

The Presiding officer, must, immediately before the voting commences, exhibit the ballot box to those present in the booth, so that they may see that it is empty. He must then lock the box and keep it locked until the close of the poll. (Sec. 46.)

Agents are entitled to have the packets of ballots intended for use carefully counted in their presence before opening the poll, and they have the right to inspect these and all other papers and documents if agents are in attendance 15 minutes before the opening of poll. Inspect with utmost care.

Examine the compartment where voters are to mark ballots; see that there is no chance of exhibiting the **X** or of communication by window or otherwise with the outside. Examine the lead pencil, see that it is a **black lead pencil**.

If it is a very soft lead pencil, object that in folding or pressing, the ballot may be spoiled by duplicating the cross. Demand proper lead pencil. Require the Presiding Officer to make the change; tell outside scrutineer to caution our voters to use only a black lead pencil; if another color is found in compartment, voter should demand black lead pencil and a new ballot if he has spoiled one.

Have a Voters' List, carefully prepared with notes for your guidance, showing each voter you are to object to and to swear; also be prepared to sustain any of your own voters who may be objected to by the opposing Agent.

Check off on your list each voter as he votes, and specially note those sworn. If any voter is objected to or sworn, or refuses to be sworn, the poll clerk must enter that fact in the poll book opposite his name, recording at the same time by or on behalf of which candidate the objection has been made. (Sec. 58, §§ 2, 3.)

Agents should remain on duty until all proceedings are closed. Do not go to dinner. Take lunch to poll. Do not consent to any adjournment. Object to it and remain at poll. Insist that the ballot box be on the table and kept there all the time in sight of all entitled to be present.

Do not allow yourself to be placed at a distance. Insist firmly on your right to be where you, on behalf of the Candidate you represent, can see that the law is carried out in every particular. Do not allow anything to be neglected. Have everything done strictly according to the statute even though you think it unimportant. Scrutinize every act and every per-