

# CHARGE ACT FRAMED TO BAR FOREIGNERS

Liberals Continue Their Attack  
on Clause 29 of Franchise Bill.

ABSURD, SAYS EULER

Hon. Jacques Bureau Thinks  
Government Afraid of  
Women's Vote.

Special to The Star by a Staff Reporter.  
Ottawa, May 7.—The direct charge that the Government framed Clause 29 of the new Franchise Act with the object of preventing as many foreigners as possible from voting at the next election was made in the commons yesterday by S. W. Jacobs, Liberal member for Montreal. He challenged the Solicitor-General to refute this statement, and added that, while the Government was prepared to give the vote to negresses from South America, it denied the franchise to the heroic women of Belgium and France, who might settle in Canada. These women had been given the vote by the "votes for women" Act and now it was taken away from them. It was like many other Government's philanthropies—rank hypocrisy.

In Direct Contradiction.

Mr. Euler, of North Waterloo, characterized the proposed law as an absurdity and argued that the amendment submitted by Mr. Guthrie did not go far enough. The trouble was that an attempt was being made to enact a law, which was in direct contradiction of the Naturalization Act.

He therefore moved that sub-Clause 2 of Clause 29 be struck out. This sub-clause provides that for the purposes of the franchise "the allegiance or nationality of a person as it was at the birth of such person shall be deemed incapable of being changed or of having been changed merely by reason of or in consequence of marriage or change of allegiance or naturalization of any other person, or otherwise, than by personal naturalization of such first-mentioned person."

Hon. Jacques Bureau, of Three Rivers, accused the Government of alleging the Naturalization Act because it is afraid of the women. "If we are afraid of the female franchise let us be manly enough to cut it out," he urged.

Contracts Scraps of Paper.

Mr. Cannon, of Dorchester, charged that the Government was treating its contracts like scraps of paper. It was not fair, on the one hand, to say that a woman was a British subject, enjoying all the privileges of British citizenship, and, on the other, to say that, notwithstanding such privileges and citizenship, she shall not have the right to vote. He suggested that the clause disqualifying wives and children of enemy aliens be struck out.

Hon. Hugh Guthrie, Solicitor-General, after stating in the House on the previous day that he would gladly accept any amendment containing clearer language than his own, yesterday intimated that he could not consent to the passing of Mr. Euler's amendment. He announced, however, that the text of the certificate to be issued to newly-naturalized persons would be re-cast to make it clearer.

At six o'clock the committee "reported progress" and the night session was spent on estimates of the Marine Department. Practically the whole sitting was occupied with trivial discussion of the wages of lighthouse keepers and small wharves in Nova Scotia.