MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Executive Order No. 646.

G. O. No. 3236.

ELECTION LAW

By virtue of the powers vested in the Military Government of Santo Domingo, the following Executive Order is hereby promulgated:

ARTICLE 1. The Primary Assemblies in all the Communes of the Republic have the duty of electing the Electoral Colleges.

ARTICLE 2. The Primary Assemblis are composed of all male Dominicans more than eighteen years of age and those who are married or have been married even though they have not reached said age. There are barred those mentally unsound, or legally or judicially incapacitated. There are likewise barred persons belonging to the active army or to any body organized on military lines, or to the police.

ARTICLE 3. The number of electors comprising the Electoral College in each province shall, in accordance with the Constitution of 1908, be in proportion to the number of inhabitants as shown by the Census, and shall be on the basis of one elector for each commune of the province and for each commune an additional elector for each three thousand (3,000) inhabitants of the commune over and above three thousand (3,000), a fraction amounting to more than one half to count as three thousand (3,000). As established by the census of 1921, the electoral quota shall be as follows:

PROVINCE OF SANTO DOMINGO

Commune of Santo Domingo		15	Commune of San Cristóbal		14
"	" Baní	7	"	" Monte Plata	3
"	" La Victoria	2	"	" Guerra	2
"	" Bayaguana	1	"	" Yamasá	2
"	" Mella	2			

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Santo Domingo. 48

PROVINCE OF AZUA

Commune of Azua	6	Commune of San Juan	11
" " Las Matas	5	" " S. J. de Ocoa	4
" " Bánica	2	" " El Cercado	4
" " Comendador	2		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Azua 34

PROVINCE OF BARAHONA

Commune of Barahona	4	Commune of Neiba	7
" " Enriquillo	2	" " Duvergé	2
" " Cabral	2		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Barahona 17

PROVINCE OF EL SEIBO

Commune of el Seibo	7	Commune of Higüey	5
" " Hato Mayor	4	" " El Jovero	1
		" " La Romana	3

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of El Seibo 20

PROVINCE OF SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS

Commune of S. P. de Macorís	8	Commune of Los Llanos	4

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of San Pedro de Macorís 12

PROVINCE OF SAMANA

Commune of Santa Bárbara	3	Comune of Sabana de la Mar	1
" " Sánchez	2		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Samaná 6

PROVINCE OF PUERTO PLATA

Commune of Puerto Plata	9	Commune of Altamira	4
" " Blanco	4	" " Bajabonico	3

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Puerto Plata 20

PROVINCE OF MONTE CRISTI

Commune of Monte Cristi	3	Commune of Sabaneta	5
" " Guayubín	5	" " Dajabón	3
" " Restauración	5	" " Monción	1

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Monte Cristi 22

PROVINCE OF SANTIAGO

Commune of Santiago	24	Commune of Valverde	3
" " San José de las Matas	5	" " Jánico	4
" " Esperanza	2	" " Peña	4

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Santiago 42

PROVINCE OF ESPAILLAT

Commune of Moca	13	Commune of Salcedo	4

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Espaillat 17

PROVINCE OF LA VEGA

Commune of La Vega	20	Commune of Cotuí	8
" " Jarabacoa	3	" " Bonao	3
" " Constanza	1		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of La Vega 35

PROVINCE OF PACIFICADOR

Commune of San Francisco de Macorís	14	Commune of Villa Rivas	2
" " Matanzas	2	" " Gaspar Hernández	1
" " Pimentel	2	" " Cabrera	2
" " Castillo	3		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Pacificador. 26

Total number of electors. 299

ARTICLE 4. In order to be an elector a person must:

(a) Be a Dominican in the full enjoyment and exercise of political rights;

(b) Know how to read and write; and

(c) Have his political domicile in the province to which the commune electing him belongs.

Electors are pledged and are obliged to vote for the candidates of the party which elected them except in cases hereinafter set forth.

The office of elector is an honorary one and without remuneration, but a per diem of $2.00, while the Electoral College remains in session, will be paid by the Treasurer of the Dominican Republic to electors who have to travel from the commune of their domicile to the capital of the province where the College is in session.

ARTICLE 5. The Secretary of State of Interior and Police, shall, at least thirty (30) days before the date set for the Primary Assemblies, divide each commune containing more than one thousand (1000) voters into precincts in such manner that each precinct, as far as practicable, shall be composed of contiguous and compact territory and shall contain not to exceed one thousand (1000) voters. Precincts shall be defined in such manner as not to divide enumeration districts as formed for the census. Each commune shall have at least one precinct. There shall be one polling place in each precinct and at each polling place there shall be at least one booth for each one hundred (100) voters in the precinct.

At least fifteen days before the day set for the Primary

Assemblies each Ayuntamiento shall designate in each precinct of the corresponding commune, a polling place as centrally located with respect to the residences of the voters as is practicable.

Each such place so designated shall, if practicable, be a room upon the lower floor, of reasonable size, sufficient to meet the requirements of this article.

A guard rail shall be placed at each polling place at least two meters from the ballot boxes and from the booths, and no ballot box or booth shall be placed within two meters of such rail, and each guard rail shall be provided with an entrance and exit, the one separate from the other. 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, election officers, and every part of the polling place, except the inside of the booths shall be in plain view of the election officers and of persons just outside of the guard rail. Such booths shall be so arranged that there shall be no access thereto except by the door in the front of said booth.

It shall be the duty of the President of the Ayuntamiento to see that maps or plans showing boundaries of the precincts shall be kept posted at the polling place and at two other conspicuous public places in each precinct for at least fifteen days before the election. Plans of all election precincts within a commune shall be posted at the Ayuntamiento.

A printed copy of this act in English and Spanish shall be hung and continuously kept in a conspicuous available position in every polling place on election day and one week prior thereto, so that it may be consulted by any voter.

ARTICLE 6. (a) There shall be one election board for the commune in each commune of the Dominican Republic to determine from the totals of all votes cast in all the precincts of the commune, the persons that have been elected and to certify their election in the manner hereinafter provided. In addition to the foregoing, in each commune having two or more election precincts there shall be a precinct election board in each precinct of the commune to conduct the election and count votes in the manner hereinafter provided. In each commune having but one election precinct the election board for the commune shall perform the duties of the precinct board and conduct the election. Each precinct election board shall be composed of one member from each political party to be designated by the local National Committee thereof, and not to exceed two

members designated by the President of the Ayuntamiento of the Commune, who shall name either one or two members so as to make the whole number odd. The member appointed by the President of the Ayuntamiento, or the elder of the two, in case there be two, shall act as Chairman of the Election Board. The Election Board of the Commune shall be composed of members designated in like manner except that the Síndico of the Commune shall be the Chairman of the Board. The youngest member of the Election Board shall act as Secretary thereof. In every case the local party committees shall name substitutes to take the place of members absent on account of sickness. The only excuse permitted a member of the Election Board shall be that of sickness. In order to grant recesses for the members of an Election Board the local committee of each party and the President of the Ayuntamiento shall designate substitutes to act in the interim.

(b) Each member of an election board shall take the following oath:

Republic of Santo Domingo.

Commune of————————.

OATH OF MEMBER OF ELECTION BOARD.

I,————————, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully perform the duties of member of the Election Board for the—— precinct (Commune) of————————, that I will honestly and justly administer my duties according to the Constitution and laws in force in the Dominican Republic, without prejudice or favor toward any person, candidate, party, society or religious sect, and that I take this oath freely and without evasion or mental reservation whatsoever, so help me God.

(In case of affirmation the words "So help me God" will be stricken out.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this——— day———, 192——.

(Signed)————————————

(Signature of Board Member).

(Signed)————————————

(Signature of Officer Administering Oath)

The chairman of each Election Board shall be sworn in by the President of the Ayuntamiento and the former will in turn swear in the other members of his boards. The authority to administer the oaths as herein provided is hereby granted.

ARTICLE 7. All the Political parties who propose to take part in the electoral campaign, shall send to the Ayuntamiento of the respective commune, four days before the date set for the Primary Assemblies, a communication designating their representatives for the Election Boards.

ARTICLE 8. The members of the Board shall have the right to make proper observations and to discuss them with each other refraining from the use of any offensive or inconsiderate terms. No party representative shall have the right to speak more than twice on the same subject, nor shall two representatives of the same party talk in succession. After one has finished, the Chairman of the Board shall upon request grant the same privilege to the representative of any other party.

The Chairman of the Board, by himself or by resolution of the majority, shall close the discussion and the incident shall be closed. No discussion arising in connection with any incident shall last more than ten minutes.

ARTICLE 9. The Primary Assemblies shall meet on the day fixed by the Decree of Convocation.

ARTICLE 10. On the day set for the Primary Assemblies the Electoral Board of every precinct shall open the polling place provided by the Ayuntamiento for this purpose at six o'clock in the morning, so that voting may begin at once and the polls shall remain continuously open until 6 o'clock in the afternoon, when they shall close. No more than one day shall be allowed for the voting.

ARTICLE 11. If at the hour of closing there should be in the voting place one or more voters who have not yet voted, the door of the voting place shall be closed and the votes of these persons received.

ARTICLE 12. No person may vote in any of the Primary Assemblies under this law who has not the qualifications as provided in Article 2 hereof, and who has not been, for a period of not less than thirty days immediately preceeding the day of election a *bona fide* resident of the precinct wherein he casts his vote.

ARTICLE 13. The Secretary of State of Interior and

Police shall furnish the Secretary of each Election Board through the President of the Ayuntamiento of the Commune, a list containing the name, age, residence and personal status of every qualified voter in the precinct as shown by the census. As each person presents himself to vote it shall be the duty of the Election Board to identify him. The Secretary of the Board shall then check off his name on the list. In case any person, other than those appearing on the list, desires to vote, he must present proof satisfactory to the Board that he is qualified under this law.

ARTICLE 14. (a) Twenty days, at the latest, before the day fixed for the meeting of the Primary Assemblies, the National Committees (Juntas Superiores Directivas) of each party, shall inform the Executive Power as to the emblem which each may have decided to select as a distinguishing mark for the votes of his party, so that if there is no conflict in the emblems, immediate authorization may be given for their use, for their description in such newspapers as each party may select, and for registration in the office of the Secretary of each Commune, so that illiterate voters may know by means of said emblems for which candidates they are voting.

(b) In order that the voting may be secret, all ballots shall be white opaque paper and of uniform size (20 by 14 centimeters), and the parties, when having them lithographed or printed, are required to conform to the model, with only the heading and the countermarks on the back, which will be furnished to their leaders or to the said National Committees, (Juntas Superiores) by the Executive Power. No ballot shall bear any other special mark, and in each locality all ballots shall be of such character that when folded they cannot be distinguished one from another.

(c) Each Committee of the Political parties in the various Communes shall deliver to the Secretary of the Ayuntamiento not later than four days before the day set for the Primary Assemblies, a sufficient number of its party's ballots to furnish one for each voter in the Commune. These ballots should contain, lithographed, printed or written, the list of the candidates for electors of the party in question. The Secretary of the Ayuntamiento will give receipt for the ballots, delivered to him, will affix the seal of the Ayuntamiento in the center of the back of each ballot and will be responsible for them until he places them at the disposal of the election board.

(d) It shall be the duty of the President of the Ayuntamiento to see that the ballots above described, when provided by

the political parties in sufficient number and in proper form, shall be furnished to the polling places so that each precinct board may have at least one ballot of each political party so providing them for each voter in the precinct. The Executive Power shall likewise provide ballots in blank which in default of others shall be furnished to voters desiring to vote for an independent candidacy. No other ballots shall be furnished to the polling places.

(e) It shall be the duty of the President of the Ayuntamiento to provide each election board of his commune with a ballot box, 75 centimeters in length by 40 in width and 50 in height, top attached by hinges, and secured by lock, the key of which shall be in the custody of the Chairman of the Election Board to be kept by him until the time of counting. The Chairman shall open the ballot box for the inspection of the Election Board immediately before the opening of the polls. The ballot box shall then be closed and locked until the polls are closed. These ballot boxes shall have in the cover from two to four openings of ten centimeters by one-half a centimeter in width, through which the voters without discrimination shall deposit their ballots.

(f) No ballots are to be distributed or used other than those provided within the election precincts.

(g) Every voter shall deposit his ballot in the ballot box intended for this purpose, and the Christian and surnames of the candidates shall appear thereon in clear and legible letters. No one may entrust to another the duty of depositing his ballot.

(h) A ballot shall benefit solely the candidates expressed thereon and their number shall not exceed the number fixed by Article 3 of this law for the corresponding commune.

(i) To each voter who comes to a polling place to vote the election board shall give one ballot of each registered candidacy and he shall be shown to a separate booth, provided for this purpose and guaranteed against view from without, so that he may there select the ballot of his party. Before leaving the booth he shall fold each of the ballots given him, separately in four parts with the party emblem inside. He shall then in sight of the board first throw the remaining ballots one by one into a receptacle provided for the purpose and then deposit in the ballot box the ballots selected by him. Every booth shall be enclosed on three sides without openings or cracks and shall have the entrance covered with a curtain which shall make it impossible to see what is done inside.

The Secretary of State of Interior and Police shall prescribe the number of booths to be provided in the polling place of each precinct.

(j) A voter may scratch one or more of the manes that appear on the ballot and substitute the names of others in his own handwriting, and no other mark or writing is permitted.

(k) It shall be the duty of the election board to enforce this law by expelling from the voting place and its vicinity those who violate the law.

(l) The election board shall determine the number of persons that shall be authorized to remain on the premises, and said board shall have the right to insist that the act of voting take place promptly and that the voter leave immediately after depositing his ballot.

(m) No one except the election board and duly authorized supervisors, shall have the right to remain in the vicinity of the polling place, except for the time really necessary to vote. The election board shall determine the limits of this vicinity.

ARTICLE 15. Every person who presents himself for the purpose of voting in any Primary Assemblies having in his possession one or more ballots obtained in any manner other than as provided in this Law shall be prohibited from voting in such Assemblies.

ARTICLE 16. While the election is in progress, the Chairman of the Board shall have in charge the policing of the premises, and shall take the necessary steps, so that order, composure and solemnity shall prevail during the said proceedings and so that there may be no crowding at the doors of the polling place.

ARTICLE 17. The Chairman of the Board shall cause the arrest of any person who makes or tries to make a disturbance in the voting place, or who in any way commits a violation of law on the premises. Within 24 hours after the arrest the Chairman and the Secretary of the Board shall give an account in writing of the occurrence to the Alcalde or to the Judge of Instruction, placing the culprit or culprits at his disposal.

ARTICLE 18. At the close of the voting the Chairman of the Board, in the presence of the other members thereof, shall proceed to make the count in the following manner: first, the ballots contained in the ballot box shall be counted, and if their number agrees with that of the record of votes cast they shall

be returned to the ballot box in order to be scrutinized one by one. If the number should exceed that of the voters they shall again be cast into the ballot box and having been shaken up the excess ballots shall be taken out at random and destroyed without unfolding. Tre Chairman of the Board shall then proceed to withdraw the ballots from the ballot box one by one and shall open and examine them and pass them around to others of the Board who may desire to examine them.

ARTICLE 19. The following ballots shall be void:

(a) These that are not counter sealed by the respective Ayuntamiento and those that appear with some special mark or alteration allowing them to be distinguished from the regular ballots.

(b) Those that contain only names of individuals not eligible.

(c) Those that are in contravention of paragraph (c) of Article 14.

(d) Those that contain a greater number of candidates than the number to be elected.

(e) Those found folded together.

All void ballots as defined in this article shall be wrapped up and, on the wrapper, shall be written the number of votes and the statement that they are void as follows: "So many void ballots".

ARTICLE 20. (a) After the void ballots have been removed the ballots shall be arranged in piles according to the emblems; i. e., those that have the same emblem shall be placed in a separate pile with the independent ballots apart, and the counting shall begin.

(b) In case a ballot shall have the name of one candidate scratched as provided in Article 14, paragraph (i), without the corresponding substitution, the vote shall be valid and the remaining candidates counted.

(c) On ballots on which there are names of eligible candidates and ineligible candidates, the former shall be counted.

(d) The Secretary and one or more other members of the Board shall take note in writing of the candidates and the number of votes obtained by each in order to compare notes and correct any errors.

(e) In order to legalize the election a certificate showing the total number of votes cast for each candidate shall be signed, in triplicate, by the members of each precinct election Board and countersigned by the Secretary. One of these certificates shall be sent to the Judge of First Instance of the Judicial District and another shall be filed with the Ayuntamiento. The remaining certificate shall be affixed to the door of the voting place, as also the list of citizens who have exercised their right of suffrage. A copy thereof certified by the Secretary shall be sent to the Office of the Secretary of State of Interior and Police. The requirements of this section shall be fulfilled within 24 hours, immediately following the closing of the polls.

(f) In case of protests, the protesting persons shall sign the same, stating what are their claims, but such protests will not be admissible unless they are presented and put on record before the counting of the votes is completed.

(g) The President of the Ayuntamiento, after he shall have received the certificates properly authenticated in accordance with the requirements of this Article from all of the precincts of the commune, shall present them to the Commune Election Board provided by Article 6 (a) of this law.

(h) After having organized the board and taken the oath prescribed in paragraph 6 (a) of this law, the Commune Election Board shall count the votes as certified by the precinct boards and shall certify as electors those citizens who shall have obtained the greatest number of votos in the commune and their number shall correspond with the commune's quota fixed by Article 3 of this law. The Board's certificate shall be made in triplicate, one copy of each will be forwarded to the Judge of First Instance, one to the Secretary of State of Interior and Police and the third to the Ayuntamiento, which shall post a copy of it in a conspicuous place.

(i) The credentials of the electors shall be issued by the Commune Election Board within the next forty-eight (48) hours following the receipt of the certificates from the precinct boards by filling out the blank's furnished by the Secretary of State of Interior and Police for this purpose.

(j) All documents that may be sent and whatever may have reference to the election shall be sent by registered mail to the local post office.

(k) The packages of ballots shall be well wrapped, closed

and sealed with wax by the precinct election board and sent to the Judge of First Instance of the Judicial District within twenty-four (24) hours following the closing of the polls.

ARTICLE 21. The Electoral College of each Province shall meet at the capital of the Province on the date set by the Order of Convocation in the hall designated by the Ayuntamiento of the capital and shall proceed with such elections as are prescribed in the Order of Convocation.

ARTICLE 22. Upon the installation of each college the chair shall be occupied by the oldest elector and the Secretaryship by the two youngest. After examining the credentials of each, there shall be chosen by absolute majority, the permanent Board which shall be composed of a chairman, a vice-president and two secretaries. The chairman shall at once take oath before the College to discharge faithfully his duties and will then administer the oath jointly to all the electors, who shall take it standing and with their right hands extended. The said oath shall forthwith be reduced to writing and be signed by all the electors so sworn.

ARTICLE 23. The Electoral Colleges shall have no relations with one another, nor shall they exercise any attributes whatever except in the presence of at least two thirds of their members. Their sitting session is not to terminate until after the elections prescribed by the Order of Convocation have taken place. Their session shall not last more than eight days, and begin at eight in the morning and end at six in the afternoon.

ARTICLE 24. Unless otherwise prescribed in the Order of Convocation, elections shall take place separately in the following order:

1. President of the Republic;
2. Senator;
3. Diputies;
4. Alternate for Deputies;

and the Electoral College shall also make up lists of eligibles for Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice, Courts of Appeals, and Tribunals and Courts of First Instance.

(a) In accordance with the Constitution of 1908, there shall be one Senator for each province and deputies, with their alternates, in accordance with the number of inhabitants in each province.

(b) There shall be one deputy, with his alternate, for each province for each thirty thousand (30,000) inhabitants of the province and one additional deputy, and alternate, for the remaining number of inhabitants if such number is fifteen thousand (15,000) or over. No province shall have less than one deputy, and there shall be one alternate for each deputy.

(c) In accordance with the population as determined by the Census of 1921 the quota of deputies shall be as follows:

Province of Santo Domingo	5	Province of La Vega	4
Province of S. P. de Macoris	1	Province of Pacificador	3
Province of Seibo	2	Province of Espaillat	2
Province of Azua	3	Province of Santiago	4
Province of Barahona	2	Province of Puerto Plata	2
Province of Samaná	1	Province of Monte Cristi	2

Total. 31

(d) The qualifications to hold office shall be as follows:

(a) In order to be President of the Republic or Senator a person must (1) be a Dominican by birth and origin and have resided not less than twenty (20) years in the country; (2) be at least thirty-five (35) years of age and in the full enjoyment of his civic and political rights.

(b) In order to be Deputy or Alternate a person must be (1) a citizen of more than twenty-five (25) years of age; (2) native of the Province where elected or having had not less than one year's residence therein. If naturalized he will not be eligible until eight (8) years thereafter.

(c) In order to be a Judge of the Suprema Court of Justice or of the Courts of Appeals or of the Tribunals and Courts of First Instance, a person must be a Dominican in the full enjoyment of his political and civic rights and a lawyer of the courts of the Republic. Naturalized citizens cannot be judges of the Supreme Court save after eight (8) years of citizenship. A judge of the Supreme Court must be more than thirty (30) years of age and of the Court of Appeals more than twenty-five (25) years or age.

ARTICLE 25. If during the session an elector should die or become incapacitated, the college will proceed to replace him with a pledged adherent of the same party, named as soon as possible, by the committee (Junta Directiva) of said party, through its headquarters in the capital of the Province.

ARTICLE 26. The electors shall enjoy, during the session of the college, the same immunity as the senators and deputies in the exercise of their functions.

ARTICLE 27. Elections shall be made by oral vote. Each elector, commencing with the first one on the right, will stand up and say aloud for whom he votes. The Secretary shall keep a record of the votes. The last electors to vote shall be the members of the board.

ARTICLE 28. In order that there may be election by absolute majority of votos; i. e., by more than one-half of the electors present, the electors shall vote by elimination, if necessary, in the following manner: For the election of a Senator, deputies and substitutes, the electors shall be obliged at first to vote for the candidates designated by their party, but, if on said first ballot, no candidate obtains a majority, the one with the smallest vote shall be eliminated and the electors who have supported him shall be obliged to vote for one of the others. This proceeding shall be repeated until there shall be obtained a majority of votes for a candidate. In the Electoral College, the votes for the President of the Republic will be counted in favor of the candidates of the party represented by the electors as pledgers. The elimination process, when necesary for the President of the Republic, belongs to the National Assembly

ARTICLE 29. A record shall be kept of the election and its details in quadruplicate, which shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretaries. One shall be sent to the office of the Secretary of State of Interior and Police; one to the Court of First Instance, whose Secretary shall file and keep it under his responsibility; another to the Senate, and another to the Chamber of Deputies. The transmittal of the last two will be made through the Secretary of State of the Interior and Police. After the elections have terminated, the respective nomination certificates shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretaries, who shall communicate the result to the Governor of the Province.

ARTICLE 30. In case any elector should not be present when an election is going on, on the first ballot his vote shall be entered in favor of the ticket of his party, but in case of voting by elimination, his vote shall not be counted if he is not in attendance upon the session and does not cast his vote personally.

ARTICLE 31. Excepting as provided in Article 40, every action for the annulment of any election shall be tried before the Court of Appeals of the respective department, where must be filed within one week after date of the Election, by any interes-

ted party, a detailed statement of the facts which are the reason for the suit, accompanied by whatever documents may serve as supports. Together with the transmittal of his statement to the court, notice thereof shall be served by bailiff on the nearest chairman of committee of the opposite party or parties.

ARTICLE 32. The Secretary of the Court shall have published in the local daily papers, and if there are none he shall have affixed to the principal door of the Court, of the Court of First Instance and of the Town Hall, an extract of the said statement. Any person may demand in the office of the Secretary a copy of the statement or of the documents which accompany it on payment of the fees fixed by law.

ARTICLE 33. Within four days after the expiration of the period fixed by Article 31, the Court will meet in special session in order to hear complaints made before it. The Secretary will read all the documents presented. Immediately thereafter the attorney representing the plaintiffs will, if the complaint be sustained, amplify the contents of the statement. If a lawyer represents the opposing party, he shall be heard at once.

ARTICLE 34. The plaintiffs as well as the opposing party may be represented at the hearing, but in such case it must be by a lawyer.

ARTICLE 35. The decision of the court shall be handed down on the same day and there shall be no appeal whatsoever from the same. No costs shall be assessed. The party that may have advanced costs shall not have the right to make any claim except he be able to substantiate his claim against the person in question in accordance with the *derecho común.*

ARTICLE 36. The above Articles do not refer to crimes committed in connection with election proceedings. These will be tried and judged in accordance with the rules of criminal procedure. However, if upon a hearing of the matter in case of complaints against the validity of any election, whether declared by the court valid or void, there should appear clear signs of the commission of a crime by one or more persons, the Procurador General of the Court shall so advise the Procurador Fiscal of the respective Judicial District, so that he may proceed in accordance with the Law.

ARTICLE 37. If the Court of Appeals should annul an election the Procurador General of the same within the terms of twenty-four (24) hours shall so advise the Ayuntamientos of the

communes, whose vote was annulled, so that a new election may be held on the day set by the Executive Power, which must be during the week following.

ARTICLE 38. Any complaint against the election made by one or more of the Electoral Colleges, shall be tried in the same manner as complaints made against the vote of a Primary Assembly. In case of annulment the Procurador General will advise the Governor of the respective province for the purpose of calling a meeting of the electoral college during the week following so that it may proceed to hold a new election.

ARTICLE 39. The decision of the court shall embrace all the complaints made against elections in the department over which it has jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 40. It is understood that the Courts of Appeal will have no jurisdiction in cases referring to the election of the President of the Republic. This is an attribute of the National Assembly.

ARTICLE 41. Any person who votes in contravention of this law, or who votes in the name of another, or who votes more than once, shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than six months nor more than two years. Every attempt to commit such infraction shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one month nor more than one year.

ARTICLE 42. Any person distributing voting ballots at any place, except as provided in this law will be punished by a fine of from twenty to one hundred dollars.

ARTICLE 43. Any authority or public official who uses undue influence on the voters, or interferes in any way with the election, shall be punished in accordance with Article 114 of the Penal Code, even though he may show that he acted upon the order of superiors to whom he owed obedience. In this case the same punishment shall be applied to the superior officer who gave the order. Any public official accused before the National Congress of having committed any of the infractions covered by this Article, shall be suspended in his functions until decision is made by the proper court, and he shall not be reinstated in office unless he is acquitted.

ARTICLE 44. Every interruption of an electoral asembly, in a violent manner, will be punished by imprisonment for from one to two years and fine of from fifty to two hundred dollars. An attempt will be punished the same as the crime itself.

ARTICLE 45. Violent interference with the ballot box containing the votes, whether they have been scrutinized or not, will be punished by imprisonment; if the interference has been accomplished by a group and with violence, the penalty will be hard labor.

ARTICLE 46. All criminal or civil actions arising out of a violation of the present law, shall be outlawed after three months from the day of the proclamation of the result of the election. Any action not begun within this period shall be barred.

ARTICLE 47. No conviction shall operate to make void an election declared valid by the Court of Appeals.

ARTICLE 48. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Order, are hereby repealed.

S. S. ROBISON,

Rear-Admiral, United States Navy,
Military Governor of Santo Domingo.

Santo Domingo, R. D.,
July 7, 1921.

GOBIERNO MILITAR DE SANTO DOMINGO.

Orden Ejecutiva No. 647.

Enmienda a la Orden Ejecutiva No. 207.

G. O. No. 3237.

En virtud de los poderes de que se halla investido el Gobierno Militar de Santo Domingo, se promulga la siguiente Orden Ejecutiva:

ARTICULO 1. Habiéndose obtenido ya el consentimiento del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, la suma asignada por la Or-

PROVINCE OF AZUA

Commune of Azua	6	Commune of San Juan	11
" " Las Matas	5	" " S. J. de Ocoa	4
" " Bánica	2	" " El Cercado	4
" " Comendador	2		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Azua 34

PROVINCE OF BARAHONA

Commune of Barahona	4	Commune of Neiba	7
" " Enriquillo	2	" " Duvergé	2
" " Cabral	2		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Barahona 17

PROVINCE OF EL SEIBO

Commune of el Seibo	7	Commune of Higüey	5
" " Hato Mayor	4	" " El Jovero	1
		" " La Romana	3

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of El Seibo 20

PROVINCE OF SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS

Commune of S. P. de Macorís	8	Commune of Los Llanos	4

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of San Pedro de Macorís 12

PROVINCE OF SAMANA

Commune of Santa Bárbara	3	Comune of Sabana de la Mar	1
" " Sánchez	2		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Samaná 6

PROVINCE OF PUERTO PLATA

Commune of Puerto Plata	9	Commune of Altamira	4
" " Blanco	4	" " Bajabonico	3

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Puerto Plata 20

PROVINCE OF MONTE CRISTI

Commune of Monte Cristi	3	Commune of Sabaneta	5
" " Guayubín	5	" " Dajabón	3
" " Restauración	5	" " Monción	1

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Monte Cristi 22

PROVINCE OF SANTIAGO

Commune of Santiago	24	Commune of Valverde	3
" " San José de las Matas	5	" " Jánico	4
" " Esperanza	2	" " Peña	4

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Santiago 42

PROVINCE OF ESPAILLAT

Commune of Moca	13	Commune of Salcedo	4

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Espaillat 17

PROVINCE OF LA VEGA

Commune of La Vega	20	Commune of Cotuí	8
" " Jarabacoa	3	" " Bonao	3
" " Constanza	1		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of La Vega 35

PROVINCE OF PACIFICADOR

Commune of San Francisco de Macorís	14	Commune of Villa Rivas	2
" " Matanzas	2	" " Gaspar Hernández	1
" " Pimentel	2	" " Cabrera	2
" " Castillo	3		

Total number of electors comprising the Electoral College of the Province of Pacificador. 26

Total number of electors. 299

ARTICLE 4. In order to be an elector a person must:

(a) Be a Dominican in the full enjoyment and exercise of political rights;

(b) Know how to read and write; and

(c) Have his political domicile in the province to which the commune electing him belongs.

Electors are pledged and are obliged to vote for the candidates of the party which elected them except in cases hereinafter set forth.

The office of elector is an honorary one and without remuneration, but a per diem of $2.00, while the Electoral College remains in session, will be paid by the Treasurer of the Dominican Republic to electors who have to travel from the commune of their domicile to the capital of the province where the College is in session.

ARTICLE 5. The Secretary of State of Interior and Police, shall, at least thirty (30) days before the date set for the Primary Assemblies, divide each commune containing more than one thousand (1000) voters into precincts in such manner that each precinct, as far as practicable, shall be composed of contiguous and compact territory and shall contain not to exceed one thousand (1000) voters. Precincts shall be defined in such manner as not to divide enumeration districts as formed for the census. Each commune shall have at least one precinct. There shall be one polling place in each precinct and at each polling place there shall be at least one booth for each one hundred (100) voters in the precinct.

At least fifteen days before the day set for the Primary

Assemblies each Ayuntamiento shall designate in each precinct of the corresponding commune, a polling place as centrally located with respect to the residences of the voters as is practicable.

Each such place so designated shall, if practicable, be a room upon the lower floor, of reasonable size, sufficient to meet the requirements of this article.

A guard rail shall be placed at each polling place at least two meters from the ballot boxes and from the booths, and no ballot box or booth shall be placed within two meters of such rail, and each guard rail shall be provided with an entrance and exit, the one separate from the other. 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, election officers, and every part of the polling place, except the inside of the booths shall be in plain view of the election officers and of persons just outside of the guard rail. Such booths shall be so arranged that there shall be no access thereto except by the door in the front of said booth.

It shall be the duty of the President of the Ayuntamiento to see that maps or plans showing boundaries of the precincts shall be kept posted at the polling place and at two other conspicuous public places in each precinct for at least fifteen days before the election. Plans of all election precincts within a commune shall be posted at the Ayuntamiento.

A printed copy of this act in English and Spanish shall be hung and continuously kept in a conspicuous available position in every polling place on election day and one week prior thereto, so that it may be consulted by any voter.

ARTICLE 6. (a) There shall be one election board for the commune in each commune of the Dominican Republic to determine from the totals of all votes cast in all the precincts of the commune, the persons that have been elected and to certify their election in the manner hereinafter provided. In addition to the foregoing, in each commune having two or more election precincts there shall be a precinct election board in each precinct of the commune to conduct the election and count votes in the manner hereinafter provided. In each commune having but one election precinct the election board for the commune shall perform the duties of the precinct board and conduct the election. Each precinct election board shall be composed of one member from each political party to be designated by the local National Committee thereof, and not to exceed two

members designated by the President of the Ayuntamiento of the Commune, who shall name either one or two members so as to make the whole number odd. The member appointed by the President of the Ayuntamiento, or the elder of the two, in case there be two, shall act as Chairman of the Election Board. The Election Board of the Commune shall be composed of members designated in like manner except that the Síndico of the Commune shall be the Chairman of the Board. The youngest member of the Election Board shall act as Secretary thereof. In every case the local party committees shall name substitutes to take the place of members absent on account of sickness. The only excuse permitted a member of the Election Board shall be that of sickness. In order to grant recesses for the members of an Election Board the local committee of each party and the President of the Ayuntamiento shall designate substitutes to act in the interim.

(b) Each member of an election board shall take the following oath:

Republic of Santo Domingo.

Commune of————————.

OATH OF MEMBER OF ELECTION BOARD.

I,————————, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully perform the duties of member of the Election Board for the—— precinct (Commune) of————————, that I will honestly and justly administer my duties according to the Constitution and laws in force in the Dominican Republic, without prejudice or favor toward any person, candidate, party, society or religious sect, and that I take this oath freely and without evasion or mental reservation whatsoever, so help me God.

(In case of affirmation the words "So help me God" will be stricken out.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this——— day———, 192——.

(Signed)————————————

(Signature of Board Member).

(Signed)————————————

(Signature of Officer Administering Oath)

The chairman of each Election Board shall be sworn in by the President of the Ayuntamiento and the former will in turn swear in the other members of his boards. The authority to administer the oaths as herein provided is hereby granted.

ARTICLE 7. All the Political parties who propose to take part in the electoral campaign, shall send to the Ayuntamiento of the respective commune, four days before the date set for the Primary Assemblies, a communication designating their representatives for the Election Boards.

ARTICLE 8. The members of the Board shall have the right to make proper observations and to discuss them with each other refraining from the use of any offensive or inconsiderate terms. No party representative shall have the right to speak more than twice on the same subject, nor shall two representatives of the same party talk in succession. After one has finished, the Chairman of the Board shall upon request grant the same privilege to the representative of any other party.

The Chairman of the Board, by himself or by resolution of the majority, shall close the discussion and the incident shall be closed. No discussion arising in connection with any incident shall last more than ten minutes.

ARTICLE 9. The Primary Assemblies shall meet on the day fixed by the Decree of Convocation.

ARTICLE 10. On the day set for the Primary Assemblies the Electoral Board of every precinct shall open the polling place provided by the Ayuntamiento for this purpose at six o'clock in the morning, so that voting may begin at once and the polls shall remain continuously open until 6 o'clock in the afternoon, when they shall close. No more than one day shall be allowed for the voting.

ARTICLE 11. If at the hour of closing there should be in the voting place one or more voters who have not yet voted, the door of the voting place shall be closed and the votes of these persons received.

ARTICLE 12. No person may vote in any of the Primary Assemblies under this law who has not the qualifications as provided in Article 2 hereof, and who has not been, for a period of not less than thirty days immediately preceeding the day of election a *bona fide* resident of the precinct wherein he casts his vote.

ARTICLE 13. The Secretary of State of Interior and

Police shall furnish the Secretary of each Election Board through the President of the Ayuntamiento of the Commune, a list containing the name, age, residence and personal status of every qualified voter in the precinct as shown by the census. As each person presents himself to vote it shall be the duty of the Election Board to identify him. The Secretary of the Board shall then check off his name on the list. In case any person, other than those appearing on the list, desires to vote, he must present proof satisfactory to the Board that he is qualified under this law.

ARTICLE 14. (a) Twenty days, at the latest, before the day fixed for the meeting of the Primary Assemblies, the National Committees (Juntas Superiores Directivas) of each party, shall inform the Executive Power as to the emblem which each may have decided to select as a distinguishing mark for the votes of his party, so that if there is no conflict in the emblems, immediate authorization may be given for their use, for their description in such newspapers as each party may select, and for registration in the office of the Secretary of each Commune, so that illiterate voters may know by means of said emblems for which candidates they are voting.

(b) In order that the voting may be secret, all ballots shall be white opaque paper and of uniform size (20 by 14 centimeters), and the parties, when having them lithographed or printed, are required to conform to the model, with only the heading and the countermarks on the back, which will be furnished to their leaders or to the said National Committees, (Juntas Superiores) by the Executive Power. No ballot shall bear any other special mark, and in each locality all ballots shall be of such character that when folded they cannot be distinguished one from another.

(c) Each Committee of the Political parties in the various Communes shall deliver to the Secretary of the Ayuntamiento not later than four days before the day set for the Primary Assemblies, a sufficient number of its party's ballots to furnish one for each voter in the Commune. These ballots should contain, lithographed, printed or written, the list of the candidates for electors of the party in question. The Secretary of the Ayuntamiento will give receipt for the ballots, delivered to him, will affix the seal of the Ayuntamiento in the center of the back of each ballot and will be responsible for them until he places them at the disposal of the election board.

(d) It shall be the duty of the President of the Ayuntamiento to see that the ballots above described, when provided by

the political parties in sufficient number and in proper form, shall be furnished to the polling places so that each precinct board may have at least one ballot of each political party so providing them for each voter in the precinct. The Executive Power shall likewise provide ballots in blank which in default of others shall be furnished to voters desiring to vote for an independent candidacy. No other ballots shall be furnished to the polling places.

(e) It shall be the duty of the President of the Ayuntamiento to provide each election board of his commune with a ballot box, 75 centimeters in length by 40 in width and 50 in height, top attached by hinges, and secured by lock, the key of which shall be in the custody of the Chairman of the Election Board to be kept by him until the time of counting. The Chairman shall open the ballot box for the inspection of the Election Board immediately before the opening of the polls. The ballot box shall then be closed and locked until the polls are closed. These ballot boxes shall have in the cover from two to four openings of ten centimeters by one-half a centimeter in width, through which the voters without discrimination shall deposit their ballots.

(f) No ballots are to be distributed or used other than those provided within the election precincts.

(g) Every voter shall deposit his ballot in the ballot box intended for this purpose, and the Christian and surnames of the candidates shall appear thereon in clear and legible letters. No one may entrust to another the duty of depositing his ballot.

(h) A ballot shall benefit solely the candidates expressed thereon and their number shall not exceed the number fixed by Article 3 of this law for the corresponding commune.

(i) To each voter who comes to a polling place to vote the election board shall give one ballot of each registered candidacy and he shall be shown to a separate booth, provided for this purpose and guaranteed against view from without, so that he may there select the ballot of his party. Before leaving the booth he shall fold each of the ballots given him, separately in four parts with the party emblem inside. He shall then in sight of the board first throw the remaining ballots one by one into a receptacle provided for the purpose and then deposit in the ballot box the ballots selected by him. Every booth shall be enclosed on three sides without openings or cracks and shall have the entrance covered with a curtain which shall make it impossible to see what is done inside.

The Secretary of State of Interior and Police shall prescribe the number of booths to be provided in the polling place of each precinct.

(j) A voter may scratch one or more of the manes that appear on the ballot and substitute the names of others in his own handwriting, and no other mark or writing is permitted.

(k) It shall be the duty of the election board to enforce this law by expelling from the voting place and its vicinity those who violate the law.

(l) The election board shall determine the number of persons that shall be authorized to remain on the premises, and said board shall have the right to insist that the act of voting take place promptly and that the voter leave immediately after depositing his ballot.

(m) No one except the election board and duly authorized supervisors, shall have the right to remain in the vicinity of the polling place, except for the time really necessary to vote. The election board shall determine the limits of this vicinity.

ARTICLE 15. Every person who presents himself for the purpose of voting in any Primary Assemblies having in his possession one or more ballots obtained in any manner other than as provided in this Law shall be prohibited from voting in such Assemblies.

ARTICLE 16. While the election is in progress, the Chairman of the Board shall have in charge the policing of the premises, and shall take the necessary steps, so that order, composure and solemnity shall prevail during the said proceedings and so that there may be no crowding at the doors of the polling place.

ARTICLE 17. The Chairman of the Board shall cause the arrest of any person who makes or tries to make a disturbance in the voting place, or who in any way commits a violation of law on the premises. Within 24 hours after the arrest the Chairman and the Secretary of the Board shall give an account in writing of the occurrence to the Alcalde or to the Judge of Instruction, placing the culprit or culprits at his disposal.

ARTICLE 18. At the close of the voting the Chairman of the Board, in the presence of the other members thereof, shall proceed to make the count in the following manner: first, the ballots contained in the ballot box shall be counted, and if their number agrees with that of the record of votes cast they shall

be returned to the ballot box in order to be scrutinized one by one. If the number should exceed that of the voters they shall again be cast into the ballot box and having been shaken up the excess ballots shall be taken out at random and destroyed without unfolding. Tre Chairman of the Board shall then proceed to withdraw the ballots from the ballot box one by one and shall open and examine them and pass them around to others of the Board who may desire to examine them.

ARTICLE 19. The following ballots shall be void:

(a) These that are not counter sealed by the respective Ayuntamiento and those that appear with some special mark or alteration allowing them to be distinguished from the regular ballots.

(b) Those that contain only names of individuals not eligible.

(c) Those that are in contravention of paragraph (c) of Article 14.

(d) Those that contain a greater number of candidates than the number to be elected.

(e) Those found folded together.

All void ballots as defined in this article shall be wrapped up and, on the wrapper, shall be written the number of votes and the statement that they are void as follows: "So many void ballots".

ARTICLE 20. (a) After the void ballots have been removed the ballots shall be arranged in piles according to the emblems; i. e., those that have the same emblem shall be placed in a separate pile with the independent ballots apart, and the counting shall begin.

(b) In case a ballot shall have the name of one candidate scratched as provided in Article 14, paragraph (i), without the corresponding substitution, the vote shall be valid and the remaining candidates counted.

(c) On ballots on which there are names of eligible candidates and ineligible candidates, the former shall be counted.

(d) The Secretary and one or more other members of the Board shall take note in writing of the candidates and the number of votes obtained by each in order to compare notes and correct any errors.

(e) In order to legalize the election a certificate showing the total number of votes cast for each candidate shall be signed, in triplicate, by the members of each precinct election Board and countersigned by the Secretary. One of these certificates shall be sent to the Judge of First Instance of the Judicial District and another shall be filed with the Ayuntamiento. The remaining certificate shall be affixed to the door of the voting place, as also the list of citizens who have exercised their right of suffrage. A copy thereof certified by the Secretary shall be sent to the Office of the Secretary of State of Interior and Police. The requirements of this section shall be fulfilled within 24 hours, immediately following the closing of the polls.

(f) In case of protests, the protesting persons shall sign the same, stating what are their claims, but such protests will not be admissible unless they are presented and put on record before the counting of the votes is completed.

(g) The President of the Ayuntamiento, after he shall have received the certificates properly authenticated in accordance with the requirements of this Article from all of the precincts of the commune, shall present them to the Commune Election Board provided by Article 6 (a) of this law.

(h) After having organized the board and taken the oath prescribed in paragraph 6 (a) of this law, the Commune Election Board shall count the votes as certified by the precinct boards and shall certify as electors those citizens who shall have obtained the greatest number of votos in the commune and their number shall correspond with the commune's quota fixed by Article 3 of this law. The Board's certificate shall be made in triplicate, one copy of each will be forwarded to the Judge of First Instance, one to the Secretary of State of Interior and Police and the third to the Ayuntamiento, which shall post a copy of it in a conspicuous place.

(i) The credentials of the electors shall be issued by the Commune Election Board within the next forty-eight (48) hours following the receipt of the certificates from the precinct boards by filling out the blank's furnished by the Secretary of State of Interior and Police for this purpose.

(j) All documents that may be sent and whatever may have reference to the election shall be sent by registered mail to the local post office.

(k) The packages of ballots shall be well wrapped, closed

and sealed with wax by the precinct election board and sent to the Judge of First Instance of the Judicial District within twenty-four (24) hours following the closing of the polls.

ARTICLE 21. The Electoral College of each Province shall meet at the capital of the Province on the date set by the Order of Convocation in the hall designated by the Ayuntamiento of the capital and shall proceed with such elections as are prescribed in the Order of Convocation.

ARTICLE 22. Upon the installation of each college the chair shall be occupied by the oldest elector and the Secretaryship by the two youngest. After examining the credentials of each, there shall be chosen by absolute majority, the permanent Board which shall be composed of a chairman, a vice-president and two secretaries. The chairman shall at once take oath before the College to discharge faithfully his duties and will then administer the oath jointly to all the electors, who shall take it standing and with their right hands extended. The said oath shall forthwith be reduced to writing and be signed by all the electors so sworn.

ARTICLE 23. The Electoral Colleges shall have no relations with one another, nor shall they exercise any attributes whatever except in the presence of at least two thirds of their members. Their sitting session is not to terminate until after the elections prescribed by the Order of Convocation have taken place. Their session shall not last more than eight days, and begin at eight in the morning and end at six in the afternoon.

ARTICLE 24. Unless otherwise prescribed in the Order of Convocation, elections shall take place separately in the following order:

1. President of the Republic;
2. Senator;
3. Diputies;
4. Alternate for Deputies;

and the Electoral College shall also make up lists of eligibles for Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice, Courts of Appeals, and Tribunals and Courts of First Instance.

(a) In accordance with the Constitution of 1908, there shall be one Senator for each province and deputies, with their alternates, in accordance with the number of inhabitants in each province.

(b) There shall be one deputy, with his alternate, for each province for each thirty thousand (30,000) inhabitants of the province and one additional deputy, and alternate, for the remaining number of inhabitants if such number is fifteen thousand (15,000) or over. No province shall have less than one deputy, and there shall be one alternate for each deputy.

(c) In accordance with the population as determined by the Census of 1921 the quota of deputies shall be as follows:

Province of Santo Domingo	5	Province of La Vega	4
Province of S. P. de Macoris	1	Province of Pacificador	3
Province of Seibo	2	Province of Espaillat	2
Province of Azua	3	Province of Santiago	4
Province of Barahona	2	Province of Puerto Plata	2
Province of Samaná	1	Province of Monte Cristi	2

Total. 31

(d) The qualifications to hold office shall be as follows:

(a) In order to be President of the Republic or Senator a person must (1) be a Dominican by birth and origin and have resided not less than twenty (20) years in the country; (2) be at least thirty-five (35) years of age and in the full enjoyment of his civic and political rights.

(b) In order to be Deputy or Alternate a person must be (1) a citizen of more than twenty-five (25) years of age; (2) native of the Province where elected or having had not less than one year's residence therein. If naturalized he will not be eligible until eight (8) years thereafter.

(c) In order to be a Judge of the Suprema Court of Justice or of the Courts of Appeals or of the Tribunals and Courts of First Instance, a person must be a Dominican in the full enjoyment of his political and civic rights and a lawyer of the courts of the Republic. Naturalized citizens cannot be judges of the Supreme Court save after eight (8) years of citizenship. A judge of the Supreme Court must be more than thirty (30) years of age and of the Court of Appeals more than twenty-five (25) years or age.

ARTICLE 25. If during the session an elector should die or become incapacitated, the college will proceed to replace him with a pledged adherent of the same party, named as soon as possible, by the committee (Junta Directiva) of said party, through its headquarters in the capital of the Province.

ARTICLE 26. The electors shall enjoy, during the session of the college, the same immunity as the senators and deputies in the exercise of their functions.

ARTICLE 27. Elections shall be made by oral vote. Each elector, commencing with the first one on the right, will stand up and say aloud for whom he votes. The Secretary shall keep a record of the votes. The last electors to vote shall be the members of the board.

ARTICLE 28. In order that there may be election by absolute majority of votos; i. e., by more than one-half of the electors present, the electors shall vote by elimination, if necessary, in the following manner: For the election of a Senator, deputies and substitutes, the electors shall be obliged at first to vote for the candidates designated by their party, but, if on said first ballot, no candidate obtains a majority, the one with the smallest vote shall be eliminated and the electors who have supported him shall be obliged to vote for one of the others. This proceeding shall be repeated until there shall be obtained a majority of votes for a candidate. In the Electoral College, the votes for the President of the Republic will be counted in favor of the candidates of the party represented by the electors as pledgers. The elimination process, when necesary for the President of the Republic, belongs to the National Assembly

ARTICLE 29. A record shall be kept of the election and its details in quadruplicate, which shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretaries. One shall be sent to the office of the Secretary of State of Interior and Police; one to the Court of First Instance, whose Secretary shall file and keep it under his responsibility; another to the Senate, and another to the Chamber of Deputies. The transmittal of the last two will be made through the Secretary of State of the Interior and Police. After the elections have terminated, the respective nomination certificates shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretaries, who shall communicate the result to the Governor of the Province.

ARTICLE 30. In case any elector should not be present when an election is going on, on the first ballot his vote shall be entered in favor of the ticket of his party, but in case of voting by elimination, his vote shall not be counted if he is not in attendance upon the session and does not cast his vote personally.

ARTICLE 31. Excepting as provided in Article 40, every action for the annulment of any election shall be tried before the Court of Appeals of the respective department, where must be filed within one week after date of the Election, by any interes-

ted party, a detailed statement of the facts which are the reason for the suit, accompanied by whatever documents may serve as supports. Together with the transmittal of his statement to the court, notice thereof shall be served by bailiff on the nearest chairman of committee of the opposite party or parties.

ARTICLE 32. The Secretary of the Court shall have published in the local daily papers, and if there are none he shall have affixed to the principal door of the Court, of the Court of First Instance and of the Town Hall, an extract of the said statement. Any person may demand in the office of the Secretary a copy of the statement or of the documents which accompany it on payment of the fees fixed by law.

ARTICLE 33. Within four days after the expiration of the period fixed by Article 31, the Court will meet in special session in order to hear complaints made before it. The Secretary will read all the documents presented. Immediately thereafter the attorney representing the plaintiffs will, if the complaint be sustained, amplify the contents of the statement. If a lawyer represents the opposing party, he shall be heard at once.

ARTICLE 34. The plaintiffs as well as the opposing party may be represented at the hearing, but in such case it must be by a lawyer.

ARTICLE 35. The decision of the court shall be handed down on the same day and there shall be no appeal whatsoever from the same. No costs shall be assessed. The party that may have advanced costs shall not have the right to make any claim except he be able to substantiate his claim against the person in question in accordance with the *derecho común.*

ARTICLE 36. The above Articles do not refer to crimes committed in connection with election proceedings. These will be tried and judged in accordance with the rules of criminal procedure. However, if upon a hearing of the matter in case of complaints against the validity of any election, whether declared by the court valid or void, there should appear clear signs of the commission of a crime by one or more persons, the Procurador General of the Court shall so advise the Procurador Fiscal of the respective Judicial District, so that he may proceed in accordance with the Law.

ARTICLE 37. If the Court of Appeals should annul an election the Procurador General of the same within the terms of twenty-four (24) hours shall so advise the Ayuntamientos of the

communes, whose vote was annulled, so that a new election may be held on the day set by the Executive Power, which must be during the week following.

ARTICLE 38. Any complaint against the election made by one or more of the Electoral Colleges, shall be tried in the same manner as complaints made against the vote of a Primary Assembly. In case of annulment the Procurador General will advise the Governor of the respective province for the purpose of calling a meeting of the electoral college during the week following so that it may proceed to hold a new election.

ARTICLE 39. The decision of the court shall embrace all the complaints made against elections in the department over which it has jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 40. It is understood that the Courts of Appeal will have no jurisdiction in cases referring to the election of the President of the Republic. This is an attribute of the National Assembly.

ARTICLE 41. Any person who votes in contravention of this law, or who votes in the name of another, or who votes more than once, shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than six months nor more than two years. Every attempt to commit such infraction shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one month nor more than one year.

ARTICLE 42. Any person distributing voting ballots at any place, except as provided in this law will be punished by a fine of from twenty to one hundred dollars.

ARTICLE 43. Any authority or public official who uses undue influence on the voters, or interferes in any way with the election, shall be punished in accordance with Article 114 of the Penal Code, even though he may show that he acted upon the order of superiors to whom he owed obedience. In this case the same punishment shall be applied to the superior officer who gave the order. Any public official accused before the National Congress of having committed any of the infractions covered by this Article, shall be suspended in his functions until decision is made by the proper court, and he shall not be reinstated in office unless he is acquitted.

ARTICLE 44. Every interruption of an electoral asembly, in a violent manner, will be punished by imprisonment for from one to two years and fine of from fifty to two hundred dollars. An attempt will be punished the same as the crime itself.

ARTICLE 45. Violent interference with the ballot box containing the votes, whether they have been scrutinized or not, will be punished by imprisonment; if the interference has been accomplished by a group and with violence, the penalty will be hard labor.

ARTICLE 46. All criminal or civil actions arising out of a violation of the present law, shall be outlawed after three months from the day of the proclamation of the result of the election. Any action not begun within this period shall be barred.

ARTICLE 47. No conviction shall operate to make void an election declared valid by the Court of Appeals.

ARTICLE 48. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Order, are hereby repealed.

S. S. ROBISON,

Rear-Admiral, United States Navy,
Military Governor of Santo Domingo.

Santo Domingo, R. D.,
July 7, 1921.

GOBIERNO MILITAR DE SANTO DOMINGO.

Orden Ejecutiva No. 647.

Enmienda a la Orden Ejecutiva No. 207.

G. O. No. 3237.

En virtud de los poderes de que se halla investido el Gobierno Militar de Santo Domingo, se promulga la siguiente Orden Ejecutiva:

ARTICULO 1. Habiéndose obtenido ya el consentimiento del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, la suma asignada por la Or-