

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANVASSERS

Upon the faithfulness and efficiency with which your work is done will depend in no small measure the success of the present campaign. Nothing must be taken for granted; whilst we hope for a great victory, we must work as though it depended upon the individual effort of each friend of the cause.

The two-fold object of our canvass is:

(a) To influence every voter to vote "NO" to every question upon the ballot.

(b) To secure the name of every person in the Province of Ontario who is entitled to be upon the list of voters. With those names to check up the enumerator's list when it is posted to see that every person qualified to vote is on the list, and that no person is on who is not qualified.

The following suggestions are sent down to you in the earnest hope that you will carry them out to the best of your ability.

1. Try as far as possible to see every elector upon your list and to get the name of every person in the section which you canvass whose name should be upon the list. This may, in some cases, entail more than one visit, but the importance of the work is worth the extra effort.

2. Do not waste time in argument with any elector who is opposed, but patiently explain any point about which he may be in doubt.

3. Make an honest effort to cover your territory in the period of time specified by your County Executive Committee.

4. You will note that two cards are supplied for each elector. The blue card in every case is to be left with the elector. The other is to be retained by yourself and handed in, properly filled out, to the Secretary-Treasurer of your polling sub-division.

5. The blue card will serve as an introduction to your mission. Hand it to the elector and ask him or her (as the case may be) to keep it for further reference.

As you hand it in to the elector you may express the hope that he will mark his ballot in the same way. If he agrees to do so you might intimate that you have another card which you would be glad to have him sign, if agreeable to him. Then produce the canvasser's card, read the statement on it, and hand it to him for his signature. If the elector is unwilling to sign the card, but promises to vote right, then after you have departed fill out the card accordingly.

On the other hand, if the elector, when presented with the blue card, expresses disapproval, say nothing at all about the other card, but quietly draw him out on the different questions and afterward fill out the canvasser's card as you think he is likely to vote. If you are of the opinion that some other person might influence him to vote right or that certain literature should be sent him, mention the fact in your recommendations.

6. If you discover any person for whom a card has not been filled out, then use one of the blank cards with which you should be well supplied, and fill in the name and address yourself, and make sure that the information is given to the proper officer of your organization or to the enumerator of your district.

7. If you discover that any person for whom you have a card is not qualified to vote, or find any parties who, though not qualified, might possibly be entered upon the list by the enumerator, be careful to make a note of the facts, and see that these also are given to the proper officer of your organization or the enumerator of the district.

8. If you learn of any student who may be home in time to vote or any soldier or nurse not yet returned from overseas, who is likely to vote right, get the name and see that it is handed to the enumerator for that district. There is special provision in the Act for the enrollment of such.

ISSUED BY THE ONTARIO REFERENDUM COMMITTEE