

PENALTIES

Various penalties are provided for those who try to defeat the purpose of these regulations. Offences against the regulations may be prosecuted either by indictment or by way of summary conviction, and penalties for such offences are fines up to \$2,000 and costs and/or imprisonment up to two years, with or without hard labor.

Penalties for war service electors who make untrue statements in their declarations, apply for ballot papers to which they are not entitled, try to interfere with any elector's vote or to find out for whom any elector is voting, are up to a \$200 fine and costs and/or six months' imprisonment.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

The withdrawal of a candidate will be communicated to the electors through the usual channels: Chief electoral officer to special returning officer, to commanding officer, to commissioned officer designated to take votes, who informs the electors. Votes cast for a candidate who has withdrawn are rejected. Similarly, if a candidate dies between nomination day and polling day, and the election is postponed in that electoral district, the outer envelopes will not be opened, and the ballots contained in them will be considered as rejected ballots.

The validity of the election of a member to serve in the House of Commons will not be questioned on the ground of any omission or irregularity in connection with the administration of these regulations if it appears that such omission or irregularity did not affect the result of the election, nor on the ground that, for any reason, it was impossible to obtain the vote of any war service elector.

The provisions of the Dominion Elections Act, 1938, relating to the recount of votes by a judge apply to all war service ballots, which have been counted and rejected.

All accounts for services and expenses incurred in connection with these regulations are paid by the auditor-general.

PRISONER OF WAR VOTE

Prisoners of war may vote by proxy in a Canadian general election under Schedule B of the act, called the Canadian Prisoners of War Voting Regulations, 1944. These regulations apply for the duration of the war and six months afterwards.

Beginning on Monday of the second week before polling day, the chief electoral officer will issue special proxy certificates to the next-of-kin of prisoners of war, having already ascertained through the returning officer of the district that the next-of-kin is a qualified elector. The chief electoral officer then advises the returning officer of each district of the names and addresses of those holding proxies. Next-of-kin may also vote in their own right and may vote by proxy for more than one prisoner of war.

Before actually casting his proxy vote, the next-of-kin delivers his special certificate to the deputy returning officer in charge and produces satisfactory evidence that he is the person mentioned as next-of-kin. The deputy returning officer then has the usual entries made in the polling book and records opposite such an entry the name of the prisoner of war and the fact that the next-of-kin voted on his behalf. He then hands the ballot to the next-of-kin who votes in the ordinary way.

Penalties are provided for any person who votes or attempts to vote under proxy knowing that he is not entitled so to vote.