

a sentence passed upon them by the courts for a 'dishonourable offence' or are indebted for Poor Relief, have *the right to vote* at district elections, provided they are at least 25 years of age; have resided in the country for five years immediately preceding the election; have been domiciled for one year in the district in question; are capable of managing their own affairs; and have their names on the register of voters. Eligible for Althingi are all those who are qualified for the franchise. Any citizen, except judges who are not charged with administrative duties, may, however, be elected even though he is not domiciled in the district, or though he has resided there for a shorter period than one year. The qualifications for franchise and eligibility at the election of those who are chosen by the whole electorate are the same as those obtaining at the district elections, except that the age limit is thirty-five years. — The ballot is secret and takes place in every parish (*hreppur*) and town (*kaupstaður*), which again may be divided into electoral sections (*kjördeildir*). At the district elections, the ballot is conducted by the parish election committees, and in each electoral district by the district election committee; but the election of the six representatives by the whole electorate is supervised by an election committee (*landkjörstjórn*) in Reykjavík and by 'sub'-committees in the electoral sections. The ballot-boxes are sent to the district election committees, who count the votes and furnish the elected members with certificates of election. Electors who on election day happen to be outside the electoral district where they are registered, may vote by sending in their ballot paper in a sealed envelope to their proper polling place. It is not a civil duty either to vote or to accept election. The representatives have to take the oath to the constitution. They receive a remuneration and are specially protected by law.

Althingi assembles (usually in Reykjavík) for its ordinary sessions on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February or on the following week-day, unless the king has fixed another day earlier in the year. The king summons Althingi and decides when it shall be prorogued, which, however, must not be done until the budget has been passed. The king may summon extraordinary Althings. He may also adjourn its meeting once a year for a certain period of time which, without the sanction of Althingi, must not exceed two weeks. He has the right to dissolve parliament, but then a new election must take place within two months after the dissolution, and the new Althingi must be summoned not later than eight months after the previous parliament was dissolved.