

haps without a thorough appreciation of the faults which it contained. But he suggested before recess that he approves of this Bill, approves of this extraordinary and iniquitous provision in it—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I do not hesitate to use the word iniquitous. When I find the minister approves of this iniquitous provision, I find it difficult to acquit him of the intention of deliberately introducing a Bill, the provisions of which can be utilized to over-rule the will of the Canadian boys at the front, over-rule the will of the Canadian people, and enable those constituencies in this country where the vote may be deemed to be close to be stolen by means of the non-resident vote.

Mr. DAVIDSON: The hon. member for St. John has said that he was very sorry to make the remarks he did.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Very sorry to be obliged to make them.

Mr. DAVIDSON: I think the obvious reply to that is the question, why, then, did he make the remarks? If they caused sorrow to him, I am quite sure they did not cause pleasure to anybody else in this House, and as we all want to get along in this world with the least possible suffering, I think it would have been better for him not to say those things which were likely to produce sorrow.

Mr. PUGSLEY: When I am brought face to face with something of a horrible character I must speak out.

Mr. DAVIDSON: Before six o'clock, I expressed my view as to the law in Nova Scotia relating to elections. I think my interpretation of those provisions was inclined to be challenged by hon. gentlemen opposite, and for that reason I have fortified myself with the statutes. I would direct the attention of the committee to clause 6 of the Dominion Elections Act, which reads:

For the purposes of any Dominion election held within the limits of a province, the voters' lists shall, except as herein otherwise provided, be those prepared for the several polling divisions established, and which, on the sixtieth day next preceding the day fixed for the nomination of candidates for such Dominion election, were in force, or were last in force, under the laws of that province, for the purposes of provincial elections.

By the Dominion Elections Act, the lists in the province of Nova Scotia which were to be used were the lists of electors for the provincial elections of that province. To

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find out what is the list used in the province of Nova Scotia for provincial purposes I would direct the committee to section 48, of chapter 5, of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, which reads:

Subject to the provisions hereinafter contained, all male persons whose names are registered on the lists of voters for polling districts in any county, in force under the provisions of the "Nova Scotia Franchise Act," on the day of the polling at any election for any county, shall be entitled to vote at any such election for such county, and no other persons shall be entitled to vote thereat.

The Nova Scotia Elections Act says that the list to be used shall be the list prepared under the provisions of the Nova Scotia Franchise Act, and the Nova Scotia Franchise Act defines what persons shall be entitled to vote. Section 3, of chapter 4 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia reads as follows:

Every person shall be entitled to be registered in any year upon the list of voters for the proper polling district of any county, if such person—

(1) Is of the full age of twenty-one years, and is not by this chapter or by any law of the province of Nova Scotia disqualified or prevented from voting; and has not since the last revision of the lists of voters received aid as a pauper under any law of the province of Nova Scotia, and

(2) Is a male British subject by birth or naturalization, and

(3) Either

(a) Was, at the time of the last assessment, assessed in respect of real property to the value of one hundred and fifty dollars, or, in respect of personal property, or of personal and real property together, to the value of three hundred dollars, or

(b) Was, at the time of the last assessment, in possession of real or personal, or of real and personal property together, of the respective values hereinbefore mentioned, but was by law exempt from taxation, or

(c) Was, at the time of the last assessment, the owner of real property of the value of one hundred and fifty dollars, or of real and personal property together of the value of three hundred dollars, and his name was omitted from the assessors' return or appears therein with an assessment less in amount than the sum requisite for qualification.

By the provisions of the Nova Scotia Elections Act the list to be used for a provincial election shall be the list prepared under the provisions of the Nova Scotia Franchise Act.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I think the member for Annapolis was right in the contention that he made before six o'clock; that British citizenship plus real estate would entitle such a man to vote. But in the case of personal property and income qualification, residence in the province is necessary.