

*Supply—Secretary of State*

**Mr. Caron:** Now, what were the queen's printer's receipts in 1957-58 on the sale of these publications?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** About \$750,000.

**Mr. Caron:** "About" \$750,000! We are given only approximate figures! The Auditor General was right when he said that there should be changes at the printing bureau with regard to publication.

**Mr. Courtemanche:** The exact figure is \$760,595, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Caron:** And now, Mr. Chairman, could the hon. Secretary of State tell us what amount has been recovered by the queen's printer on waste paper sold to various firms like the Florence Paper Company Limited, and others of that kind?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** Mr. Chairman, waste paper is not sold by the printing bureau, but by the Crown Assets Corporation.

**Mr. Caron:** At all times?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, in all cases.

**Mr. Caron:** Were there large quantities of unsold publications that had to be disposed of as waste paper in 1957-58?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** There were none in 1957-58, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Caron:** Were there any in 1956-57?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** Nor were there any in 1956-57, Mr. Chairman.

(Text):

**Mr. Herridge:** Mr. Chairman, I had intended to make rather extended remarks on these estimates, but as the public accounts committee is sitting and we have a most able colleague on that committee the many questions I would have asked on this subject will be asked by my colleague there. I am quite sure that when they are answered the result will be about as bad as it was in the case of the questions asked in that committee with respect to the building of the printing bureau.

However, I wish to support the hon. member for Hull in the remarks he made the day before yesterday, I believe, complaining about the situation in the printing bureau. Prior to his remarks and since I have had telephone calls from employees of the bureau saying that they heartily support what their member says, that conditions are most unsatisfactory, that the terms of employment are

unsatisfactory, that the method of examination is unsatisfactory and the method of promotion is unsatisfactory.

I would judge from what I have been told by people who have visited me and in telephone calls since the speech by the hon. member, who has received a great deal of support, that apparently there is very low morale and a great deal of dissatisfaction in the printing bureau, and I hope this question will be thoroughly explored in the public accounts committee, as well as working conditions in the building at the present time.

I want to confine my remarks this morning to one question. Some time ago I asked the Secretary of State a question to this effect: Did he know of any senior civil servant who had performed very little service for many years and had been on full salary? I will say frankly that one of the persons I had in mind was the deputy queen's printer. I asked that question on the basis of reliable information from persons very closely associated with the printing bureau. However, some days later the Secretary of State answered that he had not been able to discover any such condition. I want to ask him this question. Did the former deputy queen's printer resign a few days before the minister answered my question in the house?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** I am informed that he was sick for the past two years, and was obliged to leave because of illness.

**Mr. Herridge:** Would the minister mind repeating that?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** I am informed that he resigned because of illness. He was sick for the past two years. He did not resign; he was transferred.

**Mr. Herridge:** To what department was he transferred?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** He was transferred to the civil service commission.

**Mr. Herridge:** He is now a paid civil servant employed with the civil service commission.

**Mr. Courtemanche:** That is right.

**Mr. Herridge:** Is the minister quite sure that this sickness had only extended over a period of two years?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** Yes.

**Mr. Herridge:** And before that he performed his full duties? He attended his office regularly?

**Mr. Courtemanche:** Yes.

**Mr. Winch:** Be careful about your answer.