

not canvassed them, though it would not have taken more than a couple of minutes to speak to them all.

The redistribution of constituencies is a matter that affects every member of the House of Commons, and sometimes it is a cause of very acrimonious debate. In recent years the difficulties arising out of bills of this kind have generally been settled satisfactorily—if not altogether, at least approximately so—by a committee, but at times the committee has found it extremely difficult to come to conclusions. I remember that on one occasion when there was a deadlock with respect to some constituencies the two leaders in the House of Commons selected a couple of gentlemen, placed them in a room that was fairly well furnished, and asked them to agree on a report. The decision that the two gentlemen arrived at was not perfectly satisfactory to everyone, but it was unanimously accepted by the House. It strikes me that it would be a good thing to follow that method when a redistribution Bill is under consideration, so that the measure might not be the subject of long discussion. Of course, every member is entitled to express himself on redistribution with the same freedom as on any other matter.

To all who have had anything to do with the present measure in the other House I commend the action taken by the late Sir James Whitney towards myself when I was leader of the Opposition in the Ontario Legislature. A redistribution measure was being put through, and he assured me that, though it was proposed to change the boundaries of certain constituencies, there would be no change whatever in my constituency so long as I represented it. I have always considered that one of the brightest incidents in my political career, and I think it is an example of the courtesy that should be practised as a general rule. Unless there is some very strong reason for acting to the contrary, the leaders on both sides of the House of Commons should always be extended the courtesy of having their constituencies undisturbed when a readjustment of representation is being made.

Under the procedure laid down in the British North America Act, this process of readjustment is often a difficult one. The unit of representation for the country as a whole is determined by the population of Quebec, as ascertained at the last decennial census, being divided by 65, the number of members to which that province is always entitled. I think I express the feelings of all honourable

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM.

members on both sides of this House when I say that we are now witnessing the most pleasant stage of this measure.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

### THIRD READING

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved the third reading of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the third time, and passed.

### CRIMINAL CODE BILL

#### CONCURRENCE IN COMMONS AMENDMENT

A message was received from the House of Commons to return Bill 71, an Act to amend the Criminal Code, and to inform the Senate that the Commons had agreed to the second and third amendments made by the Senate, and had substituted the following amendment in lieu of the first original amendment made by the Senate:

Page 2, lines 15 to 22, inclusive. For sub-clause 3 substitute the following:

"(3) In any prosecution under subsection two of this section where the circumstances are such as, in the opinion of the Court, to render it likely that the child might be in danger of being or becoming immoral, its morals injuriously affected or its home rendered an unfit place for it to be in, it shall, upon proof that the person accused did, in the home of such child, participate in adultery, in sexual immorality, in habitual drunkenness, or in any other form of vice, be an irrebuttable presumption, that the child was in fact in danger of being or becoming immoral and its morals injuriously affected and that its home had in fact been rendered an unfit place for it to be in."

On motion of Right Hon. Mr. Meighen, the amendment made by the House of Commons was concurred in.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

### PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

His Excellency the Governor General having come and being seated on the Throne:

The Hon. the SPEAKER commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that: "It is His Excellency the Governor General's pleasure they attend him immediately in the Senate Chamber."

Who being come with their Speaker:

The following Bills were assented to, in His Majesty's name, by His Excellency the Governor General: