

Bill M-2, an Act for the relief of Olga Helen Descyca Eckford.

Bill N-2, an Act for the relief of Patricia Mary Shewan Chalmers.

Bill O-2, an Act for the relief of Edith Beryl Jewett Gagnon.

The motion was agreed to, and the bills were read the third time, and passed, on division.

SENATE STATIONERY

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Hon. Jean-François Pouliot: Honourable senators, I would like to ask what amount of office stationery, supplies and equipment has been supplied by the Stationery Branch during each one of the last ten years (a) to the three offices of the Speaker of the Senate, the Leader of the Government in the Senate and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, collectively; (b) to each one of the branches of the Senate, and (c) to the other members of the Senate, collectively?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I will endeavour to get the information for the honourable senator from De la Durantaye (Hon. Mr. Pouliot). It may be very difficult to ascertain the amount of stationery used by the Leader of the Government. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the information to be tabled.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: I do not ask for the information separately, but collectively, for the three offices together—the office of the Speaker, the office of the honourable Leader of the Government, and the office of the honourable Leader of the Opposition, collectively, separating them from the stationery, supplies and equipment used by the other members of the Senate; and also I want the information as to each one of the branches. I wish to know where the money goes. I should like the Senate to have some sense of proportion and reality in matters like these, especially after big amounts such as the ones specified in Bill 25 have been voted on, and the bill has had second reading, in two hours. We are ready to spend a million dollars for the clearance of the Suez canal, but when it comes to the expenditure of the small amount of \$7,000 on supplies for the use of the Senate, including all its branches, there is great kicking about it.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Does the inquiry include the amount for stationery used by the Leader of the Government?

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: No. I want the honourable gentleman to understand my question. It is divided into three parts. First, I should like to know what amount has been spent for the three offices collectively,—the Speaker's office, the office of the honourable

Leader of the Government and the office of the honourable Leader of the Opposition. I exclude these from the particulars of what is being supplied to us, the other members of the Senate.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: The honourable senator's inquiry will be placed on the Order Paper.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: I shall be satisfied. I do not want an immediate answer.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: There cannot be a debate on an inquiry.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: No, sir. I am explaining my question.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Perhaps I should explain to the honourable senator from De la Durantaye that I did not understand his question. I now realize that it is a notice of inquiry and that it will appear on the Order Paper.

QUEBEC SAVINGS BANKS BILL

SECOND READING

Hon. C. G. Power moved the second reading of Bill Q-1, an Act to amend the Quebec Savings Banks Act.

He said: Honourable senators, this legislation is intended to cover the operations of two savings banks located in the province of Quebec. They are the Montreal City and District Savings Bank, and La Banque d'Economie de Quebec. These are banks of long standing and of great repute, known for their safe, sane and almost ultra-conservative banking policies. They are savings banks and do not carry on a commercial business. They were originally founded, I might almost say, as semi-benevolent institutions with the encouragement of Church and State for the purpose of encouraging thrift in the lower income bracket of the population.

These banks have been very successful in their operations. They must compete in certain respects for business with so-called chartered banks, insurance companies and, in some instances, with institutions known as *Caisse Populaires*. They are, however, restricted in their operations by the Quebec Savings Banks Act in that they can only make certain types of investments. It is proposed by certain amendments to clarify some of the powers which have been conferred upon them.

In passing I should like to say that I learned only today that although there is a wide distinction made between the so-called chartered banks and these two savings banks, the only really chartered banks in Canada are these two savings banks. By a strange anomaly of nomenclature they are known as savings banks, whereas the non-chartered