

not think the hon. member can insist upon an answer to his question concerning the number of vendors in his or any other constituency in the province.

An hon. MEMBER: Why not?

Mr. SANDERSON: Although I do not know how many vendors there are in my constituency, my rough guess would be that there are at least fifty or sixty and all are servants of the government. Surely the minister must have some knowledge of the duties these men perform and the person to whom they are responsible. Were they responsible only to the supervisor? Has the minister any check on the money they receive and return? I can quite understand that it is very pleasant for the government to give employment to fifty or sixty of the faithful, but surely the minister has some information to give to the committee. Is the minister responsible for the appointment of the supervisor?

Mr. DURANLEAU: My department takes the responsibility for the appointment of supervisors. May I add that the supervisor has to purchase the licences from the department. The department takes no risk.

Mr. CASGRAIN: Does he pay in advance?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes.

Mr. YOUNG: Can he peddle them out as he likes?

Mr. DURANLEAU: The department has no responsibility so far as vendors are concerned, because I suppose they have to purchase their licences from the supervisors.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Does the supervisor return the unsold licences and receive compensation for them?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes, we have to make a refund in respect of unsold licences.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): How many radio inspectors have been appointed for the city of Montreal?

Mr. DURANLEAU: One supervisor for the city of Montreal.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): Who is he?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Mr. L. J. Bigonnesse.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): When was he appointed?

Mr. DURANLEAU: About the same time as the others.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): Last year?

Mr. DURANLEAU: At the end of August or the beginning of September.

[Mr. Duranleau.]

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): How many licences were issued in the city of Montreal?

Mr. DURANLEAU: By inspectors?

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri): Yes, for the whole city of Montreal, under Mr. Bigonnesse?

Mr. DURANLEAU: 11,245.

Mr. GRAY: Have supervisors complete control over the hiring and dismissal of the vendors who sell the licences?

Mr. DURANLEAU: As I said a minute ago, we deal only with the supervisors, and it is up to them to see that all people who own radios pay their licences. They may hire as many vendors as they like.

Mr. GRAY: Have they full power of dismissals?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes, of course.

Mr. GRAY: No one other than a supervisor has any power to interfere with the vendors of licences?

Mr. DURANLEAU: I do not believe anyone has.

Mr. GRAY: I am asking you.

Mr. DURANLEAU: Of course if my department had a complaint about a vendor we would place the matter before the supervisor and ask for an explanation.

Mr. GRAY: Have the sitting members, from the various constituencies through which these vendors are operating any control over the vendors?

Mr. DURANLEAU: I do not believe they have.

Mr. GOLDING: If the supervisors have full control after they have made an appointment, has the sitting member any right to tell the supervisor to discontinue the services of or to dismiss an appointee? I want to know, because I know of a definite case where that happened.

Mr. DURANLEAU: I say that no member has power to give instructions to the supervisor. Although I am not certain, in some instances a member receiving complaints concerning a vendor may have gone to the supervisor and without giving instructions, asked the supervisor to dismiss the man. I do not know if that has happened, but it would seem to be a very natural thing to do. I would do that myself; if I had a complaint I would go to the supervisor and say, "I should like you to look after this gentleman, because I do not believe he is playing the game fairly with my constituents."