

16. The ten day study of reporters' time distribution (March 26 to April 6, 1962) may be summarized as follows:

	<i>Minutes Per Hour</i>	<i>Minutes Per Day</i>	<i>Per- centage</i>
In House taking shorthand	9	48	14.5
Travelling to and from Cham- ber	7	37	11.3
Dictating to amanuensis	30	164	49.8
Editing and checking	9	50	15.3
Waiting and miscellaneous ..	5	30	9.1
Total	60	329	100.0%

Average working day - 5.5 hours. Average length - 5.1 hrs. of sitting

Shorthand speed - average 127 w.p.m. - highest 216 w.p.m.

Average daily production per reporter — 6,504 words or 6.8 pages of *Hansard*.

17. From an analysis of the workload it may be reasonably concluded that:

- (a) While there has been an increase in the workload, it would be difficult to support a case for additional continuing staff in the English debates reporting branch.
- (b) Some relief may be necessary during prolonged periods of consecutive "three sitting" days such as occurred during 1959 and 1960.

18. A study of working conditions revealed the following:

- (a) Editors and reporters may and do accept outside employment during parliamentary recesses and are permitted to use government offices and equipment in the course of these activities.
- (b) Editors and reporters accept other employment during sessions.
- (c) The average member of the English debates reporting staff has 12 years' service with the House of Commons, nine of which have been spent as a parliamentary reporter.
- (d) Reporters are presently being paid by the House of Commons at a rate in excess of \$10 per hour worked.

19. The high earning power and favourable working conditions (in comparison with civil servants) of a debate's reporter are reflected in a very low staff turn-over rate. The last four to leave went to the Senate staff where the pay is the same for less work. However these conditions have failed to attract an adequate supply of reporters. Difficulties have been experienced, on occasion, in recruiting because of an increasing shortage of skilled operators. It is difficult to see how further increases in pay will relieve this situation. On the contrary it would probably result in a round of increases in other jurisdictions employing similar skills and end in a stalemate.

Recording apparatus

20. As previously stated, one of the purposes of this study was to investigate the feasibility of employing recording apparatus as a means of producing a record of debates. In addition to conducting experiments in the House of Commons, visits were made to the legislative assemblies of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec and to the United Nations headquarters in New York city. Information was also obtained from the Manitoba and Saskatchewan legislatures where recording apparatus has been used successfully for some years. Information concerning these jurisdictions follows.