

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. What I was trying to get at, Mr. Gerin was this: Have you any suggestions to make as to improving the present system, if it can be improved?—A. Well, I think it is giving fairly good results. Anything can be improved, I suppose. It is giving fairly good results now. For myself I would be in favour of maintaining the present system as it is.

Q. You would be in favour of keeping the system as it is?—A. Yes, with minor improvements that are not dependent on our goodwill, to do the best we can, and I think we are doing fairly well in the circumstances.

Mr. POULIOT: You are doing very well.

The WITNESS: Thank you.

Mr. LAURIN: That is your personal opinion?

The WITNESS: Yes.

*Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. Have you given any thought, Mr. Gerin, to the improvements in the arrangement of the translators' work?—A. No, I have no suggestions to make.

Q. Have you given any thought to the matter of improvement?—A. Oh my, yes. I have been at that for so many years that I have always thought of finding some way to improve, some kind of improvement.

*By Mr. Laurin:*

Q. What do you mean by "minor improvements"?—A. "Minor"? Did I say minor?

Q. Yes, minor improvements to be made.—A. I do not remember having said "minor". Did I say that?

The CHAIRMAN: I think so. It is immaterial. Did you not mean that?

The WITNESS: No.

The CHAIRMAN: There is no harm done.

The WITNESS: I do not remember exactly how it was. You can always improve matters. There is no doubt you can always improve matters but sometimes it is not dependent on us. We are only a wheel within a wheel and so we have to work as best we can, taking into account the other elements.

Mr. CHEVRIER: I do not know whether I am quite within the four corners of the bill, but Mr. Chairman I understand that this would be a bureau of translation that would probably take away from the various departments the translators where they are now situated. There is nothing in the bill that says that, but there is an atmosphere as to that. Now, may I ask this. Suppose that the translators of the house were to be taken away from their present situations and put under a superintendent outside of the jurisdiction of the house—I do not know whether the bill means that, but some of us think that is what it means.

The CHAIRMAN: If you let me interrupt you to say this. I do not think there is any question that to some extent that is what the bill means. The bill provides

- (1) That there is to be a translation bureau;
- (2) That a minister of the crown is to be responsible for it;
- (3) That it is to have a superintendent;
- (4) That all of its employees come under the Civil Service Act.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. Now, if that be so, Mr. Gerin, if the translators of the House of Commons, particularly the debates with which you are acquainted, are taken away from under the jurisdiction of the house and placed under the jurisdiction of a super-