

he would have to order it from the distribution office before ten o'clock tonight, that is before the house adjourned, or from the printing bureau before midnight. Perhaps the minister can explain why this change has been made.

Mr. Harris: I know that anything hon. members have to say on this matter will be considered carefully by the queen's printer and by the Secretary of State. The obvious explanation, of course, is that this is done to cut down costs. Hon. members will realize that *Hansard* is put into type some time after midnight and is delivered to hon. members the next morning around 9.30 or ten o'clock.

That being the case, should hon. members want copies of *Hansard* in addition to the normal run the queen's printer had in mind to send to the house, it would be much cheaper to run off the copies at the time the original run was being made. In that way the queen's printer would not be in the position of either having a large overrun on the assumption that additional orders would be placed, or setting up the type at a later date at considerable cost. If this should be inconvenient or work to the disadvantage of the public I am sure consideration will be given to changing the rule.

Mr. Green: I take it that whatever amount is paid, it meets the cost of these *Hansards*; is that not correct?

Mr. Harris: I do not think that is so, but I shall get the figures on that.

Mrs. Fairclough: It occurs to me that this is a matter which could properly be considered by the standing committee on printing. I have been a member of that committee ever since I came to the house six years ago, and I have yet to be called to attend a meeting. Apparently quite a bit of work is done and quite a few decisions are made with respect to printing about which hon. members, even those on the committee, are not consulted. I would suggest that before any such regulation is made at least the standing committee should be called to confirm it.

Mr. Harris: I think I should tell the hon. member for Hamilton West that some consideration was given to this about a year before she entered parliament. At that time there were a number of rules laid down about the printing of *Hansard* and its purchase by hon. members. However, I think the idea is excellent. If the printing committee has not met for six years and if the hon. member, along with the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, would consent to

serve I am sure we would have the best printing experience that could be brought to bear by hon. members.

Mr. Knowles: It is hard to resist an invitation of that kind, but may I point out for the record that the recommendations to which the minister has referred were made a number of years ago—before the hon. member for Hamilton West came here—but were never approved by the house. They were made by a committee of which I did not happen to be a member. That committee made its report, which was objected to by some hon. members, and the report was never concurred in by the house. Nevertheless its provisions were put into effect by the queen's printer.

In the meantime we have become used to most of those recommendations, and perhaps have grown to accept them. But I think the point made by those who have spoken is well taken. If any more changes are going to be made affecting hon. members of the house, perhaps we might be consulted.

While I am on my feet there is one other comment I should like to make. I believe that one of the reasons for the increased cost of publishing the debates—I am not now referring to the 10 cent charge for extra copies, because I think that could be looked into—is an increase in wages which was granted within the last couple of years. I am sure the hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra does not object to that any more than any of the rest of us do. In fact there is room for still further improvement on that score.

Mr. Pouliot: I happened to be the chairman of the debates committee when the matter was looked into. This committee did not sit very often, but on that occasion we had before us the editor of debates, the late Mr. Young. He suggested that we should dispense with the unrevised edition of *Hansard*. At that time there were two editions, the unrevised and revised, but since that time only the one edition has been published.

No doubt it is in an effort to effect economies that the queen's printer has asked hon. members to put in their requisition before the end of the day, so he does not have to keep the type set up too long. The printing of *Hansard* represents a formidable quantity of type, and as soon as the necessary copies are run off they can destroy the type and melt it down.

There was another matter which is of great interest to me, and perhaps the minister can give me some information tonight. Some years ago I insisted upon having early publication of the index of the debates of the past session. That index was most useful. It was completed during the summer recess,