

Redistribution

Calgary South had 124,248. When the hon. member for Calgary North speaks I hope he will point out the tremendous increase since 1961.

Then we have the three Edmonton constituencies. Edmonton East had 82,246, Edmonton-Strathcona, 121,124, and Edmonton West 150,257. I am not going to read the other population figures. I wish to emphasize that there are three constituencies below the formula and certain adjustments would have to be made in the bordering constituencies. I think we all are in agreement with this. We have discussed the matter with the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Thompson), and his party is in agreement. We appreciate also that adjustments had to be made in the cities of Calgary and Edmonton. I emphasize that there could be one more constituency in each of those two metropolitan areas without interfering with the situation.

I would ask that the 1961 census figures be included in *Hansard* in respect of all 17 seats. These figures were obtained from the office of Mr. Castonguay and I believe them to be accurate. With the consent of the house I would ask that these figures be made a part of the record.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Does the hon. member have unanimous agreement of the house to file these statistics?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): May I ask the hon. member whether it is his wish that these figures be printed as a part of his speech now?

Mr. Woolliams: Yes.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's note: The table referred to above is as follows:*]

Population of present districts according to 1961 census: Acadia, 47,724; Athabaska, 59,184; Battle River-Camrose, 58,655; Bow River, 62,806; Calgary North, 134,783; Calgary South, 124,248; Edmonton East, 82,246; Edmonton-Strathcona, 121,124; Edmonton West, 150,257; Jasper-Edson, 70,088; Lethbridge, 69,175; Macleod, 50,966; Medicine Hat, 63,450; Peace River, 75,811; Red Deer, 63,205; Vegreville, 42,798; Wetaskiwin, 55,424.

Mr. Woolliams: I wish to deal with the changes which have been made. Again, these figures are based on the 1961 census. I should like to emphasize again that the growth of

[Mr. Woolliams.]

Calgary and Edmonton has been tremendous since the census was taken. Now we have 19 new constituencies. Just before I deal with that let me make one point. In the opinion of the Alberta members who met to consider this matter, including all those who made submissions and others who discussed the matter, and also in the opinion of the hon. member for Red Deer, if constituency No. 17 of schedule A, which is part of the report filed, had not been created the problems with regard to the other constituencies would not have existed.

● (4:30 p.m.)

The worst problem in Alberta relates to the constituency of Rocky Mountain which is No. 17 on the map, Schedule A. This problem is well known to the commission, but I should like to emphasize a few points to illustrate why everyone objects to the formation of this constituency. I appreciate why the commission felt there was a common interest among the people of the new constituency. It will include Banff and Jasper national parks as well as other national parks in Alberta. It is a mountainous area and includes the hard coal mining areas of the Crowsnest Pass, which is now in the riding of Macleod, and the hard coal mining areas at Canmore.

For these reasons the commission may have felt that the people had a common interest, but may I suggest that the disadvantages far outweigh any advantage that may exist in this regard. Let me first deal with the location and interest of the areas and people who live in the national parks. Traditionally the people of Banff national park have had the same interests as the people of the city of Calgary. Their main interest relates to tourism, both in the winter and in the summer. The people of these two areas work hand in hand and that is why Banff has for many years been part of the constituency of Calgary West, at one time represented by a former prime minister.

Jasper national park similarly has a common interest with the city of Edmonton. There is also a common interest in respect of hard coal mining areas. I point out to the commission that they perhaps overlooked one or two things in this regard. When the soft coal mines at Drumheller and East Coulee were shut down because there was no demand for such coal domestically the miners found employment in the Crowsnest Pass area and at Canmore. For that reason there is perhaps a greater common interest between the soft coal mining areas of Drumheller,