

BALLOT

CONSERVATIVE.

John Smith.
J. L. Roberts.
F. C. Jones.
R. L. George.
B. C. Blanks.
Joseph Budd.
Horatio Todd.
Simon Black.
J. Hopkins.
Geo. Sterne.
G. C. Albright.
H. L. Wills.
Geo. L. Green.

× LIBERAL.

J. L. Peters.
× Judah P. Dicky.
× A. C. Markin.
F. H. House.
H. C. Jenney.
× Hugh Josephs.
John Jacobs.
× Farlin Quit.
× Moses Solomon.
× Wm. Dixon.
Thos. Brown.
Geo. Smith.
× Hamilton Judd.

REFORM.

Joseph E. Upright.
Hamilton Steed.
Richard Black.
John Wilson.
H. D. Hernderson.

The accompanying ballot shows a convenient form for carrying into effect the quota system. The voter marks a cross in the square opposite the name of the party he wishes, and if he has any preference among the candidates which are named on that ticket he puts a cross in the square opposite those names. Different voters will of course have different preferences, and hence the votes will vary. Take as an illustration the vote of New Brunswick which may be supposed to amount all told to 76,420 votes. Dividing this by the number of seats, thirteen, to which that province is entitled, it is found that the quota is 5,878. That is to say, if 76,420 votes are to have thirteen representatives 5,878 votes, or one thirteenth part of the whole vote, should have one representative.

Dividing the 34,202 votes of the conservatives by the quota, 5,878, gives five full quotas and a remainder of 4,812. By the same process the 30,043 liberal votes make five quotas and a remainder of 653 votes. The 12,175 reform votes make two quotas and leave a remainder of 419. As there is still one seat to be filled it is given to the party having the largest unfilled quota, which is the conservative party. This makes the delegation from the province six conservatives, five liberals, and two reformers. The six conservatives are taken from their list in the order of their votes as has already been explained. It is well for parties to nominate a full list of candidates, as it does not alter the effect of the party vote, and offers the voter greater choice.

THE RULE OF THE REAL MAJORITY.

In presenting to your learned body the accompanying draft of an act of parliament, it is unnecessary to supplement it with additional words other than the briefest explanation. Nor will it be necessary to review the present system and enumerate its deplorable results, further than to say that the very principle upon which it is based is wrong. Not only do evil results flow from the system, but it must from the very nature of things be so. By dividing the voters into separate districts from each of which a member is elected by a plurality or majority vote as the case may be, all the votes cast for unsuccessful candidates are unrepresented; for a voter cannot be said to be represented by a candidate against whom he voted. But this is not the end. Legislation is accomplished by the will of the majority of the members of the legislature; and as all the members together represent but a bare majority of the votes and sometimes less, it follows that the action of a majority of these representatives is really the will of a very small minority of the voters who participated in the election. Taking a majority of the members of any legislative body who received the smallest votes and it will be found that they seldom represent more than one-third of the total vote of the election, often only one-fourth, and sometimes not more than one-fifth. Examples of such results are so common, and have been presented by so many writers that it is superfluous to enumerate them here; suffice it to say that the mere mention of the false principle upon which the present system is based will bring to mind many examples.

It needs no elaboration of reasons and facts to prove that the principle of electing representatives from single districts by majority votes is wanting in all the elements which are conducive to good government. The sole reason for the existence of representative government rests upon the assumption that all men are equally entitled to life; which involves the right to their own persons and to the results of their own labor. As the individual is the unit of the social and political order, and as governments are instituted

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