

with regard to foreign countries. Instead of our getting more information yearly in that book we are getting less. It is important that we should have the statistics of other countries, not only for the convenience of members of this House but for the convenience of all those who wish to compare the progress of our own country with that of foreign countries, otherwise they will have to go to our parliamentary library or send for that information to foreign countries. Possibly twenty pages added to the present report, giving these statistics such as you will find in many of the foreign reports, will be all that is necessary.

Mr. FISHER. I appreciate that there is a point there. I would get all the information of course about the foreign countries, and you might put a certain amount in and then hon. gentleman would say there was something else they wanted and the particular thing a student wanted was not there, but it is worth considering and I shall be very glad to consider it.

Mr. DUBEAU. (Translation.) I wish to ask the hon. the Minister of Agriculture whether he would be kind enough to take the necessary steps, in order to have the French edition of the Statistical Year-Book issued, if possible, at the same time as the English edition, so that those who, like myself, refer to the French edition for information, may have it before them, as soon as possible.

Of all the official reports issued by the department, I consider the Year-Book as the most important one. I may further say that I have carefully studied the edition of 1905, and that I did find in that report some most useful information, not only to members of this House in general, but to all business men who are concerned in matters relating to the progress of the country.

Therefore, I hope, the hon. Minister of Agriculture will spare no effort to have the French edition of the Year-Book issued this year, at or about the same time as the English edition.

Mr. FISHER. (Translation.) I heartily congratulate my hon. friend for having called my attention to the grievance he has just referred to, and I may tell him that I have also entered a grievance on the same matter. It seems that it is by no means an easy task for the government printing bureau to issue the French edition of the Statistical Year-Book at the same time as the English edition. Nevertheless, I have deemed it my duty to inquire into the cause of the delay in the publication of the French edition, and here is what I was told: They pretend that it is necessary to have the English edition first, before beginning to make the translation for the French edition. I must confess that I hardly realize why that should be necessary. Therefore, I have taken the determination to have the French translation of the Year-Book in my depart-

Mr. ARMSTRONG.

ment, so as to be able to send the copy of both editions simultaneously to the printing bureau. Through this arrangement I hope I may succeed in issuing both editions at the same time.

Let me further state that, in my opinion, the various departments should make it a duty to issue their reports simultaneously in both languages. In Canada, we have two official languages, French and English, which are on a footing of perfect equality. Therefore, the reports of all departments should be issued at the same time, in both languages.

An hon. MEMBER. Hear! hear!

Mr. FIELDING. I do not see the member for Renfrew (Mr. Wright) in his place but it has reached the mystic hour of half past ten and in honour of his presentation of the case yesterday I think we may adjourn now.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, December 16, 1907.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery his certificate of the return of John Stanfield, Esquire, for the electoral district of Colchester.

MEMBER INTRODUCED.

John Stanfield, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Colchester, Nova Scotia; introduced by Mr. R. L. Borden and Mr. G. W. Fowler.

PRIVATE BILLS.

SECOND READINGS.

Bill (No. 13) respecting the British Columbia Southern Railway Company.—Mr. Gallier.

Bill (No. 14) respecting the Campbellford, Lake Ontario and Western Railway Company.—Mr. McColl.

Bill (No. 15) respecting the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company.—Mr. Sloan.

Bill (No. 16) respecting the South Ontario Pacific Railway Company.—Mr. Guthrie.

Bill (No. 19) to incorporate the Bank of Winnipeg.—Mr. Bole.

Bill (No. 22) respecting the Macleod, Cardston and Montana Railway Company.—Mr. Herron.