

*Redistribution*

**Mr. Fleming:** Which part?

**Mr. Dewar:** The part you are talking about.

**Mr. Fleming:** I have given the committee the population of Frontenac-Addington, which is 36,221. The population of the riding of Hastings-Peterborough is 26,324.

**Mr. Dewar:** Does the hon. member think that compares favourably with a population of 35,000 and an area of 110,000 square miles?

**Mr. Fleming:** I am giving my hon. friend comparisons. Let us keep our comparisons on a fair basis. I suggest a fair basis would be to take the adjoining riding, would it not? Then, if that is fair, let us take the adjoining riding. I look at the constituency of Renfrew South, a riding that lies immediately north of Frontenac-Addington and abuts on the east the riding of Hastings-Peterborough. I suggest the hon. member could not have anything closer for purposes of comparison, could he? That riding of Renfrew South is smaller than the riding of Frontenac-Addington, and it is considerably smaller than the riding of Hastings-Peterborough. By the time this new monstrosity of a riding is created, the largest in southern Ontario, it will be more than twice as large as Renfrew South. I hope my hon. friend gets the significance of that; it will be more than twice as large as Renfrew South.

**Mr. McCann:** You are just guessing.

**Mr. Fleming:** Now, what about population? The riding of Renfrew South, when this redistribution is carried out, will have a population of 31,439. Compare that. Here is a riding right alongside the new riding, and smaller than either of the ridings to be merged. It will be less than half the size of the proposed new riding of Hastings-Frontenac. While Renfrew South will have a population of something more than 31,000, the proposed new adjoining riding of Hastings-Frontenac will have a population of 43,000.

Does that commend itself to the sense of fairness and justice of any member of the house, regardless of party? Particularly, does it commend itself to the Prime Minister and his sense of fair play? I ask the Prime Minister if this jibes with the statement of principle he gave the house today, when we see a riding represented by one of his cabinet ministers having a population of 31,000, and right alongside of it a mammoth riding, more than twice the size of the minister's riding, with a population of over 43,000. Where is

the principle there, I ask the Prime Minister. Where is the justice there? Where is the fair play there?

Now, behind it all—because we find something back of each of these carvings and butcherings of ridings; we have come to expect it now—is the fact that a riding which is represented today by a Progressive Conservative member, a riding that has been historically Conservative, is today being carved up. There you have the explanation of this monstrosity being perpetrated in the majority report. Where is the principle here? I press this amendment; and when the amendment is carried, with the support of all fair-minded members in the House of Commons, I shall have an amendment to offer with respect to the riding of Hastings-Peterborough, designed to retain that riding in its present form.

Amendment negatived: Yeas, 17; nays, 59.

**The Chairman:** I declare the amendment lost.

**Mr. Fleming:** Then I have a further amendment.

**The Chairman:** Is this a second amendment to item 23, Hastings-Frontenac?

**Mr. Fleming:** Yes. The defeat of the first amendment does not particularly encourage me to expect success with the second. Nevertheless there may yet be some who will respond to this plea for fair-minded treatment. My appeal to the Prime Minister, and the principle he stated this morning, was not very successful in the presentation of my last amendment, because he and the seven other members of the cabinet who are in the house voted against it. But we shall continue to try.

My second amendment is:

That item 23 in the schedule to Bill 393 be stricken out and the following substituted therefor: "23. Hastings-Peterborough consisting of the county of Hastings and that part of the county of Peterborough included in the townships of Asphodel, Belmont, Methuen, Burleigh, Anstruther, Chandos and Dummer, including the villages of Have-lock and Norwood."

Amendment (Mr. Fleming) negatived: Yeas, 19; nays, 61.

**Mr. Fraser:** I know something about this riding because it takes in the eastern section of Peterborough and part of Hastings county, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington. It is a tremendous riding, and I do not think it fair to place the representation on the shoulders of any one man. There are other ridings, perhaps in the north, that are larger; but this still is a tremendous riding. Except in the north the roads are fairly good, and even the northern roads are being