

the galleries of the chamber are visited daily by a great number of people who come here to listen to the deliberations of the house. I am informed that many of these people are not adequately bilingual in the two official languages of Canada and therefore cannot follow a debate in its entirety as well as they might wish, with the result that many leave here and express their unhappiness at this condition. They know very well that the members of the house and the press gallery have the advantage of simultaneous translation. Might I suggest that the proper authorities take under advisement the possibility of providing simultaneous translation in the galleries of this chamber.

[Later:]

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

**Mr. Prosper Boulanger (Mercier):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Public Works. Could the minister tell the house whether the government intends to take before long the necessary steps so that the simultaneous translation may be heard in the galleries of the House of Commons?

**Hon. J. P. Deschatelets (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, the Department of Public Works is considering providing simultaneous translation in the galleries as part of an overall improvement plan for the main block of parliament buildings.

The matter has been under consideration for about two months, and when the departmental engineers have submitted their report, the government will then be in a position to make a decision in this regard.

[Text]

## BANKING AND COMMERCE

Tenth report of standing committee on banking and commerce—Mr. Asselin (Notre Dame de Grace.)

## INDUSTRY

### AUTOMOBILES—PLANS TO INCREASE CANADIAN SHARE IN GROWTH

**Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to announce to the house certain new measures which are being introduced by the government to foster greater production and trade in motor vehicles and parts for vehicles. An order in council has been passed which gives effect to the following measures as of November 1, 1963. They will supersede the provisions of P.C. 1962-1/1536 pertaining to the remission of duties paid on importations of automatic transmissions and stripped engines.

### Plans to Increase Automotive Industry

The new measures provide for the remission of duties paid on importations of vehicles and parts for vehicles for use in the manufacture of motor vehicles in Canada.

The remission of duties on imports may be earned through exports of vehicles or parts in excess of exports made during the 12 months ending October 31, 1962. Exports to any country are eligible to earn a credit for remission of duties. Credits may be earned by vehicle manufacturers through exports by themselves or by the parts makers.

One dollar of exported Canadian content will earn the remission of duties on one dollar of dutiable imports. If full advantage of the plan is taken by industry, it could lead to increased production and exports of between \$150 million and \$200 million annually, and to the remission of duties on an equivalent value of imports into Canada.

The new measures will be in force initially for a period of three years. It is envisaged that a plan of this magnitude will result in substantial investment in new production facilities, and the planning and construction of new machinery and buildings requires a certain minimum time, even when pressed vigorously. The government will wish, however, to review the progress achieved under the plan at the end of three years and to be guided in implementing future measures by the results achieved in the interval.

The objectives of this plan are threefold; first, to increase production and create additional employment in Canada; second, to take an important step to improve Canada's balance of payments position; and third, to give producers of parts for vehicles and producers of vehicles a valuable incentive to achieve longer production runs and a greater degree of specialization, thus assisting them to reduce their costs. The plan involves no restriction to trade. The new measures do not require the enactment of new duties or other restrictive measures. They will be implemented entirely within the context of Canada's trade agreement commitments.

The government believes that the new plan will make substantial new production opportunities available to Canadian automotive industry producers. It should also help them to reduce costs, with benefits to them and to Canadian consumers. Furthermore, it is consistent with Canada's policy of solving our trade and balance of payments problems by constructive measures and not through restrictive actions. Under these new measures trade in both directions will be encouraged.