

*Adjournment Debate*

working at the problem. I know that the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier in particular is very much involved in this language issue, and I agree with him so does my Government, as well as the President of Treasury Board (Mr. de Cotret) and the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), on the need to protect French as an official language and as a language of work. This has never been challenged, quite the contrary. We saw evidence of that in the position taken by the Prime Minister in Manitoba. We saw evidence of that again recently.

Mr. Speaker, I think that my colleague from Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) knows to what extent we want to be involved. Despite whatever little progress may have been accomplished before and since 1984, despite good faith and what has happened since we took office, surely he will admit that we are more than willing to take part in democratic work with the Public Service Commission. In all honesty and while respecting and protecting the rights of anglophones and francophones according to their language of work, I think the Public Service Commission can be given a mandate to monitor

the situation. But, Mr. Speaker, he also knows very well that this guideline does not apply to deputy ministers. Sure it applies to assistant deputy ministers, but they will have to take level B equivalence courses, and he is fully aware of that. He also knows that with respect to the linguistic issue, the way he will staunchly defend the cause . . . and he knows that Members from Quebec and Members of this House will also speak up on the language issue—will always ensure that fair balance will prevail, that the situation will gradually improve. The ultimate purpose is to show to all Canadians that we live in a bilingual country, that every individual has the right to services in his own language, the right to work in and expect respect for the language of his choice.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 6.42 p.m.