

original return; if, however, the result of the recount is to confirm the original return, the returning officer shall forthwith send back the papers to the Chief Electoral Officer, but shall not make any second or substitute return to the writ of election.

26. The said Act is amended by repealing clause (d) of subsection one of section seventy-three and substituting the following:—

(d) All copies of lists of voters and statements of changes and additions retained by him in his possession during the election as in this Act provided.

(e) All such other papers and supplies as may be directed by the Chief Electoral Officer.

27. The said Act is amended by repealing subsection four of section seventy-three and substituting the following therefor:—

(4) No premature return shall be deemed to have reached the Chief Electoral Officer until the same should have reached him in due course, and he shall, if circumstances so require, send back such return and any or all election documents connected therewith to the returning officer for completion or correction. The Chief Electoral Officer may, moreover, send back to the returning officer any return which does not comply in any respect with the provisions of this Act.

28. The said Act is amended by repealing section seventy-four thereof and substituting the following therefor:—

74. If any returning officer wilfully delays, neglects or refuses duly to return any person who ought to be returned to serve in the House of Commons for any electoral district, and if it is determined by any competent court that such person was entitled to have been returned, the returning officer who has so wilfully delayed, neglected or refused duly to make such return of his election, shall be liable to the person aggrieved in the sum of *fifteen hundred* dollars and costs in addition to all damages sustained in a civil action instituted in any court of competent jurisdiction.

29. The said Act is amended by repealing section seventy-five thereof and substituting the following:—

75. The Chief Electoral Officer shall before or within ten days after the commencement of any session of Parliament make a report to the Speaker of the House of Commons as to any matter or event which has arisen or occurred in connection with the administration of his office in the interval since the date of his next preceding report and which he considers should be brought to the attention of the House, and he shall in such report suggest what, if any, amendments are, in his opinion, desirable for the more convenient administration of the law.

(2) Every candidate at any election and every official agent of any candidate shall have the right to send to the Chief Electoral Officer in writing any complaint he may have to make with respect to the conduct of the election or of any election officer, and to suggest any such changes or improvements in the law as he may consider desirable; every such complaint or statement shall be included by the Chief Electoral Officer in his next following report to the Speaker of the House of Commons, with such recommendation, if any, as he may see fit to make thereon.

(3) Any report received from the Chief Electoral Officer by the Speaker shall be forthwith submitted by him to the House of Commons.