

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Quebec city?—A. There they have a registrar, a deputy registrar, a sheriff and a deputy sheriff.

Q. You might find a sufficient number of officials to carry on these duties in each of the thirteen seats you mentioned?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Lapierre:*

Q. What would you do in the event of a sheriff refusing to act?—A. Use the deputy sheriff.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. It is your suggestion with regard to the choice of the election officers that there should be a permanent list from which they should be chosen.—A. They should be chosen from the provincial officers.

*By Mr. Hanson:*

Q. Who will make the appointment?—A. Well, that is a fundamental question.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. You would not take the responsibility of saying they should be taken in the order of seniority?—A. No.

*By Mr. Hanson:*

Q. Do you think any political party in power which is going to the country would ever consent to some officer such as yourself naming the returning officers?

The CHAIRMAN: If it is in the statute they would have to.

Mr. HANSON: I do not think they would ever agree to it.

*By Mr. Kellner:*

Q. We were discussing the same point last year. I noticed you were asked about it and I see that your answer was that you would like to give the matter some further thought. Have you given it any further thought?—A. That is in connection with the returning officers in cities like Montreal and Toronto? I have not given that any further thought.

Q. You have no amendment to offer now?—A. No sir.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Are you prepared to give us an amendment to the Act which would embody your proposals?—A. At the next sitting yes.

*By Mr. Hanson:*

Q. I would like to know at the next sitting how many of the returning officers out of the 241 constituencies were sheriffs, at the election of 1926.

*By Mr. Lapierre:*

Q. What is your objection to the system at the present time?—A. My suggestion was made last year. I was asked what remedy I had to offer for the situation at Athabaska, and I stated at that time that if a provincial officer had been acting as a returning officer for that district those happenings would not have taken place. You know what took place in Athabaska in 1925? I believe it would be advantageous to adopt my suggestion.

*By Mr. Ladner:*

Q. What number of returning officers have made complaints to the Chief Electoral Officer with respect to their dues for their work under the Act?

Mr. HANSON: You are speaking of the remuneration?

[Mr. Jules Castonguay.]