

Private Bills

his name without being a pharmacist, provided he has operated such business for ten years. I do not say he would be granted the title of pharmacist, under this act, but he would be granted a certificate of qualification. I agree he could not hold a university diploma, but he would nevertheless have a certificate of qualification which would allow him to operate a drugstore.

[Text]

Mr. Mitchell: With the sanction of that province's graduating body.

[Translation]

Mr. Gregoire: Mr. Chairman, I am actually looking for an article of this bill. I have not looked at it. I had no opportunity to read this bill since about a month ago, for every time it was supposed to come before us, it was allowed to stand. The article says:

Any qualified pharmacist licensed or registered—

[Text]

Mr. Mitchell: Take a look at 15.

[Translation]

Mr. Gregoire: It says:

Any qualified pharmacist licensed or registered in any province—

It means, if I understand correctly the words and the phraseology, that one or the other—since after the word "licensed" there is the word "or":

Any qualified pharmacist licensed or recognized in any province prior to the coming into force of this act shall, after ten years from the date when he became so licensed—

[Text]

Mr. Mitchell: May I direct your attention to the word "qualified"? Now go on from there.

Mr. Gregoire: Can you let me have a copy of the bill in English, please? I have the French one, and if I explain the French one it says—

Mr. Mitchell: Mr. Chairman, may I interrupt for a moment to explain that in the English version of the bill, which is quite easily understood, the clause commences:

Any qualified pharmacist licensed or registered in any province—

First of all a pharmacist must be qualified and then licensed or registered.

Mr. Gregoire: I appreciate what my hon. friend says, but I think there is a difference between the French version of the bill and the English version, because in the French version there is a comma after "Any qualified pharmacist". So it makes it completely different in meaning. For that reason, I think it would be opportune to move that this bill be

[Mr. Gregoire.]

referred back to the committee or referred back to the responsible authorities so that they can determine which version is the correct one, the English or the French version, and make the necessary correction accordingly. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Charlevoix:

That this bill be referred back to the committee to make the appropriate correction, and to determine which one is the approved bill, the French or the English.

It is impossible for us to discuss the bill now because there is a difference of meaning between the French version and the English version. There is a difference in interpretation between the French bill and the English bill, so I think it should be referred back to committee so that the committee could question the people presenting the bill and would know whether the French or the English version is the good one.

[Translation]

The Chairman: I should like to remind the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Gregoire) that he cannot move that amendment at this time. He could do it on third reading but not in committee of the whole.

Perhaps I might suggest that the hon. member move an amendment to the clause which was discussed, that is section 15 of this bill. Then, the hon. member could introduce a private motion to change the wording of the section.

Mr. Gregoire: Mr. Chairman, on the point of order, I feel—

[Text]

Mr. Mitchell: Mr. Chairman, perhaps if we could make the amendment here and now to the French version and remove the comma, so that both the English and French versions are the same, it would satisfy the hon. member. I would so move that amendment.

The Chairman: May I suggest that we at least wait until we reach clause 15. We are still on clause 1. We can, of course, have a general discussion of the bill on clause 1, but we cannot amend clauses which are not yet before the committee for consideration.

[Translation]

Mr. Gregoire: Mr. Chairman, that affects not only one clause but the whole bill. The whole principle is changed. That is why we cannot let the clause pass while we know that we will have to wait until third reading to introduce an amendment. We insist on presenting our motion calling for the bill to be referred to the committee so that the latter may determine which is the official version, the French or the English.