

*By Mr. Pouliot:*

Q. Mr. Chairman, these were only ordinary questions, but I am through with that. Will you please define what you mean by an expert in translation?—A. Well, I suppose it is a man who knows his business.

Q. What are the qualifications of a good translator?

The CHAIRMAN: Excuse me, Mr. Pouliot. You are asking this man for his opinion. I think as a lawyer you will agree with me that opinion evidence is never admissible except from some one who has been previously qualified as an expert.

Mr. POULIOT: He was called an expert by the Secretary of State in the House.

The CHAIRMAN: That does not prove a thing to me. The Secretary of State may be entirely mistaken, in addition to which I have not before me as evidence anything said by anybody in the House of Commons. If you want opinion evidence from this gentleman, it is first necessary to qualify him as an expert, otherwise his evidence is not admissible.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. Mr. de Martigny, are you the gentleman that was referred to in the speech in the house by the Hon. Secretary of State when he said he had obtained the opinion of an eminent bilingual man and ably qualified in translations. I am not going into the speech from the throne, as I said long ago I was through with that?—A. Do you mean Pierre Lefort, yes.

*By Mr. Pouliot:*

Q. You are Pierre Lefort?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you a perfect knowledge of both official languages, the English and French languages?—A. Well, I would not say as much of my knowledge of French, although I have studied quite a number of years.

Q. What is your age?—A. My age is a very delicate question. I think I am rather on the good side of the sixties, and I intend to remain on the good side for a number of years.

Q. Where did you learn French?—A. Well, if you want to know, many places; but as an example, in the French Presbyterian faculty of McGill University in Montreal, where I followed my courses in philosophy, French literature, and where I attended quite a number of lectures on the oriental languages.

Q. Oriental languages?—A. Rev. Coussirat was my reverend professor.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. What oriental languages please?—A. The origin of the oriental languages, going into the origin of them, let us say, Hindu and Hebrew.

Q. Any Spanish?—A. That is another question, but I think that I would rather have a practical knowledge of it.

*By Mr. Pouliot:*

Q. Did you study Japanese and Chinese?—A. No.

Q. Did you study French after you left McGill?—A. Well, to make a long story short, I may say that I am about the only French reporter who belongs to the Paris press and I still own my card from both the chief of Police of Montreal, and the prefect of police, Paris, and when I take the trouble of writing stories sometimes they are printed in Paris.

Q. The chief of police of Paris and other cities has nothing to do with Bill No. 4.—A. So I see.