

Business of the House

adequate representation, I do not know. It seems to me that the distance between Fort Frances and White River, and White River and Dryden, is in the neighbourhood of 600 or 700 miles. This is a lot of territory for one person to look after. In addition, I am, personally, picking up about 2,000 Indians to the north. This means my expenses in going to see them between elections, and the expenses during a campaign, are going to be quite out of proportion to the population that has to be served.

There have been a great many complaints about this commission. I think one of the reasons for this fact is that this is the first time redistribution has ever been accomplished on a representation by population basis. I feel that a great deal of trouble could have been avoided had this problem been turned over to a 25-member committee of the house. Then the committee, on a provincial basis, could have set the constituency boundaries on what they considered to be an equitable basis. In order to avoid any accusation of gerrymandering, the committee's report could have gone to the commissioners and they could have looked into it. There could have been only the same type of limited appeal that we have here. I think this would have been far more equitable and I think more people would have been satisfied with the end result.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the house that I call it six o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Would the house leader indicate if it is the intention to proceed with

a supply motion on Monday, and what the business will be thereafter?

Mr. McIlraith: Before I do, may I say that I understood that the other motions from Ontario had been completed yesterday. Is that correct?

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Before I recognize the Minister of Public Works, it is my understanding that the hon. member for Châteauguay-Huntingdon-Laprairie wanted to make a comment in connection with a motion he attempted to move this afternoon.

Mr. Watson (Châteauguay-Huntingdon-Laprairie): I should like to withdraw the motion which I made this afternoon, under reserve of my right to reintroduce it next week.

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, on Monday we propose to bring forward a supply motion, which presumably would take Monday and Tuesday. At the conclusion of that debate, we would continue with the redistribution motions from Manitoba, and then legislation, the program for which I would announce on Tuesday night.

Mr. Knowles: How many departments does the government wish to ask for at the conclusion of the supply motion?

Mr. McIlraith: As many as the opposition parties will agree to, Mr. Speaker. The rules provide for six. Perhaps I will ask the house leaders of other parties to ask their members if they would agree to a larger number than that. In any event it will be no fewer than six.

At six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.