

date and the political party or principle which he represents.

That this knowledge may be readily acquired *in advance* of the day of election and also *on that day* and even *at the polls* voters will be informed *officially* by thorough advertisement in all the leading newspapers of the names of all candidates whose nomination has been certified in the mode prescribed by law; also by the secure posting in conspicuous places in each precinct some days before election, of sample ballots of such a magnified size as to be capable of being easily seen and understood.

Additional assistance will be given by means of cards of instruction extensively circulated; and by sample or specimen ballots posted in and about the polls on the day of election.

By these means there is no voter who cannot ascertain if he chooses, *before* election day the names of all candidates, the offices for which they are candidates and their relative position on the official ballot.

It is proposed to abolish altogether the present mischievous practice of authorizing the election clerks upon the call of voters who cannot read or write to mark their ballots for them.

This practice necessarily leads to a disclosure of their votes by all such real or pretended illiterates and frustrates absolutely, so far as these voters are concerned, one of the primary purposes of the Australian system, viz: the secrecy of the ballot.

It manifestly permits as to all this class of voters, the liberal use of coercive influences and intimidation by employers and persons in authority. With the destruction of its secrecy, goes also the destruction of the freedom of the ballot.

But bad as this is, it is not the worst.

The disclosure necessarily invites bribery and furnishes the most effective means and facilities for its perpetration.

It enables the venal voter to sell his vote with impunity and to prove to the bribe-giver that he has kept his corrupt bargain.