

(e) That portion of the provisional district of Assiniboia included within the limits of the province of Alberta and not included in any of the federal electoral districts above mentioned shall return one member.

(f) That portion of the unorganized territory of Athabaska which lies west of the 4th meridian shall return one member.

(4) Where under the foregoing provisions any federal electoral district is to be divided into more than one provincial electoral division such division shall be made by a board of commissioners consisting of at least three persons resident in the said province and being judges of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories, who shall for that purpose be appointed by letters patent under the great seal immediately after the coming into force of this Act, and who shall divide each of such federal electoral districts into the number of electoral divisions in this Act assigned to it.

The letters patent appointing the commissioners shall require the commissioners, in making the divisions, to have due regard to the distribution of population, the public convenience, the existing local divisions and such other considerations as appear to them best calculated to do substantial justice.

In case of the death or resignation or refusal of any one or more of such commissioners to act, a successor or successors shall in like manner be appointed; and in the event of there being no resident judge or judges available any judge or judges of the said Supreme Court may be appointed such successor or successors.

Within a time to be limited by the said letters patent the commissioners shall complete such divisions and report the same to the Lieutenant Governor of the said province, setting forth in such report the boundaries of the electoral divisions to which such report refers, and the ranges, townships and sections comprised therein, and shall assign an appropriate designation to each electoral division. Upon receipt by the Lieutenant Governor of the said province of the report of the commissioners completing the divisions aforesaid, the respective territories described as constituting the respective electoral divisions into which the said federal electoral districts shall have been divided as aforesaid, shall become and be electoral divisions of the said province as if the same had been so set apart and established as such by this Act.

The commissioners shall also within the said time limited forward a duplicate of their said report to the Secretary of State.

The said report and the said duplicate thereof shall be signed by the commissioners, or in case of a disagreement, by a majority of them, and the report of the majority of the commissioners shall be the report of the commissioners.

The said report shall be published in the 'Canada Gazette,' and in the official gazette of the said province forthwith after the receipt thereof.

The commissioners may frame rules and orders for regulating the conduct of their proceedings and generally for carrying into effect the provisions thereof.

The letters patent appointing said commissioners shall confer upon them the power of summoning witnesses before them and of requiring such witnesses to give evidence on oath, oral or in writing, or on solemn affirmation (if they are persons entitled to affirm in civil matters) and to produce such documents and things as the commissioners may deem re-

quisite to the full investigation of the matters into which they are appointed to inquire, and the commissioners shall have the same power and authority to enforce the attendance of witnesses and to compel them to give evidence as is vested in the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories in civil cases.

Mr. AMES. I desire very briefly to lay before the House the reason we have thought it desirable to offer to the government the suggestions that are contained in this amendment. We think these suggestions are very fair, and I place them before the government in the hope that the government may accept them. Since I spoke on Tuesday night the figures have been handed down on both sides. We have each made our independent calculations and a comparison between these calculations is now rendered possible. It is in consequence easy for us to arrive at what may be the basis of our calculation. If the First Minister will be good enough to follow me for just a moment I think I can make clear the purpose of this amendment. The calculations that were made by the government as to the number of votes polled on the 3rd of November last for the eleven constituencies south of Red Deer, gives 10,566 votes polled; the calculations which the opposition made from the same sources of information but by independent action, gives the number of votes polled in these eleven southern constituencies as 10,701. The discrepancy between the two is but 135 votes; the government gives 135 less votes in these southern constituencies than the opposition make out—regarding Red Deer as neutral and therefore omitted. In this calculation at least both sides are practically in agreement. As to the eleven northern constituencies, the government figures give 9,553 votes and the opposition figures give 9,259. The government figures give 294 to the north in excess of what the figures give. We are prepared to accept the government figures in the case of Red Deer, namely 843 as the number of votes polled in that constituency. The total number of votes polled in the twenty-three constituencies according to the government figures is 20,962, while the total number polled according to the opposition figures is 20,663, a difference of about 300. Probably both calculations are slightly in error, because it has been an exceedingly difficult task to take out the electors range by range and section by section and put them on the proper side of the line. We may agree I think upon admitting in a general way that the eleven southern constituencies polled 10,600 votes and the eleven northern constituencies 9,400 or 20,000 in all with Red Deer omitted. That is the mean between the estimate of the government and the estimate of the opposition, and it is so near to either of these that it is practically safe for calculation.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. You are speaking of the votes polled?