

sentative. The two divisions together, according to the census of 1901, have a population of 209 whites and 1,501 half-breeds.

This distribution I regard it as a piece of political trickery, which is unworthy of this administration or of the gentlemen who are bringing it in. That is all I have to say about it at present, but I will have something to say on the third reading. To give one representative to a population of that kind is to give them four times the representation in the legislature which the electors in any other part of the riding would have. That would be bad and outrageous enough, but to do what is proposed by this Bill, in the face of what has been admitted here, is one of the most outrageous attempts at gerrymandering ever perpetrated in any country, not even excepting the United States of America. It is just as well that we should call this by its proper name. According to the statement of the Minister of the Interior and of the Prime Minister, according to the estimate given by both these gentlemen of the population of this particular division, according to that exaggerated estimate put forward by the Minister of the Interior, which has no other foundation than the casual statement made in conversation by some one from the Northwest—giving them all the advantage of that—you have an estimated population of 5,000 whites and half-breeds for this northern country, as I pointed out before, a basis of representation which gives to 5,000 in this northern country two representatives and to 245,000 people in the rest of the province twenty-three representatives. It is only necessary to state the figures, as they have been stated over and over again in this House, to characterize the attempt which is made by this proposed distribution. I do not think you could find too strong words in the English language to characterize such a distribution.

Mr. SAM HUGHES. What has the Finance Minister to say about it? Has the Minister of Justice no word to say about the policy or the Minister of the Interior?

Mr. OLIVER. We have talked a week on this subject. I have said all I have to say, and my hon. friend the leader of the opposition says he has said all he has to say—

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. At present.

Mr. OLIVER. It will be better to leave further discussion until we can put ourselves on record by our vote on the third reading. I have no hesitation in justifying, from every point of view of public policy, the proposal submitted. The strong language used by the hon. the leader of the opposition, which is not customary to him, is used under misapprehension of the case. I do not think he realizes the work which falls to the local members in their duties

of representing constituencies, or he would not have expressed himself as he has done.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. There are four constituencies not disposed of, and we might arrange to have their boundaries accepted.

Mr. OLIVER. I do not wish to trespass on the time of the House, but I would suggest a change which I consider satisfactory. The town of Olds is on the boundary line between Rosebud and Innisfail. While that is the old boundary, it must be recognized that the town has increased in population, and the purpose of the revision is to consider local interests. The dividing line has been retained where it is because we wanted to make the division as equitable with regard to population as possible, but now that we have decided our general plan I would be very glad, out of consideration for the views of the people interested, to move that the boundary line between Rosebud and Innisfail be the line between townships 33 and 34—that is allowing the boundary six miles north of Olds, which will give them that advantage over what they have at present. I move that the boundary line between Rosebud and Olds be the township line between townships 33 and 34, and that the boundary between Banff and Rosebud be the line between townships 29 and 30, in ranges 4, 5, 6 and 7; and that the line then run north between ranges 7 and 8. The southern boundary of Innisfail would be shifted a township north to correspond with this proposal.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. How far west would you take Rosebud?

Mr. OLIVER. On the west side of range 7.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. Why not remove the north line of Gleichen to the north line of township 38?

Mr. OLIVER. If my hon. friend from Calgary will move that I will agree to it.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. I move that the dividing line between the constituencies of Gleichen and Rosebud be the line between townships 28 and 29.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I understand that we have agreed to alter the boundaries of Gleichen, Banff, Rosebud and Innisfail—that the line between Rosebud and Gleichen be extended westward to the British Columbia boundary and six miles north of the present division. The Rosebud northern boundary goes six miles north and the Innisfail northern boundary remains as it is.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. My suggestion was that the line between Gleichen and Rosebud be moved twelve miles north—that is two townships. I understand that the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) objects to that?