

*Redistribution*

The commissioners had this problem. A number of constituencies were of the approximate size they wanted but Charlotte county was smaller in population. It was none the less important but it was smaller in population, as is Kent. It was in these ridings, in Carleton-Victoria, in Royal and in Kent, that major changes had to be made.

I realized from the very beginning that York-Sunbury would have to be reduced in size and area. In the 1961 census we were shown to have a population of just over 75,000 and the average constituency for New Brunswick must have after redistribution a population of approximately 60,000.

Under the British North America Act, New Brunswick may not have less than ten senators and ten members of parliament. We reached that point some time ago. Our population is 600,000 so the mathematics are very simple. Each constituency should have approximately 60,000 people and in York-Sunbury we have 15,000 too many.

Respecting appendix Y, which I favour more than appendix B, my friends who submitted the majority report will forgive me for my disagreement with them. The points raised by the hon. member for Victoria-Carleton (Mr. Flemming) and the hon. member for Charlotte (Mr. McLean) are valid ones. Between Carleton and Victoria counties there is a community of interest. This is one of the great potato growing areas of Canada. For the most part the population there consists of farmers, and I suggest to the commissioners that is the way the constituency should be left.

In Charlotte county, as the hon. member pointed out, the basic industry is the sardine fishery which is one of the greatest in the world. The fisheries extend along the shore toward Lancaster. With Lancaster it would make a constituency of the appropriate size and with a community of interest.

I would mention another point. In the minority report the city ridings are smaller in size than in the majority report. In order to make myself clear, Saint John constituency would have 5,000 or 6,000 less than it would have if the majority report were adopted. York-Sunbury would also be that way, as would the Moncton constituency. I think that is all to the good because of the movement of people away from rural areas to the city. The city ridings are growing very quickly, a classic example being York-Scarborough, Ontario, which is growing at a fantastic rate. I think that we ought to make these city

ridings smaller at this time because by the time there is another redistribution those ridings will again be considerably out of line.

I point out that I expected to lose certain parts of York-Sunbury, and that has been done. In our province we have the parish system and the commissioners followed the parish boundary lines.

North Lake, Canterbury and Southampton are added to Victoria-Carleton to increase its population. I can see the logic of that. The hon. member for Victoria-Carleton has pointed out that these people are closer geographically to Woodstock in Carleton county, and there is a community of interest that exists there.

In the case of McAdam, this parish is added to Charlotte in the minority report. The hon. member for Charlotte will appreciate my regret at losing the McAdam area for obvious reasons, but there is a community of interest between the people in the McAdam area and those of St. Stephen. McAdam is not too far from St. Stephen and the people of McAdam seem to gravitate toward that area. I regret losing the parish of Manners Sutton, of course, but I can see the logic here in the minority report as well as in the majority report.

My major reason for speaking at this particular time is to register my objection to the inclusion of the parishes of Gladstone and Blissville in the Charlotte-Lancaster constituency. These parishes contain the communities of Fredericton Junction, Tracy and Hoyt, and the whole community of interest of that area lies with the Fredericton-Camp Gagetown area. Most of the men in the area who are not employed on farms are employed either in Fredericton or to a great extent in Camp Gagetown, which is the largest military establishment in the commonwealth. The commission members will appreciate this. There is no community of interest between the Gladstone-Blissville area and Charlotte county. As a matter of fact, anyone from Gladstone or Blissville wishing to go to St. Stephen or St. Andrews would have to go to Saint John and then along the shore or via Harvey.

I would, however, suggest to the commissioners that, no matter what decision they may take as a result of the arguments raised today in this chamber, the parishes of Gladstone and Blissville should be left with York-Sunbury for the reasons I have outlined.

[Mr. MacRae.]