

government, the matter is exercising the minds of the returned men, because these 3,000 farms are allocated to other men and they cannot find farms for themselves. Let me suggest that all the returned men should be satisfied, so far as their demands for farms are concerned, before consideration is given to others. Can we be sure that these returned men, who still ask for farms and are entitled to them, will be given consideration and their wants supplied first?

Mr. FORKE: I might say my hon. friend's wishes will be met as far as possible. Of course, they have delayed a long time. If they had taken action two years ago they would have been in a different position. The farms were vacant and some of the lands have been sold for taxes. Something had to be done. The three thousand-family scheme has been criticized and we thought better to place men on the farms which were not occupied. I think the returned soldiers have been leniently dealt with on the whole. On the resale of these lands we find in some cases, the department is getting better prices for the abandoned farms than the soldiers paid for them.

Mr. GARDINER: I can quite understand that where the conditions are improving. In some cases the returned man has held on because of price conditions, and I commend him for his judgment, but that does not solve the problem. I hope the minister will give full consideration to the demands of these men so that they will be satisfied.

Item agreed to.

Legislation—House of Commons

Salaries..	\$ 231,645 00
Expenses of committees, clerical assistance, etc..	101,950 000
Contingencies..	47,265 00
Publishing debates..	60,000 00
Estimates of Sergeant-at-Arms..	187,231 10
	\$628,091 10

Mr. COOTE: I desire to say a word or two about the services around the House of Commons at the time of prorogation. I think that we might have the services of some of the messengers after the House prorogues. Sometimes after prorogation the messenger service is required and it is cut out.

Mr. SPEAKER: In compliance with the request of hon. members on both sides, I may inform the House that I have consented to the continuance of a limited messenger service for a short time following prorogation.

Mr. WARD: Will we have the services of a few stenographers for a short time?

Mr. SPEAKER: I have also considered that matter and have recommended that for two or three days after the session members shall be able to secure the services of stenographers and that they shall also have access to blue books and parliamentary documents.

Mr. WARD: I have heard that the Post Office Department has been instructed not to carry our files, books and other matter that we wish to send home by mail, but that they would have to be parcelled together and sent by express.

An hon. MEMBER: Too bad.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a matter for the Post Office Department, and I think the minister who has charge of that department will yield to my request when I ask him to permit members to send these documents by mail.

Item agreed to.

To increase the salary of the secretary to the leader of the opposition from \$3,000 to \$3,960 per annum from April 1, 1927..	\$ 960 00
To provide for the full sessional indemnity to members of the House of Commons—days lost through absence caused by illness, official public business, or on account of death during the present session—Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in chapter 10 of the revised statutes, an act respecting the Senate and House of Commons, or any amendments thereto. Payment to be made as the Treasury Board may direct..	25,000 00
To provide for the salary of the Deputy Speaker from December 14, 1926, to March 31, 1927, inclusive..	1,193 54
To hereby appoint D. Barbes, J. W. Gibson, as principal clerks at \$2,280 each; H. Gilchen, J. P. Doyle, E. Guerin, M. E. McEwan, and J. U. Emard, as clerks, grade 4, at \$1,800 each from April 1, 1927, notwithstanding anything contained in the Civil Service Act or amendments thereto..	13,560 00
To authorize indemnity to the Right Honourable Arthur Meighen, leader of the opposition for the period September 26 to October 11, 1926, inclusive..	434 59
To authorize remuneration of A. Chasse, private secretary to the leader of the opposition for the period September 26 to October 11, 1926, inclusive, at the rate of \$5 per diem..	80 00
	\$41,228 13