

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, the 12th day of November, 1879.

NOTICES RELATING TO ORDERS OF THE DAY.

REGULATION OF ELECTIONS BILL.

Mr. HUTCHISON, in Committee, to move the following amended clauses, with a view to insure the entire secrecy of the ballot, by the discontinuance of writing a number upon the ballot-paper :—

1. When any person shall have tendered his vote in manner herein mentioned, and the name in which he shall demand to vote shall appear in a roll in force for the district, or on a miner's right or business license entitling such person to vote at such election, the Returning Officer or Deputy shall, unless such person be prohibited from voting for some of the causes herein mentioned, request such person to sign his name upon a roll, to be kept as hereinafter mentioned and to be called the "Identification Roll;" and upon such person signing his name, the Returning Officer or his Deputy shall cause one of the ballot-papers to be marked conspicuously on the back with a stamp, varying at each election, the form thereof to be determined by the Governor in Council, and shall deliver to such person such ballot-paper; or, if he be the holder of a miner's right or business license, shall impress thereon such distinguishing stamp or mark as the Governor in Council shall heretofore have appointed under "The Miners Representation Act, 1862," or shall hereafter from time to time appoint under the said Act.

2. If any person who shall have tendered his vote as aforesaid shall be unable to write, and shall signify the same to the Returning Officer or Deputy, such Returning Officer or Deputy may [shall] at the request of such person, and for him, and in the presence of one Scrutineer at least, sign such person's name upon one of the said identification rolls, and such signature shall be attested by one of the Scrutineers at least.

3. At every one of the booths of the several polling-places for the district there shall be prepared and kept by the Returning Officer or Deputy, a roll, to be called the "Identification Roll," which shall be signed in manner aforesaid by every person who shall tender his vote; and no person shall be entitled to vote at any election unless he shall have signed such roll, and also have made this declaration verbally to the Returning Officer or Deputy, "I declare I have not voted here or elsewhere at this present election."

4. In the case of there appearing to be two or more persons bearing the same name or somewhat similar names in a roll, the Returning Officer or Deputy shall put to every such person, before he shall allow him to sign the identification roll, this question—

- (1.) Are you the person whose name appears as [A.B.] opposite the number [292] in the roll in force for the electoral district of _____ ?

And if such person answer such question in the affirmative he shall, in addition to signing his name upon the identification roll, add thereto in figures the number set opposite his name in the roll in force for the district in which he shall be about to vote; but, if such person shall refuse or omit distinctly to answer such question in the affirmative, such person shall not be entitled to vote at the election.

5. If any person shall personate any elector for the purpose of voting at an election, and shall sign any such elector's name upon the identification roll, or shall cause the Returning Officer or Deputy to do so, or if any person shall falsely make the declaration prescribed as above (section 3), every such person shall be guilty of felony, punishable with imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not less than five years, nor more than fourteen years.

6. The Returning Officer and each Deputy shall sign each and every sheet of the identification roll used at his polling-booth, and each Deputy shall transmit the identification roll to the Returning Officer, together with the other documents specified in this Act.

7. The Returning Officer shall, in the presence and hearing of such Scrutineers as shall be present, compare with one another all the certified copies of rolls on which the fact of any person having received a ballot-paper has been entered, by himself or any Deputy, as by the said Act provided; and if, on such comparison, it shall appear that the same person has received a ballot-paper at two or more polling-places, or has been guilty of an infringement of any of the provisions of the said Act or of this Act, the Returning Officer shall transmit all of the certified copies of rolls, and all of the identification rolls, to the nearest Crown Solicitor, whose duty it shall be forthwith to investigate every such infringement, and prosecute every person who shall have, or appear to have, infringed the said Act or this Act.

8. If, upon such comparison as aforesaid, the Returning Officer shall be of opinion that none of the provisions of the said Act or of this Act have been infringed, he shall enclose all the certified copies of rolls and all the identification rolls in one parcel, and seal up the same, and shall also permit the Scrutineers to seal up the same, and shall indorse upon such parcel in ink the words "Certified copies of rolls and identification rolls," and shall forward the same to the Clerk of the House of Representatives in the manner prescribed by section sixty of the said Act.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. SEDDON, in Committee, to move the following amendments:—

Section 3. To add the words following:—

Subsections two and three of section seventeen of "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1876," also subsection three of section three hundred and fifty-four of the said Act are hereby repealed, and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:—

That no portion of a county be constituted into a borough unless within the area proposed to be constituted into a borough there be five hundred resident householders.

That a petition is presented to the Governor, signed by an absolute majority of such resident householders, praying the Governor to constitute such district a borough under "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1876," and the several Acts amending the same.

If, within three months after the publication of such notice, a majority of the ratepayers of the county, or a majority of the burgesses of the borough, petition the Governor, praying him not to dissolve the Corporation of the borough, no such Proclamation shall be issued.

LAND ACT 1877 AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. STEWART, in Committee, to move the following amendments :—

Any covenant or agreement already or hereafter entered into, purporting to modify the time for giving, or to dispense with giving, any notice or demand required by "The Land Transfer Act, 1870," or any Act amending the same, to be given, shall be valid and good.

A married woman entitled to land to her separate use, and not restrained from anticipation, or having a power of appointment, shall, for the purpose of "The Land Transfer Act, 1870," and any Act amending the same, be deemed a *femme sole*, and it shall not be necessary or be deemed to have been necessary, in respect of any dealing with such land, to comply with the provisions of section one hundred and two of the said Act.

Upon the production of any grant, certificate of title, or other instrument under the provisions of section nineteen of "The Land Transfer Act, 1870," it shall be lawful for a District Land Registrar to register thereon any transfer of mortgage or encumbrance against or dealing with such land: Provided that any such registration, or any act done under the provisions of the said section nineteen, may be annulled or altered upon a summary application to a Judge of the Supreme Court, who may allow such costs to either party as he may think proper.

AUCKLAND COLLEGE AND GRAMMAR SCHOOL BILL.

Mr. O'RORKE, in Committee, to add to the preamble :—

And whereas it is expedient to afford greater facility to members of the Legislative Council and of the House of Representatives for voting at elections of Governors under "The Auckland College and Grammar School Act, 1877 :"

To add the following new section :—

5. It shall be lawful for any member of the Legislative Council, and any member of the House of Representatives, in lieu of attending to vote in person, to send to the Returning Officer, by post or otherwise, but so as to arrive before the hour fixed for closing the poll, a writing authorizing his vote to be recorded for the person or persons whom he desires to be elected to fill any vacancy or vacancies in the Board of Governors; such writing or voting paper to be signed by the member in presence of a Justice of the Peace, on any day subsequent to the notice given by the Returning Officer of the day for proceeding to election; such signature and the date thereof to be certified by the said Justice of the Peace. And the Returning Officer shall thereupon record the written vote by placing in the ballot-box a voting paper giving effect to such member's writing; and all votes so recorded shall have the same validity and effect as if they had been duly given by the voter in person.