

the swearing in of the new minister the Conservative party was called upon to contest his election in that district. Next what do we find? The statement was made in this House by the Minister of Justice last night, in reply to a question from this side with respect to voters lists in the Territories, that the Territories did not issue any printed voters' lists. Will he make that statement again? I pause for a reply. He will not answer because he cannot deny that the statement he made last night was not a correct one.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Will the hon. gentleman quote from 'Hansard' what I did say?

Mr. INGRAM. He said that the laws of the Territories did not provide for printed lists.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Will he be good enough to quote from 'Hansard' and point out to me where I am wrong?

Mr. INGRAM. I want to say to the hon. minister that there has been a voters' list printed for the Northwest Territories, to be used in the contest recently held in the district of Edmonton, and I charge the government with having withheld those voters' lists from the Conservative party. By whose order were these lists printed and by whose order were they withheld from the Conservatives? I ask the Minister of the Interior now: were there any voters' lists sent to the Conservative party either in this House or the country? No, Sir, they cannot point to a single individual of the Conservative party who was given these lists. Is it not remarkable that here we have a government with 82 enumerators, paid at the rate of \$8 a day, whose duty it is to make voters' lists for the Territories, and yet they had not sufficient time to prepare them, and consequently the government Printing Bureau was called in to print those lists. The enumerators were taking part in this contest in the district of Edmonton and were too busy to do their duty in preparing these lists. I call upon the hon. gentleman who contested that seat recently to say whether or not any Conservative candidate, or other persons representing the Conservative party in Edmonton, were furnished with any voters' lists.

Mr. SCOTT. There was no candidate.

Mr. INGRAM. The hon. gentleman must remember that, according to the usual courtesy extended to defeated candidates in every other part of the Dominion, they are provided with voters' lists. Why should an exception have been made with respect to the defeated candidate in that district?

Mr. SCOTT. Does the hon. member allege that there were printed voters' lists?

Mr. INGRAM. Yes, and I can produce them if necessary. I hold them in my

hand. Yet the Minister of Justice says that the law in the Territories did not require or demand these lists. I would like to know whether the Minister of Justice, or the Secretary of State or the Finance Minister, will tell us by whose orders these lists were printed at the Government Printing Bureau; and I want to point out to these gentlemen that before this session closes we will insist on having an answer to that question. Again we had 82 deputy returning officers in this contest who were all ready to take part in that election. The government did not wait to see whether there was a candidate in the field or not, because the law requires that they should be appointed to do their duty irrespective of that fact. There were also 82 constables and 82 polling clerks, all taking an active interest in that election, yet the Conservative party are told that they had not the courage to go up in ten days into this district, comprising 426 miles by 210 miles, to contest this cut and dried election, in which the lists were withheld from them. In fact the hands of the Conservative party were tied behind their back, whereas in every direction Liberals were working in order to avail themselves of this undue advantage over the Conservative party, and thus endeavour to show that public opinion in the Territories was being put to the test in connection with the school question, and the Conservative party had not the moral courage to take any part in the contest.

Now, I must refer to the complexion of this constituency. It is only a due acknowledgment of my hon. friend from Western Assiniboia (Mr. Scott) to say that had he been appointed Minister of the Interior and his constituency thus open, a reasonable defence could not have been offered by the Conservative party had they failed to go into that constituency and test public opinion on this question. But, as I have said, the hon. member for Western Assiniboia, was cast aside at the eleventh hour and the hon. member for Edmonton (Mr. Oliver) was chosen. He was chosen because of the complexion of his constituency, its size, the insufficiency of railway communication and other conditions favourable to the hon. gentleman and to the existing government in the contest. I said I would speak of the complexion of this constituency. And I do this because the fact that this constituency elected the new Minister of the Interior is brought forward as a proof that the people of the Northwest are satisfied with this legislation. The following are the facts concerning the constituency of Edmonton by the census of 1901:

The sum totals of the nationalities specified in this as here given equals 20,487. The total of population equals 20,751. The difference, 264, is scattered among nationalities not specified in this. The sum totals of the religions specified in this equals 19,912. The total population equals 30,751. The difference, 839, is scattered among religions not specified in this.