

accuracy and call for a revision if names have been wrongly omitted or wrongly included.

The independence of the Chief Electoral Officer is assured by the fact that he is appointed by resolution of the House of Commons and not by the Cabinet, as are most public servants of similar rank. His salary is set by law and not by Order-in-Council. Finally, he is responsible to the Commons, and not to the Government, and can be removed only for cause by the Governor General on address of the Senate and the House of Commons.

## **The voters**

Every Canadian citizen 18 years of age or over has the right to vote.

Persons born in Canada or born in a foreign land of Canadian parents are automatically Canadian citizens. Persons born in a foreign country may acquire Canadian citizenship after living three years in Canada.

Among those deprived of their franchise — but only so long as the cause of the deprivation lasts — are prisoners in penal institutions and persons confined to hospitals for mental illness. Certain classes of person are deprived of their vote because of their official functions: the Chief Electoral Officer and his deputy, judges (except for citizenship judges), and returning officers. The last-mentioned must cast the tie-breaking ballot when two candidates for election have received the same number of votes. Finally, any person found guilty of electoral fraud may lose the franchise for a specified period.

Voters who for any reason feel they cannot get to the polls on election day — whether because they plan to take a trip or attend a wedding — can vote in an advance poll held on the ninth, seventh and sixth days before polling day. Those who are unable to cast their vote at an advance poll or an ordinary poll may do so in the office of the returning officer from the fourteenth day to and including the Friday before polling day, except for the advance polling days.

Fishermen, mariners, prospectors, physically-incapacitated persons, members of air crews, forestry crews, topographical survey crews, or trappers and students away from home have, under certain conditions, the right to vote by proxy.