

(2) Any elector whose name is on the roll for any subdivision and who lives in any other subdivision, and has so lived for a period of one month last past, shall be entitled to have his name transferred to the roll for the subdivision in which he lives.

Section 42 says:—

(1) Every person who is entitled to have his name placed on the roll for any subdivision whether by way of enrolment or transfer of enrolment, and whose name is not on the roll, shall forthwith fill in and sign, in accordance with the directions printed thereon, a claim in the prescribed form, and send or deliver the claim to the registrar for the subdivision.

(2) Every person who is entitled to have his name placed on the roll for any subdivision whether by way of enrolment or transfer of enrolment, and whose name is not on the roll upon the expiration of twenty-one days from the date upon which he became so entitled, or at any subsequent date which he continues to be so entitled, shall be guilty of an offence unless he proves that his non-enrolment is not in consequence of his failure to send or deliver to the registrar for the subdivision for which he is entitled to be enrolled, a claim in the prescribed form, duly filled in and signed in accordance with the directions printed thereon.

Penalty: For the first offence, ten shillings; and for any subsequent offence, two pounds.

The chief electoral officer of the Commonwealth very kindly sent me copies of the forms of application that are used. These forms are of two kinds: one form applies to an application for registration in a state in which the roll of the state and the roll of the Commonwealth—the roll of the electors of the Commonwealth are one and the same. Four of the states have rolls in common with the Commonwealth. Those states are New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. In those four states all elections that are held, whether State or Commonwealth, are conducted by the federal electoral officers. Those officers not only conduct all elections, both Commonwealth and State, but they also conduct any referendum; and also they take the census; so that they are full term officials giving the whole of their services to the government for these particular offices. As you will notice they have quite a lot of work to do.

The system employed is as follows: they have, first of all, what is known as a Habitation Index System. This is used in the cities and the larger towns, and applies to all habitations except large residential hotels, colleges, hospitals, etc. On the cards that are employed under this system the names of all electors enrolled in respect of habitation are placed and are reviewed half-yearly by each postman in so far as his beat is concerned. The postman checks the entries on the card relating to each habitation, indicating those who have permanently ceased to reside, and those who have come there to reside since the last revision. With regard to the excepted buildings aforementioned, separate schedules are maintained and periodically reviewed in a more direct manner.

Then, again, there is the agency system which is used in rural areas, the Habitation Index not being practicable there. Selected persons, usually holding some public office such as postmasters, municipal clerks, policemen, etc., are appointed as electoral agents and are supplied with the necessary material to enable them to perform their duty satisfactorily. When the habitation cards or

[Mr. Harry Butcher.]