

*Redistribution*

I know that the hon. member for Macleod (Mr. Kindt) intends to speak about the problems created by the constituency of Crowfoot. The objections I have been making apply equally well to that constituency. But I will allow the hon. member for Macleod to speak for himself. I support my colleagues from Alberta in advocating the elimination of the proposed riding of Rocky Mountain and the addition merely of a riding to the city of Calgary and to the city of Edmonton. This is easily done within my own constituency. According to the 1961 census I have well over 200 per cent of the quota allowed for one city. So it is a case merely of making a fairly even division within Edmonton West. If necessary, minor adjustments could be made within the city ridings to create a fourth riding, but also to cut off a portion thereof and a portion from the constituency of Edmonton-Strathcona and attach them to the constituency of Vegreville as one of the constituencies judged to be short of population.

I have talked it over with the hon. member for that constituency. This is what could readily be done. Townships 58 to 60 in ranges 20, 21 and 22 could be returned to the constituency of Vegreville and townships 50 to 54 inclusive in ranges 21 and 22 could be added. Also, we could add townships 50 to 60 in range 23. This would bring Vegreville to the eastern boundaries of the city of Edmonton and give between 12,000 and 15,000 additional people to the constituency of Vegreville, bringing it well within the permissible limit of population.

In addition, the hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Fane) has made it clear that he wants some additional territory added to the eastern portion of his constituency where he finds an Indian reserve divided in two. He would like to be able to deal with the members of the Indian band on that reserve as one unit. They in turn would like to be treated on this basis. Therefore townships 55 to 60 in range 11 north of the North Saskatchewan River should be added to the constituency of Vegreville.

It may seem strange to hon. members that I from Edmonton West should be talking about my relationship with the constituency of Vegreville to the east of the city. But there is a township which, because of the configuration of Edmonton West, goes far to the east of Edmonton East—a township in which my riding is contiguous with that of the hon. member for Vegreville. The constituency of Edmonton West envelopes the city from the

north. As I said, it will be simple to pass that most easterly area in both Edmonton West and Edmonton-Strathcona to the hon. member for Vegreville.

● (5:30 p.m.)

The area immediately north of Edmonton East which finds itself Edmonton West could have been added to Edmonton East to give it the potential for growth. But we have to see what the commission has proposed. They divide Edmonton West into roughly two sectors of about 47 per cent. The remaining portion they passed off to Pembina. That too is a representative's nightmare because it envelopes the people in Edmonton South right up to the international airport with people in the Fort Assiniboine area now in the northern extremity of the Jasper-Edson riding.

But what is done with Edmonton West? It is a sort of a straightened out appendix to the east, along the north city boundary of Edmonton, a stretch one mile deep and ten miles long forming a barrier to the growth of Edmonton Centre, a barrier to growth for Edmonton East, and going east of Edmonton East. There is absolutely no community of interest between the people of Belmont and the South Patricia district, which is the easterly extremity of this appendix, nor of those of the Poplar and Turnip Lake area in the centre with the people of the southwesterly end of my riding in Jasper Place and Winterburn.

I do not know what the thinking was; it is more than I can fathom. The area is not particularly big, so far as the member is concerned. It is pretty well urban, with a slight rural fringe, and therefore does not impose any burden on him. It certainly is going to be a lot easier to get around in the urban constituencies than in Rocky Mountain, Athabasca, Pembina and Crowfoot. The disparities have been widened as between urban constituencies and rural constituencies. They have become much more difficult to represent so far as the majority of the proposed rural areas are concerned. Therefore, again I would reiterate that the Rocky Mountain riding should be eliminated and the present boundaries kept other than for minor adjustments in the rural areas, with the exceptions of Vegreville, Macleod and Acadia which require some additions of population but which can easily get them.

In the division of the urban ridings provision must be made for a potential for growth. The hon. member for Calgary North (Mr.