

Hon. Mr. WATSON—All right.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Does the hon. gentleman persist in his point of order?

Hon. Mr. WATSON—If according to the rules it is open to debate an inquiry of this kind I have nothing to say, but I did not think an hon. gentleman making an inquiry had a right to make a speech. However, I admit I am not posted on the rules.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I accept the admission of the hon. gentleman and I hope that at another time when he does not know the rules he will not raise a point of order.

Hon. Mr. WATSON—All right. I will not be like my hon. friend.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—We are only asking what is our right and what we claim as a right to the French element in this Dominion. The laws are published in English and in French. They come from the House of Commons in both French and English. We cannot pass them here unless they are printed in both languages. What I am asking for here is not for the province of Quebec alone, but for the whole Dominion. When the English version is printed in the 'Canada Gazette' for the English speaking people of this country, I claim that the French version should be printed for the French speaking people also, not for the people of Quebec merely, but for the benefit of the whole French population of the Dominion. We have lawyers and others who like to know what the law of the country is, and as soon as those statutes are published in the 'Canada Gazette' in the English language, I renew my claim that they should be published in French. I call the attention of the minister to the fact that we passed a resolution last year on that subject, and I hope that in the future whenever a law or ordinance of any kind is published in the 'Canada Gazette' in the English language, it shall also be published in the French language.

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—In reply to the hon. gentleman's question I may say he is quite correct in saying that as far as possible the publication should be made simultaneously.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY.

Under the provisions of section 32 of chapter 80 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 'The Public Printing and Stationery Act', responsibility for the publication of the statutes of Canada and of the 'Canada Gazette' is placed by parliament upon the King's Printer, without any control or direction of any minister of the government in that respect.

The publication of the statutes in the 'Canada Gazette' is a matter of temporary convenience for the benefit of the public prior to their being issued in bound volumes.

It has not been the practice since confederation to publish the statutes in French in the 'Canada Gazette'. However, a resolution of the Senate, dated the 14th of April, 1910, directed that thereafter statutes should be published in the French as well as in the English language. Since the 14th of April, 1910, statutes have been received at the Printing Bureau, certified by the Clerk of the parliaments, under his seal of office, for printing, as follows, viz:

English—Chapters 71 to 150 inclusive, May 12, 1910. Chapters 151 to 177, May 13, 1910.

French—Chapters 71 to 176 inclusive, May 13, 1910. Chapter 177, June 18, 1910.

These statutes were not published in French in the 'Gazette' mainly because the copies received for that purpose on the dates above referred to contained numerous errors. The copies were returned for correction and it was not until the 15th of July that the last of the corrected copies were received at the Printing Bureau. At that time the work on the annual volumes of the statutes had so far advanced that it was evident that the French and English versions might appear together, and as a matter of fact their simultaneous publication was made on the 3rd of August, 1910.

If the French statutes had been published in French in the 'Gazette' a delay of from three weeks to one month in issuing the bound volume would have occurred. As it was the French statutes were published complete within ten days of the time within which they could have been published in the 'Gazette.'

Hereafter the French statutes will ap-