

known under one designation only? I never had occasion to discuss the matter with Mr. Fréchette, but I think that is what he had in mind.

I have pointed out the case of the 'Banque Provinciale.' If my hon. friend will peruse the statute-books, he will find that in the English edition, that bank is designated as the 'Banque Provinciale.' However, my hon. friend has referred to a rather serious case, that of a company having obtained its charter under a name which has been translated in the French edition of the Act granting the charter, and which subsequently causes its charter to be amended, while its original designation is not translated in the French edition of the Amending Act, in such a way that the company, in so far as the French edition is concerned, appears to have a double designation. Mr. Fréchette may come to the conclusion, after looking into this debate, that it would be better to retain the same designation throughout the French edition, as long as the company exists.

As to the general principle governing the translation of such designations, I am not of opinion as before stated, that Mr. Fréchette is wrong.

Mr. F. D. MONK (Jacques-Cartier). (Translation.) Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the general principle laid down by the hon. minister is fraught with great danger. If I understood him aright, he contends that in the translation of our statutes, English designations of companies should not be translated for the French edition. And why? Because petitions having for their object the incorporation of a company are, as a rule, written out in English, and accordingly the designation is given in that same language. He bases himself on a ruling made by the chief translator, Mr. Fréchette, a good many years ago. Does the hon. minister know as a fact that such is the interpretation Mr. Fréchette puts on his duties as translator? It would be a matter of surprise to me. I have known Mr. Fréchette for some time, and it does not seem likely to me that he would endorse such a proposal.

Whenever we adopt a Bill incorporating a bank or any other kind of company, that Bill is supposed to have been passed in French as well as in English. The firm which we are incorporating receives its designation in both languages. If we were to dispense with translating such designations, where would that lead us to? If the principle laid down by the hon. minister were to prevail, as most petitions seeking incorporation are sent to parliament in one language only, all expressions of a sacramental nature—if I may be allowed to use the expression—used in these petitions, might be considered untranslatable for legal purposes. That is a dangerous principle to lay down, and I doubt that a man of

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Mr. Fréchette's ability has ever dreamt of establishing it.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR. (Translation.) To say the truth, I mentioned Mr. Fréchette's name, for the reason that the member for L'Islet had stated that this change in the way of effecting the translation became noticeable only after Mr. Coursolles' retirement; I inferred that the change had been effected by Mr. Fréchette but I am not positive about it.

Mr. PAQUET. (Translation.) It dates back to 1903, inclusive.

Mr. MONK. (Translation.) That does not appear to me very likely, for the rule has not always been adhered to, as stated by the member for L'Islet. If Mr. Fréchette had laid down such a rule, I think he would have adhered invariably to it.

I insist that this is a dangerous principle, for if it were to prevail in the end, its effect would be to render illusory our right to have all legal enactments expressed in both languages.

As regards the work of translation, true the House has control over it to a certain extent; but, as we are aware, the translators are paid by the government, and accordingly are under their control. To contend, as the hon. minister has done, that the government have nothing to do with the question because these officers are not under their control, does not seem to me to be a reasonable excuse.

Mr. DOHERTY. I do not see any difficulty in a corporation having both a French and an English name. With regard to La Banque Provinciale having been incorporated originally under the French name, and having only the one name, I do not know that it is very material; but I would like to call the attention of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to the fact that by an amendment to the Act incorporating La Banque Provinciale, passed in my memory serves me rightly, about three years ago, it was specially enacted that the bank should be known as La Banque Provinciale du Canada and not the Provincial Bank of Canada. So that in that particular instance at least, parliament seems to have considered that there was not any difficulty involved in the corporation having a name in each of the languages.

WORK OF THE COMMITTEES.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I would like to inquire of the Prime Minister whether it would not be advisable to make a reference of the report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries to the new committee which has been constituted. I observe that a portion of the report was referred to the committee upon the motion of the chairman on the 3rd inst., namely, that portion