

Appendix Q

THE 1918 REGISTER OF ELECTORS

Scope

The *Register* contained the names of all persons entitled to vote at Parliamentary and Local Government Elections. The *Register* was ordered by the several polling districts and the parishes or wards within them. The electors in each sub-section were either listed in surname alphabetical order or listed in street order.

The 1918 *Register* was the first to be compiled since 1915, during which time there had been a period of national disruption caused by the First World War. It was also the first *Register* since the reorganisation of Parliamentary boundaries for the 1918 General Election and the first since the passage of the Representation of the People Act 1918. The Act abolished almost all property qualifications for men to be included in the *Register* and enfranchised women over 30 who met minimum property qualifications.

Dates

The *Register* came in to force on 15 October 1918 and was valid until the spring 1919 *Register* was published on 15 May.

Structure of the Register

Significant changes in layout took place compared to the pre-war *Registers*. The electors in each ward or parish were now split into three sections:

- DIVISION I Persons qualified as both Parliamentary and Local Government electors.
- DIVISION II Persons qualified as Parliamentary electors but not as Local Government electors.
- DIVISION III Persons qualified as Local Government electors but not as Parliamentary electors.

Marked Names

Entries could be marked by a variety of symbols as follows:

A dagger (†) indicated that the elector was not entitled to vote in respect of that entry at a County Council election.

A double dagger (‡) indicated that the elector was not entitled to vote in respect of that entry at elections of Rural District councillors or Guardians.

A section sign (§) indicated that the elector was not entitled to vote in respect of that entry at Borough, Metropolitan Borough or Urban District elections or for elections of Parish councillors or to vote at Parish meetings.

An asterisk (*) indicated that the elector voted at another polling place for Parliamentary elections.

Absent voters were indicated by the letter **a**.

Qualifications

Following the columns of voters names and addresses were up to two columns indicating the nature of their 'Parliamentary' and 'Local Government' qualifications. The two columns used codes, as follows:

- R = Residence qualification
- BP = Business Premises qualification
- O = Occupation qualification
- HO = Qualification through husband's qualification
- NM = Naval or Military voter

In Division I there were two columns to show the Parliamentary and Local Government qualifications, respectively, of the voter. By definition, Divisions II and III had just one column to show the qualification of the voter. 'Occupation' refers to the occupation of a property, not to the job or profession of the elector.

Examples of Entries from the Register for Pinner Parish

Entries M1307 and M1308 of the Division I section were Arthur and Gertrude Smith, respectively. In the column headed "Residence or Property occupied and abode of non-resident occupier" was an indication that they lived at Rayners Lane Farm. Arthur Smith's qualifications were shown as R (Parliamentary) and O (Local Government). Gertrude Smith's qualifications were shown as HO (Parliamentary) and HO (Local Government).

Entry M1825 of the Division II section was Joe Mallinson of 2 Chapel Lane whose qualification to vote in Parliamentary elections was shown as NM. A second example from this section was entry M1896: Caroline Shultze of 'Ye Cocoa Tree', whose qualification to vote in Parliamentary elections was shown as R.

Entry M1992 of the DIVISION III section of the Pinner Parish *Register* was Ernest William Margetts. His entry in the column "Residence or Property occupied and abode of non-resident occupier" was "Office, Station Approach (Abode: Bosworth House, Wendover, Bucks)". His Local Government qualification was indicated by the letter O.

Hendon Rural District: Analysis of Electors

Hendon Rural District was part of the *Register* for the Hendon Parliamentary division. The following tables analyse the electorate of the RD and give an indication of the relative sizes of the three Divisions:

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Polling District</u>	<u>Number of Entries</u>			<u>Total</u>
		<u>Division I</u>	<u>Division II</u>	<u>Division III</u>	
Pinner	M (Village)	1,616	369	15	2,000
	K (Hatch End)	463	124	0	587
	L (Headstone)	1,347	254	3	1,604
Pinner	(Parish totals)	3,426	747	18	4,191
Harrow Weald	C	1,040	101	7	1,148
Great Stanmore	B	730	131	0	861
Little Stanmore	A	760	179	15	954
Edgware	A	585	144	13	742
HENDON RD	(Totals)	6,541	1,302	53	7,896

The number of electors entitled to vote at each type of election was therefore as follows:

<u>Parish</u>		<u>Parliamentary</u>	<u>Local Government</u>
		<u>Electors</u>	<u>Electors</u>
Pinner	(Village)	1,985	1,631
	(Hatch End)	587	463
	(Headstone)	1,601	1,350
Pinner	(Parish totals)	4,173	3,444
Harrow Weald		1,141	1,047
Great Stanmore		861	730
Little Stanmore		939	775
Edgware		729	598
HENDON RD	(Totals)	7,843	6,594

Many entries, especially Naval and Military voters, were shown with the letter **a**, indicating an absent voter. In these sections of the 1918 *Register* no entries could be found that were marked with a † or ‡.

Kingsbury Urban District also formed a part of polling district A. Most polling districts in Hendon Rural District had their electors listed by surname alphabetical order. The exceptions were the Edgware and Little Stanmore sections of polling district A where entries were ordered by street.