

deputy returning officer shall at once 'cause such elector's name to be added to the voters' list, with the word 'sworn' written thereafter.

Mr. SCOTT. Does my hon. friend contend that it covers the case of a man from Manitoba? He told us a few moments ago about gentlemen with long-tailed names from Manitoba voting in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. That was in another section. That was where the election was postponed, on the borders of Manitoba and eastern Assiniboia. These gentlemen came in and, of course, the oaths were taken. They did not understand the value of an oath. I shall not discuss the question here. If the hon. gentleman wants me to enter into the details of it I will enter into them.

Mr. SCOTT. Give us some of the names.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. Some of them are as long as from myself to the hon. gentleman—Galicians, and that class of people. No one could recognize one from the other. I am pointing out that men whose names were not on the roll, and who did not live in the polling subdivision, came forward and voted. I believe it would be proper to have a system by which any man's name left off the list in the polling subdivision could be added and that man allowed to vote, the same as they do in Prince Edward Island, but it should not be possible for a man to go from one part of the electoral division to another and vote in a polling subdivision, except the one in which he is resident and where he is known, and then he should be identified by some one living there. That is the feature of the system to which I object.

Mr. MONK. I would like to suggest to the hon. the Minister of Justice to suspend the consideration of this section, and see if it would not be possible to cure what seems to have been admitted to be a very serious abuse. I can understand that in connection with a Bill of this kind we are not going to unmake the Northwest Territories Representation Act, nor can we change fundamentally the franchise in the Northwest Territories; but this is a particular abuse which it was intended to correct during last parliament by a very short enactment. The facts are related in 'Hansard' of 1904, to which I will give a reference to the hon. Minister of Justice in a moment. I think it is well worthy of his consideration whether, in the transitory provision which I have no doubt we will have to introduce into these Bills, it will not be possible to cure this grievance. The Minister of Justice will find the discussion at page 3990 of 'Hansard,' 1904. Mr. Casgrain, the member for Montmorency, moved the second reading of a Bill to amend the Northwest Territories Representation Act. The Minister of the Interior at that time (Mr. Sifton) admitted

that there were some grievances to be remedied, but the Bill never was fully considered. The session was coming to a close, or for some reason or other, it never was considered as far as I can see. Under our election law, which applies to the organized provinces of the Dominion, the returning officer can only give two certificates per poll. That is referred to in the discussion. Section 61 of the Dominion Elections Act says that he can only give two certificates to agents, and even in the province of Quebec, morally far superior to the other provinces, I think, if he could give more, we would see great abuses there; but in the Northwest Territories every returning officer can deliver any number of certificates, and I am not surprised to hear that that has given rise to abuses.

Mr. SCOTT. Will my hon. friend allow me to point out to him that I think the same condition prevails under the Northwest Territories local law?

Mr. MONK. That may be, but it does not make it any better.

Mr. SCOTT. There must be some reason for this.

Mr. MONK. That does not make it any better and it is certainly a very serious abuse. The Bill introduced in 1904 proposed to cure this evil, by amending the law so as to make it possible for a candidate only to obtain two certificates for each poll. I would suggest to the Minister of Justice that he consider whether it would not be possible to provide a remedy in the present Bill.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. The suggestion of my hon. friend (Mr. Monk) is reasonable, and I will ask this clause to remain in abeyance until such time as I have an opportunity of considering the Bill introduced by Mr. Casgrain last year. Of course I cannot undertake to say now that I would introduce such a Bill as that.

Mr. LENNOX. I understood the Minister of Justice to virtually admit that the Northwest Territories Representation Act is not satisfactory. It was suggested by the member for East Assiniboia that a number of certificates could not be granted, but it appears from sections 40 and 48 of the Northwest Territories Representation Act that any number can be granted. Another difficulty pointed out was as to the blank certificates which is a very serious matter in itself, and it was shown that there was no provision in the law to compel the enumerator to be present in his office at certain hours when he might be required. I call the attention of the Minister of Justice to the suggestion of the hon. member for Qu'Appelle (Mr. Lake), that instead of the words in the sixth clause:

Until the parliament of Canada otherwise provides.