

Hon. W. B. ROSS: If the bottoms were fastened with copper, would that do?

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE: Yes; but the man in question is sitting in the Government to-day, in the other House.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Mr. Chairman, I would draw the attention of the honourable leader of the Government to paragraph e:

The voters shall fold the ballot, place it in the envelope, securely close the same and hand it to the Deputy Presiding Officer.

The same system, I believe, was adopted with regard to the voting in British Columbia:

Hon. Mr. WATSON: This is for the voting in France.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: There were brought to notice afterwards a number of cases where, when the envelope was handed over to the returning officer, no ballot was found in it. It would be a good thing, I think, if we could provide some way to prevent that. It might be necessary to provide that the deputy presiding officer should see the ballot placed in the envelope.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: That has always been very much questioned, because it is susceptible to interference with the secret voting. The voter himself places the ballot in the envelope. Of course there is no means of compelling a voter to put a ballot in the envelope. He may, as many a voter does, wish to escape voting. He may seal the envelope, keep out the ballot, and hand the envelope to the deputy returning officer. I do not see how we can overcome that. Many a voter is under the impression that the voting is not secret and for that reason he withholds the ballot.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE: It is all a question of whether fraud may be undertaken or not. We are entirely in the hands of the Government, with their subordinates, to see that every care is taken that the ballot shall not be tampered with.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: We will try to see to that. Both sides of the House, I think, have together worked this out.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE: They might get together—I have seen them get together in a polling district.

On section 8—polls and voting:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: May I return to section 8 for a moment. The

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presiding officers are appointed by the Governor in Council.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Are they assigned to certain districts?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes, to particular districts, just as any returning officer would be assigned to a constituency. I may say that I saw the Prime Minister about this a few moments ago. The object of fixing the commencement of polling for "the day following" was this, that it was desirable that as much time be given to the men as possible. If we make it the second day after, these men may be ordered out on an assault or may be ordered into action. We cannot tell. The assumption is, in fact, that they cannot vote unless they have the names. Therefore, it is very desirable that whatever time can be given to the vote should be given, and if the names come the day following, as is provided in section 8, the day "following that of the nomination of candidates," they should use that time at once. That would be the object, because one cannot say at what moment they will be ordered to move.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: But I understand that the point made by my honourable friend from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Béique) was that in the case of the names not arriving—

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I have asked the Minister of Justice to come over and explain to me any of these points.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: He would be welcome here to explain this himself.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE: A new member.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I have been advocating for the last eight or ten years the idea of having the Ministers from the other House come over here and take part in our debates in presenting their own measures. I welcome the honourable the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I wish my honourable friend had continued to press for that.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: The point made by the honourable gentleman from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Béique) is that if the voting starts the day after nomination, the names of the candidates will not have reached the other side, nor will they have been posted. He thought if 24 additional hours were given after which the voting