

*Supply—Public Printing*

## PUBLIC PRINTING AND STATIONERY

Printing, binding, etc., the annual statutes—further amount required, \$10,713.64.

Mr. BOUCHARD: Under this item may I ask the minister if the speeches broadcast by the Prime Minister last January were printed and distributed to members of the house? By the answers given me to-day I gather that the translations of a number of addresses broadcast by the Prime Minister in January of this year were made by members of the staff of the bureau for translations, debates division. In reply to my second question, as to who gave the instructions, I am informed that the copy for these addresses was received by the bureau for translations in the usual course from the office of the Prime Minister, that being so should not any member of this house be entitled to obtain those speeches in both English and French, since they are considered official documents? Personally I have always considered them political propaganda.

Mr. CAHAN: If the hon. gentleman's question was answered in that way, then those translations were made by the bureau for translations. I am not the collector of accounts, but I assume that if it was a personal matter the Prime Minister would be billed for the work. This item covers printing of statutes at the printing bureau. I have no idea as to whether or not any printing to which my hon. friend refers was done at the bureau; I cannot follow every item. I do know, however, that on two occasions—as hon. members will have noticed in the reports of the printing bureau—when I have sent matter to the bureau to be printed, the printing bureau always sends me a bill and I pay for that printing at the end of the month if it is not deemed to be official work or closely related to the official work of my department. This item simply covers the printing of the annual statutes. Last year the statutes were very voluminous, but the receipts from the sale of those statutes go into the treasury. I must have a vote to take care of the extra printing that was done last year.

Mr. POULIOT: I do not object to this vote, but I should like to ask the minister whether, since the typesetting of the voters' lists was started, any printing has had to be done outside the bureau in connection with official publications.

Mr. CAHAN: None at all.

Mr. MERCIER (Laurier-Outremont): Could the minister give us any idea as to what amount comes to the treasury through the sale of the statutes?

[Mr. Rhodes.]

Mr. CAHAN: I could ascertain that amount, because I believe it appears in the annual return, if my memory is correct. Except for the so-called official list and those which go to several of the universities of which a list has been established over a long series of years, the statutes are paid for as they are distributed, and as payments are made the cheques go into the consolidated revenue fund from day to day.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Following the answer given to the hon. member for Kamouraska do I understand hon. members of the house may avail themselves of the services of the bureau for translations? If hon. members are willing to pay for the translations, may they ask the translators to do the work, as it was done for the Prime Minister?

Mr. CAHAN: As a matter of fact I had no personal knowledge that that translation work had been done. I do not follow the day to day work of the translation bureau, but if that bureau receives work from any department of the government it is not for the superintendent to decide as to whether or not it is personal or official. Therefore the superintendent did exactly what he should have done under the circumstances; he put through the translation. I think possibly if the right hon. leader of the opposition or the former Minister of Justice had some text which either of them wished to have translated, and if there were time to do it, undoubtedly the translation bureau would do it for him. If it appeared that the work was of a personal nature I am sure the comptroller of the treasury would see that compensation was paid for the work.

Mr. DUFF: It seems to me the hon. member for Kamouraska has made a serious allegation. He has stated a private speech made by a private citizen of Canada was afterwards sent to the bureau for translations, and that this country paid for the work. Does the Secretary of State mean to say that if I make a speech in English at Port Felix, Harbour au Bouche, or some other point, I may send that speech to Ottawa, to the department where the translation is done, and have it translated by the public translators? It seems to me that is a rather strange way to do the business of the country. My understanding is that the public bureau for translations paid for by the taxpayers, is to be used only in connection with public documents. Surely the Secretary of State does not mean to say that any private member could go out and get off a lot of bedtime stories or make speeches throughout the country and then send them