

Q. Those others who are appointed by a vote of the House?—A. With the possible exception that there may be some in the exempt portions of the service.

Mr. CHEVRIER: I have no questions to ask Mr. Bland this morning. There may be some questions that I would like to ask at a future meeting of the committee, and I think Mr. Bland will always be at the disposition of the committee.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. Mr. Bland, of the 84 translators which you mentioned this morning, can you tell us how many of them have come into the service through competitive examination.—A. I can secure that information for you. I cannot tell you off-hand, Mr. MacInnis.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions, gentlemen, of Mr. Bland, in connection with his statement?

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, do you wish to take the statement as read?

The CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, I thought you had gone through it.

The WITNESS: It would suit me quite well, Mr. Chairman, if the committee should take it as read.

Mr. BOWMAN: I think, Mr. Chairman, it would be far better if we had Mr. Bland's statement. We would then know what we are doing.

The CHAIRMAN: Then we will have copies of Mr. Bland's statement before the committee at our next meeting.

Q. Mr. Bland, this committee asked you for a lot of other information in connection with other matters. However, we will not trouble you until we get through with this translation bill. We want to dispose of this first and then we will get you to come back. I think the other witness asked for to-day was Mr. Hector Carbonneau.

Mr. CHEVRIER: I am in the hands of the committee, but I have suggested Mr. Gerin, you will remember. He is the head of the debates.

The CHAIRMAN: You want Mr. Gerin first.

Mr. CHEVRIER: Well, I will be satisfied to-day with Mr. Gerin.

Witness retired.

HECTOR GERIN, called.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Mr. Gerin, I understand you are chief of the debates translation branch of the House of Commons' staff of translators.—A. Yes, sir.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. I understand that you have a statement, Mr. Gerin.—A. Well, I have a brief statement which I prepared for the sake of precision, if I may be allowed to read it.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, we will be glad to have it.

*By Mr. Laurin:*

Q. For how many years have you been chief translator?—A. Since 1916.

Q. Were you the head translator in 1916? Have you been the head translator since then?—A. Chief translator in 1916.

Q. Were you there before then?—A. Oh, yes, since 1904.

*By Mr. Pouliot:*

Q. You are the president of the Royal Society?—A. It happens so.