

WRITS OF ELECTION, ETC.

5.—(1) On the issue of the proclamation declaring the calling of a first Parliament of Southern Ireland the Lord Lieutenant shall cause writs to be issued for the election of senators by each class of electors and for the attendance of any person who, by virtue of his office or by nomination of the Lord Lieutenant, is entitled to serve as a senator in that Parliament.

(2) On the issue of the proclamation declaring the calling of a new Parliament of Southern Ireland, the Lord Lieutenant shall cause writs to be issued for the attendance of every person who, by virtue of his office or by nomination of the Lord Lieutenant or by election, is entitled to serve as a senator in that Parliament.

(3) When the place of a nominated senator becomes vacant by reason of the expiration of his term of office, or his death, resignation, or incapacity or otherwise, the Lord Lieutenant shall, upon the vacancy being certified to him by the Speaker or other proper officer of the Senate, nominate a person to fill the vacancy and shall issue a writ for the attendance of such person.

(4) When the place of an elected senator becomes vacant by reason of the expiration of his term of office, or his death, resignation, or incapacity or otherwise, the Lord Lieutenant shall, upon the vacancy being certified to him as aforesaid, cause a writ to be issued for the election of a new senator by the class of electors by whom the first-mentioned senator was elected.

(5) If, owing to an election not being held in pursuance of the writ, or being defective, there is a vacancy in any class of elected senators, the Lord Lieutenant may cause a writ to be issued for a new election.

(6) A writ for the election of Senators to serve in the Parliament of Southern Ireland shall be according to the form A in the Appendix to this Order.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION.

6. The Clerk of the Crown and Hanaper or a deputy appointed by him shall be the returning officer at every election of senators, and it shall be the duty of the returning officer to make all the arrangements for the election (including arrangements for the nomination of candidates) and the poll and counting of votes, and to certify the result of the election in pursuance of the writ.

7. The returning officer, within two days after the receipt of a writ for the election of senators, shall send notice of the election to each elector of the class by which the senators are to be elected, stating the time within which nomination papers may be received in pursuance of this Order, and the place where forms of nomination papers may be obtained. In the case of electors other than county councillors, the notice shall be accompanied by a list of the electors and a form of nomination paper.

8.—(1) Each candidate for election must be nominated in a separate nomination paper signed by two electors, as proposer and seconder, being electors of the class which the candidate is nominated to represent, and the candidate must himself be an elector of that class, except where he is nominated as a representative of county councillors.

(2) Every nomination paper shall state the

class of electors which the candidate is nominated to represent, his surname and other name or names in full, his place of abode, and profession, occupation, or description, and the respective places of abode of the proposer and seconder.

(3) A nomination paper must be sent to the returning officer so that it shall be received at his office before the expiration of the period allowed for nomination pursuant to this Order, and no nomination paper shall be valid which is not received before the expiration of that period.

9. The period allowed for nomination shall expire at such time on such day as may be fixed by the returning officer, not being less than six days nor more than fourteen days after the receipt of the writ, and different days and times may be fixed as respects the nomination of candidates to represent different classes of electors.

10. The returning officer shall examine each nomination paper as soon as practicable after its receipt and shall reject any nomination paper which does not comply with the requirements of this Order, and his decision as to the validity of any nomination shall be final.

11.—(1) If at the expiration of the period allowed for nomination the number of candidates who stand nominated to represent any class is equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled by that class, the returning officer shall declare the candidates who stand nominated to represent that class to be elected and shall make return accordingly. He shall publish in the "Dublin Gazette" the names of the persons so elected, and send to each of them notice of his election.

(2) If at the expiration of the period allowed for nomination the number of candidates who stand nominated to represent any class exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled by that class, the returning officer shall immediately arrange for a poll to be taken.

12. A candidate may withdraw from his candidature by sending to the returning officer a notice of withdrawal signed by him; but no such notice shall have effect unless it is received by the returning officer before the expiration of the period allowed for nomination.

13. If one or more of the candidates dies after the expiration of the period allowed for nomination, and as the result of such death or deaths the number of candidates who stand nominated to represent a class is less than or equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by that class, the returning officer shall countermand the poll and declare the surviving candidates duly elected and shall make return accordingly.

POLL AND COUNTING OF VOTES.

14.—(1) At any contested election of four or more senators by the electors of any class the election shall be according to the principle of proportional representation, each elector having one transferable vote as defined by the Representation of the People Act, 1918, and shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Irish Senates (Proportional Representation) Order, 1921.

(2) At any contested election of less than four senators by the electors of any class each elector may give one vote to each of the candidates not exceeding the number to be elected, and no vote shall be transferable. The candidates, or, if one senator only is to be elected,