

is to be used; the provision is so worded in order that it may not be necessary frequently to go into a detailed description of the receptacle. I understand—I shall look into that—that the general requirements read by the member for Halifax apply to this box; we are making no exception in regard to the provisions of the Dominion Act which in themselves do not call for a specific kind of tin box. But when we come to deal with the manner in which the presiding officer shall deal with the ballot; with the question of where he is to put it and how he is to secure the receptacle so that it may not be tampered with and so that it may be identified as being the receptacle that he sent out, I shall be glad to consider whether we ought to go into more absolute detail with regard to the form of the receptacle. For the present, perhaps the section had better stand; we shall clear this up accordingly as the committee may be satisfied with the present requirements or may think that they are susceptible of improvement.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I think that any particular provisions of the Dominion Elections Act must be specifically incorporated in this Act before they would apply. I make that suggestion so that the minister may have it in mind in connection with the definition of ballot box.

Mr. SINCLAIR: The present Dominion Elections Act consists of over 300 sections; it is divided into three parts. When this Act becomes law, how much of the Dominion Elections Act will apply to the taking of the soldiers' votes? For instance, in taking the ballots at election, agents representing the candidates interested are present in the polling booths. It is not regarded as legal or proper to take a vote unless representatives of each candidate are present. Under this legislation, will it be in order for an officer who has charge of the ballot box or bag to take a soldier's vote in the absence of the agent appointed to represent any particular candidate?

Mr. DOHERTY: We would get on better if we dealt with the sections as they present themselves. It is in connection with the sections providing the method of representation of candidates or parties at the taking of the vote that this question would most naturally arise. However, the provisions made in this Act in that respect are substantially the same as those contained in the present Soldiers' Voting Act. If we are to enable the soldiers' votes to be taken in a practical way, it is not pos-

sible to make it imperative that no soldier shall vote unless a representative of each candidate, or a representative of each political party is present. But, just as the old Act did, this Act does provide for the appointment of persons who are designated as scrutineers. Six of these scrutineers are to be appointed by the Governor in Council—that is the provision of the existing law—three on the nomination of the leader of the Opposition and three on the nomination of the leader of the Government. These three scrutineers are to have the liberty of appointing as many deputy scrutineers as they think will be useful to them. Each deputy scrutineer will have all the powers of a scrutineer on this side of the Atlantic. It is made the duty of the officers taking the vote or holding the polls to give public notice, so far as possible, of the time and the place when they propose to hold the poll and to give special notice, so far as possible, to scrutineers of whose names they may have been notified. It is the duty of everybody in connection with the taking of this vote to do everything that conditions will make possible to afford opportunity of representation of the respective parties at the taking of vote. I do not think that it is suggested as practicable that we should require the presence of a representative for each of the 468 candidates because, if we have contests in the 234 constituencies, that is what you would need to have. I do not think that is practicable. But we have preserved in this Act the provision contained in regard to scrutineers in the present law upon the subject. My impression is that this method came as a suggestion from some hon. gentleman on the other side of the House and that at the time, if my memory serves me, it was looked upon as being as complete a provision for the representation of the parties as we could make under the conditions. If it can be improved upon, without preventing the soldier giving his vote, I shall certainly be happy to consider any suggestion that may be made.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: That clause stands?

Mr. DOHERTY: The subclause stands.

Subclause allowed to stand.

On section 2—camp:

"Camp" means and includes base, barracks, rest station, ship, dockyard, hospital or other place whereat or whereon any military or naval unit or other body of military electors, as defined by this Part, is assembled under a