

lation of Calgary is supposed to be at the present time.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. 9,175 according to Wagborne Guide of February, 1905.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Roughly speaking 10,000 people.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. More than that now. You have the city of Calgary entitled to be represented by one member in the legislature and have at the outside estimate—an estimate that I do not believe to be correct, that I believe to be beyond the mark—a population of 5,000 in the north sending two representatives. Two thousand five hundred in the north send one representative to the legislature of the new province, and 10,000 people in the city of Calgary send one representative to the legislature of the new province. I am only using the city of Calgary for comparison. The same illustration would be true of Edmonton, Strathcona, High River and a great many constituencies which are delimited in this schedule and once more I ask my right hon. friend to take this view of the situation into his calm consideration and to say whether, having regard to the sense of justice which he must possess, he can deem it right to adopt a delimitation which brings about the results to which I have just referred.

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Chairman, while I am afraid the House is not to be congratulated on the fact that the debate on this question is being continued—

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. If my hon. friend (Mr. Oliver) will pardon me I intended to move an amendment. I do not think I need read it. I have already handed a copy to 'Hansard' and handed a copy also to my right hon. friend the Prime Minister, so that I will content myself by handing it to the clerk.

Mr. OLIVER. While the House has rather to be sympathized with for having to listen to a continuation of this debate and to a repetition of statements and figures which are more or less open to discussion it is to be congratulated on the change of tone which has taken place since Tuesday last. I think the moderate presentation of the amendment which has been placed before the House is in very favourable contrast to the very immoderate presentation and support of the amendment placed before the House on Tuesday last. It will be observed that our friends who are opposing the distribution are climbing down at the rate of about one a day. When they proposed their amendment on Tuesday last they claimed an inequality of distribution as between 15 and 10, and now the inequality claimed by the amendment placed before the committee is an inequality of one. A climb down of four in four days debate, is not bad and we hope that the present day's debate will result in

a climb down to the natural and proper level which is contained in the Bill. My hon. friend, the leader of the opposition, in reply to myself last night, rejected the instance that I had given of differences in the populations of different constituencies in the east on the ground that these differences arose or were occasioned by reason of limitations, not connected with population, such as county boundaries and other matters. I certainly agree that that is the case and I find no fault with it. It is a condition which prevails all over the Dominion, which has always prevailed and, I presume, must always prevail if the community of interests and the well being of the people are to be considered as well as their mere numbers in the distribution of constituencies. If there ever was a case in which the original delimitation equal to county boundaries should be considered it is this case in which we are including the western part of the district of Athabaska in the new province of Alberta. South of the line of Athabaska the new province has been under territorial organization for some twenty or twenty-five or possibly thirty years. It has been represented in this House for some 18 years. It has a complete system of provincial government, of organization, of everything that goes with provincial government and organization as far as local conditions are concerned. As has been said by my hon. friend, the leader of the opposition, the country north of that line has had no representative in either House. It has been an entirely unorganized territory. Judging by comparison with conditions in these eastern provinces, conditions where everybody admits must be submitted to and observed, except, I believe, the hon. member for Brantford (Mr. Cockshutt) who objects to them entirely, if ever there was a condition which should be observed in setting apart constituencies it is that condition when we are bringing into a new province, an hitherto unorganized district of greater area than the rest of the new province. Surely, that is a condition which is worthy of special consideration. Surely it relieves us from the necessity of making our distribution by forming a checkerboard and dropping it down upon the country. If ever there was a time when special conditions demanded special consideration it is at the time of the introduction of the district of Athabaska into the new province of Alberta. Is there a disparity of population? My hon. friend, the leader of the opposition, does not accept the statement which I have placed before the House as the best information I could give at the time.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I said that I did not think there was sufficient information to justify the hon. minister in coming to that conclusion, but that I had no doubt he had come to that conclusion. I went on to say then that even if he accepted it there was