

New Zealand.



ANALYSIS.

Title.

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Schedule. |
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1914, No. 16.

AN ACT to enable the Members of the Expeditionary Forces to exercise their Votes at the next General Election of Members of the House of Representatives and Licensing Poll. Title.

[4th September, 1914.]

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Expeditionary Forces Voting Act, 1914. Short Title.

2. Every member of any Expeditionary Force sent from New Zealand to serve in the war in which His Majesty is at present engaged shall be entitled to vote in the manner hereinafter prescribed at the next general election of members of the House of Representatives, and also at the licensing poll taken simultaneously with such election. Members of Expeditionary Forces to have opportunity of voting.

3. (1.) With respect to the votes to be given by members of any such Force at the next general election of members of the House of Representatives the following provisions shall apply:— Provisions to apply in respect to the votes to be given for members of the House of Representatives.

(a.) The vote of each such member shall be recorded on a voting-paper in the form in the Schedule hereto by striking out the words indicating the parties for whom he does not wish to vote.

- (b.) Every vote given as aforesaid for any party shall be counted as a vote for the candidate who has been selected in the manner hereinafter prescribed as the candidate representing that party in the electoral district in which the voter resided immediately before joining the Expeditionary Force.
- (c.) Such selection shall be made—
- (i.) In the case of the Government party, by the Prime Minister;
 - (ii.) In the case of the Opposition party, by the leader of the Opposition; and
 - (iii.) In the case of the Labour party, by two members of the House of Representatives (as now constituted) who shall be appointed as selectors by resolution of the said House on the recommendation of a majority of the Labour members of the said House.
- (d.) If there is no candidate selected as aforesaid as representing the party for which the vote is given, the vote shall not be counted.
- (e.) Every selection made under paragraphs (b) and (c) hereof shall be gazetted not later than five days after nomination-day, and shall be given effect to by Returning Officers at the election.
- (f.) A voting-paper in the form in the Schedule hereto shall be supplied by an electoral officer appointed for the purpose by the Chief Electoral Officer to every member of the said Forces who applies for the same.
- (g.) When the voter has marked his voting-paper as aforesaid he shall enclose it in an envelope addressed to the Returning Officer of the electoral district in which he resided immediately before he joined the Force, and having sealed the envelope shall deliver the same to the electoral officer, who shall forthwith forward it to the Chief Electoral Officer at Wellington.

(2.) For the purposes of this section “Government” and “Opposition” mean respectively the Government and Opposition in office on the passing of this Act.

Provisions to apply in respect to the votes to be given at the licensing poll.

4. With respect to the votes to be given at the licensing poll taken simultaneously with the said general election the following provisions shall apply:—

- (a.) The vote of each member shall be recorded on the voting-papers and in the manner prescribed by the Licensing Act, 1908.
- (b.) A voting-paper on each of the issues submitted at the licensing poll in the form prescribed as aforesaid shall be supplied by the electoral officer aforesaid to every member who applies to vote under the last preceding section, and shall be dealt with in the manner provided by paragraph (g) of that section.
- (c.) In the event of the form of the voting-paper prescribed for the taking of the licensing poll on the issue of national prohibition being altered during the present session of

Parliament, then the votes at the licensing poll under this Act on that issue against national prohibition and for national prohibition respectively shall be counted as if they had been given for national continuance or for national prohibition or otherwise in accordance with the tenor of the altered form of the voting-paper in which the issue is submitted for the determination of the electors at the general election.

5. Not later than seven days before the day fixed for the general election the Chief Electoral Officer shall forward to the Returning Officer of each electoral district and to the Returning Officer of each licensing district all envelopes addressed as aforesaid to that Returning Officer.

Chief Electoral Officer to forward envelopes to Returning Officer.

6. At the counting of the votes at the said general election and licensing poll the Returning Officer shall open all envelopes so sent to him, and shall, subject to the foregoing provisions of this Act, deal with the voting-papers contained therein as if they had been issued pursuant to an absent voter's permit.

Counting of the votes.

7. No person who has exercised his vote under this Act shall be entitled to vote again at the general election or licensing poll.

No person to vote again.

8. Electoral officers may be appointed out of New Zealand for the purpose of enabling any person to record his vote under this Act who is a member of any Expeditionary Force sent out of New Zealand before the passing of this Act.

Electoral officers may be appointed out of New Zealand.

9. The Governor may from time to time, by Order in Council, make regulations prescribing anything necessary for carrying this Act into effect.

Governor may make regulations.

10. The validity of the election at the said general election in any electoral district or of the licensing poll taken in any licensing district shall not be questioned on the ground that anything has been done irregularly or omitted to be done under this Act, or that for any reason whatever it is found impracticable for any member of any Expeditionary Force aforesaid to record his vote.

Proceedings under this Act not to invalidate election or poll.

11. This Act shall be deemed to be repealed on the completion of the said general election :

Duration of Act.

Provided that such repeal shall not affect any proceeding in relation to the said election or to the said licensing poll.

SCHEDULE.

Schedule.

FORM OF VOTING-PAPER.

Electoral District of

GOVERNMENT.

OPPOSITION.

LABOUR.

Direction to Voter.

The voter must leave untouched the name of the party for which he desires to vote and must strike out the names of all other parties.