

Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to give you the most important factors I noted when the bill which concerns us at this time was considered.

First, the number of electors by riding, which I just gave as an example proving that it is inaccurate.

Second, an abnormal situation which already existed and was not corrected. As a matter of fact, at the north end of my riding, according to the new boundaries, there are some 250 families along the limits of the city of Montreal. Well, the proposed riding of St. Michel includes only the populations of the cities of St. Michel and of St. Léonard, excluding those along the limits of the city of Montreal, between the middle of Belanger street and the southern boundaries of the cities of St. Michel and St. Léonard.

There are about 250 families living in that area, that is in my riding, separated from their fellow citizens; they have the same demographic and geographic problems as in the rest of my riding, although they are isolated in a riding made up of two great identical entities. I would have thought that such discrepancies would have been corrected through setting of the present boundaries.

A third and last point to which I want to call your attention is that the new boundaries, are highly fanciful; their weird shapes, their scallops, could easily compete with the eccentric creations of fashion designers. It is hard enough already to organize an election, as much for the electoral officers as the political parties, without complicating it by boundaries which have no practical value. To the two groups I have just mentioned can be added also the electors for whom we make it enormously complicated to identify their riding.

● (4:40 p.m.)

I will spare you, Mr. Speaker the details of a new readjustment. However, I have read the bill submitted to the house and I think it can be amended according to the basis I have indicated; in short, it would provide

(a) a better identification of the number of voters

(b) a redistribution according to population, taking into account the 25 per cent tolerance factor and

(c) a less fantastic geographic boundary.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I am not asking for any special favour which would help me to get re-elected, but for boundaries which would help me to serve better.

### *Redistribution*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret):** The remarks of the hon. member for Maisonneuve-Rosemont (Mr. Thomas) bring to a close the debate on objection No. 22. The house will now consider the following recommendation:

That, the house having considered this objection, it is my duty, 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 the house back to the Commission for consideration thereof.

The house will now resume consideration of objection No. 26—

**An hon. Member:** No. 25.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret):** No. 25, on pages 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the document—

**An hon. Member:** On page 40.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret):** On page 40, concerning Rimouski county.

On February 18, 1966, notice of objection, in the form of a motion, was submitted to the Speaker in the following terms:

#### *Proposed Electoral District of Rimouski:*

That, in accordance with Section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act (chapter 31, Statutes of Canada 1964-65), this house should consider the matter of the objections to the provisions of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Quebec, laid before this house by the Speaker on January 19, 1966, for the reasons hereinafter stated:

That Rimouski constituency, for social and economic reasons, continue to comprise

(a) the town of Trois-Pistoles;

(b) in Rimouski county, the municipalities of the parishes of Saint-Eugène-de-Ladrière, Saint-Fabien, Saint-Mathieu-de-Rioux, Saint-Simon, Saint-Valérien and Trinité-des-Monts; the municipalities of Biencourt, Lac-des-Aigles, Saint-Guy and Saint-Médard; the territory having no local municipal government, the northeastern boundary of which is the extension of the demarcation line between the townships of Flynn and Varin as far as the southern boundary of Rimouski county.

**Mr. Duquet:** As mover of this objection, in view of the absence of the member of Rimouski (Mr. LeBlanc), I should like to give the necessary explanations to justify this objection.

To those who are familiar with the Lower St. Lawrence, there are two main regions or rather, three main regions: the Gaspé-Peninsula, Rimouski and Rivière-du-Loup.

Now, since new boundaries have been suggested by the members of the Commission, it