

Mr. AMES. Yes. There were then 20,000 votes polled in twenty-two constituencies which would give a quota of 900, which quota I think will be accepted by both sides of the House. As to the eleven southern constituencies the figures given by the government and the figures given by the opposition are almost agreed. The southern constituencies cast 10,600 votes and they should therefore be entitled not to eleven representatives but to twelve representatives. The eleven northern constituencies cast 9,400 votes and they should not be entitled to eleven representatives but only to a little over ten. There is one representative too few in the southern constituencies on the basis of the number of votes polled; the south instead of having eleven should have twelve representatives.

Now let us take the names on the voters' lists. In the southern constituencies, according to the government estimate there were 15,895 and according to the estimate of the opposition there were 15,567. Here, the government admit 328 more names on the list than the opposition claim. In the northern constituencies the government's estimate of names on the lists is 12,863 and the estimate of the opposition is 13,345, Red Deer omitted. Here again the opposition have accorded to the eleven northern constituencies 482 more names than the government claim, so that our estimate in this respect is more favourable to the contention of the government than is their own estimate. If in the first place it was legitimate that we should divide the error between the two, it is legitimate we should divide the error again in the second place, and consequently we strike a mean between the calculation of the opposition and the calculation of the government, although we would prefer to argue it out on the government figures as being far more favourable to us. The government give a total number of names upon the voters lists as 29,950. It will be noticed that the opposition make it 30,104, a difference of 154. We may then agree that 30,000 or fifty more than the government make it and 100 less than the opposition make it, is about fair. We shall say that there are 30,000 names upon the lists. If you take the 15,700 that are found in the eleven southern constituencies and the 13,100 in the eleven northern constituencies, and if you add 1,200 in Red Deer it would give you a total of 30,000. Now 30,000 divided by twenty-three will give you the quota for twenty-three constituencies at 1,300. Both sides are prepared to accept that as fair.

Now, divide the 15,700 names on the list in the 11 southern constituencies by 1,300, and you will find that they are entitled to 12 representatives and a little more instead of 11; and divide the 13,100 names on the list in the 11 northern constituencies, and you will find that they are entitled to 10

Mr. R. L. BORDEN.

representatives and 100 votes over. So that by taking the names on the list we see that the 11 southern constituencies have one member too few, and the 11 northern constituencies have one too many, that is, leaving aside for the time being Peace River and Athabaska. No attempt has been made to refute the estimate of population made by the Medicine Hat 'Times' from information obtained from a great many reliable sources. By that estimate 97,263 people live below Red Deer and 70,021 live above, and there are 5,569 people in Red Deer, making a total of 172,853. If you establish your mean at 7,470, you will find that the 11 southern constituencies are entitled to nearly 13 representatives and the 11 northern constituencies to less than 10. Therefore, if you strike a mean of calculation between the figures of the government and the figures of the opposition, it will probably be more nearly correct than the figures of either side. You find that the 11 southern constituencies, by all these three tests, should have 12 representatives; it has therefore at least one representative too few. On the other hand, if you take the 7 constituencies north of the north Saskatchewan river, and examine them on the government figures, you will find that that is where the over-representation lies. According to those figures, there are in those 7 constituencies 6,502 names on the list, allowing to Peace River and Athabaska 600 names, and that there were 5,085 votes cast, allowing to Peace River and Athabaska, 450. So that you have for each of these seven constituencies an average of 930 names on the list and 726 votes cast. Now, we have already seen that 1,300 is the average number of names on the list and 900 the average number of votes cast; so that it is evident that the portion of country that is over-represented is the portion north of the North Saskatchewan river. Now, if it be demonstrated beyond peradventure that the southern section is at least one member under-represented and the northern section at least one member over-represented, it should be easy to transfer one member from the north to the south, and thus put an end to this interminable discussion, and satisfy all sides. Before I sit down, I wish to point out that you are not justified, according to our contention, in giving two members to Athabaska. We have never in the course of this debate urged that Athabaska should be unrepresented. We have never asked that a single man in that country should be deprived of the privilege to vote. All we have asked is that a certain amount of equality should prevail. We claim that two representatives for Athabaska are altogether too much. We are willing to admit that it should have one representative, and we think one is quite sufficient. Let me show you why and how we think one is sufficient. In the delimitation the government schedule provides for the constituency of St. Albert, which is 90 miles wide by 250 miles long.