

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Wednesday, August 10, 1904.

First Sitting.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Eleven o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

TRANSLATION OF DEBATES.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Before the Orders of the Day are called, I desire to ask the hon. Secretary of State if anything is to be done, regarding the translation into French of the Senate Debates? We are in the dying hours of the session, and I think it is time to lay my complaint before the hon. ministers. We have had no French translation of the 'Debates' since the month of April. If we are to be supplied with the French copies of the 'Debates' two or three months after the session, the expense of the translation is useless. We should get it from day to day, as soon as it is translated, and printed. The printer has a lot of the manuscript translation before him. It is kept there, and nothing is done with it. If the hon. Secretary of State occupies his present seat next session he should apply the proper remedy so that we may have the 'Debates' furnished us from day to day.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It is a long-standing grievance, and dates back to confederation. I have never been on that committee, and I really do not know what the trouble is. There may be some reason at the Bureau, because, as the hon. gentleman knows, the Bureau is quite unequal to the labour it has to perform, and cannot keep it up with anything like fair rapidity. We are now authorizing an addition to it, and it is quite evident that we shall have to send out a great deal of the work. This, however, is a class of work we could not very well send to other offices. It has to be done in the Bureau. I understand that the translation and printing have been completed up to the end of June. I think it is in a very much better position than it was in former years, so that there is some improvement. We hope the improvement will be greater another year, and that the service will be more satisfactory in the future, than it has been in the past.

Hon. Sir GEORGE DRUMMOND.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—We have had only one or two copies of the unrevised edition this year. If the Bureau could be enlarged—

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—We are enlarging it now. The work of extending it is going on.

ALIENS BILL.

SECOND READING.

The Order of the Day being called, second reading (Bill 162) An Act respecting Aliens.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved that the Bill be referred to Committee of the Whole House.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—As the hon. gentleman did not give any explanation on the second reading. I would ask him to explain the Bill as it stands now.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The Bill has been subjected to very many important changes—that is the Bill as it will be submitted to the committee. It has been criticised a good deal, and one has to acknowledge that there is considerable opposition to it; but I think all the objectionable clauses have been removed. It has been practically so amended that it will be accepted by this Chamber without hesitation; clause 4, which was very stringent and far-reaching, has been practically struck out. The amendment which I shall propose simply meets a case which attracted a good deal of attention recently in Montreal, where an Italian agent represented to some of his fellow-countrymen in Italy that there was a great opening in Canada, and by giving him a commission they were sure to receive employment. The consequence was 4,000 or 5,000 Italians were stranded in Montreal for some time. The amended clause will meet a case of that kind. It has nothing to do with legitimate engagement of labour. If any employer of labour chooses to make arrangements to bring persons from abroad he can do so, supposing his object is honest and fair, and he really means to give them employment—that he is not acting for the purpose of extorting money from the people. That will be the whole affect of clause 4.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—The hon. gentleman wants to amend this clause?

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—What will be the effect of the clause as amended?