

at least an honest election secured. A second canvass was now made to ascertain the sentiments of each elector respecting the two candidates, the voter's address during business hours, and the time most convenient for him to vote. The ward was divided into districts of five polls each.

Each district had a committee room where all information pertaining to the five polls was collected. In each committee room were five large card-board sheets (*tableaux*), placed upon separate tables, each sheet containing the names, alphabetically arranged, of persons entitled to vote at a given poll. A colored mark before the name denoted the elector's sentiments, that is, whether he was favorable or otherwise to the League's candidate, while, after the name, was entered the business address. To each sheet were assigned on election day, two men—a "receiver" and a "despatcher,"—whose duties will be presently defined. At every poll was a team of three men, two of whom were inside watchers or "scrutineers." Every elector, upon presenting himself, was carefully inspected, and, if failing to correspond with his identification card, was sworn. Few dared to swear falsely, but where they did thus swear the watchers were prepared to fill up warrants and secure the instant arrest of the personators. Outside the poll stood the third representative of the League. In his hand was a packet of card stubs (see form marked *outside*), one for each elector, with name and sentiments, but no description. Those favorable were on white stubs; those considered otherwise were on red. As each voter entered the booth and his identity was ascertained, the outside man withdrew from his pack the corresponding ticket. Every half hour a runner from the district committee room collected the "voted" card-stubs and delivered them to the "receiver," who promptly lined off the names from his "*tableau*." At the door of the committee room were a number of sleighs, loaned for the day by well-

wishers of the cause. Opposite the "receiver" sat the "despatcher." It was his constant duty to copy off several unvoted names, with addresses, upon a slip, and despatch a sleigh to bring up the voters from the business addresses indicated. This system, steadily and quietly worked from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., resulted in the polling of the largest vote ever cast in a municipal contest, and the return of the League's candidate by a majority of 655.

Montreal is singularly fortunate in having for the most part a disinterested and independent press. In any campaign for better things, the most influential newspapers may be depended upon to sink political distinctions and endorse worthy men. The partizan press of the city, however, were chary of giving much endorsement to the work of the League, not knowing just what effect this ignoring of political beliefs for personal fitness might have on coming national campaigns; but the following appeared in the best known party paper, the day after the election: "The machine politicians thought they knew all that was worth knowing about election work, but the V. E. L. can give them a few pointers." Editorials next appeared in the party organs in unqualified praise of the League and its work. Here was a recognized force that must be conciliated. The League as a body will not enter national politics, but its influence will. It is hardly probable that at the approaching national elections, either party will care to run the risk, by objectionable nominations, of alienating from its ranks a strong volunteer force that can be depended upon to lift not a finger for a corrupt nominee, but which cannot be relied upon, even to remain neutral, if the party usually opposed brings forward exceptionally fine men. Honest civic elections make for honest national campaigns.

The methods employed and the results attained in Montreal are possible, *mutatis mutandis*, in any city on the