

*Redistribution Bill*

away north, one that has since developed so remarkably. I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to that because it is an outstanding fact, one that is not generally known. Many of the early settlers have passed away and it is only those who were then engaged and are still so engaged in the Department of Agriculture and know something of the early settlement of North Battleford who are familiar with that great movement.

I understand from the hon. member for North Battleford (Mr. McIntosh) that he himself put some money into that enterprise. I am not going to ask him how much he got out of it, for I know, as a rule, those who promote those progressive enterprises very frequently lose money because some bad debts are always incurred in distributing live stock to new settlers in a frontier district. I remember, when we started similar work in the Department of Agriculture in 1908, the government figured out how much the loss would be and I remember it was estimated it would be at least 10 per cent. The then premier, the Hon. Walter Scott, took the ground that it would be good work and a good investment even though the loss proved to be twice that amount because the people had to be given some good foundation stock with which to build up a safe diversified agriculture. The loss was nothing like 20 per cent; if my recollection is correct, it was slightly over 14 per cent, so I anticipate that the business men of North Battleford would probably lose about the same amount on their investment.

Shortly after that a cooperative creamery was established in North Battleford, its activities radiating away to the north and to the west. At that time it was one of the largest of those frontier creameries, although later it was exceeded by Lloydminster. That proved a veritable godsend to thousands of farmers in that vast country, not only because they were able, out of the cream cheques they got, to pay for the live stock, but because of the way in which it helped to sustain them in their daily groceries and other supply requirements on the farm.

I cannot implement that with anything further except to point out that this was an unusual undertaking. Now that they have assisted in building up as described, that hinterland with their own money, to debase and disappoint that thriving young city by changing the name of the constituency from its present historic name—"North Battleford" and "Old Battleford" are names which have endeared themselves to the people there—changing it to the relatively unknown name

[Mr. Motherwell.]

of Redberry, is surely almost adding insult to injury. I am not familiar with the story of the name of Redberry. I think it is associated in some way with the Hon. George Langley. That was the name of his provincial constituency. I believe there was some noted gentleman in England, Lord Redberry or some other prominent gentleman who bore that name and after whom the provincial riding was called. I thought there was a village of Redberry in Saskatchewan but I am informed that there is not. But there was a constituency of Redberry up until a year ago, but in these redistribution days constituencies sometimes disappear, and Redberry was one of the ones that disappeared just a year ago. Up to that time from away back in the early days of settlement there was a provincial constituency of Redberry which the Hon. George Langley represented for many years. He was followed by Mr. Cockburn, member of the legislative assembly, who now represents that old riding. Anyhow, it does seem a terrible thing to deprive a young and thriving and justly proud city like North Battleford of the name of that great area which it helped so much to develop in the way I have described and to call the constituency by the comparatively unknown name of Redberry. I am sure that the Prime Minister, who is a gentleman of parts and has travelled much, knows the instincts of the human breast towards old institutions and old names like the Battlefords, where the old town was the seat of the territorial government prior to 1883. Battleford was the seat of the northwest territorial government for several years before the government was moved to Regina. Besides being the seat of government during those early years and also the seat of operation during the rebellion of 1885, Battleford is one of the beauty spots of the Canadian west. I have no figures to show how they voted in connection with this election or that election. I know that we have two gentlemen here from the Battlefords as a result of the election of 1930, but that is not the point I am driving at. It is the debase-ment, the disappointment of a worthy city that I am thinking of, a city that has not deserved this kind of treatment. While as I say I have not dealt with figures or shown how the townships go, whether this way or that, I do not think that enters into it at all because the alternative dividing lines are only six miles apart. But that is not the question at all. The question is whether the city of North Battleford with nearly 6,000 people will be in the riding formerly called by the name of North Battleford, or will it be taken out of that constituency and put into a new seat thus losing both name and constituency.