

*Official Languages*

indicated to me a great concern about the creation of what they thought was a second-class citizenship in that they felt those Canadians who were neither of British nor French descent would be excluded by the bill from full citizenship. That is the argument that is made.

I cannot stress strongly enough—the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) was very eloquent last Friday on this point, and his personal experience justifies his sincerity—that there is only one class of citizen in Canada. In this respect I echo what the hon. member for York South said. Most of those who have come to this country have learned to express themselves in one or other of the French or English languages. They have not given up their own culture but they have enriched their lives by opting for one of the two languages and cultures which they have found in Canada. This bill does not deprive them of any of those rights or any of those historic, traditional, family advantages. I believe it would be useful to put on record the fact that clause 38 of the bill sets this out amply and clearly when it provides:

Nothing in this act shall be construed as derogating from or diminishing in any way any legal or customary right or privilege acquired or enjoyed either before or after the coming into force of this act with respect to any language that is not an official language.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, would the minister allow a question? Would he give an example of this? I endeavoured to think of an example and could not, but no doubt he will be able to do so.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** I would say that in certain parts of western Canada where a language other than French has been traditionally used in the schools of some municipal areas or even, to a limited extent, in the courts by way of interpreters, those rights are guaranteed by this bill and are in no way excluded by it.

**Mr. Lewis:** And parochial schools.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** And parochial schools, as the hon. member for York South reminds me. Another objection emanating from western Canada and shared in some measure in the Atlantic provinces relates to the fear that our policy represented in this bill will bar English speaking Canadians from the federal public service.

**Mr. McIntosh:** It already has.

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**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** I agree with the hon. member that this is a question of prime importance, but I do not agree with the assertion he has just made. Of all the issues raised in connection with this bill, I believe the question of recruitment for the public service deserves the most serious consideration. Some people have expressed the opinion that if this bill were to be enacted it would limit recruitment to certain areas of our country or, if we want to be really blunt about it, the public service would become the preserve of French speaking Canadians. I do not accept that for one moment. I believe it is encouraging to note that the government's policy on bilingualism has had no deterrent effect on recruitment in the English speaking parts of this country. Quite the contrary, because—

**Mr. McIntosh:** That is not correct.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):**—since the announcement of the government's policy by the former prime minister of this country, the right hon. Lester B. Pearson, in 1966 the total number of university graduates applying for positions has more than doubled from about 4,000 in the 1965-66 recruitment program to almost 9,000 this year.

**Mr. Horner:** Would the minister have a look at the Department of External Affairs?

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** The breakdown by universities clearly indicates that the bilingualism policy has not scared away the younger people from any part of our country. I would like to read, and am prepared to table with the consent of the house, the figures comparing the year 1966 with 1969. Let me refer to a few universities chosen at random. McGill—

**Mr. Aiken:** Mr. Speaker, would the minister indicate the source of the figures he is going to use?

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. The source of these figures is the Public Service Commission of Canada. In 1966 there were 204 applications from McGill University; in 1969 there have been 309. For the University of Montreal, in 1966 there were 85 applications; in 1969 there have been 256. With regard to the University of New Brunswick, there were 76 applications in 1966 and 221 this year. For Dalhousie there were 77 in 1966 and 156 this year; Memorial University, 37 three years ago and 114 this year; Victoria University, 26 three years