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BILL

An Act to repeal the Electoral Franchise Act, and to further amend the Dominion Elections Act.

First reading, February 10, 1898.

Mr. FITZPATRICK.

OTTAWA

Printed by S. E. Dawson

Printer to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty
1898

An Act to repeal the Electoral Franchise Act, and to further amend the Dominion Elections Act.

HER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as The Franchise Act, 1898.

Short title.

- 5 2. This Act shall not apply to the North-West Territories. Application.
 - 3. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,— Interpretation.

 (a.) The expression "electoral district" means any place or "Electoral territorial area in Canada entitled to return a member to serve district."

in the House of Commons;

10 (b.) The expression "Dominion election" or "election," "Dominion means an election of a member to serve in the House of election." "Election."

(c.). The expression "provincial election" means an elec-"Provincial tion of a member to serve in the Legislative Assembly, or election."

15 House of Assembly or General Assembly of a province of Canada:

(d.) The expression "voters' list," or "list of voters," in "Voters' cludes, when provincial lists are referred to, any poll-book or list." official list of persons entitled to vote at a provincial election; "List of voters," (e.) The expression "polling division" includes, when used "Polling and Includes, who includes are the Includes, who includes are the Includes and Includes and Includes are the Inc

- 20 (e.) The expression "polling division" includes, when used "Polling in reference to provincial elections, any polling subdivision, division." polling district or sub-district or other territorial area for which there is a separate voters' list.
- 4. The Electoral Franchise Act, being chapter five of the R.S.C., c. 5, 25 Revised Statutes, and all Acts amending it, are hereby and amending repealed.

5. For the purposes of any Dominion election held within Provisions as the limits of a province, except as hereinafter otherwise pro- to elections. vided,—

30 (a.) The qualifications necessary to entitle any person to vote Provincial thereat shall be those established by the laws of that province adopted as necessary to entitle such person to vote in the same part of the province at a provincial election;

(b.) The polling divisions shall be those established by or provincial 35 under the laws of that province for the purposes of provincial polling division adopted. elections within the territory comprised in the electoral district for which such election is held;

Provincial voters' lists adopted.

(c.) The voters' lists shall be those prepared for the several polling divisions so established and which on the 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;

When under provincial law there are no polling divisions, but polling places are fixed.

(d.) Where, for any part of a province, polling divisions are not established by or under the laws of the province, but by or under such laws places are fixed where polls shall be opened and held at provincial elections and lists of the voters entitled 10 to vote at such places at such elections have been prepared and are or have been in force, polls shall be opened and held at Dominion elections in that part of the province at the same places, and the voters' lists so prepared and which are or were last in force shall be the voters' lists for the purposes of such 15 Dominion elections;

Duty of returning officer as to polling divisions.

(e.) It shall be the duty of the returning officer appointed by the Governor in Council to constitute polling divisions, and to appoint and fix polling places and polling stations in all cases where, under the laws of the province it is the duty of 20 the returning officer at provincial elections to do so, and he shall to that end have the same powers as are vested by such laws in such returning officer.

6. Forthwith after the receipt of the writ for a Dominion

Returning officer to obtain voters' lists, etc.

election the returning officer shall obtain from the officers who 25 are the legal custodians thereof, or of duly certified duplicates, or copies thereof, such provincial voters' lists or such certified copies thereof or extracts therefrom, and such certified copies of by-laws, orders, proclamations or other documents or proceedings defining the several provincial polling 30 divisions situate either wholly or partially within the territory comprised in the electoral district for which such election is to be held as are necessary, or as he deems necessary, to the performance of his duties as returning officer; and every such officer who omits or refuses to furnish within 35 a reasonable time any such voters' list or copy thereof, or extract therefrom, ar any such copy of a by-law, or order, or proclamation or other document or proceeding demanded by the returning officer shall incur a penalty not exceeding two thousand dollars and not less than two hundred dollars. 40

Penalty for not furnishing them.

district.

Case of polling 7. Where any provincial polling division, as constituted at wholly within the time of the receipt by the returning officer of the writ for one electoral an election lies only postly within an election, lies only partly within the electoral district for which such election is to be held, the part thereof within such electoral district shall, for the purpose of that election, form a 45 separate polling division, or it may be attached by the returning officer to an adjoining polling division; and the returning officer shall as soon as possible after the receipt of the writ prepare a separate voters' list containing the names of the persons entitled to have their names placed on the list for such 50 part of such polling division.

If provincial lists are more than one year old.

S. Where under the laws of a province the voters' lists for any provincial electoral district or division are prepared not at regular intervals, but at such times as are fixed by the

Lieutenant Governor in Council or some other provincial or local authority or only from time to time for the purpose of a general or other election in immediate contemplation, the last preceding voters' lists so prepared shall be used 5 for the purpose of any Dominion election in the territory comprised in such provincial electoral district or division or any part thereof if such lists have been prepared not more than one year before the date of the writ for such Dominion elec-

tion; otherwise, new voters' lists shall be prepared, and for the New lists to 10 purpose of preparing and giving effect to such voters' lists the be prepared. Governor in Council may appoint all necessary officers and confer upon them all necessary powers, and in the preparation and revision and bringing into force of such new voters' lists the provisions of the laws of the province regulating the pre-15 paration and revision and bringing into force of the provincial voters' lists in such cases shall, as far as possible, be observed and followed.

- **9.** The expression "polling district" in *The Dominion* Interpretation Elections Act, chapter 8 of the Revised Statutes, shall have of R.S.C., c. 8. 20 the same meaning as the expression "polling division" has in this Act.
 - 10. In the said Act the expressions "list of voters," The same. "voters' list," "elector," and "voter" shall have the same meaning as the same expressions have in this Act.
- 11. Paragraph (e) of section 7 of the said Act is hereby Section ? 25 amended by striking out the words "or revising officers.
 - 12. Section 13 of the said Act, as amended by section 1 of Section 13 chapter 19 of the statutes of 1891, is hereby repealed.
- 13. Subsection 2 of section 20 of the said Act is hereby Section 20 30 repealed.

14. Paragraph (b) of section 30 of the said Act is hereby Section 30

repealed and the following substituted therefor:-

"(b.) Furnish each deputy returning officer with a copy of the list of voters in the polling district for which he is appoint-35 ed, if there is any such list."

15. Section 41 of the said Act is hereby repealed.

Section 41 repealed.

16. Section 42 of the said Act is hereby amended by strik-Section 42 ing out the words "revising officers" in paragraph (a) of subsection 2.

17. Subsection 1 of section 45 of the said Act is hereby Section 45 anneaded. 40

repealed and the following substituted therefor: -

"45. Not more than one elector for each compartment shall, Regulations at any one time, enter the room where the poll is held, and conduct of each elector upon so entering shall declare his name, surname electors and 45 and addition, which shall be entered or recorded by the poll deputy returning officer. clerk in the poll-book provided for that purpose, which shall be kept in the form R in the first schedule to this Act; and if the same are found on the list of voters for the polling district of such polling station, or if he is found entitled to vote, he shall receive from the deputy returning officer a ballot paper, on the back of which such deputy returning officer has previously put his initials, so placed that when the ballot is folded they can be seen without opening it; and on the counterfoil to which he has placed a number corresponding to that placed opposite the voter's name in the poll-book."

Oath, an-

18. Subsection 2 of the said section 45 of the said Act, as swers, etc., by amended by section 7 of chapter 11 of the statutes of 1888, is hereby repealed and in lieu thereof it is hereby enacted that 10 an elector, if required by the deputy returning officer, the poll-clerk, one of the candidates, or an agent of a candidate, or by any elector present shall, before receiving his ballot paper, answer such questions or produce such evidence as to his qualifications to vote, or take such oath of qualification as 15 by the law of the province he may in the like case at a provincial election be required to answer, produce or take, such changes being made in the form of oath as are necessary to make it applicable to the election being held, which oath the deputy returning officer and poll-clerk are each of them hereby 20 authorized to administer.

Section 50 repealed.

19. Section 50 of the said Act is hereby repealed.

Section 51 repealed.

Entry of names of electors voting.

20. Section 51 of the said Act is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof it is hereby enacted that the poll clerk shall enter in the poll book, opposite the name of each elector voting, the 25 word "Voted," as soon as his ballot paper has been deposited in the ballot box, and he shall enter in the same book the word "Sworn" or "Affirmed" opposite the name of each elector to whom the oath of qualification has been administered, and the words "Refused to be sworn," or "Refused to affirm," 20 or "Refused to answer questions put to him," or "Refused to produce evidence of qualification," opposite the name of each elector who has refused to take the oath or to affirm, or has refused to answer questions or produce evidence of qualification which he has been lawfully required to answer or produce. 35

Voter refusing to be sworn or to answer questions.

21. Section 52 of the said Act is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof it is hereby enacted that no voter who has refused to take the oath or affirmation, or to answer questions or produce evidence as to qualification as aforesaid, when requested to do so, shall receive a ballot paper or be admitted to vote.

Section 54, application extended.

22. Section 54 of the said Act shall be applicable also to electors entitled to vote otherwise than by being named on the list of voters.

Section 56 amended.

23. Subsection 3 of section 56 of the said Act is hereby repealed.

Section 64

24. Subsection 1 of section 64 of the said Act is hereby amended by striking out all the words from "or" in line fourteen to "be" in line twenty-eight.

2. Subsection 2 of the said section 64 is hereby repealed.

3. Subsection 4 of the said section 64 is hereby amended by striking out all the words from "including" in line eight to "appeals" in line thirteen.

4. Subsection 6 of the said section 64 is hereby amended by 5 striking out all the words from "and" in line three to "thereat" in line twenty-four.

- 25. Form S in the first schedule to the said Act, as amended Form S by section 11 of chapter 11 of the statutes of 1888, by section repealed. 16 of chapter 19 of the statutes of 1891, and by section 22 of 10 chapter 14 of the statutes of 1894, is hereby repealed.
 - 26. Form X in the said schedule is hereby repealed. 16-2

Form X repealed.