

district only ratepayers could be elected to represent such districts on these *ad hoc* Boards. Since the passing of the Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act, 1944, a residential franchise has been given in counties and road districts, and hence residents and ratepayers are qualified to sit on County Councils and Road Boards, and also to represent such districts on Hospital Boards, Harbour Boards, Electric-power Boards, and Catchment Boards⁽¹⁾.

Since only those paying rates to a Drainage, River, or Rabbit Boards are qualified as electors for those Boards, only ratepayers can sit as members of the Boards⁽²⁾.

As far as the smaller localized *ad hoc* bodies, such as Urban Drainage Boards, Urban Transport Boards, Water-supply Boards, and Gas Board, are concerned, the franchise is normally given to residents, and hence residents are entitled to sit as members⁽³⁾.

D. MAYOR AND CHAIRMEN

The Mayor of a borough is popularly elected. Every person qualified to be elected as a councillor—that is, every elector—may be elected as Mayor⁽⁴⁾.

The Council may elect a Deputy-Mayor⁽⁵⁾.

The Mayor, by virtue of his office, presides at meetings of the Council.

In all other local authorities the Chairman is elected by the Council or Board from among its own members. In Town Boards and Road Boards the Chairman holds office for the duration of the Board—that is, three years; or if elected during the term of the Council, he holds office until the next election⁽⁶⁾.

In County Councils, River Boards, Catchment Boards, Harbour Boards, and Electric-power Boards the Chairman is elected annually⁽⁷⁾.

In Rabbit Boards and Drainage Boards the Chairman can be appointed when the Board decides⁽⁸⁾.

In Hospital Boards the Chairman is appointed in the month of June, and thereafter in alternate years⁽⁹⁾.

In the smaller *ad hoc* authorities the Chairman is appointed by the Council⁽¹⁰⁾.

E. THE FRANCHISE⁽¹¹⁾

Residents and ratepayers are entitled to vote for members of local authorities in the case of the following local authorities:—

- Borough Councils:
- Town Boards:
- Road Boards:
- County Councils:
- Electric-power Boards:
- Hospital Boards:
- Harbour Boards:
- Catchment Boards:
- Auckland Transport Board:
- Christchurch Tramways Board:
- Christchurch Drainage Board:
- Petone and Lower Hutt Gas Board.

Ratepayers only are entitled to vote in the case of Drainage Boards, River Boards, Water-supply Boards, and Rabbit Boards.

⁽¹⁾ Local Elections and Polls Amendment Act, 1944, section 6.

⁽²⁾ Land Drainage Act, 1908, sections 6-9; River Board Act, 1908, sections 28-31; Rabbit Nuisance Act, 1908, sections 72-74.

⁽³⁾ Christchurch Drainage Act, 1920, section 15: members to be qualified as electors in constituent districts. Water Supply Act, 1908, section 67: members to be qualified as electors. Petone and Lower Hutt Gas-lighting Act, 1922, section 5, and Amending Act, 1927, section 11: two members each elected by the electors of Petone and Lower Hutt. One member from Lower Hutt and one from Petone to remain in office for next ensuing term. This makes six members. A seventh member is chosen by the other six. Auckland Transport Board Act, 1928, section 10: electors of constituent districts qualified to act as members. Christchurch Tramway District Act, 1920, sections 9-17: electors are qualified as members; residential qualification. Dunedin District Drainage and Sewerage Act, 1900, section 5: electors who are qualified as "Borough or County Councillors of some borough or county." Since there are no counties in the district, this is a peculiar provision. Auckland Metropolitan Drainage Act, 1944, section 6: the area is divided into constituent districts and combined districts, and the members are elected by the Councils of the constituent or combined district.

⁽⁴⁾ Municipal Corporations Act, 1933, Part III, sections 23-27.

⁽⁵⁾ Municipal Corporations Act, 1933, section 29.

⁽⁶⁾ Town Boards Act, 1908, section 29; Road Boards Act, 1908, sections 50, 51.

⁽⁷⁾ (i) Counties Act, 1920, section 75: the Chairman is elected at the first meeting of new Council after the elections, and thereafter annually at the annual meeting on the fourth Wednesday in May. (ii) River Boards Act, 1908, section 47: the Chairman is elected at the first meeting of new Council, and thereafter annually on second Tuesday in January. (iii) Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act, 1941: the Chairman is elected at first meeting of Board, and thereafter at annual meeting, which is held not later than thirty days after third Saturday in May. (iv) Harbours Act, 1923, section 40: the Chairman is elected at first meeting of Board, and thereafter annually at the annual meeting, which is to be held not later than thirty days after second Wednesday in May. (v) Electric-power Boards Act, 1925, sections 26 and 33: the Chairman is elected annually, and thereafter at annual meeting, which is held in the month of May.

⁽⁸⁾ Rabbit Nuisance Act, 1908, section 49.

⁽⁹⁾ Hospital and Charitable Institutions Act, 1926, section 31.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Christchurch Drainage Act, 1875, section 23: Chairman appointed annually in January. Water-supply Act, 1908, section 67 (5): Chairman to be elected at first meeting of the Board, and "shall hold office for so long as he continues to be a member of the Board." Petone and Lower Hutt Gas-lighting Act, 1928, section 9: Chairman holds office for the term of the Board. Auckland Transport Board Act, 1928, section 15: Chairman elected at first meeting of Board, and thereafter at annual meeting in each second year. There is no provision for the date of the annual meeting. Christchurch Tramway District Act, 1920, section 24: Chairman elected annually. Dunedin District Drainage and Sewerage Act, 1900, section 15: Chairman chosen annually. Auckland Metropolitan Drainage Act, 1944, section 12: Chairman appointed by Board for its term of office.

⁽¹¹⁾ For franchise on loan polls see pages 134-135.