

that principle is going to injure or benefit us, why this amendment should not be agreed to.

As I have said before, I think all the gentlemen who appeared at the meeting of the committee and took part in it acted fairly, displayed no heat, and appeared to be anxious to arrive at a fair solution of this problem. I think that we have the opinion of the law officers of the Crown that this is the only practicable way to work out the problem—that, if we adopt that memorandum as it is, we shall have confusion worse confounded, we shall perhaps have the elections in the province of Nova Scotia contested, we shall have trouble. I cannot see how either side can be in any way prejudiced by adopting the proposed amendment.

The honourable member for De Salaberry has said that they have only five days in which to appeal from this stuffed list. I think the honourable gentleman is quite in error—and sincerely in error. The judge on the appeal has to sit for five days. You may prepare your appeal, and surely, when there is a judge for every electoral division, you can dispose of the appeals in five days. A great deal of talking can be done in that time.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: Electoral division or polling division?

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STANTON: In the electoral division. But if you want to change the time I do not see why we should not do so. Divide the time that we now have on election day, and work it out so that there can be no doubt that sufficient time will be given to everybody, and there will be no snap judgment; everybody will be on the same basis. Let me point out, too, that if the list is to go before the county judge, before whom the honourable member for De Salaberry wants it to go in its present form, what is to prevent any person who is opposed to that list from objecting to the whole list? If he objects to the whole list, in substance, we must make a new list. The judge will have to learn the complete history of every man just the same, if you are all unreasonable. You are not going to avoid making a new list if we have to deal with a lot of silly, prejudiced people, no matter on what side.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: That state of affairs might happen after the enumerators got through with the list.

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STANTON.

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STANTON: Certainly it might happen.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: Then your solution does not end the difficulty.

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STANTON: I am going to assume—it may be a violent assumption—that the people of Nova Scotia are reasonable; that they are not going to waste their time, when they ought to be out before the electors, in battling over matters before the judge or the enumerator; but that when they have real objections they are going to dispose of them before the enumerator or the county judge. I would not give the enumerator any discretion over those lists except the judicial discretion, that is, to find the evidence.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: Did the honourable the Secretary of State take any exception in principle to the draft which was read by him at the conference last night, except saying that it would have to be arranged in order to be workable?

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STANTON: What the Secretary of State said—I am going to answer you candidly—

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: I will put another question so that the honourable gentleman can answer it at the same time: and did you not understand that the principle of revision, on which the draft was based, was accepted?

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STANTON: I say, first, that the Secretary of State said that this form was unworkable. Then he said it would have to be worked out by the machinery used in the Ontario cities. That is my answer to the first question. Whether that involved the principle or not, I am not able to say; but so far as I myself am concerned, I have already stated that I did not know what the Ontario machinery was, and I did not recognize that it made any change. I have stated to the honourable member for De Salaberry privately, and I state it to him now, that I did not myself appreciate that by invoking the use of the machinery for the cities of Ontario we were going to change in any way the memorandum.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Will my honourable friend allow me one question? I understand the two gentlemen who were there from the House of Commons to ask the Secretary of State that very question about that Ontario matter.