

Redistribution

that the increase in population in Saskatchewan was due to the fecundity of the socialists, or was it due to the immigration policy of the Liberal government?

Mr. Knowles: I do not contend there is any necessary connection at all between the growth or the decline of population in a province and the government that happens to be in power in that province. What I did not like was the suggestion made by the Leader of the Opposition that there was a relationship between the government that was in power, and the alleged facts which he stated incorrectly.

Mr. Rapp: If I may comment on that point, I think what the Leader of the Opposition had meant was this, that the population at the present time is above what it was in 1961. Presently there are over a million people in the province. Then he said that this is perhaps for the reason that we now have another government, and not that C.C.F. government which was in power previously. However, I do not think that the Leader of the Opposition meant to reflect on the previous government.

Mr. Knowles: I am surprised that my hon. friend would advance an argument of this nature. What he is doing is to give credit to the Liberal government for something that it did, which is strange, indeed, coming from a Conservative such as he is.

Mr. Winkler: I should like to ask a question of the hon. member also, or make a statement to clear up the matter, in the context in which it was discussed.

I believe that the right hon. Leader of the Opposition was making a comparison of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba in the same period. I leave it there.

Mr. Knowles: What I said for the record will speak for itself. I quoted the actual figures, and I put them on the record.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does this complete discussion of objection No. 10 with respect to the province of Saskatchewan?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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

[Mr. Deachman.]

On Wednesday, when the house was discussing objections respecting the province of Ontario, the hon. member for Simcoe East (Mr. Rynard) was unable to make a statement which he desired to make. The house agreed then that permission would be granted to him to make a statement when he was present in the house. Will the house agree that he may proceed with this now?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Greene: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I also was in the position of being caught. I could not be here last night as I had to arbitrate a conflict between two participants, one in Detroit and one in Montreal. I would ask the same consent of the house as was extended to the hon. member for Simcoe East.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, as a result of a prior appointment I was unable to be here. However, I was informed that I should have an opportunity to speak on this matter too. I should be only a few minutes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that the hon. member may speak?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am sure that the house, in extending the privilege to the hon. member for Simcoe East to make the statement now which he would have made previously, would be generous enough to extend the same privilege to other hon. members from Ontario.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe East): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you, and through you the house for its courtesy in allowing me to speak on this matter. I should be remiss if I did not refer to the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Bell) for making a request on my behalf when he knew that I wished to speak, but that I had an engagement out of town.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, may I report on the riding of Simcoe East which, according to the last census figures, had a population of 59,000. Today, with normal growth, that population ought to be 65,000.

This is a growing economic area. This year in the north end of the riding in the town of