

in Calgary at the last election, Dr. Stewart, would be complaining, or that that very pronounced Conservative journal, the Edmonton 'Journal' would be strongly maintaining these schedules? Would we see these things if any political disadvantage was to be found in the schedules against the interests of my hon. friends opposite?

My hon. friend from Calgary (Mr. M. S. McCarthy) took the responsibility one evening of saying that there was a gerrymander involved in the dividing line selected, the 4th meridian, but it remains for him or any other person to show how the political interests of the Liberals or Conservatives are affected in any way by the selection of that line or could be affected by any other line.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. The fact is, as my hon. friend knows, that two Liberals were elected in the northern part and two Conservatives were elected in the southern part. I made the statement that the line had been moved too far west, further west than the point they adopted when dividing the country two years ago into federal seats. That was done for the purpose of throwing population to the north.

Mr. SCOTT. My hon. friend thinks the line should be placed further east?

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. Yes.

Mr. SCOTT. That would not help his friend in Southern Alberta. The further east the line is put the more Liberals you have. If Alberta had been placed further east in the redistribution two years ago my hon. friend (Mr. Herron) would not be here. I make this proposition to the hon. member for Calgary: He can take the map and divide the country in any way he chooses, he may apply a mathematical rule with regard to area or with regard to population and see what he gets. Or let my hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. R. L. Borden) set the best expert on gerrymander that he has to work on these maps, and I venture to say he cannot produce a map in any manner or shape which will not show a Liberal majority in both provinces. What is the use of charging gerrymander simply because possibly these plans when worked out on last fall's vote show a Liberal majority in these provinces, if my hon. friend cannot produce any map which will not do so? It is not only the northern part that is Liberal, even by last fall's vote. It is true the north gave a Liberal majority of 7,000, but the south also gave a Liberal majority, and the best possible proof that there is no injustice is that in the five south ridings there was a Liberal majority of fully 1,000, but nevertheless our friends opposite have three members to our two. If the lines had not been put just where they were some of our hon. friends opposite would not have been here. If you change Qu'Appelle in

Mr. SCOTT.

almost any conceivable way, take off or add on a range on the east, or take off or add on a range on the west, or take off or add on a line of townships on the north to the district of Qu'Appelle and my hon. friend would not be here. It is the same with regard to the member for Alberta, as I have stated. If he had the whole southern part of Alberta, the province as produced down to the 4th meridian, he would not be here at all. I got a considerably larger majority in the Medicine Hat country in the province of Alberta than the total majority upon which the hon. member sits in this House. I am going to say that, so far as I am concerned, I do not propose to attempt to justify this distribution by the plethora of figures which were produced in the case of the Alberta Bill. I shall not attempt to justify the Saskatchewan schedule on such a basis, in fact I was discouraged at the commencement from going into figures by the action of the hon. member for North Toronto. The Minister of the Interior produced figures with regard to post offices, school districts, local improvement districts and all manner of things, but the hon. member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster) at once said that these were all nonsense and had no bearing on the question, so I shall not attempt to inflict the same figures on the House.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. You had better not.

Mr. SCOTT. I will say this, that there never was a redistribution plan presented in this parliament, or in any provincial parliament in this country, that could be so absolutely justified as that Alberta redistribution was justified by the Minister of the Interior. However, there was a very material difference in the cases of Alberta and Saskatchewan. In the case of Alberta ten seats had to be added to fifteen, and it was necessary to very largely recast the lines of the old districts as they had existed for the purposes of representation in the legislature. In the case of Saskatchewan, on the other hand, we were only compelled to add five to twenty seats, making it a very materially different proposition. Following the general plan which was agreed upon at the outset, of giving incorporated cities a seat, we found it possible, by allowing three of the five to go to the north and two to the south and by putting the two in the south in the two cities of Regina and Moosejaw, to leave the lines as arranged by the legislature three years ago absolutely untouched. There is not a single point of material change in the whole district of Assinibola. I would say to my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle that if we take his word for it, and he has given us his word, that the distribution made by the legislative assembly was as near perfection as it was possible to make it, we will have to come to the conclusion that the greater part of this