

Then, on p. 1294: "In other words, where it suited the political and partisan ends of the Government, they were alert and ready to see that the representation was quickly made complete as far as this House of Commons was concerned; but where it was not their own political ends which were concerned, but rather the rights of the people in this House, they were ready to ignore completely the fundamental right of the electors to representation. . . . Every constituency in Canada should be represented in this Parliament just as quickly as possible." On the question of the Act allowing the issue of the writ "within six months": "It was not drafted with a view primarily to ~~MEIGHEN~~ affording the Government the latitude of running six months; it was framed rather with a view of putting a time limit on the period within which it would be possible for the Government to deny to the electors any representation. . . . The really important consideration in matters of public policy is not the letter of the law but the spirit of it, and the spirit of this enactment is that there shall be some restraint upon the Government with a view to preventing it from denying to the constituents the right of representation to which they are justly entitled." The Government's attitude should be "that so far as can conveniently be arranged every constituency in Canada shall have its due representation in Parliament."

At p. 1299, he gave as one reason for speed, this: "Nor, indeed, has there ever been a time in the history of this country when the problems demanding solution at the hands of Parliament were as vast as the problems which confront us at the present time." Mentioned that the Government was asking for "colossal sums of money . . . almost \$600,000,000." "With those serious matters confronting Parliament it is of the utmost importance that every constituency should be represented in this House and that the best ~~MEIGHEN~~ intelligence possible should be brought to bear on their solution."

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