

Redistribution

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The house having considered this objection, it will be the duty of Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, to refer the report of the Boundaries Commission, together with a copy of the Objection and also a copy of the debates of this house, back to the commission for reconsideration thereof.

The house will now proceed to consideration of Objection No. 2 on the list given to the house. This is listed in the pamphlet as Objection No. 3.

On February 4 last a notice of objection in the form of a motion was filed with Mr. Speaker in the following terms, namely:

Proposed Electoral District of Trois-Rivières:

That, pursuant to section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act (Chapter 31, Statutes of Canada 1964-65), consideration be given by this house to the matter of an objection to the provisions of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Quebec, laid before this house by Mr. Speaker on Wednesday, January 19, 1966, on the grounds set forth hereafter: *Objections to the new boundaries of the constituency of Trois-Rivières:*

The petition is filed in order that the town of Trois-Rivières-Ouest may continue to be a part of the federal constituency of Trois-Rivières for the following reasons:

(a) the town of Trois-Rivières-Ouest is a part of the physical and demographic entity of greater Trois-Rivières;

(b) its problems at all levels are, for all practical purposes, identical with those of Trois-Rivières;

(c) pursuant to the policy of the provincial Department of Municipal Affairs, Trois-Rivières-Ouest will soon have to merge with the city of Trois-Rivières;

(d) the municipal council of Trois-Rivières-Ouest has filed a formal petition for the purpose of remaining within the federal constituency of Trois-Rivières.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, may I ask that this objection stand in the absence of the hon. member for Trois-Rivières (Mr. Mongrain)?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that in the absence of the hon. member for Trois-Rivières (Mr. Mongrain) this objection stands?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Starr: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I should like to ask for how long the objection will stand. As you know, our time is limited to six days, and not full days at that. The house leaders have agreed that certain times should be allotted to these debates. I do not know whether I would

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

agree that it stand. If the hon. gentleman is not here we should proceed without standing this particular objection.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Starr) whether he would agree that this motion stand, and if there is time left at the end it can be discussed, without any obligation being entered into by the house? As the hon. member for Trois-Rivières (Mr. Mongrain) is an independent member he would have no house leader, and perhaps was not aware of the conventions established between the house leaders of the various parties. That may be the reason he is not here.

Mr. Starr: With the understanding that they will be discussed if sufficient time is left after all these objections have been dealt with, then I would be agreeable.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the Chair would like to be very clear about what we are doing here. Does the hon. member for Ontario mean that all of the objections have to be completed before those which are stood are taken up, or all of the objections for the province of Quebec?

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I could make this suggestion, that the motion you have just put be called as the last motion from the province of Quebec.

Mr. Starr: No. I understood the hon. member who spoke last to say that this should be discussed as the last motion from the province of Quebec. That is not what I have agreed to. If all motions have been disposed of from all provinces and there is sufficient time left to deal with this one, then and only then do I agree it should be discussed.

Mr. Grégoire: Very well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Do I take it that the house agrees that if some objections are stood these will be taken up after all other objections have been considered, if time permits?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Objection No. 3 stands.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: We will proceed, therefore to objection No. 3 on the list given the Chair, which is listed as No. 4 in the pamphlet.