

if there be only one candidate, the returning officer shall immediately return him as duly elected.

The hours for polling are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The ballot of each voter shall be a paper showing the names and descriptions of the candidates. [The voter makes a cross opposite the name of the person for whom he desires to vote.]

The Returning Officer appoints deputies, furnishes each of them with a list of the voters, a ballot box to receive the votes, a sufficient number of ballot papers and envelopes, directions for guidance of voters, &c.

The Returning Officer shall obtain copies of the list of voters from the officer who is the proper custodian thereof.

If the Returning Officer does not furnish the Deputy with a ballot box two days before that fixed for voting, the latter must have one made. He appoints a poll clerk and swears him.

The poll shall be held in a room of convenient access, with an outside door for the admittance of voters, and having, if possible, another through which they must leave after having voted. One or two compartments shall be made within the room, so arranged that each voter may be screened from observation, and may, without interference or interruption, mark his ballot paper.

Each candidate may have two agents or electors representing him in each polling station, and no others shall be permitted to remain in the room.

A written authority from a candidate to represent him constitutes a person an agent.

At the hour fixed for opening the poll, the ballot box is to be opened and exhibited to show that there are no ballots in it, and then the box is to be locked.

All persons qualified to vote at elections for the Local Legislature are entitled to vote at elections for the Commons, but all judges appointed by the Dominion Government are disqualified.

Deputy Returning Officers, Poll Clerks, and Agents may vote at the polling station where they are placed for the day, on getting a certificate from the Returning Officer.

Each elector being introduced separately into the room where the poll is held, must declare his name, surname and addition, which shall be entered or recorded in the voters' list to be kept for that purpose by the poll clerk, and if the same be found on the list of electors, he shall receive a ballot paper on which the Deputy Returning Officer shall have previously put his initials, and an envelope. If required, the elector shall take the oath of qualification. Where there are no voters' lists, the elector may be called on to take the oath prescribed in like cases for Provincial elections, *muta mutand.*

The elector, on receiving the ballot paper and envelope shall forthwith proceed into one of the compartments of the polling station, and there mark his ballot paper, making a cross on the right hand side opposite the name of the candidate for whom he intends to vote, after which he shall fold it up in the envelope and close the same, and hand it to the Deputy Returning Officer, who shall immediately place it in the ballot box.

The ballot paper is not to be taken out of

the polling place under penalty not exceeding \$200.

In the case of a voter unable to read, or incapacitated by blindness or other cause, the Deputy Returning Officer may assist him to mark his ballot paper in the presence of the sworn agents of the candidates. A list must be kept of all, whose papers are thus marked, with the reason in each case.

The poll clerk shall enter on the voters' list the word "voted" opposite the name of each elector voting. He shall also enter the word "sworn" or "affirmed" or "refused to be sworn," as the case may be.

No voter refusing to be sworn or to affirm shall be admitted to vote.

A person in whose name another has voted shall be entitled to vote on proving his identity and taking the prescribed oath. Special note is to be made of each such case.

An elector who has spoilt his ballot paper may obtain another.

After the closing of the poll the votes are to be counted, in the presence of the candidates or their agents, by the Deputy Returning Officer. In doing so all ballot papers are to be rejected which are not similar to those supplied by the Deputy Returning Officer; also, all those contained in any envelope different from those supplied, all contained in the same envelope when the envelope contains more than one; and finally, all those upon which there is any writing or mark by which the vote could be identified. After the votes have been counted, the ballots for each candidate shall be put into separate envelopes and put back into the ballot box.

Objections to any ballot paper are to be noted and decided by the Deputy Returning Officer. Each objection is to be numbered, and a corresponding number placed on the back of the ballot paper.

A statement of the accepted ballot papers, number of votes given to each candidate, of the rejected ballot papers, &c., is to be enclosed in the ballot box, which is then to be locked and sealed, and delivered to the Returning Officer. When required by candidates, agents, or electors representing them, the Deputy Returning Officer must furnish a certificate of the number of votes given to each candidate.

The Returning Officer is to sum up all the votes and declare the candidate who has a majority duly elected.

When an equality is found to exist the Returning Officer must give the casting vote, but shall in no other case have the right to vote. He must make his return in 4 days after counting the votes, sending a copy to each candidate. He must also send a report of proceedings, and the original statements of the Dy. Retg. Officers, with voters lists, &c. The R. O. may adjourn proceedings for not more than a week at a time, if any ballot boxes are not returned. If any are destroyed or missing, he may take evidence of the facts and return the person having a majority according to such evidence. On receipt of the return the C.C.C. gives notice of it in the *Canada Gazette*. He retains all the papers for 1 year after contestation is ended. Badot papers or register ballot papers may not be inspected except by order of court.

Penalties are enacted for fraudulent practices, and provisions made for the maintenance of secrecy.