Government Organization

expressions; this one has already been sanctioned by usage in this particular meaning.

Mr. Habel: Mr. Chairman, I have here a copy of "Le Dictionnaire Canadien" (The Canadian Dictionary), published by Messrs. Jean-Paul Vinay, Pierre Daviault and Henry Alexander who co-operated in its preparation. I could read a complete list of three pages of professors of universities who have also co-operated in the preparation of this dictionary in which the word "registraire" is defined as follows:

[English]

Registraire general du Canada—Registrar General of Canada—to keep a record of—minutes—trade registrar.

[Translation]

Then, the expression "Registraire du Canada" is quite Canadian, and I prefer to rely on the opinion of those who prepared this dictionary than on that of the member for Lapointe; so I hope the latter will bow to the Canadian Dictionary.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Chairman, what the hon. member for Cochrane has just said confirms precisely what I put forward some time ago. The new department will be called the department of the registrar general of Canada. Care is being taken to say "Registrar General of Canada" and to define the thing in English. The English words are being translated into French. Nobody seeks to find some typically French expression. People rather wish to Frenchify some English expressions. This is what the hon. member for Cochrane proves through the definition he has just quoted from the dictionary. It is quite evident that, at the present time, the Secretary of State, who is actually the Registrar of Canada, at least according to the expression used, will not object if some current expression as "go-go girls" is chosen and translated into French, but this does not mean that the expression has a French character.

I object to the idea of people picking up an English word that they try afterwards to Frenchify. Let us choose some French word that we shall apply according to the true tradition.

Mr. Choquette: May I ask a question to the hon. member for Cochrane? Is he aware that the word "créditiste" is an Anglicism and that it tends to disappear?

Mr. Habel: Mr. Chairman, I was not aware that the word "créditiste" was an English word, but I know perfectly well that the hon.

member for Lapointe accepts gladly to travel in a "yacht" and that such word is not a French word.

[English]

The Chairman: Perhaps it is about time the committee got back to clause 8.

Mr. Schreyer: I do not wish to imply that the purity of the French language is not important, but it seems to me that while we are fiddling here with the translatability of the words "registrar general", the problem of inflation in this country is slowly becoming more and more acute. Perhaps I should not have used the word "slowly", the problem is a burning one across the country.

The Chairman: Order. I should like to ask the hon, member for Springfield if he is going to relate the remarks which he is making now to clause 8?

Mr. Schreyer: Yes, Mr. Chairman, it is my intention to relate my remarks to clause 8. I was about to say that in the course of the last few days I have had the opportunity of returning to the constituency which I represent and of speaking to a good many people there. I was able to determine, as I am sure many other hon. members here have, that there is mounting concern about the rising cost of living. So far nothing in the way of tangible, effective action has been taken or even suggested by the government.

I do not believe it was too much to expect that the government would have seen fit to include in the powers and functions given to the registrar general under clause 8 the responsibility for looking into matters affecting prices in this country. I do not believe I would serve any useful purpose if I were to speak at length on this matter of the proper powers and functions of the registrar general. If there is any place in the organization of government in this country for responsibility for consumer affairs and matters relating to prices, then logically that place is in this new department being set up under the authority of clauses 6 to 10 of the bill before us.

• (8:50 p.m.)

If there is any sincere desire on the part of the government to translate into action the good intentions expressed a few minutes ago by the President of the Privy Council, then possibly the government will introduce ancillary legislation some time during the course of this session. The people of this country are getting fed up with the steady increase in the cost of living, and with their continual abuse in the marketplace in the form of improper

[Mr. Favreau.]