

district can therefrom be ascertained, he shall be deemed an elector of the electoral district so stated or to be ascertained.

Suppose that military elector, either in error, or deliberately for political purposes, declares that he had resided during those four months in my constituency, when really he had resided in the constituency of my hon. friend. Suppose that fifty or a hundred electors make the same mistake, either intentionally or deliberately, could the election be contested on that ground?

Mr. DOHERTY: We should have to rely on the strength of their affidavits, for the information on which they are entitled to vote. If I am not mistaken, that is the system in Alberta and Saskatchewan to-day.

Mr. DESCARRIES: Suppose he makes a false affidavit?

Mr. DOHERTY: The ballot would have to be counted for the time being, just as in Canada, when a man makes a false oath, his ballot is deposited in the box, and not being susceptible of indentification, is no doubt counted. I presume that upon a contestation of an election, if it could be shown that a number of votes wrongfully designating an electoral constituency had been polled sufficient to effect the result in a particular constituency, that might be a proper ground for contestation. To-day, of course, a man who has no vote at all, if he commits perjury and swears to his right to vote, will get a vote, and his ballot will be deposited in the box and counted. To find a practical remedy is pretty difficult. Similarly, if under this Act, a man swore that he resided in one place, when he resided in another, I do not think it would be possible to control that at the time of voting. In this election, just as in the elections in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, we shall have to rely for this information on the truthfulness of the soldier when put upon his oath.

Mr. DESCARRIES: Is there any provision in the law that would cover such a case?

Mr. DOHERTY: I will look into it.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I was going to move that this clause be amended by striking out the words "whether or not." If this amendment was agreed to the clause would read "military elector" means and includes every person male or female, who, being a British subject, ordinarily resident in Canada." I understand, however, that the minister is not quite sure whether my hon. friend

[Mr. Descaries.]

from St. James is correct in saying that the result of this section would be that the moment the proclamation issued under the Military Service Act every young man in Canada would ipso facto become a military elector, and be entitled to vote. I think a little reflection will convince the minister that my hon. friend is right.

Mr. DOHERTY: I am inclined to think he is.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Under the Military Service Act the Governor in Council issues a proclamation calling out—that is the word used—all the single men in Canada between certain ages. The effect of this clause would be to make every young man of twenty years of age a military elector, and give him the right to vote. As the minister is inclined to agree with that view, perhaps this clause might stand.

Mr. NESBITT: One branch in which some Canadians have enlisted is not included in the Bill, and that is the Royal Kite Balloon Branch. If you are going to include all branches of the service, you had better include that branch with the others.

Mr. DOHERTY: I should be sorry to omit any.

Mr. NESBITT: That is a branch of the service which some Canadians joined when they went across the water.

Mr. ARTHURS: It is included in the Air Service.

Mr. SINCLAIR: It has been suggested by some gentlemen during the course of the discussion that the Fisheries Protection Service is connected, departmentally speaking, with the Royal Canadian Navy. A large number of these boats are engaged, in that service, along the coast, quite a number of men being employed. A number of the men so employed are under the age of 21 years. I am not objecting to their votes being taken, if it is a proper thing to do. However, I should like to know from the minister if it is his intention to give votes under this legislation to men who are not engaged actually in the war, but who are employed upon these fisheries protection boats along the coast?

Mr. DOHERTY: I do not think they would come under any of these designations. There is the Fisheries Protection Service, and there is the Royal Canadian Navy, which, I understand, is a separate service. I understand, however, from the