

both these languages. If printing in the French language, exclusive of the debates conducted in French, were confined to the provisions of section 133, the total cost would be very modest indeed. The annual cost of printing the documents of the House of Commons in the French language, as prescribed by section 133, is as follows:

Journals of house and appendices..	\$ 8,800 03
Votes and proceedings..	2,066 34
Orders of the day..	1,590 54
Bills for second reading..	2,595 10
Bills for third reading..	1,312 68
Statutes of Canada..	2,792 35
Total..	\$ 19,157 04

These printings in French are under the direction and control of the Speaker of this house and the expense of printing is less than \$20,000 per year. But these printings comprise a very small portion of the printings in French for which successive governments have borne the expense. The vast body of printed translations is directly connected with the due administration of government with which the Speaker of the House of Commons is not directly concerned, although the centralized bureau for translation is now under the control and direction of the Speaker of this house and not under the direction and control of the government of the day. I submit that in any case these translations should be under the direct control and supervision of the government which must assume the responsibility, not only for the proper and efficient translation but also for the timely printing, publication and distribution of the same. As I have pointed out, there is sometimes a delay of six months or even a year between the date of the publication of the English edition and the date of the publication of the French.

Mr. MARCIL: I would point out that some reports have never been translated into French.

Mr. CAHAN: I assume that that is so. I would point out that in the course of time we publish both French and English editions of twenty-eight annual departmental reports. These are of considerable volume and hon. members are quite familiar with them. There are also published twenty or more annual supplementary departmental reports, exclusive of the Canada Year Book—the little blue book, so-called—and twelve to fifteen daily, weekly and monthly periodicals. In addition to these annual, monthly and weekly publications there is a large number of reports relating to the general assembly of the League

of Nations, the labour congress at Geneva, commissions on railways, monetary policies, currency and the like, the translation of which is the direct responsibility of government and in relation to which the authority of government should be maintained. In addition to the publications I have mentioned, of which there is a separate edition in English and French, we publish also a large number of works in bilingual form. These include four annual departmental reports, twenty-two supplementary annual reports, four periodicals such as the Canada Gazette, the monthly bulletin of business statistics, the monthly summary of trade of Canada and the quarterly trade reports. There are also annually published from ten to twenty or more miscellaneous documents of the government printed in bilingual form. This vast body of material, printed in the French language, has increased from year to year under successive governments, not, I think, because of any constitutional obligation arising out of the meagre requirements of section 133, but because successive governments in Canada have really desired to provide for the people of Canada of French descent, printed in their own maternal language, all important official documents of the federal government of the country for their information and instruction. A considerable portion of this work of translating departmental reports is, as I have stated, performed by the eleven blue book translators, so called, who, though they have no part in the proper work of the House of Commons, are unfortunately, and I may say I think improperly, attached to the Speaker's staff, and who are naturally disposed to think that they are not directly responsible to the government, which they appear to serve on sufferance.

The government is held by the public responsible for the efficient and speedy performance of their work, and it has therefore decided to assume that responsibility and to ask of parliament the statutory authority which is necessary for its effective performance. That authority will be conferred by the terms of the bill now under discussion. The government might have proceeded, by order in council and by appropriate votes in the annual estimates, to create a bureau for translations, leaving the existing staff of blue book translators to seek other employment. But as a matter of justice to men who have been long employed by successive speakers of this House of Commons, the bill provides that such employees shall be preferred in the creation of the new bureau.