

vince the committee they are not. In 1902 there was an examination of teachers in various parts of the Northwest Territories. In the town of Strathcona 29 teachers were examined and got certificates, and in the city of Edmonton 25, making a total of 54. In the city of Calgary there were 9 teachers granted certificates and in the town of Lethbridge 7, making a total of 16. At Red Deer, which I have not counted as either north or south, there were 9 teachers who received certificates. In 1903 we had examinations held in some other places. In Strathcona town there were 19 teachers examined and granted certificates, in Edmonton 22 and in the town of Lacombe 8, making a total of 49. In the south we had in Medicine Hat 9, Lethbridge 6 and Calgary 30, making a total of 45. Then again we had teachers' conventions held in several towns in the Northwest in the year 1902. There was a teachers' convention held in Calgary and 30 teachers attended. There was a teachers' convention held at Red Deer, which is located about centrally between the two, and there were 31 teachers present. There was a teachers' convention at Strathcona and there were 98 teachers present. Next year the teachers held conventions in different places. At Lethbridge, in 1903, there were 19 teachers present, Banff 23, Calgary 49, Innisfail 14, making a total of 105 teachers attending conventions south of Red Deer. In Red Deer alone there were 18. But leaving that out, as it is a central point, I will say that at the town of Lacombe there were 24 and at Edmonton 94, making a total of 118 teachers attending conventions north of Red Deer as against 105 attending south of Red Deer. There is no doubt we have more teachers north of Red Deer than to the south. Yesterday, last night and again today, I think on five or six occasions, speakers on the other side have held out to us as a model division that which was made by the local legislature of the Northwest Territories in 1902, and I want to show to the hon. members opposite especially what kind of a distribution that was, and to ask them if they think it was a fair one. In 1902, just before the election—the election was held in May, 1902, and it was in April that this distribution was made—there were 6 constituencies north of the town of Red Deer, 8 constituencies in the old district of Alberta, and since has been added the Medicine Hat district, making 9 constituencies south—6 constituencies north of Red Deer and 9 constituencies south of Red Deer.

Now, I want to give you the vote that was polled at the election immediately after that. In the districts north of Red Deer, Lacombe had 871 votes; Strathcona 645 votes; St. Albert 695 votes; Victoria 641 votes; Edmonton 801 votes. In Wetaskiwin, one of the largest and most thickly settled districts in the Northwest, the member was elected by acclamation and there was no vote, but the vote there would certainly be

larger than in any of the others. The total was 3,653 votes for the five constituencies, and remember there was one by acclamation. It would be fair to put Wetaskiwin the same as Lacombe; each constituency is six townships wide, and any one from the west will agree with me that the Wetaskiwin district is certainly more thickly settled. In the districts south of Red Deer, the district of Banff had 364 votes; East Calgary 784; West Calgary 621; Cardston 285; High River 285; Innisfail 359; Lethbridge 489; Macleod 676; Medicine Hat 671, making a total of 3,877 votes for the nine constituencies south, while the five constituencies north polled 3,653. The average vote polled for each constituency in the north was 730, while the average vote polled in each constituency in the south was 430. And that is the distribution that our friends on the other side of the House hold out as a model.

Mr. HERRON. Will you explain to the House the cause of the small vote in the south at the last election? Do you remember the floods in southern Alberta on the day of the election?

Mr. PETER TALBOT. Were there no floods in the north?

Mr. HERRON. Not the same.

Mr. PETER TALBOT. Oh, my dear man, I was forced to walk the day of the election eighteen miles because the railroad was swept away.

Mr. HERRON. This government granted \$500,000 to repair bridges that were swept out mostly in the southern district on the very day of the election.

Mr. LAKE. Where does my hon. friend (Mr. Talbot) get these figures?

Mr. HERRON. From Magurn's Parliament Guide.

Mr. LAKE. I have the figures from the Northwest government, which I think are official, and they do not correspond with your figures in several particulars.

Mr. PETER TALBOT. I do not wish to make any statement that is not correct, and I will be glad to compare the figures in the guide with your figures.

Mr. INGRAM. Will the hon. gentleman give the names on the voters' lists for the nine constituencies south and the six constituencies north?

Mr. PETER TALBOT. I have not got that information, but I will explain how the names are put on our voters' lists. The hon. member for Calgary and another hon. member opposite tried to convey the impression that as more votes were polled in some divisions that there were on the voters' lists, and that as he alleged that occurred in the north especially, there was something crooked about the last election.