

*Publication of Statutes Act*

Every court, every person in Canada, can have access to the statutes in either English or in French. Many people keep both versions; but one does not have to have them on adjoining pages. In any case, the languages do not correspond exactly line for line when translated. You will have to run over the page for the translation from one language to the other. All that it is desired to do is to put in one volume both versions of the statutes. I do not believe this is necessary at all.

What size of book are we going to have? Right now, the revised statutes average about 1,000 pages per volume. Are they to be enlarged to 2,000 pages or will we have a much longer reach of volumes? The same can be said of the annual statutes. The statutes for 1966-67 are contained in a very large volume. I believe 85 bills were passed in that long session, which ran for a year and a half because of the bad management of the government. If that volume were printed in both languages, would it be contained in two volumes, three or four? What will be accomplished here will be just the inconveniencing of people who have to make use of the statutes. I make a great deal of use of them during the course of a session. There is not a year goes by but that I do not look through the statutes for some purpose or other with regard to bills coming before us. It is inconvenient enough now to search through the revised statutes, plus the amendments, when the volumes are of a fair size. I do not see why I should be saddled with double sized volumes in the future.

I am surprised that the minister did not really deal with the issue. It has nothing to do with whether or not the languages are recognized in this country. It is simply a dodge to put both languages in one volume, and there is no other purpose served by this measure.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tardif):** If the minister speaks now, he will close the debate.

**Mr. Ralph Cowan (York-Humber):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister how many copies of the Statutes of Canada are now printed in English and how many copies are printed in French? With these figures we could calculate what the extra expense is going to be in printing this number of copies in both French and English. As the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Churchill) has said, an increased amount of space will be required to file these books

[Mr. Churchill.]

in libraries, judges' offices and lawyers' offices.

May I call it ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I rise to a point of order, in order to answer the hon. member. I have the floor, so I intend to answer him.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tardif):** The minister understands that he will close the debate if he speaks now.

**An hon. Member:** Order; ten o'clock.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Smith:** Mr. Speaker—

**Some hon. Members:** Ten o'clock has been called.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tardif):** It is ten o'clock.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I want to make it clear that I have the floor.

**An hon. Member:** Oh, no you don't.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. Starr:** I wonder if I could ask the government house leader what the house will be engaged in tomorrow and Thursday, and whether he can tell us at what time the Minister of Finance will make his budget speech on Thursday, as well as what we might be doing on Friday?

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Speaker, we will begin tomorrow with the committee of the whole stage of Bill No. C-168, an act to amend the Criminal Code. We will take second reading of the Judges Act; second reading of the Government Employees Compensation Act; and second reading of an act to establish a corporation for the administration of national museums for Canada. It is intended, Mr. Speaker, that on Thursday the Minister of Finance will give his message at eight o'clock.

**Mr. Starr:** What about Friday?

**Mr. MacEachen:** I am not in a position to advise my hon. friend about the business for Friday. Depending on the progress we make tomorrow, I hope to be able to give it then. If my hon. friends make such rapid progress in the next day or so they might look forward to an early Christmas adjournment.