

adhered to. In my opinion it is a great mistake to put the two Battlefords together; there is no community of interest. The city of Battleford is the distributing centre of all the country north of the river, as has been pointed out by the hon. member for North Battleford (Mr. McIntosh). If you look at these two communities you will find that South Battleford contains four railway centres. There is the town of Wilkie on the Canadian Pacific main line between Saskatoon and Edmonton. If you go to the southern end of the constituency there is my home town of Kerrobert, which is another divisional point on the Canadian Pacific line between Moose Jaw and Lacombe. If you go to the northwestern corner of the constituency you find the town of Lloydminster, also a divisional point, and when you get down to the southwestern portion you find the town of Macklin, which is also on the Edmonton-Saskatoon line of the Canadian Pacific.

One only has to look at the various institutions in the two communities to see that there is no community of interest. In the old town of Battleford we have a collegiate and other institutions which are duplicated across the river, proving conclusively that there is no community of interest in those two municipalities. Even the provincial government realizes that fact; a land office has been established in each town so that those residing on the southern side of the Saskatchewan river need not cross that stream in order to file on their homesteads. They have even established a liquor store in each town, and I think these facts prove conclusively that there is practically no community of interest there. The old town of Battleford has been in existence for well over fifty years; people are living there who left Ontario more than fifty years ago. I well remember that in 1906, when I settled in that district, the settlement north of the river was very sparse indeed, and the only communication was by means of a ferry. So it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that it is a very sad day for the Battlefords when they are placed in the same federal riding.

The hon. member for North Battleford gave some statistics with regard to the vote in the last election. If you take that portion of the constituency of South Battleford which, under this bill, is placed in the constituency of Kindersley you will find, on the basis of the 1930 election, that whoever receives the nomination there will have a majority over both the Conservative and Farmer candidates, if there is a three cornered fight as there

was in 1930, of 547. According to the figures as I have worked them out, in the last election the Conservative candidate received 1,689 votes; the Liberal candidate, who was myself, received 3,090 votes, while the Farmer candidate received 864 votes. The Farmer and Conservative candidates together received 2,553 votes, so the majority for the Liberal candidate was 547. But when you take that portion of the Kindersley constituency which, under this legislation, is placed in the new riding, you get a different picture. In the last election there was a straight fight in Kindersley between the Liberal and Progressive candidates. The Progressive candidate was the present hon. member for Kindersley (Mr. Carmichael); he polled 4,648 votes while the Liberal candidate polled 3,502 votes, showing an adverse vote so far as the Liberal candidate was concerned of 1,146. If you carry the Liberal majority of 547 in that part of South Battleford into the constituency of Kindersley, you will see that the result will be an adverse vote of approximately 600. I do not want to say that the alterations as proposed in the bill have been made for political purposes. If the hon. member for Regina (Mr. Turnbull) proposes to reply, I should like him to answer a question which I asked the last time I spoke on this matter. South Battleford as at present constituted is the sixth largest constituency as far as population is concerned in the province of Saskatchewan. In 1921 the population was 35,070 and it has increased at the rate of one thousand per year, until we now have a population of 45,199. I should like to ask the hon. member for Regina and those who were responsible for drafting the new map why it was thought necessary to eliminate a constituency which had 45,199 population, the sixth largest population in the twenty-one seats in Saskatchewan. These are the questions that are being asked me. I am receiving daily communications from South Battleford although I will admit to the hon. member for Regina that those who are writing me are undoubtedly those who supported me in the last election. They feel very much annoyed at South Battleford being disrupted in this matter. As was pointed out by the hon. member for North Battleford, the Battlefords and perhaps Kindersley will not offer a good fighting ground for the government. I say quite frankly to the government that this proposed set up will jeopardize any chances they might have had of winning those two constituencies. We have twenty-one members now in this house. I have argued from the beginning, and submitted a map in support of my argument, that it would be quite simple to redistribute the