

Redistribution

specified, consideration be given by this house to the matter of an objection to the provisions of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Quebec, laid before this house by Mr. Speaker on Wednesday, January 19, 1966.

(a) By changing the name of the constituency in its last report, the commission has created a certain amount of dissension in the midst of the population. Some would like to keep the name of St. Anne, others would like that of St. Henri.

In order to cure this feeling of uneasiness, I suggest that the constituency be given the name of "Marguerite Bourgeois". On her arrival in Canada in 1662, Mother Marguerite Bourgeois devoted herself to the education of the children of our first settlers. She founded the first school in 1668—the same school where the daughters of the settlers received their education until 1881. This historical monument, erected in 1668, still exists and the Congregation of Notre Dame has just converted it into a museum. I am pleased that the constituency includes within its boundaries this testimony to our history; that is why, after conducting an investigation among the electors. I am making this proposal on their behalf.

(b) In the report, on page 30, section 57, at line 22, let the following words be stricken out "from there to the south-west up to LaMontagne Street", and also the words "and the east" on the following line. Here are the reasons:

I request that the line of Windsor Street at the Notre Dame intersection be continued up to the southern boundary (Wellington intersection). This will have the result of increasing the size of the population by giving it 600 other electors. This sector was always a part of the constituency, the more so as in the east up to St. Lawrence Street there are no electors. Furthermore, this sector is the most important part of the parish of St. Anne, which is situated on the other side of La Montagne Street; this places its residents in a constituency other than the one in which the church which is opposite their door is located.

The representative of St. James constituency thinks that my proposal is quite logical.

● (4:30 p.m.)

[English]

Mr. Ricard: Témiscouata is stood.

[Translation]

Mr. Gérard Loiselle (St. Ann): Mr. Speaker, I have only a few words to say to set out the reasons for my objection to the new name proposed in the second report of the commission, that of Saint-Henri.

All citizens of the constituency were more than satisfied with the first report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission, which kept the name of St. Ann.

This constituency was established in 1892, and we were satisfied with that report. From a small Montreal riding, St. Ann became the second largest in the province of Quebec.

In the second report of the commission, however, the name of Saint-Henri is proposed. I have nothing against that name; I was born myself in Saint-Henri, in Montreal.

However, Saint-Henri which is to be in the new riding, does not constitute the major part of the latter. The riding of Saint-Henri was established under the redistribution act of 1924, whereas, as I said earlier, St. Ann exists since 1892. Before that, it was called Montreal Centre, the greater part of which became St. Ann. But since 1892, the riding has always been called St. Ann.

I object to the new designation of Saint-Henri. A petition was started after the time limit expired for the public hearings to be held by the commission in Montreal. We were unable, therefore, to submit a request to be heard and to present an objection.

As I was saying earlier, I have nothing against the name of Saint-Henri; it is a distinguished name. The riding is called "St. Ann" in the first report and "Saint-Henri" in the second. This makes me a bit uneasy, because some of the people want to keep the name of St. Ann, while others prefer the name of Saint-Henri.

To reconcile everyone, I thought of proposing a third name, that of Marguerite Bourgeois. Here is why. Everybody is familiar with the life of Marguerite Bourgeois who came to Montreal in 1662. She happened to take her first steps on Canadian soil in St. Charles, in the riding of St. Ann.

In 1668, Marguerite Bourgeois built a school to educate the daughters of the colonists. Consequently, from 1668 to 1681, this same school, built by Marguerite Bourgeois, was used to educate the daughters of our colonists. This same school is still in existence today and was designated as a historic monument. This building is a few steps from my home and the members of the order of Notre Dame who are the followers of Marguerite Bourgeois have made it into a museum, after recently modernizing it.

To my mind, it would be a fine thing if the riding were given the name of Marguerite Bourgeois.

When I saw that I would have to oppose the name, I took the opportunity of asking for a minor correction to the boundary.

As I said a few minutes ago, with the new boundaries St. Ann's will become the second largest riding in Quebec, population-wise. I ask that the boundaries be slightly extended, since only a correction is involved. On the plan, the boundary of this riding is, on the east, Windsor street; St. Catherine street on the north; St. Rémi street on the west and the St. Lawrence river on the south. The correction would occur starting from the