

provinces should be divided into constituencies. There was a delimitation made of Alberta, and then principles were sought upon which to base that distribution. There was a delimitation of Saskatchewan and entirely different principles are invoked to support it. It seems obvious that in each case the redistribution was made first and the principles to justify it sought afterwards.

Mr. LAMONT. The hon. member for Qu'Appelle (Mr. Lake) has submitted to this House a mass of statistics which, perhaps, have satisfied his mind that he has a grievance against this redistribution. He has made a number of comparisons in order to show that the schedule submitted by the government works an injustice to the south as against the north. He does not complain that the government has made a gerrymander in the ordinary sense of the word—that is, that it has hived the Conservatives in the north in order to enable the surrounding districts to return Liberals. His whole complaint is against the representation given to the north as against that given to the south. And he has, as has already been stated, submitted a schedule of his own under which two seats which are given to the north according to the government schedule are taken away from the north and given to the south.

Now, let us see where we stand in this matter and what are the conditions fronting us as a committee in distributing the districts of the province of Saskatchewan. We find that the Northwest Territories are divided into two provinces, the dividing line being the 4th meridian. In the province of Saskatchewan, there were, according to the territorial redistribution, twenty seats out of thirty-five in the territorial legislature. And we also find that, according to this Bill, we are to give twenty-five seats to the new province of Saskatchewan. So, the task before us is to divide the province of Saskatchewan in such a way that it will have twenty-five seats distributed as fairly as possible. My hon. friend (Mr. Lake) has made his comparisons as between the north and the south, and he has taken as his dividing line the line between the old districts of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Now, I propose to make several comparisons between the north and the south, but I do not propose to follow the line heretofore followed and take the district of Saskatchewan as the north and the district of Assiniboia as the south. It seems to me that that is a most unfair way to divide the two districts into north and south. I am going on another basis. I find that in the Haultain redistribution of 1902 there were twenty seats in the new province of Saskatchewan. My hon. friend from Qu'Appelle (Mr. Lake) and the hon. member from Calgary (Mr. M. S. McCarthy) have

Mr. R. L. BORDEN.

stated to this committee that the Haultain redistribution of 1902 was absolutely fair and just. Well, I am prepared to take it as a basis. I will take the ten southern seats according to that redistribution and the ten northern seats, and then I will endeavour to ascertain into which of these districts—the ten northern seats or the ten southern seats—we ought to put a majority of the new seats which are to be given to the province of Saskatchewan. We have five new seats to be added to the twenty under the Haultain redistribution, and the question, to my mind, is where should these seats be put in order to make a fair distribution. Now, if the ten northern seats show a vastly greater increase in population than do the ten southern seats, it is reasonable that the majority of the five should go to the north. If the ten southern seats show the greater increase of population, the bulk of the five seats should go to the south. The ten southern seats are as follows: Souris, Cannington, Moosomin, Whitewood, Grenfell, Wolseley, South Qu'Appelle, South Regina, Moosejaw, and Maple Creek. I call these the ten southern seats for the following reason: They are the ten seats which touch the southern boundary line of the new province or are the nearest to it according to the Haultain distribution. They correspond practically to the three southern seats of the federal redistribution of two years ago. Maple Creek, Moosejaw and South Regina are in the district represented by my hon. friend from Western Assiniboia (Mr. Scott). The other districts correspond very closely to the district represented by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle (Mr. Lake) and the hon. member for East Assiniboia (Mr. Turriff). The ten northern seats correspond very closely to the northern seats as laid down by the federal redistribution. Whatever difference there may be is in favour of the south. I find the actual difference to be that there are 124 townships which should belong to the north that are included in the south in the eastern part of the territory, and 264 townships that should belong to the south are included in the north in the western part of the territory. So that there are 140 townships, according to that calculation in favour of the south. Now then the question is, do these ten southern districts show a larger increase of population since the Haultain redistribution than the ten northern seats. I have based my calculation upon the census population of 1901 and upon the homestead entries since, for notwithstanding what my hon. friend for Qu'Appelle (Mr. Lake) may say, it does seem to me that the homestead entries form one of the soundest bases on which to calculate population. Have there been more homestead entries since 1901 in the ten northern than in the 10 southern districts? I find the following: