

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Vermilion, population 1,795, according to last census. Votes registered 1,105; votes recorded 763.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. 8,280 square miles is the area, according to the minister's statement.

Section agreed to.

On schedule, section 16—electoral division of Wetaskiwin.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The area, according to the minister's statement, is 2,448.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. The population, according to the last census, was 3,720. Number of votes registered 1,199; number of votes recorded 857.

Section agreed to.

On schedule, section 17—electoral division of Leduc.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The area, according to the minister's statement, is 1,656 square miles.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. According to last census, the population was 3,450; number of votes registered 1,176; number of votes polled 697.

Section agreed to.

On schedule, section 18—electoral division of Strathcona.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The area of this division, as given by the minister, is 540 square miles.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. The population of Strathcona, according to the last census, is 4,248; number of votes registered, 1,278; votes recorded, 956.

Section agreed to.

On schedule, section 19—electoral division of Stony Plain.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. The government said they were going to change this name. It might be well to call it 'Olivette.'

Mr. OLIVER. The people of the settlement would be anxious to retain the present name.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. Which settlement, the one in the mountain pass?

Mr. OLIVER. All the people of the district. The name is a historic name, and was given because this was the hunting and camping ground of the Stony Indians. The name is no indication of the character of the country. The people have used the name and are anxious to keep it.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Then it should be spelt 'Stoney' and not 'Stony.'

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The area given by the minister is 15,408 square miles.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. The population, according to the last census, is 2,398; votes registered, 706; and votes recorded, 589.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. St. Albert and Stony Plain should be made one district; or, still better, the five northern divisions should be made into three, and one of the members given to Edmonton and Strathcona locality and the other to Calgary and Rosebud.

Mr. W. J. ROCHE. Does this include any portion of Edmonton?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. No; Edmonton is a constituency by itself, according to the plan I have.

Mr. OLIVER. This is an absolutely rural constituency. There is no town or village in it. The population is entirely agricultural; there is no better agricultural section in the Northwest Territories, and the part that is settled is probably more closely settled than almost any other. There are ten school districts in operation in the district and six post offices.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. The population given by the Minister of Justice includes Indians, of course, for there were not many white people there in 1901. There are big Indian reserves there. Would the Minister of Justice (Mr. Fitzpatrick) consent to this idea of taking up the five northern divisions together?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I have to confess my absolute ignorance with regard to this distribution. The Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) and the members for the Northwest know all about it.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. Or think they do. I would most respectfully submit to the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) that it would be well to consider these five constituencies of Stony Plain, St. Albert, Sturgeon, Peace River and Athabaska at once. The five together have a less population than any one of several of the southern ridings. I venture to say that the whole five have less than one-quarter the white population of some of these southern districts. The hon. minister is making five ridings in the north, while a place like Calgary is given only one member. Now that the minister is beginning his ministerial career, I would suggest to him that he should not assume the responsibility of such an act as this.

Mr. OLIVER. I will not go into the discussion with the hon. gentleman (Mr. Sam. Hughes) as to the white population of these districts. But I think that he is entirely wrong in his contention. In this distribution the question whether the population is white or not is not considered. For instance, in the Macleod district the question is not asked as to the proportions