

## Redistribution

possibly be worked out on a complete pattern right across Canada, but I think there is need to consider at least the possibility of trying to make these things work into a better pattern than the one which can hardly be described as a pattern at all at the present time.

These things will have to be done by trial and error. You cannot expect to work everything out overnight and have it accepted by everybody. In the House of Commons we do not attempt to set up our rules from day to day; we have a certain set of rules that we follow. If we did not have such rules there would be chaos and confusion in our work. I think there is a great need for rules, for some kind of pattern or plan by which we could work out an intelligent system of redistribution in the days that lie ahead.

After all the future is our responsibility, just as the present is. Someone must make the first move; someone must make a beginning. I am much concerned over the fact that we seem to have reached an impasse during the last few days in the House of Commons.

**An hon. Member:** Take your responsibility.

**Mr. Graydon:** I am going to take any responsibility that is mine. I have always shouldered it in the house; I have not attempted to throw it on anybody else, and I am not going to do that now.

I should like to deal with this objectively and I hope my hon. friend is not attempting to have me do it otherwise. There are some points with respect to the present redistribution that deserve comment. I must confess that there are quite a number of members in this house who perhaps are not saying so but who are passing through rather anxious days while this redistribution is going on. I do not mind saying that one of the reasons I am taking part in this debate is to give support and assistance to some of those members who are passing through days of anxiety and concern.

It is all very well for us to read in *Hansard* or in newspaper reports about changes in constituencies, changes which mean eliminations in some cases, enlargements in others, creation of new seats in others. All these create concern and anxiety for many members of the House of Commons. It is a serious matter to a great many, and our sympathies ought to be with those who are faced with these difficulties at this time.

I want to refer, if I may, to the Annapolis-Kings seat. It seems strange to me that the constituency in Nova Scotia represented

by the president of the Progressive Conservative Association should be singled out as a seat to be enlarged to such a great extent as has been indicated by the minister and as appears on the records of this house. The minister has argued at length about this, but I must confess that his argument must leave a great many members unconvinced when there are 12,000 people added to that constituency. That is the kind of thing the government and the redistribution committee should have been careful to avoid. There are those who cannot help being suspicious when the president of the Progressive Conservative Association is singled out in that way.

**Mr. Winters:** Do you view with suspicion the dropping of a Liberal seat in Nova Scotia?

**Mr. Graydon:** I am not going into that point because it is not my purpose to get into an argument with anybody tonight. All I want to do is point out that I believe in that case the redistribution committee might very properly have given a better deal to the present member for Annapolis-Kings. I am not going to argue on the floor of the house with respect to other ridings because I was not on the redistribution committee and I have no desire to mix in that kind of struggle at the moment.

**An hon. Member:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Graydon:** You have a lot to say over there, but you may not have so much to say after the next federal election. I am not going to deal with every seat because that would not be quite proper, but I want to refer to the constituency of Frontenac-Addington which is represented by one of the most prominent livestock men in Canada. He is a man who is highly regarded everywhere, and his constituency has been pretty well wiped out. I think the redistribution committee should have tried to avoid that kind of thing as far as possible, having in mind the general structure of the constituencies in that area.

I also want to say a word with respect to Haldimand. I listened last night with a good deal of interest and concern, as I think everyone did, to the plea made by the hon. member for Haldimand. I thought he carried great conviction and sincerity in what he said. I hope that somehow it will not be necessary to carry into effect the proposal that appears to be on tap at the moment and which he referred to last night so eloquently and with such conviction. The member for Huron North also represents a rural constituency. He has been here since 1940 and