...4. Be it further enacted, etc., ...e Commissioners and clerk, and ...officers charged with the con... ...an election under this Act, shall ...ntering upon the discharge of ...ties take the oath prescribed by ...13 of the Constitution, the oath ...dministered by any officer qual... ...law to administer oaths, and if ...officer be present, the Commis... ...shall administer the oath to ...

...ther.

...5. Be it further enacted, etc., ...case no commissioner shall ...een appointed, and if one of those ...ave been appointed be present ...one hour after the time fixed for ...ning of the poll, the person shall ...meeting and elect the commis... ...to preside at the election, who ...erform all the duties of the reg... ...appointed commissioner, should ...of the commissioners appoint... ...resent he shall appoint another, ...h together shall appoint a third. ...commissioners so appointed ...ke the oath and perform all the ...of commissioners of election in ...e manner, as if they had been ...ed as above provided, by the ...of Supervisors. No election ...vitiated by a failure to open the ...the time prescribed by law, un... ...e proven before a court of com... ...urisdiction, on a contest, that a ...t number of electors were there... ...rived of their votes to have ...the result of the election.

...6. Be it further enacted, etc., ...ballots cast at all elections for ...l, State, district and parish and ...al officers, or for delegates to ...stitutional convention after the ...y of November in the year ...hundred and ninety-six, shall ...ed and distributed at the public ..., as hereinafter provided. The ...of the ballots, tally sheets, and ...instructions to voters and their ...tion shall be paid for by the ...The term "State election," as ...this act, shall apply to any elec... ...ld for the choice of a national, ...istrict or parish officer, whether ...ll term or for the filling of a va... ...and the term "State officers" ...ply to any person to be chosen ...qualified electors at such an elec... ...he term "city election" shall ...any election held in the city to ...unicipal office, whether for a full ...a vacancy; and the term "city ...shall apply to any person to be ...by the qualified electors at such ...tion.

...ATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

...8. Any convention of delegates ...y nominating body, and any ...or meeting of qualified voters ...einafter defined, and individual ...to the number and in the manner ...fter specified may nominate ...tes for public office whose names ...e placed upon the ballots to be ...ed as hereinafter provided.

...9. Any convention of delegates ...ting a political party or other ...ting body which, at the general ...next preceding the holding of ...nvention, polled at least 10 per ...the entire vote cast in the elec... ...trict for which said convention ...or any convention of delegates ...ve been selected in caucusses ...nd held in accordance with the ...ns of this act, and any caucus ...d and held in any such electoral ...or division may, for the State ...he district or division for which ...vention or caucus is held, as the ...y be, by causing a certificate of ...tion to be duly filed, making ...one such nomination for each ...be filled at the election. Every ...rtificate of nomination shall ...ch facts as may be hereinafter ...d for its acceptance, shall be ...by the presiding officer and by ...retary of the convention or cau... ...o shall add thereto their affida... ...t the affiants were such officers ...at said certificate is true to the ...their knowledge and belief.

...50. Nominations of candidates ...toral districts of the State or for ...al or for parish or ward offices ...e made by nomination papers, ...for each candidate by qualified ...of such district or division, to ...mber of at least one thousand ...officers to be voted for by the ...of the State at large; one hun... ...r parish or municipal officers, ...rs of the legislature or congress, ...enty-five for ward officers.

...51. Each voter signing a nomi... ...paper shall add to his signature ...ce of residence, with the street ...mber thereof, if any; and each ...may subscribe to one nomina... ...r each office to be filled, and no ...and all signatures shall be made ...son. The nomination papers ...before being filed, be respective... ...mitted to the registrar of voters, ...parish in which the signers pur... ...be qualified voters, and each ...isor to whom the same is sub... ...shall forwith certify thereon ...umber of the signatures are ...of qualified voters in the parish ...ich he is a supervisor and in the ...for which the nomination is ...but the registrar of voters shall ...required in any event to certify ...any nomination paper a greater ...r of names than is sufficient to ...the nomination under the pro... ...of section 1 of this act; one of ...mers to each such separate paper ...attach thereto his affidavit that ...tements therein are true to the ...f his knowledge and belief, and ...ll also add his postoffice address.

...52. All certificates of nomination ...omination papers, shall, besides ...ing the names of candidates, ...as to each (1) the office for which ...ndidate is nominated; (2) the par... ...political principle which he repre... ...expressed in not more than three ...(3) his place of residence and ...ce of business, if any; and in ...of a nomination for a city of... ...with street and number thereof.

...In the case of electors of Pres... ...and Vice-President of the United ...the names of the candidates for ...ent may be added to the party ...itical appellation.

...53. Candidates nominated other... ...than by political parties which at ...receding State election polled at ...0 per centum of the entire vote ...the district, shall not use the ...of any such political party in the ...al or party designation of their certificate of nomination or nomination candidates so otherwise nominated; except as describing and preceding some other name or term; and in case a nomination is made by a nomination paper, only the words "nomination paper" or abbreviated as "nom. paper" shall be added after such designations, which in such cases shall not consist of more than two words.

Sec. 54. Certificates of nomination, under the provisions of this act, shall be filed with the Secretary of State before 5 o'clock p.m., on the fourth Tuesday before the day of election; and nomination papers shall be filed with the Secretary of State before 5 o'clock p.m. on the third Tuesday before the day of election; provided that in such cases where, under the law, it becomes necessary to hold an election to fill a vacancy, such certificates of nomination papers shall be filed not less than fourteen full days before the election.

Sec. 55. The certificates of nomination and nomination papers being so filed, and being in apparent conformity with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed to be regular, unless objection to their regularity is made in writing within the seventy two hours after the last day allowed by law for filing such papers. Such objections arising in relation thereto shall be considered by the Secretary of State, the Auditor and the Treasurer, within twenty-four hours after the filing of the objections, and the decision of the majority of these officers shall be final. In case such objection is made, the objector shall at the same time notify the party or parties affected thereby, and shall certify under oath to the Secretary of State in what manner he has notified such parties. If for any reason no decision shall be arrived at within said time, the certificates shall be considered regular. It shall be proper for the officers above named, in the decision of any question as to the proper political or party designation of candidates, to distinguish between candidates nominated by certificates of nomination and those nominated by nomination papers.

Sec. 56. Whenever under the provisions of this act a greater number of candidates are nominated for any office, through certificates of nomination bearing the same party designation, than there are persons to be elected to such office, it shall be the duty of the aforesaid officers (see Section 9) to determine which of said candidates, if any, is entitled to such party designation; and no greater number of candidates for any office shall appear upon the official ballot bearing any one party designation than there are persons to be elected to such office.

Sec. 57. Any person whose name has been presented as a candiate may cause his name to be withdrawn from nomination by request in writing, signed by him and acknowledged before an officer qualified to administer an oath, and filed with the Secretary of State, within seventy-two hours succeeding the last day fixed for the filing of such certificates and nomination papers, and no name so withdrawn shall be printed upon the ballots. No nomination published as hereinafter provided shall be subsequently omitted as irregular.

Sec. 58. In case a candidate who has been duly nominated under the provisions of this act shall cause his name to be withdrawn from nomination as provided in Section 57, or shall be found by the officers named in Section 57 to have been irregularly nominated, the vacancy may be supplied by the political party or other persons making the original nomination in the same manner in which the original nomination was made, provided that the new nomination be filed with the Secretary of State before the four or three weeks prior to the day of election as required by Sec. 54 of this act. In case of death and in such case only, the vacancy may be supplied if the nomination was made by a convention or caucus in such manner as the convention or caucus has previously provided for the purpose; or in case of no such previous provision, then by regularly chosen general or executive committee representing the political party or persons holding such convention or caucus, provided such new certificate of nomination or nomination paper shall be filed with the Secretary of State fourteen full days before the day of election. The certificates of nomination made for supplying such vacancy shall state, in addition to the other facts required by this act the name of the original nominee, the date of his death, withdrawal, or the ascertainment of the irregularity of his nomination certificate or paper, and the measures taken in accordance with the above requirements for filling the vacancy; and it shall be signed and sworn to by the presiding officer and secretary of the convention or caucus, or by the chairman and secretary of the duly authorized committee, as the case may be. The name so supplied for the vacancy shall, if the ballots for the office are not already printed, be placed on the ballots instead of the original nomination; or if the ballots have been printed, new ballots containing the new nomination shall, whenever practicable, be printed.

Sec. 59. The Secretary of State shall furnish upon application, blank forms for the nomination of candidates.

Sec. 60. All certificates of nomination and nomination papers when filed shall be opened under proper regulations to public inspection, and the Secretary of State shall preserve the same in his office not less than one year.

Sec. 61. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to promulgate within twenty-four hours of the receipt thereof, in the official journal of the State, the names of all persons nominated under the provisions of this act, together with the office for which such nomination is made. In said promulgation he shall state whether the respective nominations are made by certificates of nomination or upon nomination papers.

Sec. 62. In reckoning the number of days mentioned in this act, Sundays and holidays shall be included; provided, however, that if the final day mentioned shall fall on Sunday or a holiday the first day previous to such day or days shall be considered the final day if the period of time precedes a certain day, act or event, and the first day following such day or days shall be considered the final day if the period of time follows a certain day, act of event.

Sec. 63. Any person who shall falsely make or wilfully deface or destroy any pariels) in width. Voting spaces on paper, or any part thereof, or any letter of withdrawal, or sign any such certificate or paper contrary to the provisions of this act, or file any certificate of nomination or nomination paper or letter of withdrawal, knowing the same or any part thereof, to be falsely made, or suppress any certificate of nomination or nomination paper, or any part thereof which has been duly filed shall be punished in accordance with section 44 of this act.

Section 64. No meeting except such as called and held on behalf of a political party, or other nominating body, which entire votes cast in the district at the general election next preceding the holding of such meeting shall constitute a caucus, or shall be authorized to make a nomination or to choose delegates to a nominating convention, unless qualified voters of the electoral district or division for which it is called participate and vote therein to the number of twenty-five. A nomination for a representative district, if such district or division contains more than one ward of a city, shall not be made by a caucus, but every such nomination shall be made either by a convention of delegates or by a nomination paper, as provided in this act. Any convention of delegates representing a political party or other nominating body, which polled at least ten percentum for governor at the election next preceding may make a nomination for any electoral district.

FORM OF ALL BALLOTS.

Sec. 65. All ballots for use in elections under this act shall be prepared by the Secretary of State at the charge of the State. Every ballot, which shall be printed in accordance with the provisions of this act, shall contain the names of all candidates whose nomination for any office specified in the ballot have been regularly made and not withdrawn, in accordance herewith, and shall contain no other names; except that in the case of electors of president and vice-president of the United States, the names of the candidates for president and vice-president may be added to the party or political designation; the name of the parish or division in which the candidates reside shall be added to the name of each candidate on ballots for State offices; and the number of the ward of which the candidate is a resident shall be added to the name of each candidate on ballots for State municipal or parish officer; and there shall also be added to all the names of candidates their party or political designation. The names of candidates for each office shall be arranged under the designation of the office in alphabetical order, according to surnames, except that the names of candidates for the offices of electors of president and vice-president shall be arranged in groups as presented in the several certificates of nomination or nomination papers. Whenever the approval of a constitutional amendment or other question is submitted to the vote of the people, such question shall be printed upon the ballot after the list of candidates. The ballots shall be so printed as to give each voter a clear opportunity to designate by a mark in a sufficient margin at the right of the name of each candidate, his choice of candidates and his answer to questions submitted; and on the ballot shall be printed such words as will aid the voter to do this, as "vote for one," 'vote for two," etc., or in case of questions submitted "for," "against," "yes," "no," and others.

Provided, that should any clerical or typographical errors occur in the printing of the official ballot or tally sheets, no candidate or measure shall be prejudiced thereby, but it shall be the duty of the returning officers upon such error being called to their attention, to obtain from the secretary of State a certified copy of the certificate of nomination or nomination paper, if such error should occur in the name of a candidate being voted for, or a certified copy of the measure, if said error should occur in the title of the measure voted for, and shall thereupon cause such error to be corrected and the returns to be promulgated as if no such error had occurred.

Sec 66. The ballots furnished by the secretary of State shall be of plain white paper, in weight not less than the best quality N. 2 book paper, which shall be cut so as to be rectangular, and each ballot shall be five inches in width, and of such length as may be necessary, provided that all ballots furnished for use in any one precinct shall be of the same length. Before distribution the ballots shall be so folded in marked creases that their width and length will be of convenient size for insertion into the ballot box, and in such manner that only the official endorsement shall be visible. On the back and outside, when folded, shall be printed in great primer Roman condensed capitals "official ballot for," followed by the designations of the polling place for which the ballot is prepared, the date of the election, and a fac simile of the signature of the secretary of State.

The following directions shall be conspicuously printed on the fact of the ballot: "To vote for a candidate, obliterate with the official stamp the white circle at the right of his name. To vote for a candidate for an office when his name is not printed as a candidate therefor, write his name with a pencil having black lead in the blank space under the printed names of candidates for such office, and obliterate with the official stamp the white circle at the right of the name so written. Any other mark invalidates the ballot."

Upon the face of each ballot, in horizontal lines parallel with the top of the ballot, the names of all candidates nominated for any office shall be printed upon the title of the office, in alphabetical order according to surnames, and in capital letter of uniform type, the face of said type to be one-eighth of an inch in height, provided, that all names shall be printed in type of exactly the same size and style. To the right of the name of each candidate and on the same horizontal line as the name of the candidate, shall be a square hereinafter called a voting space. The voting spaces on the ballot shall measure one-quarter of an inch (three nonpariels) in height and one-quarter of an inch (three non-

shall cause the ballots so substituted any ballot provided for any one polling place shall be of uniform size and shall be arranged in a vertical column. Voting spaces opposite the names of all candidates for the same office shall be printed as a continuous column. Voting spaces shall be printed solidly in black, except that at the verter of each space shall be left a circular white space one-eighth of an inch in diameter. Under the title of each office on the ballot and below the printed names of the several candidates nominated for that office shall be left as many blank spaces as there are persons to be elected to such office, and at the right of each blank space shall be a voting space. If, in the case of any office, no nominations of candidates to fill the same have been made, the title of such office shall be printed upon the ballot, and as many blank spaces shall be left below such title as there are persons to be elected to the office, and at the right of each such space shall be a voting space.

On the ballot the blank space left for the insertion of names under the title of any office shall be separated from the printed title of the office appearing next thereafter by a perforated line immediately above such title, which line shall extend across the ballot from right to left.

Upon the back of each part of the ballot between perforated lines, shall be printed the title of the office which appears upon the face of such portion of the balolt. All such titles shall be printed in such manner that when the ballot is partially unfolded for the purpose of the canvass, such endorsements shall be plainly legible.

All of the official ballots prepared for the same polling place shall be of precisely the same size, arrangement, quality and tint of paper and kind of type, and shall be printed with black ink of the same tint, so that it shall be impossible to distinguish any one ballot from the other. At a general election in any congressional district one representative in congress is to be elected for a full term and another to fill a vacancy the ballots containing the names of the candidates shall as a part of the title of the office designate the term or vacancy for, or to fill which the candidates are severaly nominated.

Sec. 67. All ballots when printed shall be folded as hereinbefore provided, and fastened together in convenient numbers in packages, books or blocks, in such manner that each ballot may be detached and removed seperately.

Sec. 68. There shall be provided for each voting place, at which an election is to be held, two sets of ballots, each of not less than one hundred for every fifty and fraction of fifty registered voters therein.

INFORMATION OF VOTERS.

Sec. 69. The secretary of State shall prepare full instructions for the guidance of voters, as to obtaining ballots, the manner of marking them, the method of gaining assistance, and obtaining new ballots in place of those accidentally spoiled, and shall cause the same together with copies of sections 34, 35, 36 and 44 of this act, to be printed in large clear type, on separate cards, to be called cards of instruction; and he shall furnish the same for use at each election.

DELIVERY OF BALLOTS.

Section 70. The secretary of State shall send, separately and at different times or by two different methods, the two sets of ballots, together with a sufficient number of tally sheets and ten of the cards of instructions to the board of supervisors of the several cities or parishes so as to be received by them twenty-four hours at least previous to the day of election. The same shall be sent in sealed packages, with marks on the outside clearly designating the polling place for which they are intended and the number of ballots enclosed; and the respective board of supervisors shall, on delivery to them of such packages, return receipts therefor to the secretary of State. The secretary of State shall keep a record of the time when and the manner in which the several packages are sent and of the number of ballots in each package, and shall preserve the same for the period of one year, together with the receipts of the board of supervisors.

Section 71. The several boards of supervisors shall send to the commissioners of each voting place, before the opening of the polls on the day of the election, cards of instructions, tally sheets, blank forms and one set of ballots as sealed and marked by the secretary of State for such voting place; and a receipt of such delivery shall be returned to them from the commissioner present, which receipt shall be kept for the period of one year. At the opening of the polls in each polling place the seals of the packages shall be publicly broken, and the packages shall be opened by the commissioners, and the books or blocks or ballots shall be delivered to the commissioners of election hereinafter provided for. The cards of instructions shall be immediately posted at or in each voting shelf or compartment provided in accordance with this act, and not less than three such cards shall be immediately posted in or about the polling room outside the guard rail. The second set of ballots shall be retained by the respective board of supervisors until they are called for or needed for the purpose of voting. Upon the requisition in writing of the commissioner of any voting place, the second set of ballots shall be furnished to such voting place in the manner above provided as to the first set. But if not so called for, the same shall be returned with its seals unbroken to the secretary of State.

Section 72. In case the ballots to be furnished to any voting place, in accordance with the provisions of this act, shall fail for any reason to be delivered, or in any case after delivery they shall be destroyed or stolen, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors to cause other ballots and cards of instructions to be prepared substantially in the form and to the number of the ballots so wanting and to be furnished; and upon receipt of such other ballots from them, accompanied by a statement under oath that the same have been so prepared and furnished by them, and that the original ballots have failed to be received or have been destroyed or stolen, the commissioners to be used in lieu of the ballots wanting, as above. The written statement under oath, of the board of supervisors shall be made part of the returns, and shall be enclosed in the envelope containing the compiled statement of the vote for national, State and parochial offices to the secertary of State.

Section 73. The officers whose duty it is to designate and appoint polling such question,s of if for any reason it places in cities of more than fifty thousand inhabitants shall cause the same to be provided with voting shelves and compartments known as polling booths, in which voters may conveniently mark their ballots. There shall be in each polling place during each election, a sufficient number of voting booths, not less than one for every fifty voters in the precinct. Each such booths shall be at least three feet square, shall have four sides enclosed, each at least six feet high, and the one in front shall open and shut as a door swinging outwards and shall extend to within two feet of the floor. Each such booths shall contain a shelf which shall be one foot wide, extending across one side of the booth at a convenient height for writing, and shall be furnished with such supplies and conveniences, including black ink, pads, blotting paper and pencils, having black lead only, as will enable the voters to conveniently prepare their ballots for voting. Each polling booth shall be furnished with stamps or dies for making the voting mark upon the ballot, and shall have inking pads with ink of uniform color and quality. Each booth shall be kept clearly lighted while the polls are open, by artificial lights if necessary. A guard rail shall be placed at each polling place at least six feet from the ballot boxes, and the booths, and no ballot box or booth shall be placed within six feet of such rail, and each guard rail shall be provided with a separate entrance and separate exit. The arrangement of the polling place shall be such that the booths can only be reached by passing within the guard rail, and that the booths, ballot boxes, commissioners, and every part of the polling places, except the inside of the booth, shall be in plain view of the commissioners and of persons just outside of the guard rail. Such booths shall be so arranged that there shall be no access to intending voters or to the booths through any door, window or opening, except by the door in the front of said booth.

PREPARATION OF BALLOT FOR VOTING.

Sec. 74. Be it further enacted, etc., Any person desiring to vote shall give his name, occupation and registration paper, if such be provided for, to the presiding commissioner, who shall thereupon announce the same in a loud and distinct tone of voice, clear and audible, and if such name is found upon the registration list by the commissioner having charge thereof, he shall likewise repeat the same, and the voter shall then be allowed to enter the space enclosed by the guard rail as above provided. The commissioner shall give him one, and only one, ballot and his name shall be immediately checked on said list, and shall also be entered upon a poll list, which shall be numbered from one to the end, before he deposits his ballot in the box.

The commissioner in charge of the poll list, immediately after entering the voter's name thereon, and on the same line with the voter's name, shall, by making a cross, indicate that this voter has received one ballot; and should the voter return the first ballot and receive a second ballot, the commissioner in charge of the poll list shall place opposite the voter's name, and on the same line on the poll list, and next to the first cross a second cross. These crosses shall be the record of the number of ballots obtained by the voter. After three crosses have been placed opposite the name of any voter on the poll list, said voter shall receive no more ballots.

Sec. 75. Be it further enacted, onreceiving his ballot the voter shall forthwith and without leaving the enclosed space, retire alone to one of the voting booths, or to the table or shelf and without undue delay, unfold and mark his ballot therein as hereafter described.

When the voter has so marked the ballot received by him, he shall, before leaving the booth, or enclosed space, refold the ballot in the identical folds which the ballot is folded when received by him, and so that the whole face of the ballot shall be concealed, and the fac simile endorsement on the back of the ballot shall be visible.

The voter shall then immediately cast the same and leave the voting place.

Every voter who does not vote a ballot delivered to him by the ballot commissioner, shall, before passing outside the guard rail or enclosed space, return such ballot to such officer, who shall stamp the same "spoiled," and deposit it in the box for spoiled ballots and the voter shall not again return within the guard rail.

No more voters shall be permitted to pass the guard rail than there are unplace or taken outside the guard rail.

No more voters shall be permitted to pass the guard rail than there are unoccupied booths, provided, that where there are no booths provided for in the act only one voter shall be allowed within the enclosed space.

No voter shall be allowed to occupy a booth already occupied by another, or to occupy a booth or enclosed space more than three minutes, or to speak or converse with any one except as in this act provided, while within the guard rail. It shall be unlawful for a voter to deface or tear any ballot or to mark the same otherwise than as provided for in this section.

Every ballot voted which is defaced or torn or which is marked otherwise than as in this section provided, shall be treated as a ballot marked for identification.

If a voter tear, soil or deface a ballot so that it cannot be used, he may successfully obtain others, one at a time, not exceeding in all three, upon returning each ballot so torn, soiled or defaced to the commissioner, which ballots so returned shall be immediately marked or stamped "spoiled" across the official indorsement and placed in the box for spoiled ballots and entry of such fact made on the poll lists as required by this act.

The voter shall mark a ballot in the following manner and not otherwise. In individual candidates whose names are printed upon the ballot, he shall obliterate with the official stamp the white circle in the voting space at the right of the name of each candidate for whom he desires to vote.

If he desires to vote for a person other than a candidate for any office whose name is printed under the title of that office he must write the name of such person in the space provided for such purpose, directly under the printed names of candidates for such office, with a pencil having black lead, and obliterate with the official stamp the white circle in the voting space at the right of the name so written.

In marking a ballot upon which is printed for submission to the voters any question of the adoption of a constitutional amendment or any other proposition or question he shall obliterate with the official stamp the white circle in the voting space after the word "yes" printed at the right of the question, for an affirmative vote upon such question; or he shall obliterate with the official stamp the white circle after the word "no" similarly printed, for a negative vote upon such question.

Sec. 76. No ballot without the official endorsement, shall as herein otherwise provided, be allowed to be deposited in the ballot box, and none but ballots provided in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be counted. Any voter who declares to the presiding commissioner that by blindness or other physical disability he is unable to mark his ballot, shall, upon request, receive the assistance of two of the commissioners, who shall be of different political parties or factions, represented among the commissioners, in the marking thereof, and neither the voter nor said commissioners shall thereafter give any information regarding the same. The commissioner shal require such declaration of disability to be made by the voter under oath before him and he is hereby qualified to administer the same.

Sec. 77. Any voter or commissioner who shall, except as hereinbefore provided, allow his ballot to be seen by any person with an apparent intention of letting it be known how he is about to vote, or place any distinguishing mark upon his ballot, or who shall make false statement as to his inability to mark his ballot, or any person who shall interfere with any voter when inside said enclosed space or when marking his ballot, or who shall endeavor to induce any voter before voting to show how he is about to mark or has marked his ballot, or otherwise violates any of the provisions f this act, shall be punished in accordance with section 44 of this act.

Sec. 78. Any person who shall, prior to or during an election, wilfully deface or destroy any card or instructions printed or posted for the instruction of voters, wilfully remove or destroy any of the supplies or conveniences furnished to enable a voter to prepare his ballot, or shall wilfully hinder the voting of others, shall be punished in accordance with section 44 of this cat.

Every commissioner of election or other officer or person having the custody of any record, register of votes or copy thereof, oath, return of votes, certificates, poll list or any paper, document, or evidence of any description in this act, directed to be made filed or reserved, who is guilty of stealing, wilfully destroying, mutilating, defacing falsifying or fraudulently removing or secreting the whole or any part thereof, or who shall fraudulently make any entry, erasure, or alteration therein, except as allowed and directed by the provisions of this act, or who permits any other person so to do, shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof, be punished in accordance with section 44 of this act.

And every person not an officer, who is guilty of any of the aforesaid acts or who advises, procures, or abets the commission of the same, or any of them, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished in acordance with section 44 of this act.

Sec. 79. As soon as the polls are closed the commissioners shall at once rule off and sign and swear to the poll list, writing out beneath the said rulling the number of votes contained thereon and shall seal up and mark on the wrappers with the ward and precinct numbers all unused ballots, including all ballots that have been spoiled and defaced by voters in attempting to mark the same, and shall endorse thereon the number of ballots therein contained. The officers in charge of the poll books shall, in the presence of the other officers, and the public, count in a distinct and audible voice the names checked on said list and announce the whole number thereof, and compare the same with with the poll list, correcting any discrepancies between them and noting the same at the bottom of the poll list before proceeding with the count. The ballot box, without being removed from the public view, shall then be opened by the presiding officer, and the commissioners shall commence by counting the ballots found therein without unfolding them, except so far as to ascertain that each ballot is single, and by comparing the ballots fouhd in the box with the number shown by the poll lists to have been deposited therein. If the ballots found in any box shall be more than the number of ballots so shown to have been deposited therein such ballots shall all be replaced without being unfolded in the box from which they were taken, and one of the commissioners shall, without seeing the same and with his back to the box, thoroughly mingle the ballots together and another commissioner shall, without seeing the same, and with his back to the box, publicly draw out as many ballots as shall be equal to such excess, and without unfolding them, the commissioner shall forthwith mark the same "uncounted in excess of poll list," and attach a signed statement of the number of ballots so uncounted, which statement, and the uncounted ballots, shall be made up into a separate package and deposited in the ballot box prior to its being sealed up in accordance with the provisions of this act. If two or more ballots shall be found in a ballot box, so folded together as to present the appearance of a single ballot, they shall ballots of such ballot box exceeds the

(Continued on sixth page).