

Redistribution

(k) The subtraction of the municipality of Esquimalt from the Victoria riding separates two areas which have many years of close historical association, as well as a remarkable community of interests. The trend of population growths in B.C. is such that at the next Redistribution there is every likelihood the boundaries will be broadened again and, for the foregoing reasons, the municipality of Esquimalt is the logical area to then be restored once more to the Victoria riding. It would appear to be advantageous from all points of view to leave the municipality of Esquimalt in the Victoria riding as at present, particularly since the population of the total area is within the limits allowed to the commission as was the expressed wish of the reeve and the council of the municipality of Esquimalt.

7. Application of the principles heretofore referred to, and avoidance of the anomalies and inequities herein listed, would have the result that the two proposed ridings of Coast-Chilcotin and Okanagan-Kootenay could not be brought into existence as presently recommended. They should be eliminated from proposals for new ridings in British Columbia and a new set of riding boundaries for B.C. drawn accordingly.

For the foregoing and such other objections and reasons as the undersigned members may deem necessary to carry out the spirit, terms and conditions of the said Act, it is considered essential that the said report be referred back to the commission, pursuant to the said act, together with this statement the said report be referred back to the commission, may revise its report to meet the said objections and draw new riding boundaries along the lines referred to in paragraphs 6 and 7 above.

Mr. Chatterton: In view of what the hon. member has just said, Mr. Speaker, I stand corrected. I was under the impression there was only one objection. In any event the general objection, No. 16, was signed by members of all parties from British Columbia and it was agreed among those members who signed it that the hon. member for Kamloops (Mr. Fulton) would speak with regard to the interior. We were not able to get in touch with the hon. member for Kamloops today and I would ask, therefore, that the presentation of the hon. member for Kamloops stand until tomorrow. After I have made my short presentation I understand the members from Ontario are ready to proceed with their presentations.

Mr. Speaker: My understanding of the suggestion made is that we might hear any hon. members who have a contribution to make at the moment on objection No. 16, stand it thereafter, and then initiate the discussion in respect of Ontario. Is that what the hon. member would like to do?

Mr. Starr: Mr. Speaker, if I may interject, it was our intention at least to proceed on this basis, but in view of what has been said by the hon. member may I suggest, if it is

[Mr. Speaker.]

agreeable to the house, that we now proceed with Ontario so that we can complete each one and so that there will not be anything left over for further debate?

Mr. Speaker: I would think it would make for a more orderly discussion if we just stand objection No. 16 rather than begin a discussion on it. If it is the unanimous wish of the House, objection No. 16 will stand.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): As an accommodation to the members from British Columbia I am sure those from Ontario would be glad to do so.

Mr. Chatterton: Do I understand that it will stand until tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: It will stand until this one is completed. I cannot say whether it will be tomorrow, Monday or later. My understanding is there will be agreement between the house leaders in respect of when this particular objection will be called again.

We will now proceed with consideration of Objection No. 7, the text of which may be found at page 8 of the pamphlet.

Proposed Electoral Districts of the Province of Ontario:

That, pursuant to Section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, being chapter 31 of the Statutes of Canada 1964-65, and for the reasons hereinafter specified, consideration be given by this house to the matter of objections to the provisions of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Ontario, laid before the house by Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, the 19th day of January, 1966.

The provisions of the report applying generally throughout the province of Ontario are objected to on the ground that they do not conform, in respect of many electoral districts, with the provisions of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, and the reasons for such objections are as follows:—

1. Throughout the province of Ontario, in proposing new boundaries for electoral districts, the commission has almost completely ignored provincial and municipal electoral boundaries, social and economic ties, patterns of trade and communication, local and regional affinities as well as tradition.

2. The commission has proposed establishment of electoral districts having no physical, social or economic cohesion, and no unity or community of interest, thereby rendering the adequate representation of the people in parliament a virtually impossible task.

3. The commission has ignored the rules specified in Section 13(c) of giving attention to special geographic considerations including the sparsity, density or relative rate of growth of population of various regions of the province, the accessibility of such regions or the size or shape thereof.

4. The commission has ignored serious and thoughtful representations made to it by municipal