

the disappointment which they have shown ever since the facts were made public, because of what might have happened to help their political fortunes if they had been alert enough to get the conduct of this inquiry.

The hon. gentleman did me the honour to quote somewhat fully from my report as it appears from page 1 to page 8 in the volume that was presented to parliament in November last. He made these quotations for the purpose, as his after remarks proved, of showing that certain other departments had arrogated to themselves the right to get their own printing done, and from that he argued that they had invaded the territory of the Printing Bureau, and he, forsooth, assumes the attitude of the friend and champion of the Printing Bureau. We appreciate his interest, but we are not in need of his championship. Let me inform the hon. gentleman that after all the months that he has put in upon this work he would have been better advised if he had paid less attention to the information that was given him by the gentleman whose name he quoted a number of times during his speech and to whom I will refer a little later on. In connection with the matter now being immediately dealt with, the reason that the other departments were from time to time forced to get their printing done otherwise than through the Printing Bureau was due to the ineffective methods pursued, principally by the gentlemen on whom my hon. friend places so much reliance to make a case in the present instance against the management of the Printing Bureau. Take, for instance, the Interior Department in connection with its immigration work. Immigration literature is required in a great hurry; if it is not turned out within the time specified by that department, that literature is practically of no value. When the Interior Department found in years past that their requests in that regard were not attended to at the Printing Bureau, they were of necessity forced to notify the Bureau that they would get their own printing done and supervise its speedy issue themselves. That is not a matter for which they could be blamed. True, it is contrary to the Act, but the immigration work is so important that the printing of this literature would not wait. I point out to my hon. friend that the man who was responsible for the giving out of that work and for the delay, is the man with whom my hon. friend and some other hon. gentlemen opposite have been incubating since that man was dismissed last fall for incompetence, dishonesty and falsehood.

At six o'clock, House took recess.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, when you left the Chair at six o'clock I was dealing with certain reasons adduced by the hon. member for East Hastings in support of the motion which he presented to the House this afternoon, and that branch of my remarks I now desire to resume. In the course of his observations the hon. gentleman cited as one of the reasons why his motion should be adopted that requisitions for supplies had in the past been sent to the Printing Bureau which had not been signed by the proper officials. It is true that to some extent that did prevail, and having regard to the number of these requisitions and the magnitude of the business done between the departments and the Printing Bureau, it would be surprising if at some time or other some irregularity of that kind did not arise. But what my hon. friend failed to inform the House was that this also was a matter which was dealt with in the report, not in one place but in several places, and I am now in a position to assure you and the House that the practice has been completely stopped. Precautions have been taken not only in the departments themselves, but also in the Printing Bureau to prevent a recurrence of that practice. It did not prevail to any great extent at any time, but it has now been completely stopped.

Another trouble mentioned by the hon. member for East Hastings was that of, as he styled it, sending in proof improperly. He referred, no doubt, to what is technically known among printers as bad copy. That subject also is dealt with in several parts of the report before parliament, and one of the most important recommendations made by the experts who assisted in the investigation at the Printing Bureau deals with that very matter. The recommendation in question is, in my opinion, such an important one, that I would ask the indulgence of the House for a moment while I read a very brief extract from the report upon it. At page 40 of the joint report of Messrs. Hyde and O'Connor, there will be found recommendation No. 3 under the heading of 'Improved Copy.' There they say:

Bad copy, editing in the proof and the revise, and revision of French translation are not defects in the management of the Printing Bureau, but are evidences of slipshod work on the part of officers of parliament and of the departments of the government where the material to be printed originates. Nevertheless, it appears to us that a recommendation upon the subject is pertinent to our report.

Then, after considering what has been done in this regard by other countries and mentioning particularly what has been done by the Imperial Sessional Committee at