

right or show us where we are wrong, or intimate to us very quickly that no matter what we show they are prepared to go on and put this thing through roughshod over the wishes of the people of that country. Now, if we take the votes on the list, 2,222 more in the 11 southern ridings than in the 11 northern ridings, and multiply them by whatever figure you please—the figure usually taken is 5—you will observe that there is an additional population in the south of five times 2,222, which would be 11,110 more population in the south, which gets the smaller share of the representation. I want to point out another thing. The Minister of the Interior has stated that the surest guide is the vote that was polled, not the vote on the list. No doubt he considers that the surest guide, because it would result a little in his favour, and because, as I think I can point out, in the northern country in some polls a larger number of votes were cast than the number of names on the list, corroborating very strongly the suggestion that was made, that half-breeds came down from Athabaska and Saskatchewan to vote in the Edmonton riding. If any person examines the figures, he will find that in most of the northern ridings, where the foreign population predominates, a larger percentage of the vote was polled, showing the influence of the government official. If he looks at the ranching district, he will find that in some cases there was no vote polled at all, which is explained by the fact that an order issued by the Department of Agriculture last fall compelled all the ranchers south of township 34 to dip their cattle for the mange about the time of the election. The order expired on the 1st of November, but was extended for a week or ten days, and if they did not comply with the conditions their cattle would be sold or dipped and the cost charged to them. The result was that a very small vote was polled in the ranching country. The ranchers had to choose between saving their country and saving their cattle, and they preferred apparently to take the latter course. The argument that the influx of population has been to the north can, I think, be met by an examination of the homestead entries. The Minister of the Interior has intimated that township 38 is a fair line. Well, we find that north of township 38 there is the land district of Edmonton and half of the land district of Red Deer, while south of township 38 there is the other half of the Red Deer land district, the agency of Calgary, the agency at Lethbridge and a very small portion of the land agency of Battleford; but from the map issued on the 1st of January, 1905, showing the townships which are ready for settlement and those which are not, it will be seen that there is practically no settlement in that part, so that, in making up the calculation, I have left it out entirely. The thick settlement is in the Barr colony, which is east of the 104th meri-

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dian. I have the voters' list, which will demonstrate that. I find that in 1902-3 there were 6,614 homestead entries north of township 38, equalling 48 per cent; while south of township 38 there were 7,744 homestead entries, equalling 52 per cent. In 1904 there were 3,327 entries north of township 38, equalling 40 per cent, and 5,284 south of township 38, equalling 60 per cent. The total for the three years was 9,941, or 43 per cent north of township 38, and 13,028, or 56 per cent or 57 per cent, south of township 38. If you take an increase of four persons, or three, or two—it does not matter, it is no discrimination against the north to do so—and multiply that by the difference in the homestead entries, you will find a difference in favour of the south of 12,348 people in the last three years; and this is only so far as the rural population is concerned. Yet south of that township only two and a fraction seats are added, while north of it seven and a fraction are added, turning the local divisions upside down in the very teeth of the homestead entries; and this is called fair. Now, there are just two things that I want to point out while dealing with the homestead entries. The first is the point that was mentioned by the Minister of the Interior, that is, that the great majority of those people had no votes in the last election; so that when you are carving up the country on the basis of the voters' list, you are discriminating against the south. The south is suffering more thereby on his own argument. Another point I wish to emphasize is that we have a condition of affairs in the south which they have not in the north. We have two large irrigation schemes there. The Canadian Pacific Railway irrigation block near Calgary contains 3,000,000 acres, of which there have been sold, although it has only recently been put on the market, over 400,000 acres. There is half a million acres now on the market. Down in the riding of Lethbridge you have the Great Northwestern Irrigation Company, with about a million and a half acres, cut up into 40-acre holdings. None of the results from these two large irrigation blocks appear in these figures giving the homestead entries, which would make a contrast in favour of the south in the matter of population which would be startling. They talk about the northern country, about cutting up this constituency to satisfy the northern country; they will tell you that a population the grand prairie and Peace river districts will sustain. But that is only about 700,000 acres, hardly one-quarter of the Canadian Pacific Railway irrigation block at Calgary.

I want to point out that, as the hon. member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster) has truly said, when you take homestead entries you do not always find actual settlers. And where would hon. gentlemen expect that the speculative homestead entries would be, in a country where two railways are being built, or down in a country which