

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I have not seen the French copy.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I presume that for the second reading there will be no difficulty in using the English edition.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—The Bill should be printed in both languages.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I presume my hon. friend will not take that objection.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I certainly shall. I have frequently waived the objection for the sake of harmony.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It is the first time I have known such an objection to be taken, where superhuman efforts have been made to advance the work. This Bill was printed in both languages and distributed last session, but was held over because it was so voluminous. It was introduced this session, and some few changes were made in the House of Commons. It necessarily had to go through the French channel again and be re-printed. The Bureau is not quite equal to all the labour pressed on it at the end of the session, and some allowance must be made for the circumstances. You cannot have a double force towards the close of the session without very greatly increasing the expense.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I admit there is no fault on the part of the officials of this House, but we are face to face with a condition of affairs which I wish to see ended. If they are not able in the House of Commons to translate and furnish us with the Bills as they are sent to us, I want to find where the fault lies, and I shall certainly insist on my objection. We have only received now the copies in French of the journals of two years ago. It is time this delay was at an end. I do not say there is fault on the part of the minister or the government, but there is fault somewhere, and I want to find where it is.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It is simply because there is not staff enough. It is a question of money. Surely we ought to exercise a little common sense in dealing with a subject of this kind. I am happy to recognize the fact that the hon. gentleman, and all of his nationality in this House, can

speak the two languages. In that respect they have the advantage of us, and they ought to be satisfied from the national standpoint if the Bill is printed in French later on. The hon. gentleman understands English as well as French, and, therefore, it is not fair to block the public business of the country for an objection that is not really worthy of the hon. gentleman simply because, towards the end of the session, it becomes practically impossible to keep up with the work unless you quadruple your staff. The force is at work all the time, but they cannot keep up with the work at this period. Of course we can extend the session another week and wait for the translation if hon. gentlemen think that is best.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—The hon. gentleman tells us this Bill was printed and circulated last session—that is twelve months ago. What have the officials been doing for twelve months that they were not able to have the Bill laid before parliament until we had been in session six or seven months, and now they ask us to suspend all the rules and the constitution itself in order to enable them to rush a Bill of 104 clauses through parliament in about 104 minutes. That is about our position.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The Bill was reprinted this session with very voluminous notes explaining the changes that were made in the law as it stands. There are very voluminous notes for the information of every one. In the House of Commons, there were certain changes to which I shall be very glad to call attention when the House is in committee, so that hon. gentlemen will be thoroughly seized of the amendments to the law as it has existed in past years.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Can my hon. friend lay upon the table the information when I asked for yesterday with reference to the area that it is proposed to throw open to homestead pre-emption?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I have a memo of it.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—That information might be interesting to the House during the period while the translation into French is being completed.