Redistribution Bill

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: That is quite right; it is going into the new constituency of Rosthern. Let me say that if the unit that I had thought of as a fair one in Prince Albert, that is to say 46,000 or 47,000, had been the one considered; if the section that lies east of the western boundary of Prince Albert constituency on the south to the South Saskatchewan river had been left just as it is over to the South Saskatchewan river, I think, with the other changes made, the constituency might be regarded as having been fairly redistributed. But all that part has also been taken out of Prince Albert constituency and it is, so far as the fortunes of any Liberal candidate is concerned, the really important part of the constituency. The Prime Minister, in referring to this part, said that this part contains the town of Rosthern; that the new constituency is named Rosthern and therefore that Rosthern town and the country round about should be in the new constituency of Rosthern. But when the committee were negotiating in regard to the matter, the new constituency was not referred to as Rosthern, it appeared under the name of Hague. That was the name given to it and the one which appears in the schedules as reported. But now the new constituency is to be called Rosthern. I do not object to that name being given to any constituency; it is a fine name, but I certainly object, and object very strongly, to losing from Prince Albert the good people of Rosthern because I know of no finer lot of citizens or electors anywhere than one finds in that particular community and that part of the province.

Let me say just a word as to the effect of the redistribution on the political complexion of the riding. This will show more clearly than anything else what the effect of the changes are. Here again they will be most apparent in tabular form:

Prince Albert Constituency As Redistributed Effect on Political Complexion of Riding Added from Melfort, a Population of 1.572 Persons

262

13

Of that number in the election of 1930-474 votes were cast

Of which Conservative 199

Of which Liberal

Of which Farmer

Majority of Liberal 63 over Conservative

or 50 over both combined

There is added from Melfort a population of 1,572 persons. From that number in the election of 1930, 474 votes were cast and of them 199 were cast for the Conservative, 262 53719-3511

for the Liberal and 13 for a Farmer candidate. In other words, that portion which is being added from Melfort to Prince Albert gave a Liberal majority of 63 over the Conservative candidate or a Liberal majority of 50 over both candidates combined who were running in Melfort at that time. But let me now give the effect of the change as respects the old constituency of Prince Albert, that is the constituency as it is at present compared with what it will be when the redistribution goes into effect:

In Prince Albert Liberal

Liberal	
1930 vote was	9,283
Conservative	
1930 vote was Liberal majority, 1,192. What is left in of 1930 vote—	8,091
Liberal	6.536
Conservative	6,735
What is taken away of 1930 vote-	
Liberal	2,747
Conservative	1,356
Or a Liberal majority of	1,391
Where total Liberal majority for	
Prince Albert constituency in 1930	
was	1,192
Which becomes now Conservative Subtracting Liberal majority from	199
Melfort which is being added	63
Teamer Communities mainties	100

Leaves Conservative majority 136

In 1930 the vote cast for the Liberal candidate totalled 9,283 and for the Conservative candidate 8,091, or in other words there was a Liberal majority of 1,192. If we take what is left of the old Prince Albert constituency. under the 1930 vote the figures would then be: Liberals, 6,536; Conservatives, 6.735, or a Conservative majority of 199. If from that Conservative majority of 199 we subtract the 63 which is the added Liberal majority from Melfort, this would give a Conservative majority of 136. In other words, the effect has been to change a Liberal majority of, as I have said, 1,192, into a Conservative majority of 136.

Mr. BENNETT: Has the right hon. gentleman counted the triangular piece I mentioned a few minutes ago that is now taken away from him?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I thought I had—the piece in the southeast corner of Prince Albert constituency, yes, as I figure it. The other triangle does not enter into the picture.

There is now one remaining and all important point to which I wish to draw par-