

The Address—Mr. Lachance

Needless to say, Mr. Speaker, that the typists are not miracle workers and that most of the time we get a lot of nonsense and gems which are not of the best quality. I congratulate the members of the press gallery for not using them more often.

In my opinion, nothing prevents the house from taking the required steps so that the blues of the speeches, either in French or in English, be revised by the official reporters before being sent out, wherever it may be.

Even if it is considered difficult to find the required staff so as to obtain the same results and treat everybody equally, as regards either the French or the English official report, I feel that a solution must be found.

Every member should get the copy of his speech, what is commonly called the blues, and take the responsibility of making his own corrections. French-speaking members no longer get the blues, or at least I think that only ministers, former ministers and parliamentary secretaries get a copy of their speeches.

Let every member receive his "blues", the copy of his speech, let him make the necessary corrections and take full responsibility for his speech. After all, it is not literature but spoken words. It is only a transcript of the proceedings, and if hon. members do not correct their speeches, the latter will appear in *Hansard* next day as they were taken down, with mistakes, naturally, and will be corrected only in the next seven or eight days, as our stenographers or rather the proof-readers or editors are doing now.

The same should apply to committee proceedings, Mr. Speaker. Hon. members never receive the copy or blues of their speeches or interventions. The whole thing is sent directly to the room where the debates are transcribed and from there to some editing committee, I do not know where. Finally, hon. members never see their speeches until they are printed and distributed.

I think the same system should be used, all the more so since committee proceedings are seldom printed before two or three weeks after the committee sittings. So, the day after such sittings, or the second day after, copies should be sent to hon. members who should take the responsibility of correcting their own copy and returning it in within one week. In this way, hon. members would have the satisfaction of correcting their own text, or they could have it edited by someone if they wished to hire someone, or by their secretary.

[Mr. Lachance.]

But what currently happens is that some texts of speeches given in French in the house which find their way to members of the press gallery—whom as I said, I thank for not using them more often—are not quite the same as what was uttered in the house. Of necessity, the tapes and the voices overlap often and completely change certain words. I will not give any examples here, but there are nevertheless words which can stangely change the meaning of a sentence if a P is used instead of S, M instead of R.

• (4:40 p.m.)

Mr. Speaker, to conclude, I would like to talk about Expo. As a member for a riding in the island of Montreal, I am proud of that joint achievement of the federal government, the province of Quebec and the city of Montreal. I want to thank sincerely all members of the House of Commons and all Canadians who contributed to the completion of this project which will certainly become a wonderful instrument of culture and better understanding between all citizens in Canada and the whole world. This is a unique opportunity for Montrealers and, in a lesser degree, for their neighbours to broaden their cultural and general knowledge. That is why I should like to offer my sincere thanks to the members of this house and to all Canadians for having helped with this wonderful achievement.

I particularly wish to thank those who are responsible for this monumental undertaking. The house will perhaps allow me to mention a few: Commissioner Dupuy, His Excellency the Ambassador and his team, and Mayor Jean Drapeau and his team. They did wonders, one could almost say miracles, and the result is here for all to see.

Now it is time to think beyond Expo. I think that with the co-operation of the central government and the provinces, it will be possible to create an international cultural centre in Montreal, a free port. This is essential to the development of the country. Moreover, I think we will have helped in making that fantastic undertaking, Expo, a real monument to the genius of man.

[English]

Mr. W. H. Jorgenson (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, my first words are to join with the two hon. members on the other side of the house who spoke yesterday about a former colleague of ours, a member of this house from my own province of Manitoba. I refer of course to Mrs. Konantz. I should like to say