

But the Government did not wait for the results of that inquiry to proceed. A model-school for the teaching of languages was set up in Hull and was requested to develop the most effective methods to enable the greatest number of civil servants in Ottawa to become bilingual. French courses are already given in most of the departments. Thus, all civil servants will soon be able to work in their own language. A French radio station is being set up in Toronto by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and gradually we hope to be able to extend a French broadcasting network right across the country.

Finally, we have instructed an interdepartmental committee of senior government officials to initiate a programme to promote effective bilingualism throughout the federal public service.

We want the federal public service to respect not only the principle of bilingualism but also the essentially bicultural nature of our country. Some French-Canadians have recently been appointed to higher positions in the Canadian National Railways, in the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, in the Bank of Canada and in many departments such as Public Works, Transport and Northern Affairs. For the first time, a French-Canadian, the Honourable Lionel Chevrier, was appointed Canadian High Commissioner in London and Mr. Jean Martineau, another French-Canadian, became President of the Canada Council. Furthermore, the examination system for the civil service is now being adapted to the special academic background of French-Canadians and we are sparing no effort to recruit more of them.

You are quite aware that recruitment is difficult. There is a shortage of French-Canadians in the new industries, particularly when one considers the almost unlimited demand that has developed among us. Only when this shortage is eliminated shall we have reached our ultimate goal. For the moment, we are improving recruitment methods and working conditions in the public service; we are settling the most urgent matters and bridging the widest gaps.

At the risk of seeming less than objective, I have no hesitation in saying that this general outline of our cultural accomplishments during the past 15 or 16 months is remarkable.

It certainly means a new start toward equality between the two most important ethnic groups. We have passed the stage of purely symbolic gestures; what we have reaffirmed is the very substance of the cultural problem.

As you can see, we are creating a really new federalism. Of course, we shall need much patience and moderation if we want to succeed; short of revolution, political systems cannot easily and rapidly undergo fundamental changes. However, after only one year, the results are considerable. For instance, who would have foreseen in 1962 that the Quebec provincial government would soon collect nearly 75 per cent of personal income tax?