

Let me point out that we do not prepare the voters' lists, as they do in other provinces.

Mr. AMES. May I be allowed one interjection? I did not claim that there was anything crooked in that election. I would like to ask the hon. gentleman not to put it in that way.

Mr. PETER TALBOT. For what other reason was the statement made at all?

Mr. AMES. Because it is true.

Mr. PETER TALBOT. Then why was it not also stated, because it is true, that three instances of that occurred in the district of Calgary, and three instances in the district of Macleod, as well as three instances in the Edmonton district, and one instance of it in Strathcona. I want to explain why a thing like that could occur. The preparation of our voters' lists is entirely different from the system in the other provinces. We are never particular in preparing our lists because we know that a man can vote whether his name was put on the list before polling day or not. Some carelessness was exhibited no doubt by the enumerators, and they omitted several names, but these men came forward on polling day and got their votes as they were entitled to do. The statement that more voted than were on the list before the day of election applies not only to the Edmonton district but also to Calgary and Macleod.

Mr. M. S. McCARTHY. Where did that occur in Calgary?

Mr. PETER TALBOT. In the Calgary district at poll number 14 there were 59 votes polled, while there were only 53 on the list before polling day. You will bear in mind that when a man votes with us his name is put on the list and it need not necessarily be on the list until the day of polling. In the Calgary district, poll number 32, there were 81 votes polled and 64 on the list; in poll number 66 there were 11 votes polled and there were 10 on the list. The first poll I mentioned in Calgary district was in Calgary city, the second poll was at Pine Creek and the third poll was at Kamanaskis. Just one other matter and I am through. It has been stated here that the press in every portion of the Northwest Territories was condemning the government because of this legislation. I quote the following item from the Strathcona 'Plaindealer':

The Calgary papers, particularly the 'Herald,' are in a terrible state of excitement about the distribution of constituencies in Alberta. The fact that thirteen constituencies out of twenty-five are north of Red Deer has caused the 'Herald' to fume and foam in a most extraordinary manner. They consider the arrangement the most iniquitous gerrymander ever perpetrated. They present a map to illustrate their point, and really the appearance of the map proves

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the utter fallacy of their argument. Calgary people seem to imagine that all the immigration of the last five years has been into the south country, whereas as a matter of fact the north country has been filling up at an equal if not greater rate. Calgary's eagerness for capital honours has got away entirely with the prudence and good judgment of the 'Herald.'

Mr. INGRAM. How far is that Strathcona paper published from Edmonton?

Mr. PETER TALBOT. It is published about 200 miles north of Calgary.

Mr. INGRAM. Across the river from Edmonton.

Mr. PETER TALBOT. Yes, it is close to Edmonton. Now, we will see what the Edmonton 'Journal,' a Tory organ has to say on this same thing. It says:

Here is a fine sample of the arguments Calgary is using against the arrangement of the Alberta constituency: While it is possible under the proposed distribution for Edmonton with its 7,000 people to elect at least five members, Calgary with 12,500 can have but two at the outside. Another sentence explains this strange statement. 'Equally outrageous is the gerrymander of St. Albert, Sturgeon, Saskatchewan and Strathcona, all of which corner on Edmonton.' The evident purpose of these statements is to leave the impression that Edmonton is able to exert some mysterious influence over the electors of adjoining constituencies. The constituencies will resent this reflection on their independence. And the adjoining constituencies are as completely separated from this city's influence as if the Saskatchewan river marked the boundary, which it does in the case of Strathcona riding. It is by such poor arguments that the Calgary press hope to affect a change in the arrangements, favourable to the capital hopes of that city.

I do not think it is necessary for me to detain you longer. I have prepared these facts mostly independently, without consulting anybody, and in the main they agree with what has been prepared by other hon. members. I am perfectly satisfied that this division is as just and fair a one as could be made.

Mr. LAKE. Mr. Chairman, before I proceed to take up the real business part of this question, I would like to make a remark with reference to the question of more votes being polled than there were voters on the list. It struck me as a peculiar circumstance that that should have happened in certain cases, and I came across an example of it in a return which was brought down to this House giving the names on the voters' lists in the Northwest. It appeared that in one of the districts, the electoral district of Mackenzie, there were two lists for polling division No. 20. One of them is not signed at all. The other is signed by a man named Bisi J. Bildel. The former is evidently the correct list, and it contains sixty-one names. I was startled by this fact and began to look through the list, and I found that the names were du-