

Contents

List of Tables and Figures	vi
Introduction: Structure and Contents	1
1 The State of Research	3
2 Elections and Democracy	11
Definitions	11
History	13
Identity Theory versus Competitive Theory	16
'Freedom of Election'	21
Voting-Principles	24
Criticism of Elections	25
3 Elections, Electoral Systems and Parties in Selected States	35
The Range of Democratic Electoral Systems	35
The United Kingdom	38
France	46
Germany	52
Comparison and Summary	61
4 Voting and Elections in West Germany	64
Voting-Structure	64
Electoral Sociology	85
Conclusion: Is There an Alternative to Elections?	108
Annotated Bibliography	113

List of Tables and Figures

Tables

2.1	The significance and function of elections	12
2.2	Parliamentarisation and democratisation of the vote in Western European countries	16
3.1	Electoral systems, types of constituency and choice of party candidates in democracies	37
3.2	United Kingdom: results of elections to the House of Commons, 1922–87	43
3.3	France: results of elections of the Assemblée Nationale, 1958–88	48
3.4	Germany: results of elections to the Reichstag, 1871–1912	54
3.5	Germany: results of elections to the Reichstag, 1919–33	57
3.6	GDR: results of elections to the Volkskammer, 1950–86	60
4.1	Constituency seats by party membership of those elected in Bundestag elections, 1949–87	70
4.2	Changes in voting-rights in the Federal Republic since 1949	80
4.3	Extent of ‘vote-splitting’ in Bundestag elections, 1957–87	82

4.4	Combination of first and second votes for the CDU/CSU, SPD and FDP in Bundestag elections, 1953–87	90
4.5	West German results in the first three direct elections to the European Parliament, 1979–89	97
4.6	Distribution of second votes in Bundestag elections, 1949–87	100
4.7	Distribution of seats in the Bundestag, 1949–87	101
 Figure		
4.1	Lines of conflict in West German voting-behaviour	94