

a little further, in the states themselves, before the installation of compulsory voting and compulsory enrolment in 1930, the last election without either of these principles was in 1927. In the state election in New South Wales in 1927 without compulsory enrolment or voting the vote was—82·54. In New South Wales they have had very bitter contests, principally between labour and liberals, and the vote has been fairly substantial in that state. But in the 1930 N.S.W. election after adopting compulsory legislation 94·94 voted. In Victoria, for the last election prior to adopting for state elections either of these compulsory systems i.e. the election of 1924 the vote was as follows: 59·24; 1927,—the first election after—the vote was 91·76; 1929,—the second election after—93·72.

Queensland, which adopted these principles first in 1915, held their last election without either compulsory enrolment or compulsory voting in 1912, and in that election they voted 75·52 per cent. In the case of the first election after compulsory enrolment and compulsory voting, 1915, the vote was 88·14 per cent. In 1918 the vote was 80·27 per cent; and in 1929, the vote was 90·52 per cent.

In Tasmania for the last election without either compulsory enrolment or compulsory voting, 1925, the vote was 67·25 per cent for the state election; and in the first election after 1928, the vote was 81·90 per cent.

With regard to South Australia, they have not yet as far as I know adopted either compulsory voting or compulsory enrolment; neither have they adopted either in West Australia, and the voting for those two states in two recent elections is as follows: South Australia (not compulsory voting or compulsory enrolment) 1927, 77·43 per cent; 1930, 71·36 per cent: West Australia (not compulsory voting or compulsory enrolment) 1927, 73·42 per cent; 1930, 74·44 per cent. In reference again to the Federal elections I have broken up some of the ridings as to the highest and lowest and as to the percentages of male and female voting under compulsory voting.

In New South Wales, for the election of 1929, the total average vote was 94·82 per cent for the whole state. If we take one riding alone, that of East Sydney, which had the lowest vote, the figure is 89·10 per cent; Barton, which had the highest vote, shows a figure of 97·33 per cent.

I have broken up the lowest vote, East Sydney, into males and females, showing 89·41 of males and 88·80 of females who voted.

I am trying to point out, Mr. Chairman, that while the vote is very high, it is not possible to fully enforce the penalty clauses of the act, and the penalty clauses are not enforced to anything like the degree one would expect. As I said, the highest vote was in Barton, and there the males voted 97·92 per cent and the females 96·78 per cent.

In Queensland, in the same election, the average vote was 94·61 per cent; the lowest vote in the riding was in Kennedy—89·89 per cent, and the highest vote was in Darling Towns—97·24 per cent.

In West Australia the average vote throughout the state in the same election was 89·03. Now, as I intimated a moment ago these elections I am now referring to are federal elections and not state elections.

In West Australia the total average vote was 89·03. The lowest vote was in the riding of Kalgoorlie and was 89·59 per cent, and the highest was at Freemantle and was 91·01 per cent.

In South Australia the average vote was 94·89 per cent; the lowest vote in the riding was at Grey and was 92·66 per cent; the highest vote was in Angus and was 96·32 per cent.

In Victoria the average vote was 95·76 per cent; lowest vote, Fawkner, 93·53 per cent; highest vote Maribyrnong, 97·74.

In Tasmania the average vote for the state was 95·25 per cent; lowest vote was in Wilmot, 94·49 per cent; highest vote was in the riding of Dennison and was 95·90 per cent.