

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The Prime Minister thought he might be able to ascertain the number of pupils in the schools, distinguishing between the white, the half-breed and the Indian pupils, if there were any.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I understand from the gentleman here that it is impossible to get that, as there is no record kept of it. I will send over to the hon. gentleman a telegram that has been received.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I am at liberty to read this?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Of course.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (reading):

Schools, Athabaska, and attendance last year: St. Bernard's Mission, 2 schools, 46; Isle à la Crosse, 23; Heart River, 25; Vermilion and Fort Vermilion, St. Henri and Irene, training school, 43; Fort Chippewan, 2 schools, 37; Lesser Slave Lake, 40.

There is no information as to what part of the telegram:

Eleven schools, 214 pupils. Above details only take into account the schools to which grants were made last year.

There is no information as to what schools, if any, exist outside of these?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. None that I know of.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I trust that I am not putting the matter unfairly when I say that as we had no information from voters' lists, or as to the number of those who voted in this district, we might have had a little more information of this character. I would have thought that the government could easily have procured it. My hon. friend the Minister of the Interior did not even take the trouble to put his information in writing. We had to depend upon a casual conversation. I would have thought that if reliance was intended to be placed upon the statement made by the gentleman from the west, the hon. minister might very well have got that gentleman to put it in writing, and to state the sources of his information, so that we would have had something definite before the House. Am I to understand from my hon. friend the Minister of Justice that this is absolutely all the information we can get about the schools?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I know absolutely nothing about what has occurred. The telegram which I have just passed over to the hon. leader of the opposition was handed to me by a gentleman who received it from Mr. Cory. The nature of the telegram to which this is an answer I know nothing of.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The Prime Minister suggested that we might make some progress by going into the schedules. I would not like to have the schedules disposed of

Mr. FITZPATRICK.

to-night on account of the absence of the hon. member for Calgary (Mr. M. S. McCarthy), who was obliged to go to Toronto. I think we might dispose of the amendment and then take up the schedules, and I would like an opportunity of putting a few questions with regard to them so that the information may be available in a further debate on Monday. Of course I do not want the Minister of Justice to understand that we might not offer another amendment.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Of course not.

Amendment (Mr. R. L. Borden) negatived, on division.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Now I would like to know the area of division No. 1, Medicine Hat, and what proportion of rural and what proportion of town population there is in it?

Mr. OLIVER. The area can be found by the map.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I thought perhaps the Minister of the Interior or some official had this information already tabulated.

Mr. OLIVER. No.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Well, it might be more convenient for me to state exactly what I would like to know, so that the information may be prepared between this and Monday. If the hon. gentleman could get it completed before to-morrow night and let me have a copy of it, it would facilitate our work for Monday. I would like to know, first, the area of each electoral division; second, the proportion of town population and rural population.

Mr. OLIVER. How would the hon. gentleman define a town?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. We have been using the terms 'town population' and 'rural population' in this debate I would be inclined to adopt the standard of the Minister of the Interior, if he would tell me what it is.

Mr. OLIVER. There is a village incorporation, a town incorporation and a city incorporation.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. In the third place, I would like an estimate of the population of each constituency as on the 1st of July, 1905, with a statement so far as possible of the sources of information upon which estimate is based. I assume for the most part it will be the voting lists, and perhaps there may have been a census of some of these towns. If there are any other sources of information I would be much obliged if the hon. gentleman would indicate them. Now with regard to the Peace River district and the Athabaska district, which we have discussed pretty fully, what I have stated already applies to them as well. I would like, if possible, to get