Redistribution

However, if the committee decides that it is in the best interests of representation and the country in general that the counties of Glengarry and Prescott be merged, I will abide by the decision. If the counties of Glengarry and Prescott are merged, I shall be very pleased to continue to work with them as I have in the past to further the interest of these historical counties.

Mr. McIlraith: I believe I should say a word on the merger of these two historic counties, Mr. Chairman. I promise the committee that I shall be very brief, not because I want to be brief on the subject but rather because of the good progress we appear to be now making in dealing with this bill. I think I ought to say to the hon. member for Glengarry and the hon. member for Prescott that, for my part, I found this the toughest political action I have had to take since being elected to the House of Commons some twelve years ago. The merger of these two seats was not without significance to me, not because of the political consequences but because of the fact that with the county of Glengarry I have had not only the closest personal association but a very close association through immediate ancestors.

Mr. Fleming: There is an amendment which I should like to introduce at this point because of the place the riding I propose will hold in the alphabetical order.

Mr. McIlraith: What item is it?

Mr. Fleming: I am proposing to include an item to be inserted immediately after item 14, and it will relate to the continuance of the riding of Frontenac-Addington. It would come in as an entirely new item 15. Perhaps I may read my amendment to the schedule now and discuss it afterward. The amendment reads:

That the schedule to Bill 393 be amended by inserting the following after item 14 on page 8 thereof and renumbering the subsequent items accordingly:

15. Frontenac-Addington consisting of

(a) the county of Frontenac excluding the city of Kingston; and

(b) that part of the county of Lennox and Addington contained in the townships of Camden, Sheffield, Denbigh, Abinger, Ashby, Effingham, Anglesea and Kaladar, and the village of Newburgh.

May I explain at once, Mr. Chairman, that this is the present riding of Frontenac-Addington, and the effect of the amendment is to retain that riding unchanged. When I say "unchanged", there is one very slight modification in that the city of Kingston-

Mr. Harris (Grey-Bruce): May I just interrupt? I do not want to delay the hon. member's explanation, but I thought if it would be agreeable to the committee the chairman [Mr. Major.]

might postpone the discussion until we reach Hastings-Frontenac where the discussion could take place.

Mr. Fleming: I am agreeable to that, and I wish to make it clear that my amendment has nothing to do with item 15 as such, but is the insertion of a new item in the alphabetical arrangement.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Paragraph agreed to.

Paragraph 16, Grenville-Dundas, agreed to.

Paragraph 17, Grey-Bruce, agreed to.

Paragraph 18, Grey North, agreed to.

On paragraph 19-Halton.

Mr. Murphy: I have a suggested amendment here, and without debating or explaining it, I shall read it. This is what I had reference to in my speech the other day when I said I could repeat later what I said at that particular time. I move:

That the schedule to Bill 393 he amended by inserting the following immediately after item 18, and renumbering the subsequent items accordingly:

19. Haldimand-Lincoln consisting of the county of Haldimand and that part of the county of Lincoln contained in the townships of North Grimsby, South Grimsby, Caistor, Gainsborough and Clinton, and the village of Beamsville.

The Chairman: Shall the amendment carry?

Amendment (Mr. Murphy) negatived: Yeas, 19; nays, 59.

Paragraph agreed to.

On paragraph 20—Hamilton East.

Mrs. Fairclough: I have a suggestion I should like to make with respect to the naming of Hamilton East. I spoke about this previously in private conversation. As members of the committee are aware, the constituency which bears the name of Hamilton East, and which formerly bore the name of Hamilton East, is now right in the centre of the three Hamilton constituencies. The Hamilton West riding, which I have the honour to represent, under this redistribution extends right to the western boundaries of the city of Hamilton. Hamilton South East extends to the southern and eastern boundaries of the city of Hamilton. The riding formerly described as Hamilton East is thus thrown into a central position. As it is proposed that one constituency shall be named Hamilton East and the other Hamilton South East, it would appear that there could well be a considerable confusion between those two constituencies. I would suggest for the consideration of the committee that this riding of Hamilton East be named Hamilton might read the amendment, and then we Centre. I am sure it would be conducive to