

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. I would point to my hon. friend from West Assiniboia, whose figures I did not catch.

Mr. SCOTT. I said that in the two north federal ridings of Edmonton and Strathcona the aggregate vote on the 3rd November last was in the neighbourhood of 11,000, while in the two south federal ridings of Calgary and Alberta the vote was, in round numbers, 9,000.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. My hon. friend has possibly not given the matter as much attention as I have, for I hope he has no desire to mislead the House. He is perfectly well aware that the constituency of Alberta, which is in the south, does not go as far east as the 4th meridian, and the new province of Alberta is now taking in a very large portion of the constituency at present represented by the hon. gentleman. In that portion there are 1,650 votes on the list, which must necessarily go to the south.

Mr. SCOTT. In the Medicine Hat district?

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. Yes; and that would alter his calculation. I simply offer this in explanation, because he possibly did not take it into consideration. I would further point out that a portion of the constituencies of Edmonton and Strathcona run east of the 4th meridian; and in making his calculation, he no doubt included the vote cast in the province of Saskatchewan as it is now. The same remark applies to the constituency of Calgary. It also runs east of the 4th meridian; but in that portion of the constituency east of the 4th meridian there was no poll held at the polling subdivision there, whilst at the poll held at Lloydminster a very considerable vote was cast, as there also was in that portion of the constituency of Edmonton which now is to the east of the 4th meridian. While I have not taken this into consideration, it will be seen from it that Alberta, Medicine Hat and Calgary contain 14,687, and Strathcona and Edmonton 15,263. If you would take these other matters into consideration—the vote in the fifty townships in the constituency of Strathcona and the townships in the constituency of Edmonton—it will be found that my hon. friend's figures are very wide of the mark.

Mr. SCOTT. Would that not leave the north and the south just about even, taking the north line of township 34, which is the dividing line between the two north and south districts?

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. If you take the eleven ridings to the south and leave out Red Deer, and take the eleven ridings immediately to the north of Red Deer up to riding 23, there are 2,222 votes cast in the south, multiply that by five or four, you would arrive at the difference in popula-

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tion between the south and the north, which would be something like 11,000.

Mr. SCOTT. What is my hon. friend taking south of the dividing line?

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. Red Deer. I do not consider that constituency at all, I simply take eleven north and eleven south. You can put Red Deer either to the south or the north.

Mr. SCOTT. What reason have you for taking that as the dividing line? Why not take a line that would run through Edmonton?

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. That is line 38, and Red Deer is practically at line 38.

Mr. SCOTT. What justification have you for taking line 38?

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. None at all. I do not care which you take, but you mentioned line 38 a while ago, and it will work out the same. In leaving out Red Deer I am neither discriminating against the north or the south. If you choose to go through the constituency of Red Deer and take out the polling subdivisions which run north and south of it and take the names out from the list and see how many are in the south and north, you would get at the exact figures. The illustration the hon. gentleman gave is hardly fair, having regard to the fact that there are about 1,650 more names in Medicine Hat and that Strathcona and Edmonton run east of the 4th meridian.

Mr. SCOTT. I would ask what greater right the hon. member has to fix the 38th line of townships than I have to fix the 34th line of townships? Why fix an arbitrary dividing line between the south and the north of this province? Or if that is to be done, why not trace a line through the centre of the province? If we would do that, we would find that practically the whole of the population would be in the southern part.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Then, why does not the hon. gentleman fix the capital at Peace River?

Mr. SCOTT. I am satisfied. I would not complain if it were fixed at Red Deer.

Mr. HERRON. One good reason why the capital should not be placed at Edmonton is that at present the population does not extend a great distance north of that place. It extends south to the boundary, about 350 miles by the most direct way of travel. One travelling from the Crow's Nest Pass, for instance, would have to make a three-day's journey by rail. The journey from Cardston by rail would be about as long. If the capital were fixed at Calgary it would be the most convenient point for all parts of the province. The people of the southern country certainly protest against having the capital placed at Edmonton.