

Redistribution

I suggest that the townships located west of the proposed Villeneuve riding and adjacent to the proposed Abitibi riding, near the town of Amos, namely the La Motte, Lacorne, Landrienne, Duvernay, Castagnier and Coigny townships be withdrawn from the proposed Villeneuve riding and transferred to the proposed Abitibi riding, so that the change of population would be roughly the same. This would not change the population of the neighbouring riding very much. The towns of Castagnier, St. Maurice and Landrienne, located in the commercial centre of the town of Amos, would be transferred to the proposed Abitibi riding.

Mr. Speaker, if the commission is willing to study my proposal, I think it will be seen as geographically preferable to the one which is now recommended; it would also meet with the wishes of the population which is requesting the change.

It would also facilitate the work, not only of the present member for Chapleau, but also for those who—I hope it will not be too soon—eventually, will replace him. Besides, it would also prevent confusion.

I therefore ask the commission to study my proposal, and I feel confident it will understand the situation.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): I believe the remarks of the hon. member bring to a close considerations concerning Objection No. 12.

The house having considered this objection, it is my duty, pursuant to section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, to refer the report to the Boundaries Commission, together with a copy of the objection and also a copy of the debates of the house back to the commission for consideration thereof.

We will now take up Objection No. 19 which is recorded at page 34 of the pamphlet you have before you:

On February 17, 1966, notice of objection—

An hon. Member: Dispense.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): The motion before the house deals with the constituency of Dorchester.

[*English*]

Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, may I make in this case the same request that I made in reference to the previous instance of Côte [Mr. Laprise.]

Nord, that is, that this stand following the precedent in the case of the constituency of Trois-Rivières.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Does the house agree to follow, with respect to this objection, the same procedure as for the others?

Objection No. 19 stands.

We shall now carry on with the consideration of objection No. 21, on page 35 in your pamphlet, which was filed on February 17, 1966 with respect to the electoral district of Témiscouata.

I am given to understand that the hon. members of the house could accept the suggestions made by the Parliamentary Secretary (Mr. Stewart) to the effect that we should proceed in the same way as we have done as regards the objections not considered as such at this stage by the hon. members of the house.

Objection No. 21 stands.

Mr. Lambert: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Could I simply ask that the government delegation be present in the house? They are only a small group of six or seven and almost all of them have representations to make. They knew very well what would be the procedure this afternoon; let them come to the house. After all, other members based themselves on the procedure that was to be followed and are doing their work. The procedure was established and there are other members who are not in their seats.

I call on the indulgence and the devotion of the government whip for him to gather government members so that each of them make his own representations.

It is very unfair to others, as we say.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): The house will now consider objection No. 8, on page 35 of the pamphlet, with respect to the electoral constituency of Témiscouata.

I apologize to hon. members; we must now consider the objection dealing with the electoral district of St. Henri.

Proposed Electoral District of St. Henri:

That, pursuant to Section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act (Chapter 31, Statutes of Canada 1964-65) and for the reasons hereinafter