

Redistribution

seat is that the rural people should not be dominated by unrelated people from Elmwood and East Kildonan. The same holds true for the people in the town of Brooklands.

Metropolitan Winnipeg has not been given its fair share of Manitoba's 13 seats. The population of metropolitan Winnipeg, as taken in the 1961 census, is 475,989 people. As I stated earlier, there is absolutely no need to make any constituency partly rural and partly urban. Winnipeg should have been given six seats with an average population of 79,331. Upon reviewing the proposed maps for Ontario, I notice that all but one of the Toronto seats have a population between 79,000 and 80,000. In Ontario and Quebec only five out of 164 seats have a population of 80,000 or more, and in all cases they are just slightly over 80,000.

In conclusion, I would like to state that I endorse the political map of rural Manitoba which was presented at the hearings last September by Mr. J. A. MacKay. I have prepared a map displaying Winnipeg divided into six seats. This took me approximately two hours to prepare. If I have been able to prepare a map in two hours, it should be no hardship for the commission to redraw the Winnipeg constituencies. If they feel that my map is inferior to the one which they have proposed for greater Winnipeg, I challenge them to publish my map alongside theirs in the daily newspapers and give the people a chance to make their decision.

● (5:00 p.m.)

I would ask at this time whether I might table the map of the city of Winnipeg and of rural Manitoba, which could go along with these remarks.

Mr. Dinsdale: Including Brandon-Souris?

Mr. Stefanson: As far as I am concerned, the entire map should be redrawn on a six-six-one basis; that is, six Winnipeg seats, six rural seats and one northern rural seat. My map of greater Winnipeg is an indication of what can be done.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Does the house give unanimous consent to the hon. member to table the documents referred to?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Stefanson: Mr. MacKay's map of rural Manitoba is a good starting point for the commission. If the commission is not prepared to listen to our viewpoints as well as

the viewpoints of the people of Manitoba, the entire redistribution has been a failure. At a very minimum, I emphasize that the commission must give Winnipeg six seats. They can then transfer the entire rural portion of the Winnipeg-Selkirk seat to Portage. The rural portions include the municipalities of Bifrost, Gimli, St. Andrews and most of St. Clements. Portage can then give up its portion of the municipalities—Assiniboia and Charleswood—along with the town of Brooklands, to Winnipeg seats. Portage can then give up everything south of the Assiniboine river to Lisgar, and Lisgar can give up the municipalities of Riverside and Turtle Mountain to Brandon-Souris. The result would be that Portage, Lisgar and Brandon-Souris would all end up with a population of 67,000, while the other rural seats, with the exception of Churchill, would have populations of around 60,000. This seems fair in that Portage, Lisgar and Brandon would have much less territory than the other rural constituencies.

In addition to giving Winnipeg six seats, the minor changes just listed would mean that the interlake would only be cut into two rather than three as presently proposed. After making the above mentioned changes, a switch could be made between Churchill and Portage, dividing the interlake according to lines of communication as outlined earlier. Even though it is not the ultimate solution for the Churchill constituency, it would be an improvement.

In closing, I wish to state that I regret that the commission did not see fit to apply paragraph 13, section 3(i) and (ii) of the redistribution act which reads as follows:

(c) the commission may depart from the strict application of rules (a) and (b) in any case where

(i) special geographic considerations, including in particular the sparsity, density or relative rate of growth of population of various regions of the province, the accessibility of such regions or the size or shape thereof, appear to the commission to render such a departure necessary or desirable, or

(ii) any special community or diversity of interests of the inhabitants of various regions of the province appears to the commission to render such a departure necessary or desirable.

The proposed Winnipeg-Selkirk riding, an urban rural riding, has the second largest population of any riding in Canada, and this proposed riding includes the city of East Kildonan, the fastest growing area in Metropolitan Winnipeg. The riding of Churchill, according to the 1961 census, had a population of 54,952, which gave it sufficient population by using the tolerance allowed under the