

petitioner and how many for the respondent. Failing this—and the practical difficulties in the way are obvious—as a last resort the voters could be asked individually how they voted. This is rarely done, but sometimes may be unavoidable. Halsbury mentions a case in which two ballot papers were found to have the same numbers and one of them was marked in such a way as to make it bad. It was impossible to say if this one had been marked by the voter (his vote had been declared bad) and it was decided that both might be shown to him so that he might say which was his.

There might possibly be other ways of getting at the real truth, though I cannot think of any; but, whatever method were used, it is doubtful if the result would be convincing. The voters are widely separated and some may possibly be now unavailable; the figures show that all, or very nearly all, the votes would have to be included to produce a definite result; and the matter has received so much publicity, and the standing of the parties is so well known that there could be no certainty that the result reached was in truth what it would have been if the votes had not been counted. The whole idea of a recount in this connection appears impracticable and we feel that we cannot in fairness adopt or recommend it. There is no course left but to declare the election void.

Mr. R. A. Parsons, Q.C.
and Mr. J. J. Greene for Petitioner;

Mr. P. J. Lewis, Q.C.
and Mr. G. F. Laing for Respondent.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that, pursuant to section 69 of the Dominion Controverted Elections Act, chapter 87, R.S.C., 1952, he had addressed his Warrant to the Chief Electoral Officer for the issue of a new Writ of Election for the said Electoral District of St. John's West.

Mr. Howe, from the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines, presented the First Report of the said Committee, which was read as follows:

Your Committee recommends:

1. That it be empowered to print from day to day 750 copies in English and 300 copies in French of its Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, and that Standing Order 66 be suspended in relation thereto;
2. That its quorum be reduced from 20 to 15 Members, and that Standing Order 65(1)(b) be suspended in relation thereto.

By unanimous consent, on motion of Mr. Howe, seconded by Mr. Smith (Simcoe North), the said Report was concurred in.

Mr. Aiken, from the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, presented the First Report of the said Committee, which was read as follows:

Your Committee recommends that it be empowered to print such papers and evidence, from day to day, as may be deemed advisable or necessary, and that Standing Order 66 be suspended in relation thereto.

By unanimous consent, on motion of Mr. Aiken, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the said Report was concurred in.