

BARBADOS

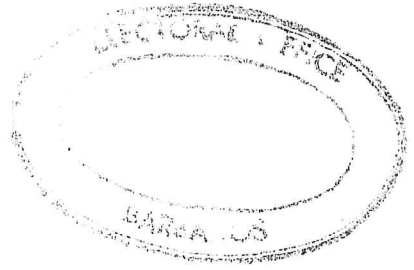
General Elections, 1951

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

BY

Supervisor of Elections





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PART I.

To the Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit Part I of my Administrative Report on the first General Election of Members to serve in the House of Assembly since the introduction of Adult Suffrage. (Part II will include the results of the examination by Returning Officers of the Candidates' expense accounts and the Statement showing the expenditure incurred by the Government in connection with the holding of the General Election).

GENERAL

2. The direction and supervision of, and the procedure at the Election was in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1951, which was deemed to be supplementary to the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901, and the Ballot Act, 1931, except that in cases of conflict or inconsistency, the provisions of the 1951 Act were to prevail over the provisions of the earlier Acts. As this arrangement caused wide variation in previous procedure at elections, it was considered necessary to prepare Notes (copy in booklet form herewith) for the guidance of Election Officers; and these notes were supplemented by lectures to and discussions with Election Officers. The advice and generous assistance given to the Supervisor of Elections by the Returning Officers and Election Clerks who had had experience at previous elections is gratefully acknowledged, and these gentlemen were most helpful in instructing, and warning against pitfalls, a large number of Presiding Officers, Poll Clerks and Counting Assistants who were, for the first time, undertaking these highly responsible duties.

3. Difficulty was experienced by all Election Officers who were charged with administrative duties in determining to what extent certain provisions of the older Acts should apply to this election: on several points there was not an unanimity of opinion and so doubts arose as to whether all the provisions of the Acts relating to Elections were being fully complied with. The necessity for consolidating these Acts seems to be indicated.

POLLING DIVISIONS AND STATIONS

4. In this election there were, as heretofore, twelve constituencies—Bridgetown and the eleven parishes. Each constituency had, in accordance with the provisions of the Special Registration of Voters (General Assembly) Act, 1951, been sub-divided into registration districts and in each registration district (or polling division) a polling station was established. There were 213 Polling Stations distributed as follows:

<i>Constituency</i>	<i>No. of Polling Stations</i>
Bridgetown	14
St. Michael	66
Christ Church	27
St. George	18
St. Philip	15
St. John	13
St. Joseph	9
St. James	12
St. Thomas	11
St. Andrew	9
St. Peter	10
St. Lucy	9
Total for Island	<hr/> 213 <hr/>

5. The distribution of the number of electors per Polling Division varied widely, as may be seen from the following summary:

No. of Divisions with an electorate of:

400 and under	89
Between 401 and 600	89
.. 600 and 800	29
Over 800	6
	<hr/> 213 <hr/>

6. The instructions on which the Island was divided into 213 Polling Divisions were based on an allocation of approximately 450 electors per Polling Station (as that figure was said to have been found in Trinidad to be the maximum number that could conveniently be handled at a Polling Station), subject to unavoidable increases or decreases due to special circumstances, such as communications and sparsity or congestion of population in any area. However, the experience now gained in Barbados proves that the target figure of 450 is far too low. In the recent election at which 65 per cent. (Island average) of the electorate cast their votes — a figure not likely to be exceeded in the future — there was never any congestion, even at the six Divisions in which over 800 electors were registered. It is recommended, therefore, that the 213 Registration Divisions could be reduced by at least about one-third, without causing any inconvenience to the electorate, but thereby effecting an appreciable reduction in the cost of future elections.

7. *Buildings* — Wherever practicable, Government buildings, principally Schoolhouses, were requisitioned for Polling Stations, but it was necessary to use, in addition, 121 privately owned buildings, for which agreed rentals of \$10. or \$15. were paid, according to the size of the building and the amenities provided.

8. *Publicity* — Wide publicity was given to the locations of Polling Stations and the boundaries of the districts which they served. In addition to the publication in all the newspapers and the posting of forms throughout the Island as required by Law, about forty posters were put up in *each* of the 213 polling divisions of the Island, giving the name of the building in which the Polling Station for that Division had been established and emphasizing that residents in that division could vote only at the Polling Station established within that Division. Also, the Poll Clerk stationed at the entrance of every Polling Station was provided with a map of the division in which his Polling Station was established, and on that map were shown the names of the Polling Stations in all adjacent divisions, so that, if an elector had neglected the opportunities offered to him of learning at what Polling Station he was to vote, he could, on presenting himself at a wrong Station, be quickly directed to his correct Station. These arrangements proved to be fully satisfactory, and complaints by electors were negligible.

ELECTION OFFICERS

9. The following Election Officers were appointed:

- (a) A Supervisor of Elections, appointed by the Governor;
- (b) 12 Returning Officers (one for each constituency) appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Supervisor of Elections;
- (c) 213 Presiding Officers (one for each Polling Division) appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Supervisor of Elections;
- (d) 435 Poll Clerks appointed by the Supervisor of Elections;
- (e) 99 Counting Assistants appointed by the Supervisor of Elections.

10. The selection by the Supervisor of Elections of Presiding Officers, Poll Clerks and Counting Assistants was done in consultation with the Returning Officers, whose assistance in this respect was much appreciated.

11. The following summary shows the distribution of Presiding Officers, Poll Clerks and Counting Assistants:

<i>Constituency</i>	<i>Presiding Officers</i>	<i>Poll Clerks</i>	<i>Counting Assistants</i>
Bridgetown	14	28	6
St. Michael	66	136	22
Christ Church	27	55	13
St. George	18	37	13
St. Philip	15	31	10
St. John	13	26	6
St. Joseph	9	18	3
St. James	12	24	4
St. Thomas	11	23	6
St. Andrew	9	18	4
St. Peter	10	21	6
St. Lucy	9	18	6
Total for Island	213	435	99

EQUIPMENT

12. *Polling Compartments.* 260 pairs of collapsible polling compartments were built. For the small stations, one pair was all that was necessary, but at larger stations two, and sometimes three pairs were used. Generally speaking, the Parochial Authorities readily allowed their Polling Compartments to be used by Returning Officers to supplement the number provided by Government, and their co-operation is gratefully acknowledged as, in this way, the number of compartments the Government would have had to provide could be somewhat reduced.

13. *Ballot Boxes.* 225 Ballot boxes were provided — one for each of the 213 Stations, plus one extra for each constituency, in the event of accidental damage.

14. *Official Words to be stamped on ballot paper.* 240 different word stamps were provided. Each Returning Officer was handed by the Supervisor of Elections a couple Word Stamps in excess of the number actually required—one for each Station, and only the Returning Officer and the Presiding Officer of each Station knew, before the opening of the Poll, what would be the Official Word for that Station.

15. *Forms, etc.* The printed form, Maps, Stationery and incidentals necessary for the work of all Election Officers were supplied by the Supervisor of Elections.

DISCIPLINE

16. All Returning Officers and Presiding Officers expressed their fullest satisfaction with the manner in which the Police and Constables performed their duties at Polling Stations. The Police also accepted the responsibility for marking the 100 yards limit on the approaches to Polling Stations, beyond which persons were forbidden to collect; and the excellent discipline maintained at Polling Stations was undoubtedly in a large measure due to the strict enforcement of the law in this respect. There was one disgraceful incident at a Polling in Christ Church, where the car of the Presiding Officer was badly damaged by a mob, most of whom were not electors in that Division, who, for purely personal reasons it would seem, staged a demonstration against the Presiding Officer, accusing him of partiality, or worse, in the performance of his duties. Subsequent investigation established that there were not the slightest grounds for dissatisfaction with the manner in which the Presiding Officer had performed his election duties. With this single exception, the election was carried through all its stages in a spirit of helpful co-operation with Election Officers by the Candidates, their Agents and the General Public.

ELECTION STATISTICS

17. The following Tables present statistics which might be of general interest. Table II shows that, of the total number of Registered Voters, 42 per cent. were Male and 58 per cent. Female. From Table III it will be seen what percentage of Registered Voters, Male and Female, voted at the Election. From the other Tables some interesting inferences can be drawn. For instance the extent to which Party spirit in several of the constituencies overcame or failed to overcome personal preference for Candidates who represented opposing parties may be assessed. Table IV shows how some electors split their votes between Candidates of different parties. Table V discloses that an Island average of 40 per cent. of the voting electors used only one of their votes, that is, they "plumped" for one candidate. In two constituencies, the plumps that were recorded in favour of each of two candidates belonging to the same party would, if the plumps had been split between the two candidates, have resulted in the returning of both instead of, as happened, only one. The same procedure was also noticeable in some other constituencies but not with the same ill results to the parties concerned. Table VI shows the extent to which electors supported one party (in St. John, Independents) by giving both of their votes to candidates of the same party.

TABLE I

By Parties, the number of candidates who contested the seats in each of the twelve constituencies:

Note: In this and subsequent Tables:

L—Labour Party

E—Electors' Association

C—Congress Party

I—Independent

Constituency	L	E	C	I	Total
Bridgetown	1	2	—	2	5
St Michael	2	2	—	—	4
Christ Church	—	2	—	3	5
St. George	2	1	—	—	3
St. Philip	1	1	2	—	4
St John	1	1	—	3	5
St. Joseph	2	1	—	—	3
St. James	1	2	—	—	3
St. Thomas	2	1	—	—	3
St Andrew	1	2	—	—	3
St. Peter	2	1	—	—	3
St. Lucy	2	2	—	1	5
Total for Island	17	18	2	9	46

TABLE II

Registered Voters, by Sex.

Constituency	Number			Proportion per cent		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Bridgetown	6,281	2,484	3,797	100	40	60
St Michael	32,735	13,100	19,635	100	40	60
Christ Church	12,612	5,321	7,291	100	42	58
St. George	7,301	3,256	4,045	100	45	55
St. Philip	7,146	3,209	3,937	100	45	55
St John	4,791	2,160	2,631	100	45	55
St. Joseph	3,583	1,620	1,963	100	45	55
St James	5,744	2,469	3,275	100	43	57
St. Thomas	4,125	1,839	2,286	100	45	55
St. Andrew	3,363	1,605	1,758	100	48	52
St. Peter	4,333	1,938	2,395	100	45	55
St. Lucy	3,925	1,722	2,203	100	44	56
Total	95,939	40,723	55,216	100	42	58

TABLE III

Registered Voters who voted at the Election

Constituency	Number			Proportion per cent of Registered Voters		
	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.
Bridgetown ..	4,731	1,938	2,793	77	78	71
St. Michael ..	17,132	8,253	8,879	52	63	45
Christ Church ..	7,611	3,846	3,765	60	72	52
St. George ..	5,780	2,767	3,013	79	85	74
St. Philip ..	5,132	2,610	2,522	72	81	64
St. John ..	3,394	1,730	1,664	71	80	63
St. Joseph ..	2,711	1,373	1,338	76	85	68
St. James ..	4,393	2,090	2,303	76	85	70
St. Thomas ..	2,608	1,396	1,212	63	76	53
St. Andrew ..	2,689	1,373	1,316	80	81	75
St. Peter ..	2,834	1,444	1,390	65	74	58
St. Lucy ..	3,005	1,468	1,537	77	85	69
Total ..	62,020	30,288	31,732	65	74	57

TABLE IV

The proportion percent. of voters who split their votes between two parties:

Constituency	Total	Proportion per cent. of voters who split their Votes				
		L + E	Between			
			L + C	L + I	E + C	E + I
Bridgetown ..	32	16	—	6	—	10
St. Michael ..	7	7	—	—	—	—
Christ Church ..	6	—	—	—	—	—
St. George ..	11	11	—	—	—	6
St. Philip ..	30	7	10	—	—	—
St. John ..	21	1	—	—	13	—
St. Joseph ..	9	9	—	12	—	8
St. James ..	6	6	—	—	—	—
St. Thomas ..	9	9	—	—	—	—
St. Andrew ..	13	13	—	—	—	—
St. Peter ..	9	9	—	—	—	—
St. Lucy ..	28	23	—	—	—	—
Avg. for Island	13	8	1	1	1	3
						2

TABLE V

The proportion per cent. of voters who plumped; that is, voted for one candidate only, and the Party represented by that Candidate.

Constituency	Total	Proportion per cent. of Voters who plumped			
		For a Candidate representing:			
		L	E	C	I
Bridgetown	56	20	29	—	7
St. Michael	26	8	18	—	—
Christ Church	70	—	5	—	65
St. George	32	2	30	—	—
St. Philip	30	11	16	3	—
St. John	53	14	8	—	31
St. Joseph	23	3	20	—	—
St. James	66	63	3	—	—
St. Thomas	20	4	16	—	—
St. Andrew	55	39	16	—	—
St. Peter	15	6	9	—	—
St. Lucy	40	31	8	—	1
Average for Island	40	14	16	—	10

TABLE VI

The proportion per cent of Voters who cast their votes for two candidates of the SAME Party :

Constituency	Proportion per cent of Voters who cast their votes for two Candidates of the SAME PARTY				
	VOTED FOR				
	Total	L	E	C	I
Bridgetown	12	—	12	—	—
St. Michael	67	57	10	—	—
Christ Church	23	—	23	—	—
St. George	57	57	—	—	—
St. Philip	40	—	—	40	—
St. John	27	—	—	—	—
St. Joseph	68	68	—	—	27
St. James	28	—	28	—	—
St. Thomas	71	71	—	—	—
St. Andrew	32	—	32	—	—
St. Peter	76	76	—	—	—
St. Lucy	32	22	10	—	—
Average for Island	47	32	10	3	2

18. In accordance with the requirements of sec. 24(3) of the representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, Tables, giving by Polling Divisions the number of votes polled for each candidate, the number of rejected ballots, the number of electors, by sex, on the register and the number who cast their votes are being printed, and copies will be submitted as soon as they are received from the Printers.

19. A Notice was published in the Official Gazette of 17th December, 1951, giving the names of the elected candidates, as required by Law.

DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION

20. At present, each constituency, irrespective of its numerical strength in registered voters, returns two members to the House of Assembly. The following Table VII shows the proportion per cent. of registered voters in each of the twelve constituencies.

TABLE VII

The proportion per cent. of registered Voters in each of the twelve constituencies.

<i>Constituency</i>						<i>Proportion percent. of registered Voters</i>
Bridgetown	..	..	..	..	..	6.6
St. Michael	..	..	..	..	..	34.1
Christ Church	..	..	..	..	..	13.2
St. George	..	..	..	..	..	7.6
St. Philip	..	..	..	..	..	7.4
St. John	..	..	..	..	..	5.0
St. Joseph	..	..	..	..	..	3.7
St. James	..	..	..	..	..	6.0
St. Thomas	..	..	..	..	..	4.3
St. Andrew	..	..	..	..	..	3.5
St. Peter	..	..	..	..	..	4.5
St. Lucy	..	..	..	..	..	4.1
						100.0

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) L. A. CHASE,

Supervisor of Elections. 1951

5th January, 1952.

General Elections, 1951

REPORT

By

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, 1951.

PART II.

To the Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit Part II of my Report on the General Election, 1951.

FINANCIAL

2. The following is an itemised Statement of Expenditure:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Supervisor of Elections, 1951	\$ 1,920.00
Clerical Assistance	500.00
Returning Officers	3,180.00
Election Clerks	1,590.00
Presiding Officers	4,260.00
Poll Clerks	4,350.00
Counting Assistants	1,030.00
Police Constables	814.50
Furnishing Polling Compartments	5,200.00
" Ballot Boxes	1,453.50
Stationery, Official Word Stamps, Pads, etc.	897.74
Travelling	1,169.93
Transport	830.71
Incidentals, posting of forms, etc.	617.50
Publishing Notices in Newspapers	1,520.60
Printing	3,546.79
Rental of buildings for Polling Stations	1,450.00
Storage of Polling Compartments, etc.	84.00
	\$34,415.27

EQUIPMENT

3. Attention is directed to the item "Storage of Polling Compartments, etc.," in the above Statement of Expenditure. To date, I have been able to make satisfactory arrangements for the storage of this equipment free of charge in all constituencies, with the exception of Bridgetown and St. Michael. The Polling Compartments and Ballot Boxes used in Bridgetown and St. Michael are being stored in a room at the St. Michael's Deanery, at a rental of \$24 per month, which has been paid up to 31st March, 1952, after which date, this recurrent expense, if present arrangements continue, must be met from some other vote.

4. The following is a list of the places at which the Polling Compartments and Ballot Boxes for the several constituencies are stored:
- Bridgetown and St. Michael at St. Michael's Deanery.
 - Christ Church at Storeroom of Christ Church Vestry.
 - St. Philip, St. George, St. Joseph and St. John at Government Industrial School.
 - St. Thomas at Office of Peasants' Loan Bank.
 - St. Andrew at Swan Factory.
 - St. Peter at the Parochial Treasurer's Office, St. Peter.
 - St. Lucy at Selah Boys' School.
 - St. James: Polling Compartments at Sandy Lane Factory and Ballot Boxes at U.S. Workers' Savings Branch of the Labour Department.

RECORDS

5. Pending instructions as to final disposal, all records, spare forms, etc., used in connection with the Registration of Voters and the General Election, 1951 are being kept in a Steel Cupboard and a Filing Cabinet (which were paid for respectively from the Votes for the Registration of Voters and General Election, 1951), at the Office of the U.S. Workers' Savings Branch of the Labour Department.

I have the honour to be,
 Sir,
 Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) L. A. CHASE,
 Supervisor of Elections, 1951.

8th March, 1952.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS, THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :				No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
	Mr. Bryan	Mr. Cox	Mr. Griffith	Mr. Toppin		On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
						M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
E. 1	196	191	44	63	2	234	363	597	135	160	295
E. 2	245	257	63	71	4	256	449	705	169	201	370
E. 3	118	132	18	35	1	160	229	389	92	83	175
E. 4	146	146	38	40	1	167	257	424	110	102	212
E. 5	142	146	92	70	5	205	327	532	127	136	263
E. 6	163	175	27	39	2	181	277	458	107	122	229
E. 7	158	168	33	37	2	169	226	395	105	119	224
F. 1	122	111	50	66	—	163	245	408	103	110	213
F. 2	53	54	30	95	—	100	125	225	81	75	156
F. 3	127	128	25	64	1	127	250	377	87	115	202
F. 4	226	222	43	48	1	219	350	569	138	165	303
F. 5	140	143	28	33	2	167	241	408	100	94	194
F. 6	181	193	43	77	7	215	225	440	153	139	292
F. 7	222	226	22	40	1	210	233	443	149	129	278
F. 8	200	222	57	54	3	197	256	453	149	147	296
G. 1	256	229	69	102	3	259	420	679	166	220	386
G. 2	213	211	48	89	1	208	296	504	143	175	318
G. 3	227	223	46	105	1	274	379	653	163	183	346
G. 4	131	128	20	35	1	143	188	331	100	80	180
G. 5	167	162	16	35	—	186	298	484	104	108	212
G. 6	193	186	32	57	2	198	316	514	127	137	264
G. 7	194	189	33	61	—	212	385	597	127	134	261
G. 8	93	94	13	25	4	123	178	301	58	70	128
G. 9	269	282	45	58	1	278	399	677	174	202	376
G. 10	132	139	58	118	2	220	294	514	143	119	262
G. 11	134	127	75	122	8	253	311	564	153	135	288
H. 1	129	127	66	79	3	206	306	512	128	109	237
H. 2	212	200	56	68	—	276	422	698	171	124	295
H. 3	185	208	46	98	3	231	289	520	160	150	310
H. 4	210	203	67	78	1	276	387	663	156	154	310
H. 5	216	222	64	95	2	258	344	602	169	169	338
Total ...	10,736	11,135	2,802	4,925	146	13,100	19,636	32,736	8,255	8,881	17,136

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS, THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :					No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
							On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Birch	Mr. Brath- waite	Mr. Goddard	Mr. Reece	Mr. Talma		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	10	2	305	267	252	7	319	565	884	226	322	548
2	6	1	181	154	196	3	204	361	565	152	219	371
3	1	1	225	212	177	4	245	323	568	190	207	397
4	3	1	221	198	70	21	189	233	422	150	161	311
5	1	4	148	129	98	2	167	250	417	114	130	244
6	2	1	133	111	167	8	207	294	501	146	154	300
7	2	3	91	88	191	4	194	259	453	149	140	289
8	1	1	43	36	314	7	271	322	593	195	161	356
9	—	1	40	42	144	14	138	208	346	100	103	203
10	1	5	135	117	222	51	302	386	688	228	163	391
11	—	—	44	35	72	1	70	108	178	51	57	108
12	20	4	148	121	347	9	419	628	1,047	248	254	502
13	1	2	50	33	101	1	113	110	223	88	60	148
14	1	—	20	21	182	—	143	208	351	105	98	203
15	3	3	45	37	287	5	278	274	632	195	139	334
16	1	2	19	18	256	1	189	224	413	151	124	275
17	—	7	24	20	194	5	197	252	449	112	106	218
18	2	2	57	44	97	7	139	178	317	86	73	159
19	2	2	57	55	373	3	296	395	691	216	233	449
20	2	4	61	58	205	1	175	220	395	134	135	269
21	1	—	15	17	148	4	97	142	239	81	89	170
22	1	3	23	28	151	5	122	168	290	89	93	182
23	1	11	15	13	145	3	111	139	250	92	71	163
24	5	5	57	45	262	4	283	344	627	186	135	321
25	2	16	21	17	111	4	96	120	216	73	62	135
26	8	47	24	24	310	14	235	327	562	185	175	360
27	6	7	46	38	159	3	122	173	295	105	101	206
Total ...	83	135	2,248	1,978	5,231	191	5,321	7,291	12,612	3,847	3,765	7,612

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS, THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. PHILIP

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :				No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
						On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Crawford	Mr. Garner	Mr. Mottley	Mr. Smith		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	136	82	82	39	3	135	166	301	105	99	204
2	360	245	225	103	6	334	412	746	281	273	554
3	230	69	153	312	9	272	340	612	252	264	516
4	176	137	76	140	3	185	219	404	154	159	313
5	217	91	118	147	11	236	248	484	207	145	352
6	150	85	97	44	10	152	196	348	112	122	234
7	271	103	200	61	12	217	298	515	188	183	371
8	176	129	104	183	16	247	300	547	197	202	399
9	135	39	80	136	11	193	208	401	145	109	254
10	218	78	170	161	17	238	323	561	190	195	385
11	244	67	259	98	9	267	316	583	199	189	388
12	170	125	105	39	7	176	214	390	146	123	269
13	213	100	176	97	5	217	308	525	158	183	341
14	189	25	173	24	6	130	150	280	98	120	218
15	159	50	162	168	4	210	239	449	178	156	334
Total ...	3,044	1,425	2,180	1,752	129	3,209	3,937	7,146	2,610	2,522	5,132

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS, THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

*[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]*

IN THE PARISH OF ST. GEORGE

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :			No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
					On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Barrow	Mr. Dowding	Mr. Miller		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	273	233	264	10	253	347	600	214	275	489
2	60	369	73	17	247	297	544	207	234	441
3	162	159	139	9	183	216	399	149	155	304
4	90	92	82	15	114	125	239	95	86	181
5	151	137	158	4	160	200	360	142	144	286
6	262	175	234	10	250	311	561	204	210	414
7	112	121	110	3	125	163	288	102	118	220
8	413	119	418	13	259	383	642	226	298	524
9	104	68	92	5	95	114	209	77	78	155
10	156	67	142	3	136	148	284	112	97	209
11	239	98	227	13	202	237	439	161	170	331
12	113	59	104	12	107	136	243	86	83	169
13	278	86	251	11	196	221	417	169	181	350
14	260	181	281	10	240	284	524	223	207	430
15	331	117	323	16	252	299	551	212	226	438
16	193	70	190	9	136	168	304	122	137	259
17	207	113	189	9	163	215	378	140	169	309
18	212	69	199	6	138	181	319	126	145	271
Total	3,616	2,333	3,476	175	3,256	4,045	7,301	2,767	3,013	5,780

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS, THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. JOHN

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :					No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
							On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Allder	Mr. Niles	Mr. Tudor	Mr. Vaughan	Mr. Webster		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	111	64	36	22	23	2	123	148	271	99	101	200
2	215	37	43	163	14	2	197	236	433	144	141	285
3	97	37	48	42	44	—	144	151	295	109	76	185
4	207	59	49	175	56	8	242	309	551	188	192	380
5	88	11	31	86	2	2	112	136	248	78	69	147
6	178	62	34	129	9	2	159	220	379	122	151	273
7	159	46	115	30	4	2	167	205	372	136	124	260
8	142	45	68	112	58	4	172	183	355	153	135	288
9	106	24	41	142	101	6	138	178	316	127	137	264
10	110	34	40	70	9	5	99	118	217	88	87	175
11	127	24	102	65	2	5	144	170	314	118	93	211
12	157	50	154	112	15	—	233	278	511	182	156	338
13	196	65	151	88	6	6	230	299	529	187	203	390
Total ...	1,893	558	912	1,236	343	44	2,160	2,631	4,791	1,731	1,665	3,396

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS. THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :			No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
					On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Holder	Mr. Walcott	Mr. Wilkinson		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	103	79	78	1	111	157	268	84	99	183
2	284	194	187	3	270	364	634	223	249	472
3	264	72	66	2	186	257	443	162	174	336
4	354	103	103	4	253	346	599	208	240	448
5	133	54	48	—	103	133	236	88	95	183
6	184	103	96	1	157	198	355	133	148	281
7	150	88	82	2	119	172	291	102	128	230
8	330	237	195	3	290	356	646	248	280	528
9	304	116	94	1	224	299	523	196	204	400
10	356	107	96	4	258	313	571	233	218	451
11	260	178	170	—	244	323	567	202	223	425
12	308	158	146	3	254	357	611	211	246	457
Total	3,030	1,489	1,361	24	2,469	3,275	5,744	2,090	2,304	4,394

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :			No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
					On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Cummins	Mr. Mapp	Mr. Hewitt		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	199	113	83	1	132	179	311	102	95	197
2	166	169	51	2	152	148	300	122	94	216
3	164	151	49	3	171	227	398	127	111	238
4	334	356	95	8	325	402	727	252	192	444
5	176	182	48	1	163	187	350	127	97	224
6	128	125	89	—	169	227	396	108	96	204
7	187	190	54	4	134	157	291	102	99	201
8	136	133	36	3	119	148	267	86	86	172
9	187	183	30	—	140	166	306	113	102	215
10	170	169	30	3	128	187	315	94	101	195
11	242	246	64	1	206	258	464	163	139	302
Total	2,009	2,017	629	26	1,839	2,286	4,125	1,396	1,212	2,608

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS, THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :			No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
					On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Adams	Mr. Coward	Mr. Smith		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	404	83	387	4	262	323	585	233	244	477
2	202	47	197	4	143	189	332	119	126	245
3	142	56	116	2	141	140	281	107	76	183
4	255	135	221	9	233	271	504	190	179	369
5	109	18	99	6	69	86	155	65	65	130
6	223	65	219	3	152	206	358	133	148	281
7	189	102	188	7	175	200	375	146	134	280
8	220	167	203	3	201	260	461	172	195	367
9	282	110	267	7	244	288	532	208	171	379
Total	2,026	783	1,897	45	1,620	1,963	3,583	1,373	1,338	2,711

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS. THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. ANDREW

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :			No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
					On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mrs. Bourne	Mr. Gill	Mr. Haynes		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	171	115	106	4	171	205	376	144	139	283
2	103	56	68	—	102	108	210	85	75	160
3	188	62	40	—	151	146	297	124	113	237
4	139	247	238	3	222	267	489	189	203	392
5	42	58	108	1	82	77	159	73	62	135
6	172	155	263	3	247	270	517	213	201	414
7	80	51	47	3	83	74	157	71	57	128
8	265	176	182	5	260	283	543	235	218	453
9	212	258	264	6	287	328	615	239	248	487
Total	1,372	1,178	1,316	25	1,605	1,758	3,363	1,373	1,316	2,689

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS. THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

*[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]*

IN THE PARISH OF ST. PETER

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :			No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
					On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Cumber- batch	Mr. Husbands	Mr. Walcott		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	45	263	241	6	191	216	407	154	140	294
2	35	165	140	2	130	187	317	90	95	185
3	15	127	121	7	84	115	199	70	76	146
4	130	406	366	9	381	487	868	262	246	508
5	45	228	206	—	178	201	379	135	124	259
6	20	238	224	4	172	167	339	145	112	257
7	60	184	165	2	134	180	314	112	121	233
8	28	221	191	1	183	245	428	120	117	237
9	47	310	273	4	225	259	484	176	169	345
10	69	326	276	2	260	338	598	180	190	370
Total	494	2,468	2,203	37	1,938	2,395	4,333	1,444	1,390	1,834

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

BARBADOS.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SHOWING BY POLLING DIVISIONS, THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1951

[In Accordance with the Provisions of Section 24 (3) of the Representation of the People
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951]

IN THE PARISH OF ST. LUCY

Polling Division No.	Number of Votes Polled for :					No. of Rejected Ballot Papers	Number of Electors					
							On the Register			Who cast their Votes		
	Mr. Brumcker	Mr. Sobers	Mr. Walcott	Mr. Ward	Mr. Williams		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	183	27	38	146	311	5	252	316	568	231	249	480
2	109	18	75	130	176	1	188	229	417	166	169	335
3	108	28	47	120	205	7	206	288	494	155	187	342
4	115	16	72	144	113	1	135	213	348	118	145	263
5	81	11	46	169	50	1	126	154	280	107	113	220
6	333	15	27	128	139	4	246	302	548	209	189	398
7	342	23	45	124	55	1	228	261	489	199	192	391
8	168	13	56	69	109	1	149	187	336	114	122	236
9	247	22	81	89	157	5	192	253	445	169	171	340
Total ...	1,686	173	487	1,119	1,315	26	1,722	2,203	3,925	1,468	1,537	3,005

L. A. CHASE,
Supervisor of Elections.

Notes for the Guidance of Returning Officers

[By L. A. CHASE, I.S.O., *Supervisor of Elections, 1951*]

GENERAL

1. These notes set out and comment on the duties of a Returning Officer in the order in which they would normally occur and, wherever practicable, in the precise words of the three statutes which govern elections; viz: the Representation of the People Act, 1901—1; the Ballot Act, 1931—2; and the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951—35. The last named Act is the one most quoted and a copy of it is presented herewith; the earlier Acts deal with relevant matters not included in the 1951—35 Act.

For the information of Returning Officers, the Notes issued for the guidance of Election Clerks, Presiding Officers and Poll Clerks are appended.

2. Returning Officers are appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee under Sec: 4 (1) of 1951—35.

3. "*Forthwith* upon his appointment each Returning Officer shall take and subscribe an oath in the form set out as Form 2 in the Schedule of this Act and shall transmit such oath to the Supervisor of Elections" (Sec: 4 (2) of (1951—35)). He shall then *forthwith* "establish an office in his *constituency* and shall cause an advertisement to be inserted in the newspapers specifying the place at which he has established his Office." (Sec: 4 (3) of 1951—35).

4. It is expected that the Returning Officer for each constituency will be prepared to assist the Supervisor of Elections in the selection for appointment of an Election Clerk, Presiding Officers and Poll Clerks. The Election Clerk and the Presiding Officer will be appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Supervisor of Elections. Poll Clerks will be appointed by the Supervisor of Elections. But all of these officials are under the immediate control and supervision of their respective Returning Officer who will enforce, on the part of all such election Officers, fairness, impartiality, and strict compliance with the provisions of the laws governing the election of members to serve in the General Assembly.

5. Returning Officers are authorised to administer any oath required by this Act to be made by any election Officer, or other person. (Sec: 8 of 1951—35).

6. As soon as the Returning Officer and the Election Clerk for a constituency have been appointed, the Supervisor of Elections will, in consultation with those two Officers, decide on the number of screened compartments that will be necessary for the Polling Stations in that constituency in the event of a contested election. The Supervisor of Elections will provide the required number of compartments and arrange for their transportation to a Central storeroom to be agreed on with the Returning Officer, in order to facilitate their subsequent distribution to the several Polling Stations. The Returning Officer and his Election Clerk will make the necessary arrangements for the storage of and for the distribution and erection of the compartments at the several Polling Stations, and for their removal, the day after the taking of the Poll, to a suitable store house. All necessary and reasonable expenditure in this connection will be paid by the Supervisor of Elections on the certificate of the Returning Officer.

7. The Supervisor of Elections shall supply to each Returning Officer a number of ballot boxes equal to the number of Polling Stations in his constituency. (Sec: 19 of 1951—35).

WRIT FOR ELECTION

8. Writs for election of members of the General Assembly issued by the Governor-in-Executive Committee will be addressed to Returning Officers (Sec: 10—1 of 1951—35) not less than ten days before the date fixed for the nomination of candidates.

9. Every such writ will specify the day and place for the nomination of candidates, the day on which, if necessary, the Poll shall be taken (being not less than fourteen and more than twenty-one days thereafter) and the day on which the writ is returnable to the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

ACTION ON RECEIPT OF WRIT

10. On receipt of such writ the Returning Officer shall immediately give notice of its issue and of the time and place fixed for the nomination of candidates, causing a notice in the form set out as Form 6 in the Schedule of the 1951—35 Act to be posted in such places in the constituency as he may deem necessary.

11. Before the day fixed for the nomination of candidates the Returning Officer shall obtain from the Registrar certified copies of the registers of electors for the time being in force. (Sec: 12 of 1951—35).

12. On the day and at the place fixed for the nomination of candidates, the Returning Officer shall attend at *nine* o'clock in the morning to receive the nomination of candidates (Sec: 13 (1) of 1951—35), and he should:—

- (a) produce his writ which he may read;
- (b) have before him the Register of Voters;
- (c) in an audible voice make a declaration in some such words as the following:

“In pursuance of the Writ dated the _____ day of _____ 19____ issued to me by the Governor-in-Executive Committee as Returning Officer for holding an Election for Members to serve in the General Assembly for the Parish/City of _____ and in pursuance of the Notice for such purpose duly published by me as required by the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, the hour being now nine o'clock, I hereby declare the Election to have now begun.”

13. Every candidate for election must be nominated in writing as in Form No: 7 in the Schedule of Sec: 13 (2) of the 1951—35 Act by two electors of the constituency for which he seeks to be elected, and he *shall*, at the time of his nomination deliver or cause to be delivered to the Returning Officer:

- (a) A Statutory declaration of his qualification, as in Form 8 or Form 8A as the case may be, in the Schedule (Sec: 13 (4) of 1951—35; and
- (b) the Colonial Treasurer's receipt for \$144 deposited in respect of his candidature for the constituency as required by the Representation of the People Amendment Act 1943—41 Sec: 11 (1) (a). The Returning Officer should initial the receipt for purposes of identification and keep it in safe custody. Attention should be paid to the date of the receipt, as the law provides that the deposit shall be made with the Colonial Treasurer *before* the day of the nomination.

UNCONTESTED ELECTION

14. If at the expiration of two hours, that is, at 11 o'clock in the morning, there shall be *duly* nominated only the number of candidates required for the filling of the vacant seat or seats, the Returning Officer shall forthwith:

- (a) publicly declare such candidate or candidates to be elected in some such words as these:—

“The hour for the nomination of Members to serve in the General Assembly for the Parish/City of _____ having now expired and Mr. _____ and Mr. _____ having been duly nominated by Messrs. _____ and Messrs. _____ respectively, electors of this parish having a right to vote, and

there being no other person nominated, I do now, upon view and with the consent of the electors here present, declare them, the said and to be duly and properly elected as such Members" and

(b) shall endorse the writ of election accordingly and return it to the Supervisor of Elections for transmission to the Governor-in-Executive Committee—Sec: 14 of 1951—35.

CONTESTED ELECTION

15. If there are more candidates nominated than there are vacant seats to be filled, the election shall be adjourned by the Returning Officer, and a Poll of electors taken on the day specified in the writ—Sec: 15 (1) of 1951—35.

BALLOT PAPER

16. The Returning Officer must, on his adjourning the election, immediately place an order with the Government Printers for a sufficient number of ballot papers for at least the number of electors *in the constituency*. The Ballot Papers should be made up into booklets of 100, and numbered in sequence; the first book containing numbers 1 to 100, the second 101 to 200, and so on for the entire constituency. This means that there will probably be many more ballot papers than there are registered voters, as to each registration district in a constituency must be allotted a number of booklets which must contain an aggregate number of ballot papers not less than the number of registered voters in that district. For example, to a district of 410 registered voters, there would have to be allotted five books of 100 each, or 500 ballot papers.

Tendered Ballot Paper Forms correspond in all respects with the Ballot Papers referred to above, except that they must be of a colour different from that of the Ballot Papers. They should also be numbered in sequence and put into booklets, but of only 10 forms each. One such booklet would be sufficient for each registration district. So, if there are 12 Registration districts in a constituency, 12 booklets of 10 forms each, and numbered consecutively from 1 to 120 should be ordered.

DESCRIPTION OF BALLOT PAPER

The Ballot Paper must contain no names except those of candidates who have been duly proposed in accordance with the requirements set out in paragraph 13 above.

Each ballot paper shall have a printed number in small characters, on the back, and shall have attached to it a counterfoil with the same number printed on the face.

Every ballot paper shall contain a list of the candidates, arranged in alphabetical order according to their surnames. As between two or more candidates who have the same surnames, that one will be placed earlier on the list whose other (i.e. Christian) names precede those of the other candidate or candidates alphabetically. If the candidates all have different surnames, the surname of each candidate shall be printed in large characters, followed by his name, address and description, printed in small characters. If two or more candidates have the same surname, then, with regard to such candidates, not only the surname but also the other names, shall be printed in large characters, followed by their respective names, addresses and descriptions, printed in small characters. (Schedule B to the Ballot Act, 1931—2, under the heading "Directions as to printing ballot paper").

On the back of the ballot paper will be printed:

No:

Election for House of Assembly for Parish/City of

19

As stated above the number on the back of the ballot paper must correspond with that on the front side of the counterfoil attached to the ballot paper.

Nothing is to be printed on the ballot paper except in accordance with the foregoing provisions.

COUNTERFOIL

No. 65

SPECIMEN FORM OF BALLOT PAPER.

Front View.

1	ATWELL. (SAMUEL JOHN ATWELL, of Emerald Plantation, Christ Church, Landed Proprietor.)
2	GREAVES. (WILLIAM HERBERT GREAVES, of Stratford Lodge, St. Michael, Barrister-at-Law.)
3	PILE (ARCHIBALD JONES PILE, of Green's Plantation, St. George, Landed Proprietor.)
4	YEARWOOD. (TIMOTHY YEARWOOD, of Edghill Plantation, St. Thomas, Landed Proprietor.)

SPECIMEN FORM OF BALLOT PAPER.

Front View.

COUNTERFOIL

No. 65

1	<p>ATWELL. (SAMUEL JOHN ATWELL, of Emerald Plantation, Christ Church, Landed Proprietor.)</p>
2	<p>GREAVES, HERMAN ADOLPHUS. (HERMAN ADOLPHUS GREAVES, of Ebenezer, Bank Hall, St. Michael, formerly Public Officer.)</p>
3	<p>GREAVES, WILLIAM HERBERT (WILLIAM HERBERT GREAVES, of Stratford Lodge, St. Michael, Barrister-at-Law.)</p>
4	<p>PILLE (ARCHIBALD JONES PILLE, of Green's Plantation, St. George, Landed Proprietor.)</p>
5	<p>YEARWOOD. (TIMOTHY YEARWOOD, of Edghill Plantation, St. Thomas, Landed Proprietor.)</p>

SPECIMEN FORM OF BALLOT PAPER.

Back View.

No. 65

Election for House of Assembly for Parish/City of

19

NOTICE OF POLL, ETC.

17. The Returning Officer shall, as soon as practicable after adjourning the election, give notice of the day and time when, and the locations of the Polling Stations at which the Poll will be taken, the names of the candidates, and of the place where and the day and time when the number of votes given to the several candidates will be counted, by publication thereof in at least two newspapers, and by causing notices to be posted at such places in the several districts as he may deem necessary, in the form set out as Form 9 in the Schedule of this Act (Sec: 15 (2) of 1951—35).

WITHDRAWAL OR DEATH OF CANDIDATES

18. The action to be taken by the Returning Officer is set out in Sections 26 and 27 of the attached copy of the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.

ESTABLISHMENT OF POLLING STATIONS

19. "The Returning Officer shall establish for each registration district such number of Polling Stations as the Supervisor of Elections shall determine." (Sec. 17 of 1951—35).

20. The Supervisor of Elections will send to the Returning Officer a list of the buildings selected by him for use as Polling Stations, and the Returning Officer (assisted by the Election Clerk) should satisfy himself that the buildings so selected are reasonably convenient and suitable for that purpose and, together with the necessary tables (two) and chairs (about six) will be available on the day and at the hour (say 6.45 a.m.) fixed for the taking of the Poll.

Where Polling Stations have to be established in rented buildings, a formal agreement must be signed by the owners of such buildings. Copies of the Agreement Forms will be supplied to Returning Officers by the Supervisor of Elections.

POLLING DAY

21. The Returning Officer shall furnish to each Presiding Officer on Polling day :—

- (a) a sufficient number of ballot papers (in booklets of 100) for at least the number of electors on the register of electors for the district;
- (b) a booklet of 10 Tendered Ballot Paper forms;
- (c) a statement showing the number of ballot papers so supplied, with their serial numbers;
- (d) the necessary materials for electors to mark their ballot papers;
- (e) two certified copies of the official register of electors for use at his Polling Station;
- (f) a ballot box;
- (g) the necessary envelopes and such other forms and supplies as may be authorised or furnished by the Supervisor of Elections;
- (h) the instrument for affixing the official mark on the ballot papers; (Sec: 18 (1) of 1951—35).

22. While the Returning Officer will have no specific duties to perform between the delivery of the Presiding Officers on the early morning of Polling day of the documents, etc., enumerated in the preceding paragraph, and the taking over from the said Presiding Officers, after the close of the Poll, the ballot boxes, and the documents, etc., referred to in the following paragraph, he, being the person solely responsible for the proper conduct of the election in his constituency through all its stages, should, so far as it is possible, make sure that throughout the day at all the Polling Stations in his constituency, voting proceeds in an orderly manner and in strict conformity with the requirements of the law.

ON CLOSING OF POLL

23. The Returning Officer will meet his Presiding Officers at the time and place agreed upon and take over from them their Ballot boxes (properly sealed) and their election documents as enumerated in paragraph 30 of "Notes for guidance of Presiding Officers."

CUSTODY OF BALLOT BOXES, ETC.

24. As the counting of Votes will not commence until the morning of the day after the taking of the poll, it will be necessary for Returning Officers to make arrangements for the safe keeping of the Ballot Boxes, etc., overnight. It has been the custom in the past for the Commissioner of Police to make cells at the Police Stations available for this purpose and there is no doubt that similar arrangements would still be possible.

THE COUNTING OF THE VOTES

25. The counting of Votes will take place at the time and place appointed for the purpose as previously published (see paragraph 17 above).

The necessary Counting Assistants will be appointed to assist the Returning Officer, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 32A of the Ballot (Amendment) Act, 1944—12.

26. The only persons who have a right to be present at the counting of votes, apart from the Supervisor of Elections, the Returning Officer and his assistants, are the candidates and not more than one agent for each candidate, who has been appointed by such candidate in the form set out as form 12 in the Schedule to the 1951—35 Act.

OATH OF SECRECY

27. The Returning Officer himself, his counting assistants and the candidates' agents must, if they have not already done so earlier in the election, take the oath of secrecy as prescribed in Schedule C of the Ballot Act, 1931, which is:

"I solemnly make oath and say that I will not at this election for do anything forbidden by section five of the Ballot Act, 1931, which has been read to me."

SECTION 5 OF BALLOT ACT

"Every person in attendance at the Polling Station shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting in such station, and shall not communicate, except for some purpose authorised by law, before the Poll is closed, to any person any information as to the name or number on the register of voters of any elector who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at that Station, or as to the official mark, and no such person whosoever shall interfere with or attempt to interfere with a voter when marking his vote, or otherwise attempt to obtain in the Polling Station information as to the candidate for whom any voter in such Station is about to vote or has voted, or communicate at any time to any person any information obtained in a Polling Station as to the candidate for whom any voter in such Station is about to vote or has voted, or as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given to any voter at such station. Every such person in attendance at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting, and shall not attempt to ascertain at such counting the number on the back of any ballot paper, or communicate any information obtained at such counting as to the candidate for whom any vote is given in any particular ballot paper. No person shall directly or indirectly induce any voter to display his ballot paper after he shall have marked the same, so as to make known to any person the name of the candidate for or against whom he has so marked his vote.

Every person who acts in contravention of the provisions of this section shall be liable, on summary conviction before a Police Magistrate, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months, with or without hard labour."

28. The tendered ballot papers are not to be included in the count, and the sealed packets of tendered ballot papers must not be opened.

29. The Returning Officer or his counting assistants shall open each ballot box, check the total number of ballot papers found therein with the Presiding Officer's Ballot Paper Account, note the result of his check for inclusion in his report to the Supervisor of Elections, and then proceed to count the votes cast for each candidate.

30. While counting the votes, the Returning Officer and his counting assistants shall keep the ballot papers with their faces upwards and shall take all precautions for preventing any person from seeing the number printed on the backs of such papers.

31. The counting, once commenced, should be proceeded with continuously, so far as is practicable, allowing only time for refreshment. If for any cause, the counting has to be suspended, the Returning Officer shall place the ballot papers and other documents under his own seal and the seals of such of the agents of the candidates as desire to affix their own, and shall take all other proper precautions for the security of all papers, documents and other things pertaining to the election.

32. The Returning Officer should count every ballot paper which is so marked as to show with reasonable certainty for whom the voter intended to vote, even though it is not marked in strict accordance with the method prescribed in the directions set out in the Ballot Act, provided it is not otherwise open to objection.

BALLOT PAPERS WHICH SHALL BE REJECTED AND, THEREFORE, NOT COUNTED

33. Ballot Papers shall be rejected as invalid on any one of the following grounds:—

- (1) Want of official mark;
- (2) Voting for more candidates than entitled to
- (3) Writing or mark on ballot paper by which the voter could be identified;
- (4) (a) Unmarked;
(b) Void for uncertainty.

And, as a return has to be made showing the number of ballot papers rejected on each of the above grounds, such ballot papers should be grouped and placed in clearly labelled packets.

34. Subject to the secrecy of the ballot being at all times maintained, a candidate or his agent has the right to be allowed to examine a ballot paper so that he may be enabled to raise an objection, if he wishes to do so, to the Returning Officer's decision.

35. As soon as the Returning Officer rejects any ballot paper as invalid, he shall endorse on it the word "Rejected." If any candidate or candidate's agent objects to the Returning Officer's ruling that any ballot paper is to be rejected as being invalid, the Returning Officer shall add a further endorsement "Rejection objected to."

36. The decision of the Returning Officer as to any question arising in respect to any ballot paper shall be final, subject to reversal on petition questioning the election or return.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULT OF POLL

37. Immediately after the completion of the counting of the votes, the Returning Officer should announce the results. He should state the number of votes received by each candidate and publicly declare to be elected and to be duly chosen representatives of the constituency the two candidates who shall have received the highest number of votes. His announcement should be along these lines:—

The result of the poll held for the election of members to serve in the General Assembly for the Parish/City of _____ is as follows:

Mr. B	has received	Votes
Mr. C	do.	do.
Mr. A	do.	do.
Mr. D	do.	do.

making a grand total of _____ Votes polled for all the candidates.

I therefore declare Mr. B and Mr. C to be elected and to be duly chosen representatives for the parish/City of _____ to serve in the General Assembly of this Island."

38. In case two or more candidates receive an equality of votes for the second place, it will be necessary to make a special return on the Writ. Thus if the numbers stand—

Brown	....	....	....	....	78
Jones	....	....	....	....	68
Smith	....	....	....	....	68

he will return Brown as duly elected, and make a special return on the Writ to the effect that Jones and Smith have received an equality of votes.

But if the numbers were:—

Brown	....	....	....	....	78
Jones	....	....	....	....	78
Smith	....	....	....	....	68

there would be no special return; he would declare Brown and Jones duly elected.

39. The Returning Officer shall, immediately after the election, give to every candidate who is elected or who though not elected shall have received more than one-sixth of the votes polled (i.e. exclusive of rejected ballot papers) a certificate of the number of votes polled by such candidate, together with the total number of votes polled, in the following form:—

Certificate in connection with deposit made in accordance with Section 11 of the Act 1943-41 to amend the Representation of the People Act 1901-1.

I hereby certify that.....votes were polled for Mr.of..... a Candidate nominated at the Election of Members for the Parish/City of _____ to serve in the General Assembly of this Island for the session _____, and that the number of votes polled at this Election was.....

.....
Returning Officer.

Date.....

ELECTION DOCUMENTS

40. Section 24 (1) of the 1951-35 Act lists the Election Documents etc., that the Returning Officer shall deliver personally to the Supervisor of Elections. (Wherever necessary, the forms on which returns or reports are to be made will be supplied by the Supervisor of Elections).

ELECTION AGENT'S RETURN OF EXPENSES

41. The duties of a Returning Officer in this respect are defined in Section 43 of the 1951-35 Act.

PENALTY FOR PARTICIPATION IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN BY
ELECTION OFFICERS

42. Section 37 of the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, enacts:

“Every election Officer who—

- (a) canvasses for votes on behalf of any candidate or political party;
or
- (b) addresses any meeting on behalf of any candidate or political party; or
- (c) in any way actively associates himself with the election campaign of any candidate or political party,

shall be guilty of an offence against this section and on conviction by a Court of Summary jurisdiction, shall be liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for twelve months.”

Notes for the Guidance of Election Clerks

[By L. A. CHASE, I.S.O., *Supervisor of Elections, 1951*]

GENERAL

1. Forthwith upon his appointment, the election Clerk shall take an oath in the form set out as Form No. 4 in the Schedule to the 1951-35 Act and shall transmit such oath to the Returning Officer.

2. "If at any time between the issue of a writ for an election and the declaration of the result of that election, the Returning Officer dies or becomes incapable of performing his duties as such, the Election Clerk shall forthwith report the fact to the Supervisor of Elections and shall discharge the duties and exercise the powers of the Returning Officer until some other Returning Officer is appointed or the Returning Officer ceases to be incapable of performing his duties, as the case may be". (Sec. 6 (3) of 1951-35).

3. An Election Clerk shall generally carry out the instructions of his Returning Officer and will, in an emergency, as set out in para. 2 above, be expected to assume the full duties and responsibilities of a Returning Officer. He should therefore, be fully conversant with all the duties appertaining to that important and highly responsible Office, and for this reason the full "Notes for the guidance of Returning Officers" are appended.

4. Particularly will it be the responsibility of an Election Clerk to confirm, for the information of his Returning Officer, that the persons who own or control the buildings in which Polling Stations are to be placed have formally agreed to their use for that purpose and are fully aware of the day on and the hours between which the Polling will take place. Subject to any specific instructions by his Returning Officer, an Election Clerk will also be responsible for making the necessary arrangements for the erection, at the several Polling Stations, of the screened compartments that will be supplied by the Supervisor of Elections. All necessary and reasonable expenditure in this connection will be paid by the Supervisor of Elections on the certificate of the Returning Officer.

PENALTY FOR PARTICIPATION IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN BY ELECTION OFFICERS

5. Section 37 of the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, enacts:

"Every Election Officer who:—

- (a) canvasses for votes on behalf of any candidate or political party; or
- (b) addresses any meeting on behalf of any candidate or political party; or
- (c) in any way actively associates himself with the election campaign of any candidate or political party.

shall be guilty of an offence against this section and on conviction by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, shall be liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for twelve months."

Notes for the Guidance of Presiding Officers

(By L. A. CHASE, I.S.O., Supervisor of Elections, 1951)

GENERAL

1. These notes set out and comment on the duties of a Presiding Officer in the order in which they would normally occur and, wherever practicable, in the precise words of the three statutes which govern elections; viz: the Representation of the People Act, 1901—1; the Ballot Act, 1931—2; and the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951—35. The last named Act is the one most quoted and a copy of it is appended; the earlier Acts deal with relevant matters not included in the 1951—35 Act.

2. "Forthwith upon his appointment each Presiding Officer shall take and subscribe an oath in the form set out as Form No. 3 in the Schedule to this Act and shall transmit such oath to the Returning Officer." (Sec. 5 (2) of 1951—35).

3. "If any Presiding Officer dies or becomes incapable of performing his duties during the taking of the poll, the Poll Clerk shall forthwith assume the office of Presiding Officer and shall appoint some other person to act as Clerk." (Sec. 7 (3) of 1951—35).

4. Each Presiding Officer should, a day or two before the date fixed for the taking of the Poll, satisfy himself by a visit to the Polling Station at which he is to preside, that the necessary voting compartments have been installed and that the required number of suitable tables (two) and chairs (about six) are available for his use. If everything is not in order, he should so inform his Returning Officer and assist in making any necessary *adjustments*. In this connection he will be reimbursed by the Supervisor of Elections for any reasonable expense incurred by him, as it is essential that the Polling Station is properly equipped.

5. The Returning Officer shall furnish to each Presiding Officer, on Polling Day—

- (a) a sufficient number of ballot papers in booklets of 100 for at least the number of electors on the register of electors for the district;
- (b) a booklet of 10 tendered Ballot Paper forms;
- (c) a statement showing the number of ballot papers so supplied, with their serial numbers;
- (d) the necessary materials for electors to mark their ballot papers;
- (e) two certified copies of the official register of electors for use at his Polling Station;
- (f) a ballot box;
- (g) the necessary envelopes and such other forms and supplies as may be authorised or furnished by the Supervisor of Elections;
- (h) the instrument for affixing the official mark on the ballot papers. (Sec. 18 (1) of 1951—35).

6. Until the opening of the Poll the Presiding Officer shall keep the official copies of the register of electors, forms of oaths, envelopes, ballot papers and other election supplies carefully locked up in the ballot box, and shall take every precaution for their safe keeping and prevent any person from having unlawful access to them. (Sec. 18 (2) of 1951—35).

All Election Officers are required to provide *their own fountain pens* for use at Polling Stations.

7. "Before the hour fixed for the opening of the Poll the Presiding Officer shall post up in *each compartment* of the Polling Station and in a conspicuous place outside of the Polling Station one copy of the directions issued by the Supervisor of Elections for the guidance of electors in voting." (Sec. 18 (3) of 1951—35). These directions will be handed to each Presiding Officer by his Returning Officer.

8. "When a candidate has withdrawn after the ballot papers are printed, the Returning Officer shall advise by letter each Presiding Officer of his constituency of such withdrawal, and, when time permits, shall distribute to each Presiding Officer a printed notice of the withdrawal. On Polling Day each Presiding Officer shall post a copy of the printed notice of withdrawal in a conspicuous place in his Polling Station. If time does not permit of the printing and the distribution of such notice, the Presiding Officer, upon being advised by letter, by the Returning Officer of the withdrawal of any candidate, shall himself prepare by hand a notice to that effect and post it up in a conspicuous place in his Polling Station. In either case the Presiding Officer shall, when delivering a ballot paper to each elector, inform such elector of the withdrawal of the candidate." (Sec. 26 (2) of 1951—35).

9. "At the hour fixed for opening the Poll the Presiding Officer and Poll Clerk shall, in the presence of the candidates, their agents, and such of the electors as are present, open the ballot box and ascertain that there are no ballot papers or other papers therein, after which the box shall be locked and sealed, and the Presiding Officer shall keep the key thereof; the box shall be placed on a table in full view of all present and shall be maintained there until the close of the poll." (Sec. 20 (1) of 1951—35).

10. "Immediately after the ballot box is so locked and sealed, the Presiding Officer shall call upon the electors to vote." (Sec. 20 (2) of 1951—35).

11. "The Presiding Officer shall secure the admittance of every elector into the Polling Station, and shall see that they are not impeded or molested at or about the Polling Station" (Sec. 20 (3) of 1951—35); but no person shall be admitted to vote at a Polling Station if his/her name does not appear on that Station's Voters List.

12. "The Presiding Officer shall keep order at his Polling Station and shall regulate the number of voters to be admitted at a time, and shall exclude all other persons except his assistants, the candidates, one agent for each candidate appointed by such candidate in writing in the form set out as Form No. 12 in the Schedule to this Act, and any constable on duty." (Sec. 22 (1) of 1951—35).

13. Any person claiming to be a candidate's agent for the purposes of the proceedings at the Polling Station to which he seeks admission must hand to the Presiding Officer his certificate of appointment in the form set out as Form 12 in the Schedule of this Act (Sec. 22 (1) of 1951—35). If the certificate is in order, the Presiding Officer must read to the Agent Section 5 of the Ballot Act, 1931, which is as follows:—

"Every person in attendance at a Polling Station shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting in such station, and shall not communicate, except for some purpose authorised by law, before the Poll is closed, to any person any information as to the name or number on the register of voters of any elector who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at that station, or as to the Official mark, and no such person whosoever shall interfere with or attempt to interfere with a voter when marking his vote, or otherwise attempt to obtain in the Polling Station information as to the candidate for whom any voter in such station is about to vote or has voted, or communicate at any time to any person any information obtained in a Polling Station as to the candidate for whom any voter in such station is about to vote or has voted, or as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given to any voter at such station. Every such person in attendance at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting, and shall not attempt to ascertain at such counting the number on the back of any ballot paper, or communicate any information obtained at such counting as to the candidate for whom any vote is given in any particular ballot paper. No person shall directly or indirectly induce any voter to display his ballot paper after he

shall mark the same, so as to make known to any person the name of the candidate for or against whom he has so marked his vote. Every person who acts in contravention of the provisions of this section shall be liable on summary conviction before a Police Magistrate, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months, with or without hard labour."

and then administer to him the following oath:—

"I solemnly make oath and say that I will not at this election for do anything forbidden by Section 5 of the Ballot Act, 1931, which has been read to me."

14. Every candidate has a general right to be present throughout all stages of the election, and it is specifically provided that a candidate may himself undertake the duties which any agent of his if appointed might have undertaken, or may assist his agent in the performance of such duties, and may be present at any place at which his agent may in pursuance of the Ballot Act attend. Where it is provided that anything is to be done in the presence of the agents of the candidates, the thing if otherwise properly done will not be invalidated merely by reason of the fact that the agents happen not to have attended at the time and place. (Ballot Act, 1931—2. Rule 35.)

15. The Presiding Officer should permit only one Voter at a time to come to his table.

16. "The agents aforesaid shall be posted in such a place that they can see each person who presents himself as an elector, and hear his name as given by him, but so that they cannot see how any voter votes. They shall not interfere in the proceedings save in so far as may be allowed by this Act." (Sec. 22 (2) of 1951—35.)

17. "If any person persists, after being warned, in disobeying the directions of the Presiding Officer or in acting in contravention of this section it shall be lawful for the Presiding Officer to cause him to be removed from the Polling Station." (Sec. 22 (3) of 1951—35.)

18. Apart from cases which are specially provided for (blind persons, etc.) and which are dealt with in paras. 22—27, the procedure for taking the vote is as follows:—

When the voter presents at the Presiding Officer's table the ticket given to him by the Poll Clerk at the door, the Presiding Officer calls out the number, name and description of the voter as stated in the copy of the register; writes the number of the voter on the *counterfoil only* of the ballot paper; places a tick or other mark on the copy of the register against the number of the voter to denote that he has received a ballot paper (but without showing the particular ballot paper which he has received); tears off the ballot paper from its counterfoil; stamps the ballot paper on both sides with the official mark, and hands it to the voter. The voter proceeds forthwith into one of the compartments in the Polling Station, and there, makes his mark against the name of the candidate or candidates for whom he intends to vote, and folds his paper in such a way that his vote is concealed, but so that the official mark on the back can be seen. Leaving the compartment, he goes back to the Presiding Officer; holds the folded paper in such a way as to show him the official mark at the back and then places the paper, still folded, in the ballot box in the presence of the Presiding Officer. He then immediately quits the Polling Station.

19. Subject to what is stated in the succeeding paragraphs about the putting of questions, the Register of electors for the time being in force for a registration district shall be conclusive as to the right of any person to receive a ballot paper for the purpose of voting in that registration district. Every person whose name is on such register shall be entitled to demand and receive a ballot paper and to vote, and no person whose name is not on the register shall be so entitled. (Ballot Act 1931—2 Sec: 6).

20. The right of the Voter to vote may be questioned only by a candidate or a candidate's agent, and only under the following conditions: (Rep. of People Act 1901—1 Sec. 46).

oath in the form set out as Form No. 10 in the Schedule to this Act (1951—35) and who is accompanied by a friend who is an elector in the Polling division, shall permit such friend to accompany the aforesaid elector into the voting compartment in order to witness the marking of the ballot paper by the Presiding Officer. No person shall at any election be allowed to act as the friend of more than one such elector." (Sec. 21 (1) of 1951—35.)

OATH OF BLIND OR PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED ELECTOR

You _____ of _____ swear that you are incapable of voting without assistance by reason of your inability to see or of physical incapacitation.

So Help You God.

The name of the friend should be recorded in the appropriate column in the "List of Voters marked by Presiding Officer."

24. "Any friend who is permitted to be present at the marking of the ballot paper of an elector as aforesaid shall first be required to take an oath in the form set out as Form No. 11 in the Schedule to this Act that he will keep secret the name of the Candidate for whom the ballot of such elector is marked by the Presiding Officer, and that he has not already acted as the friend of any such elector for the purpose aforesaid." (Sec. 21 (2) of 1951—35).

OATH OF FRIEND OF BLIND OR PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED ELECTOR

1. You swear that you will keep secret the name of the candidate for whom the presiding officer marks the ballot paper of the blind or physically incapacitated elector on whose behalf you act as friend.

2. That you have not already acted as the friend of a blind or physically incapacitated elector for the purpose of attending the marking of his ballot paper at this election.

So Help You God.

25. *Where the elector is engaged as Returning Officer, Presiding Officer, (or other Election Officer) or is a Candidate in another constituency:*

In such case the elector so engaged must send a letter signed by him, addressed to the Presiding Officer, stating the name or names of the candidate or candidates for whom he desires to vote. The Presiding Officer will mark the ballot paper accordingly, place it in the ballot box, and make the mark on the Register of Voters to show that a ballot paper has been issued in respect of the elector in question. Entry must be made on the "List of Votes marked by the Presiding Officer" of the name and number on the Register of the elector in question and of the reason why the ballot paper was marked by the Presiding Officer. (Ballot Act 1931—2, Rule 15).

26. *Spoilt Ballot Paper and Issue of Second Ballot Paper:*

Where a Voter proves to the satisfaction of the Presiding Officer that he has, through inadvertence, dealt with his ballot paper in such a way that it cannot be conveniently used as a ballot paper, the Presiding Officer will ask him to deliver up the spoilt ballot paper and will issue a new one in its place. The spoilt ballot paper shall be immediately cancelled by the Presiding Officer and placed in an envelope kept ready for the purpose, marked "Ballot Papers spoilt by Voters." (Ballot Act 1931—2, Rule 16).

27. *Where a person applies for a Ballot Paper in the name of an elector who has already voted under that name:*

If a person representing himself to be a particular elector named on the register applies for a ballot paper after another person has voted as such elector the procedure is as follows: The Presiding Officer shall put to the applicant the same questions and administer to him the same oath as in para 20 above. If the questions are duly answered and the oath duly taken, the applicant is given,

not an ordinary ballot paper, but a *tendered ballot paper* form which he proceeds to mark in the secrecy of the compartment in the usual way. When he returns to the Presiding Officer with the tendered ballot paper so marked, he must not be allowed to put it into the ballot box; instead, he shall give it still folded to the Presiding Officer, who shall endorse on it the name of the voter and his number on the Register of Voters and shall place it in a separate packet, specially provided for the purpose marked "Tendered Ballot Papers." The Presiding Officer must then enter on a special list, called "The Tendered Votes List," the name of the voter and his number on the Register. (Ballot Act 1931—2, Rule 14.)

FORMALITY OF CLOSING

28. The Poll must not remain open after 6 o'clock p.m., when the Presiding Officer should audibly declare the Poll closed in some such words as these:—

"It being now the hour of 6 o'clock in the afternoon, I declare the Poll in this Polling Station for the election of members of the General Assembly for the parish/City of _____ closed."

29. The effect of the formal closing of the Poll is that no voter is admitted thereafter; but it appears to be well established that voters who have already received their ballot papers must be allowed to record their votes. Subject to the right of such voter to place his ballot paper in the ballot box, the ballot box is, immediately upon the Poll being declared closed, sealed up so as to prevent the introduction of additional ballot papers.

PREPARATION OF PACKETS AND OF BALLOT PAPER ACCOUNTS

30. The Poll having been closed, the Presiding Officer of each Polling Station shall, as soon as practicable thereafter, prepare for delivery to the Returning Officer:

- (1) his Ballot Paper Account (see specimen), and
- (2) the five packets listed hereunder:
 1. The ballot box in use at the station, unopened but with the key attached.
 2. (a) Unused ballot papers
(b) Spoilt ballot papers
(c) Tendered ballot paper forms unused.
 3. Tendered ballot papers (marked).
 4. (a) The marked copies of the Register of Voters.
(b) The Counterfoils of the ballot papers.
(c) The Counterfoils of the tendered ballot papers.
 5. (a) The tendered votes list.
(b) The list of votes marked by the Presiding Officer.
(c) Written appointments of Candidates' Agents, if any. (Form 12).

Each of the above packets must be made up by the Presiding Officer in the presence of such of the agents of the candidates as are in attendance; the Presiding Officer must seal each packet with his own seal and must allow such of the agents of the candidates as are present and desire to fix their seals also to do so. (Ballot Act, 1931—2, Rule 17).

31. The Presiding Officer of each Polling Station will deliver these separate packets and his Ballot Paper account to the Returning Officer at the time and place agreed upon.

SPECIMEN FORM OF BALLOT PAPER ACCOUNT

Election of Members to serve in the General Assembly of this Island, held on the _____ day _____ of 19 _____

For the Parish/City of _____

Polling Station No. _____

conducted by Mr. _____

held at _____

as Presiding Officer.

BALLOT PAPER ACCOUNT

Number of ordinary Ballot Papers received from Returning Officer	350	
Number in Ballot Box		243
Number unused		89
Number spoiled by voters		18
Number of tendered ballot paper forms received from Returning Officer	50	
Number filled up		12
Number unused		36
Number spoiled by voters		2
Totals	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>
No. of Males who voted	100	
„ „ Females who voted	143	
Total	<u>243</u>	

PENALTY FOR PARTICIPATION IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN BY
ELECTION OFFICERS

32. Section 37 of the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, enacts:

“Every Election Officer who—

- (a) canvasses for votes on behalf of any candidate or political party; or
- (b) addresses any meeting on behalf of any candidate or political party; or
- (c) in any way actively associates himself with the election campaign of any candidate or political party.

shall be guilty of an offence against this section and on conviction by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, shall be liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for twelve months.

Notes for the Guidance of Poll Clerks

[By L. A. CHASE, I. S.O., *Supervisor of Elections, 1951*]

1. Forthwith upon his appointment (under Sec: 7 (1) of 1951-35) every Poll Clerk shall take and subscribe the oath in the form set out as Form No. 5 in the Schedule to this Act and shall transmit such oath to the Returning Officer.

2. "If any Presiding Officer dies or becomes incapable of performing his duties during the taking of the Poll, the Poll Clerk shall forthwith assume the office of Presiding Officer and shall appoint some other person to act as Clerk." (Sec: 7 (3) of 1951-35).

(Because of this possibility a copy of "Notes for the guidance of Presiding Officers" is appended, and all Poll Clerks are expected to study them.)

3. No person may be admitted to vote at a Polling Station if his/her name does not appear on that Station's List of Voters.

4. Two Poll Clerks will assist each Presiding Officer who will assign to them their respective duties. One Poll Clerk will sit near to and generally assist the Presiding Officer; the other will sit at the entrance to the Polling Station and, as a Voter enters and discloses his identity, he will check his or her name with the Voters List, and, on being satisfied that the name given is on that list, the Poll Clerk will hand to the Voter a ticket on which is written the number appearing opposite the Voter's name on the Voters List, and he will at the same time tick off that name on the Voters List and indicate whether the Voter is MALE or FEMALE. The Voter will then proceed to the Presiding Officer's Table and present to the Presiding Officer or to the Poll Clerk sitting at his side the ticket given to him at the door.

5. When the Poll is closed, the Clerk at the door will inform the Presiding Officer as to the total number of Voters (Males and Females shown separately) to whom he has given tickets. The Presiding Officer will require this information for inclusion in his Report.

PENALTY FOR PARTICIPATION IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN BY ELECTION OFFICERS

6. Section 37 of the Representation of the People (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, enacts:

"Every Election Officer who:—

- (a) canvasses for votes on behalf of any candidate or political party; or
- (b) addresses any meeting on behalf of any candidate or political party; or
- (c) in any way actively associates himself with the election campaign of any candidate or political party,

shall be guilty of an offence against this section and on conviction by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, shall be liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for twelve months.

7. All Election Officers are required to provide *their own fountain pens* for use at Polling Stations.