

Mr. MACNICOL: Yes. Alberta would be in the same position, whereas British Columbia must have had good weather to have 75 per cent.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: British Columbia always has good weather.

Mr. MACNICOL: Now, I will review a few of the ridings in connection with the election of 1935. In Ontario the riding which voted highest was Leeds with 84 per cent and the lowest was Cochrane with 58 per cent. In Quebec the riding that voted highest was Levis with 87 per cent, and the lowest was Cartier with 52 per cent. In Nova Scotia for the same year the highest percentage was 83 and the lowest 71; in New Brunswick, the highest percentage was 80 and the lowest 68; in Manitoba the highest percentage was 82 and the lowest 66.

Mr. HEAPS: What city was highest there?

Mr. MACNICOL: I did not note that down.

In British Columbia the highest was 82 per cent and the lowest 69 per cent; in Prince Edward Island the highest was 84 per cent and the lowest 78 per cent; in Saskatchewan the highest was 82 per cent and the lowest 65 per cent; and in Alberta the highest was 71 per cent and the lowest 52 per cent.

In Leeds in the same election one poll voted over 98 per cent of the vote.

Mr. HEAPS: There was nothing over 100 per cent there, was there?

Mr. MACNICOL: Many of the polling divisions voted over 90 per cent. In Levis in the same election, 1935, one poll voted 93 per cent, and many voted over 90 per cent. I might say that that applied in many ridings. In Quebec, Montmorency, in that election, one poll voted 100 per cent and many over 90 per cent. In the same election one poll in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, voted 96 per cent. The average of spoiled ballots in the election of 1935 per riding in Canada was 187.

The CHAIRMAN: By the way, are those figures for the different ridings, showing the percentage of voters, published in the chief electoral officer's report?

Mr. MACNICOL: In 1935, yes. In 1930, I believe, you would have to work them out yourself. That may not be so in regard to the percentage per province, but it is as to percentage per riding. I believe, after a long and exhaustive study of this subject, that while our voting in Canada is exceptionally high in the circumstances it would be higher were it not for the fact that in the cities the ridings are large in regard to the number on the list and the vote is often small. For instance, in the riding of South Toronto in the election of 1930 only 42 per cent of the electorate voted, and in many of the elections in Montreal and Toronto the vote in some of the ridings is considerably less than 50 per cent; whereas out in the country, as I intimated a moment ago, in a great number of the ridings from 85 to 90 per cent of the number on the list voted.

Mr. HEAPS: That indicates that in those ridings in Toronto, and in other ridings as well, where there was a small vote the people went out to register.

Mr. MACNICOL: By enumeration.

Mr. HEAPS: You referred to 1925. You know they went out to register but they did not go to cast their ballot.

Mr. MACNICOL: Yes. I imagine it happened this way, that the parties themselves would take a whole batch of names to the judge or the chief returning officers and register them.

Mr. HEAPS: I do not think that was permissible in 1925.

Mr. CAMERON: They did not have to go and register in 1925.

Mr. MACNICOL: Well, somebody could take the names and register for them.

Mr. CASTONGUAY: In 1925 they used the provincial list as the basis.

Mr. MACNICOL: My reaction to this subject is that it is necessary to have as large a percentage of the electorate vote as is possible. If the people do not