

be drawn up which would be fair and proper.

Mr. A. F. Wood urged that if the principle was sound the fresh registration should apply to all the Province. Mr. White opposed the bill, objecting to the disturbing of the work which had already been done. Mr. Magwood thought the Government was trying to disfranchise the younger voters. The amendment was then defeated by a vote of 32 to 29.

Mr Meredith then declared that he would test the Government's willingness to make concessions in the matter. It seemed as if the Government, having been forced to give up the plan of stealing a member in Toronto, was trying to steal a vote. He protested in the strongest manner against this change, and hoped that the young men of the country would rise and show the displeasure with which they viewed such a measure, entailing, as it did, so much inconvenience and distrust. He moved another amendment, that when it was shown to the satisfaction of the registrar that the person registering was ill, or temporarily absent from the city, or otherwise unable to be present, personal attendance could be dispensed with, and, other qualifications being proved, his name could be placed on the list.

After the clause had been for some time debated, Mr. Hardy looked at the wording of the amendment, and stated that as it was not moved actually in amendment to anything, but simply that it should be the first clause, it was out of order. The Attorney-General said he was willing to consider the advisability of inserting some such provision later in the bill, but it could not go in the shape Mr. Meredith suggested, and, moreover, it was not now in shape to be voted on.

Mr. Meredith said he wanted the amendment put in now, and wanted it put as he had written it.

The Chairman thereupon ruled the amendment out of order. Mr. Meredith said he would appeal to the Speaker. Mr. Stratton surrendered the chair, and reported the situation to the Speaker. Mr. Meredith stated his case, but the Attorney-General said in doing so he had so modified the form in which the amendment was put forward as to bring it in order for voting on, though not for insertion in the bill. He was prepared to vote on it, and Mr. Meredith now put it. Mr. Stratton resumed the chair, and the amendment was voted down by 41 to 28.

The discussion was resumed on the first clause, Mr. Meredith making an incidental attack on the supplemental estimate.

Shortly before 12 o'clock the committee rose and reported progress. Mr. Meredith seized the opportunity to re-state what he claimed to be his position in the matter, namely, that the young men would be, in effect, disfranchised by the system proposed under the bill. The Attorney-General reiterated that the system was the best that could be devised for the purpose of securing the all-important point of a pure ballot, and the class for whom it was intended, and to whom Mr. Meredith had alluded, were the very class who had specially asked for it.

On adjourning, the Attorney-General announced that as under the circumstances it was impossible to finish the business by holding a Saturday sitting, the sitting would not be held, but that the House would sit again on Monday at 3 o'clock.

The House adjourned at midnight.