

people who seek privileges, positions or a service. However, after all, I think it is incumbent on a member, owing to his mandate, to look after legitimate requests and claims of those who have entrusted him with this mandate. And the fact of replying that what they request is entirely out of his hands, that it is within the purview of an independent institution, which has the authority over their request or desire, cannot possibly satisfy those interested. The representative who wishes to fulfil his duty, in my opinion, can not be satisfied with the part he plays.

Later on, always on the eve of an election, we had the Young classification, which had very little results; then came the Griffenhagen reorganization. If we question, always from an efficient and economic viewpoint, the people, especially the French Canadians of Ottawa, we find that the latter always lost many of their rights.

Now, so far as efficiency, after these thorough reorganizations, it certainly has not improved since the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa), discovered in the course of his numerous travels, stacks of French publications valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars which were not distributed. It is admitted that the only and unique reason was that these bundles of publications were out of date, issued at a time when no one required them, because the English version had been issued long before, and, therefore, the French version had become useless. Consequently, no efficiency resulted from such an organization, and we have every reason to believe that such a departure, this year, will have the same result.

Mr. BARRETTE (Translation): Are you censuring the hon. member for Labelle?

Mr. DESLAURIERS (Translation): If the hon. member will kindly let me proceed, he will be in a position to know whether I am censuring him or not.

The hon. member for Labelle is supporting the measure. He quotes figures which are not official but confidential, and he endeavours to prove that the translators do not earn their salaries, besides being the cause of all the evil inherent to the questions relating to French in our parliament.

May I, sir, express a totally opposite view. First, the figures he quoted are not official, therefore they are difficult to contradict since they are confidential. On the other hand, we are obliged to take them for what they are worth. They are not official, since the hon. Secretary of State stated, replying to a question put by the hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. St. Père) that these figures were not

[Mr. Deslauriers.]

issued by his department or by himself, directly or indirectly. The following are the figures quoted by the hon. member for Labelle. I think we must take the word of the hon. Secretary of State in his reply to the hon. member for Hochelaga. First, if he had in his department translators unemployed, he would certainly be aware of it. If there were work to be done in his department, as one who attends to his duties, as we all know, he would certainly have given out the work to these unemployed officials. We are aware, on both sides of the house, that the hon. Secretary of State has certain work of his department done by outsiders. If there were translators unemployed in his department he would, first, utilize them instead of giving out the work.

In quoting these confidential figures, the hon. member for Labelle stated that in the Department of Agriculture seven translators, in the course of a year, had translated but 568 pages each; in the Immigration department, two translators had only translated, in the same period, 46 pages each; in the Public Works department, three translators had only translated 108 pages; in the Mines department, three other translators 148, and in the Trade and Commerce, four translators 1,719. Dealing with the unreliability—may I say—of the figures quoted by the hon. member for Labelle—because it is inconceivable that a man, in the course of a year's work, succeeded, without dying of languor, in translating only 46 pages—dealing with the unlikelihood of such figures, I took the pains to obtain a confidential, not official list, of the departments of Agriculture, Immigration, Public Works, Mines and Trade and Commerce, and what is very strange, the information obtained greatly differs from that of the hon. member for Labelle. For instance, in the Agriculture department, seven translators translated 742 pages, each; in the Immigration, instead of 46 pages, the two translators had to their credit 568 pages and, in the Public Works department, three translators, 715 pages. In the Mines department, where the work is exceedingly difficult owing to the technical subjects, the three translators translated 572 pages. In the Trade and Commerce department, instead of 1,700 and a few pages, there were 1,425 pages of similar schedule work.

Seeing that our figures differ entirely, it would be interesting to have the hon. Secretary of State appoint a committee of members, so that those interested could give evidence as to the amount of work they have accomplished during the period mentioned, and, thereby discover whether in the figures they quote the hon. member for Labelle is