Voting

- In Athens, officials chose the winner based on majority of hands. 6000 votes were required as this represented a significant proportion of the citizens of Athens.

  *It's difficult; yet it must be done, and the arm shown naked to the shoulder in order to vote.* (Aristophanes, *Ecclesiazousai*) (1)

- Sometimes more secretive ballots were used -- small, coloured balls were placed in urns.

- In New Zealand, voting in parliament works in a similar way to Athens (2). For some matters, the members walk through doors marked “ayes” and “noes” which counts as their vote. For other matters the speaker asks for the response orally. The side with the most votes wins the motion to be passed (3).