

Mr. FOSTER. From what sources are these figures of population obtained, through the Census Department? Was the department informed of the limits of these districts and asked to give the populations for these districts?

Mr. OLIVER. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. And they made the calculation and gave the figures?

Mr. OLIVER. A map was prepared showing the local constituencies and the Census Department was asked to take that map, compare it with their returns and give us the result, the number of people in each constituency.

Mr. FOSTER. And the minister has that statement from the Census Department?

Mr. OLIVER. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. Will the minister bring that down as one of the items?

Mr. OLIVER. I will bring it.

Mr. FOSTER. That is, I suppose where you would look for it, to make them responsible for the accuracy of it?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. The ministers between them have given us two bases upon which they make the distribution, but the first minister spoke of five or six others. We should like to have these others.

Mr. OLIVER. The definite division of the constituencies is based on the vote actually polled on the 3rd November, as we believe that was the closest and most recent date upon which we could get information we could rely upon. The information with regard to post offices, homestead entries and other matters of that kind was arrived at in order to bear, not upon the question of division of constituencies, but on the question as to whether the bulk of the population was in one end of the country or the other. That information therefore would not have any direct bearing on the propriety of the actual division made, but would be merely corroborative evidence to show whether the trend of population was in this direction or that.

Mr. HAGGART. What is the dividing line?

Mr. OLIVER. The dividing line generally accepted is practically the Red Deer river and the question whether the population was heavier north of that river.

Mr. FOSTER. What did the homestead entries indicate?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I promised that I would give my hon. friend the number of votes registered. I got them from the clerk of the Crown of Chancery:

Sir WILFRID LAURIER.

| | No. of votes. |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Medicine Hat.. . . . | 1,624 |
| Cardston.. . . . | 933 |
| Lethbridge.. . . . | 1,691 |
| Macleod.. . . . | 975 |
| Pincher.. . . . | 1,622 |
| High River.. . . . | 1,622 |
| Banff.. . . . | 922 |
| Calgary city.. . . . | 2,653 |
| Gleichen.. . . . | 1,286 |
| Rosebud.. . . . | 1,187 |
| Innisfail.. . . . | 1,216 |
| Red Deer.. . . . | 1,192 |
| Lacombe.. . . . | 1,174 |
| Ponoka.. . . . | 1,127 |
| Wetaskiwin.. . . . | 1,199 |
| Leduc.. . . . | 1,078 |
| Vermilion.. . . . | 1,105 |
| Strathcona.. . . . | 1,278 |
| Edmonton city.. . . . | 1,701 |
| Stony Plain.. . . . | 766 |

Mr. FOSTER. Why could not that name be changed? It is a very bad name in the heart of an agricultural country.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. There are two names should be changed. Saskatchewan is another. If my hon. friend can suggest a better name than Stony Plain, I have no objection to adopt it.

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| Sturgeon.. . . . | 1,088 |
| St. Albert.. . . . | 965 |
| Saskatchewan.. . . . | 1,382 |

Total, 29,950

Mr. PERLEY. I would like to understand the figures for Peace River and Athabaska. Do they include Indians?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. No.

Mr. PERLEY. In 1901, by the census, there were only 2,637 half-breeds and whites and 262 unspecified there. Now we have the information that there is 3,400 of a population not including the half-breeds, in the half of Athabaska, whereas in the whole there were only 2,637 whites and half-breeds according to the last census.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I shall have this point looked into. The only figures for which I am responsible are the population, the registered votes, and the polled votes. These I got from the officials in charge of the different books.

Mr. FOSTER. You take the number of actual voters and you base your distribution on that. What do you multiply that by to get at the population?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. That is not the way to look at it. Take the votes polled and the votes registered in each constituency, and the average is between 1,100 and 1,200.

Mr. FOSTER. What is the total number of registered votes, the total number of votes cast, and the total population since 1902?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The total number of registered votes is 29,950, the total