

*Saskatchewan legislative assembly*

21. An article on page 171 of Volume XV (1946) of the journal of the society of clerks-at-the-table in empire parliaments by Mr. George Stevens, Clerk of the assembly at that time, describes what is claimed to be, the first attempt to introduce recording apparatus as a means of producing a verbatim record of parliamentary proceedings. Dictaphone equipment was installed in the Saskatchewan legislative assembly in 1947. Prior to this date no *Hansard* was available chiefly because of the cost and the shortage of skilled shorthand reporters.

22. Following the 1947 experiment, during which a complete session was recorded on 400 belts, an installation consisting of 30 microphones, recording and transcribing apparatus and a console situated in the gallery was approved.

23. Problems were encountered, during the early stages, in identifying speakers, catching interjections and in the transcription phase. The console operator's efficiency in switching microphones and in maintaining a log of speakers has overcome the identification and interjection problems satisfactorily. Typists have been trained to "eliminate grosser crudities and produce a satisfactory unrevised *Hansard*". The first typed draft is made available to members for checking then edited and retyped on spirit masters for duplication of *Hansard* which is not produced until after the session. No reporters or stenographers are used.

24. The clerk, Mr. C. B. Koester further states:

The speeding up of this process without drastically increasing the staff of three typists is a problem to which I am presently turning my attention.

25. A review of the Saskatchewan *Hansard* indicates that while the editing and format does not equal the high standard being achieved in the House of Commons version, it does reflect the debates effectively, including many quick interjections, and is produced with a minimum of cost.

*Manitoba legislative assembly*

26. The Manitoba recording apparatus is connected with a sound amplification system which incorporates a microphone and a speaker at each desk. The console operator switches mikes and records each speaker's name on a log. The recording is made on a plastic disc with Gray audograph equipment.

27. The staff consists of ten typists and three supervisors. The first transcript is checked by supervisors. A retyped format is Xeroxed and reproduced on multilith machines.

28. The clerk, Mr. Charland Prud'homme further states "*Hansard* is printed the following morning and, in most cases, is on the member's desk the following afternoon. It is unedited—no corrections are made on our *Hansard*".

29. Again, the chief difference between the Manitoba product and the House of Commons *Hansard* is in the quality of the printing and the standard of editing. There is no reason to believe the recording system fails to capture the proceedings satisfactorily.

*Quebec legislative assembly*

30. A visit was made to the Quebec legislature on Thursday, March 29, 1962. The Clerk, Mr. Lemieux provided copies of reports submitted to a committee of five members (the Speaker, two ministers and two former ministers) charged with the responsibility of investigating available methods of recording debates. These reports indicate that, since there is no sound amplification system