

free conference desired with the Senate for the purpose of considering certain amendments made by the Senate to Bill No. 71, an act to amend the criminal code, to which amendments the commons have not agreed and upon which the Senate insisted; and any amendments which at such conference it may be considered desirable to make thereto, and hath appointed Hon. Senators Graham, Chapais and Meighen as managers on its part at the said conference, and also that the managers of the free conference on the part of the Senate will meet in Senate room 258 forthwith.

Hon. MAURICE DUPRE (Solicitor General) moved:

That Messrs. Lapointe, Heaps and Dupré be appointed managers on behalf of this house of the free conference with the Senate with respect to the amendments made to Bill No. 71, an act to amend the criminal code, and that a message be sent to the Senate to acquaint their honours therewith, and

That the clerk do carry the said message to the Senate.

Motion agreed to.

#### REDISTRIBUTION BILL

Mr. BENNETT: I desire to thank the hon. gentleman who was speaking for his courtesy in this matter.

Mr. DUBOIS (Translation): Mr. Chairman, in the course of my speech last Tuesday, I believe I treated my hon. friends with all possible politeness, kindness and courtesy. I stated my case most earnestly when I asked the hon. gentlemen to reconsider their decision with respect to the county of Nicolet-Yamaska. I see by the newly printed amendments that no change has been made in Nicolet or Yamaska. Will the hon. Minister of Marine tell me why, having regard to the normal population of Nicolet-Yamaska, the committee decided to take away half the small parish of St. Michel? Can the hon. minister tell me why that was done?

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): The hon. member knows perfectly that I was not a member of the committee, and in order to answer him, we would have to discuss once more the map of that whole region of the province of Quebec. However, I will tell my hon. friend: Had we not detached a few parishes from the county of Nicolet and annexed them to Lotbiniere, the hon. member would have noted that Lotbiniere had a much smaller population than that of Nicolet-Yamaska. Even with the addition of several

parishes from Nicolet to the county of Lotbiniere, this county has a population of only 38,546. As I stated in the course of this debate, we wanted to give the citizens of the province a unit of representation that was as equitable as possible. That is the reason why a few parishes of Nicolet were united with Lotbiniere.

Mr. DUPUIS (Translation): Why half a parish?

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): I do not know that detail.

Mr. DUBOIS (Translation): Mr. Chairman, I cannot accept this reply from the hon. Minister of Marine. If he really wanted to do justice to me and the people of my county, he could have used his influence with the members of the committee on redistribution. When he tells me he acted thus merely to equalize the population of the county of Lotbiniere with the population of the adjoining counties, I think the hon. minister gives a rather specious answer. The county of Lotbiniere, minus the population of 5,000 taken from the county of Nicolet, would still have a population of 33,000, which is larger than the population of Dorchester, Argenteuil and other counties. The county of Nicolet by retaining its entire present population and the present population of the county of Yamaska, will still have a population of only 45,493, which is a smaller population than that of the counties of Charlevoix-Saguenay, Drummond-Arthabaska, Chicoutimi, and that of many other counties. I believe I can detect the whole manoeuvre underlying this matter. Half of the parish of St. Michel is taken from the county of Yamaska, because it is a Liberal parish. Six parishes, also Liberal, are taken from my county. And why? Unless it be to create a fief, a safe constituency for the future Conservative candidate. And when the hon. Minister of Marine dares accuse us, Liberals, of only playing politics in connection with this bill, I ask myself what one must call this method of dealing with the counties of Nicolet and Yamaska.

Mr. POULIOT (Translation): It is an abomination!

Mr. DUMAINE (Translation): It is a national crime!

Mr. DUBOIS (Translation): I protest once more and as strongly as I can against the present bill No. 2. The people of my county and those of the county of Yamaska are being treated unjustly. In support of my renewed protest, I will read to this house a last appeal