

*Redistribution Bill*

ticular attention. Of the vote that is taken away from the constituency of Prince Albert to go into the new constituency of Rosthern, there will on the basis of the 1930 election be a total Liberal vote taken away of 2,747. The Conservative vote taken away that will be going into the new riding of Rosthern will be 1,356. In other words, a Liberal majority of 1,391 is taken out of Prince Albert in that part which is to go into the new constituency, whereas the total Liberal majority for the constituency of Prince Albert as a whole as given at the time of the last election was 1,192. It means this that, as matters now stand, on the basis of the 1930 election, a larger Liberal majority will go into the new constituency of Rosthern than that which represented my majority for the whole constituency of Prince Albert in 1930. Let me put it in this way: the total Liberal majority in 1930 was 1,192. The total Liberal majority that has gone into Rosthern and is taken away from Prince Albert amounts to 1,391. In other words on the vote of 1930 my majority would be found to-day in supporters who have been taken into the new constituency of Rosthern, rather than in those who remain in Prince Albert constituency as redistributed. I admit it is very difficult to work out these matters as both sides might wish to have them, and I accept the situation as it is. In pointing out, in the way in which I have, the position of Prince Albert, I am speaking as the representative of Prince Albert constituency in the interest of the electors. I hope I have been fair and impartial, and have spoken without feeling one way or the other. I repeat that I am obliged for the time and trouble that hon. members opposite have given in seeking to rearrange the constituency, and that in what I have said I have simply stated the position as it is.

May I conclude with just one word in reference to another constituency; it was the concluding word of what I said when we last discussed the constituencies of Saskatchewan. As a whole I did hope that the administration would see its way to keep the names of North Battleford and South Battleford as those of separate constituencies rather than change the name of North Battleford to Redberry. I notice to-day that among the amendments that were moved was one to change the name as it appears on the revised schedule to what it had been before, and that that amendment was accepted. I hope it will not be too late yet for the government to accept an amendment which would retain the old name of North Battleford instead of

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

the name of Redberry which has not, as far as I see it, any real significance in relation to the history of Canada. Certainly I would hope that this might be adequately done by also bringing the town of North Battleford into the North Battleford constituency. It should be in the North Battleford constituency. But even if there is hesitation about that, what will be called the constituency of Redberry will nevertheless be a constituency that is allied so far as commercial, business and social interests are concerned, with North Battleford, not a constituency that will be particularly associated with Redberry, except that Redberry finds a place in it. I believe the changes I have proposed may be made merely by an adjustment as between the townships in North Battleford and South Battleford without affecting or altering in any way the boundaries of any other constituency. If the government would as a last act, one of grace, if you wish, make that change I feel that we would all go away with a pleasanter feeling.

Mr. GARDINER: I would like to follow up the remarks that have been made by the leader of the opposition in regard to the change being made in the constituency of Battleford, and I do so because I know that country well. I went into it in the year 1903, long before the railways were ever there and I traversed most of it. I was simply amazed when I found that the proposed redistribution map of Saskatchewan brought both Battlefords into one constituency.

Looking over the map of Saskatchewan one of the constituencies that struck me first as being rather peculiar was the Qu'Appelle constituency. The hon. member for Regina (Mr. Turnbull) has made the statement on more than one occasion that the reason for having a constituency of that shape was the natural boundary known as the Qu'Appelle valley. I know that part of the country well; I worked there as a hired man for some years before I went north, and I remember that you could cross the Qu'Appelle valley almost everywhere. The Qu'Appelle valley is no natural boundary in the way that the Saskatchewan river might be called such. I remember that in 1902 the town of Indian Head shipped more wheat than had been shipped from any other shipping point in the world. Where did it come from? The bulk of it came from north of the Qu'Appelle valley, and naturally because of the fact that you could cross the valley at almost any place you wished to cross it. Since then there has been a great deal of road construction,