

The representatives of a Lodge are the Master and Wardens, or (in their absence) the proxy of the Lodge, and these only are entitled to vote at the election.

In Quebec, Past Masters also are allowed to vote.

In 1869, M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master of Canada, ruled that Lodges working under Dispensation had not the right to appoint a proxy for the purpose of voting on any matter in Grand Lodge, nor for the office of District Deputy Grand Master of the District. This ruling has always since then been observed, and if at any Annual Communication the election of District Deputy Grand Master takes place before the new warrants are granted, the Lodges under dispensation are not permitted to vote. The new warrants are granted by the adoption of the report of the Board of General Purposes "on warrants," in which report they are recommended to be issued, and, in general, this report is brought in at as early a period as possible, so that all the Lodges may take part in the election.

Those who are eligible for election as District Deputy Grand Masters must be Past Masters, in good standing, members of some Lodge, duly returned to the Grand Lodge as Past Masters, and residents in the Districts for which they are respectively appointed. None others are qualified.

In Quebec, a Past Master who is, at the time of his election, also a Worshipful Master is not eligible. A resolution to this effect was moved in the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1878, but failed to carry. The same resolution provided that a District Deputy Grand Master could not be elected Worshipful Master during his term of office. We think both these provisions are prudent ones. The two offices are incompatible with each other, and should not be held by the same party at the same time.

The election is generally held during one of the recesses of the Grand

Lodge. The time and place of meeting for the election are announced openly in Grand Lodge, by the retiring District Deputy Grand Master, who also presides at the meeting. In his absence, the brethren present choose one of themselves to be the chairman.

The election is by ballot. Following the practice in Grand Lodge, nominations are not allowed. Each brother writes his choice on a slip of paper, which slips are collected and counted by scrutineers appointed for the purpose; and the choice of the majority of those present is declared elected. If no one has a majority, another ballot must be taken, and so on until a choice is made. If the result is a tie, and continues so after repeated trials, the matter is generally left to the decision of the Grand Master, or else the retiring officer holds over for another term.

In the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, there is a provision empowering the Grand Master, by a written document, to direct the Grand Registrar to take charge of any District for which there is not a District Deputy Grand Master, and to perform therein all the functions of the office. In Quebec, there is no such provision.

We have spoken of these proceedings in filling the office as an election. It is, however, more properly a nomination, as the election is not complete without the confirmation of the Grand Master. He may refuse to confirm the choice of the District, but this exercise of his power is of very rare occurrence. In such a case we presume a new election must be held, until the choice made receives the approbation of the Grand Master.

After the nomination is confirmed by the Grand Master, the chosen brother must be regularly installed. If he is present in Grand Lodge, he is installed by the Grand Master. If not present, the Grand Master authorizes some Grand Officer or member to install him in some private Lodge. But he cannot act or assume the duties