

Section 37. The House of Commons shall, subject to the provisions of this act, consist of 181 members, of whom 82 shall be elected for Ontario, 65 for Quebec, 19 for Nova Scotia, and 15 for New Brunswick.

Section 51. On the completion of the census in the year 1871, and of each subsequent decennial census, the representation of the four provinces shall be readjusted by such authority, in such manner, and from such time, as the Parliament of Canada from time to time provides, subject and according to the following rules:

(1) Quebec shall have the fixed number of sixty-five members;

(2) There shall be assigned to each of the other provinces such a number of members as will bear the same proportion to the number of its population (ascertained at such census) as the number sixty-five bears to the number of the population of Quebec (so ascertained);

(3) In the computation of the number of members for a province a fractional part not exceeding one-half of the whole number requisite for entitling the province to a member shall be disregarded; but a fractional part exceeding one-half of that number shall be equivalent to the whole number;

(4) On any such readjustment the number of members for a province shall not be reduced unless the proportion which the number of the population of the province bore to the number of the aggregate population of Canada at the then last preceding readjustment of the number of members for the province is ascertained at the then latest census to be diminished by one-twentieth part or upwards;

(5) Such readjustment shall not take effect until the termination of the then existing parliament.

Section 52. The number of members of the House of Commons may be from time to time increased by the Parliament of Canada, provided the proportionate representation of the provinces prescribed by this act is not thereby disturbed.

I think it will be of interest to hon. members, in connection with the redistribution we are about to make, were I to incorporate in my remarks a statement showing the representation of the various provinces in this House of Commons after the several redistributions that have taken place:

Province	Census 1911 (Unit 30,819)			Census 1921 (Unit 36,283)		
	Population	Quotient based on Unit	Actual Representation	Population	Quotient based on Unit	Actual Representation
Prince Edward Island.....	93,728	3.04	4	88,615	2.44	4
Nova Scotia.....	492,338	15.95	16	523,837	14.44	14
New Brunswick.....	351,889	11.40	11	387,876	10.69	11
Ontario.....	2,527,292	81.90	82	2,933,662	80.86	82
Manitoba.....	461,394	14.95	15	610,118	16.82	17
Saskatchewan.....	492,432	15.96	16	757,510	20.88	21
Alberta.....	374,295	12.13	12	588,454	16.22	16
British Columbia.....	392,480	12.72	13	524,582	14.46	14
Quebec.....	2,005,776	65.00	65	2,358,412	65.00	65
Yukon.....	8,512	1	4,157	1

The representation of Prince Edward Island was increased from three to four by partial redistribution in 1915 under the amendment to the British North America Act to which I have referred.

May I say a word now with respect to the application of the recent census to the redistribution about to be effected. First of all I would point out that the Quebec Boundaries Extension Act, which was passed in 1912 and which enlarged the boundaries of the province of Quebec, contained a provision under which the population of the additional territory brought into the province was not to be counted, for the purposes of redistribution, as part of the population of the province of Quebec in determining the unit of representation in accordance with the provisions of the British North America Act on that point. The Quebec Boundaries Act contains the following section:

That the population of the territory hereby added to the province of Quebec shall be excluded in ascertaining the population of the said province for the purposes of any readjustment of representation of the other provinces consequent upon any census.

Account of this provision must necessarily be taken in determining the unit of representation according to the census. The population of the province of Quebec—exclusive of the area added by the Quebec Boundaries Act of 1912—enumerated in the sixth census, June 1, 1921, numbered 2,358,412, which, divided by 65, gives a unit of representation of 36,283;—the unit was 30,819 in 1911. The quotient obtained by dividing the population of each province, except Prince Edward Island, as shown at the date of the census, by the unit 36,283 indicates, except where section 51 subsection 4 of the British North America Act applies, the number of members to which each province is entitled. The result is as follows. I shall give for sake of comparison the figures of the redistribution effected after the census of 1911 as well as the figures of the 1911 census, and the figures of the redistribution to be effected under the last census that of 1921 and the census figures themselves. The House will kindly bear with me while I put these figures on record: