

the Territories also. The additions to the population estimated by the immigration commissioner are as follows, for the Territories I have mentioned: April 1, 1901 to July 1, 1901, 12,213; fiscal year 1901-2, 44,070—

Mr. BARKER. Could the hon. gentleman divide these figures over Alberta, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I cannot do that.

Mr. BARKER. Is it not possible to know the increase in the several parts?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. It may be possible to know, but I have not got it. I will make inquiries and will be able to tell my hon. friend to-morrow. In the meantime I will give the general information: Fiscal year 1901-2, 44,070; fiscal year 1902-3, 79,357; fiscal year 1903-4, 75,042; July 1st, 1904 to May 1st 1905, 53,500.

Then I have this note, which has been handed to me: 'To which number may be added for estimate of immigration during May and June, 25,000.' I understood that my hon. friend would like to know how this increase is apportioned over Alberta, Saskatchewan and Assiniboia. I will endeavour to obtain that.

Mr. TURRIFF. I may say that in the last couple of years no doubt a larger proportion of population has gone into the province of Saskatchewan than into the province of Alberta. That is to be accounted for by the fact that there is a large area of open prairie in the northern part of the province of Saskatchewan through which railways are now being constructed—two branches of the Canadian Northern and the North Western Manitoba branch of the Canada Pacific Railway; and in addition a large number of settlers have taken up land where it is supposed the Grand Trunk Railway will cross, somewhere to the south of these other lines. There is no doubt that as soon as these railways cross the dividing line between the two provinces, the increased settlement will be in the direction of Alberta; and there is this further to be borne in mind, that one great portion of the new province of Alberta is not yet available at all for settlement, that is the great stretch of country running some 400 miles northwest of Edmonton towards the Peace river country. During the last three or four years there have been hundreds of inquiries of the Department of the Interior for information about that country and I know that until a year or so ago at all events the department discouraged people from going so far away from settlement and survey. But as soon as that country is opened up by survey and the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific, there is no doubt that the bulk of the immigration for some years will go to Alberta, and will quite even up the excess now going to Saskatchewan. As near as I can judge,

from my knowledge of the two proposed provinces, they have as equal a population-carrying capacity, when you take into consideration the Peace River country, as it is possible to provide for by dividing the country into two. While at the present time more people may be going into Saskatchewan, I think in five years matters will be just about evened up. As to the remarks that were made by my hon. friend for Alberta (Mr. Herron) about ranching, there is no doubt that there may be some little difficulty, but I do not think it will be a serious one. You cannot run a line anywhere to divide these two provinces that will put all ranching facilities on one side and none on the other. I lived in that country for twenty years and I represented the most easterly district of the Northwest, that adjoining the province of Manitoba, and even in my district, within fifty miles of the boundary line of the province of Manitoba, there are a number of men who make their living altogether from ranching and have done so for the last twenty years; and while no doubt, as the hon. gentleman has pointed out, cattle have to be housed and fed in winter, they run all summer without being taken care of, and are branded and managed in most cases like the cattle in Alberta. It is coming to be recognized by the best ranchers, even in southern Alberta, that they have to provide fodder for a good proportion of their cattle during the winter. If the boundary line were brought sixty miles further east, as suggested by the hon. member for Calgary (Mr. M. S. McCarthy) it would make a very great difference in the area of those two provinces. Instead of being as now—Alberta with 254,000 square miles and Saskatchewan 250,000—Alberta would have 294,000 and Saskatchewan 210,000.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. Will the hon. gentleman pardon me? I did not mean to run the line due north. I meant to run it to the Saskatchewan river and westward along that stream.

Mr. TURRIFF. That would make a vast difference; but if run sixty miles to the east and due north, it would make the difference I have pointed out. But as it is, it appears to me to be as fair a division as it is possible to make, when you consider the interest of the two provinces and their population-bearing capacity in the future; and it is to the future largely that we are looking. We are not legislating for the new provinces just as they are to-day. Wherever you drew the line, you would have pretty much the same difficulties that you would have in regard to the line proposed. I do not think, however, that they are serious.

Mr. HERRON. How would the hon. gentleman ascertain the value of the cattle running in that ranching country if they were divided between the two provinces? In regard to feeding cattle, you will find 400,000