor in council?

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton West): The salary of the chief electoral officer was set in the act that is being amended at \$8,000. The present incumbent has been there for many years and has given valuable service. It was felt that his remuneration should be increased to