

printed. We may order a pamphlet to be printed, or allow some one to get up a pamphlet without seeing it at all, but not permit it to be printed unless it is suitable. That is very often done. We cannot furnish a copy of any such book as that.

MR. TROW : That is just the information I want to get. I want to know if there is any looseness about the Department. I want to know whether the hon. gentleman authorises parties to prepare pamphlets and engages to print 20,000 or 30,000 without knowing that they contain reliable information.

MR. POPE: The hon. member has not made out his case at all. If a person comes to me and asks if he may get up a pamphlet, I say "yes." I will take the pamphlet if it suits me after it is prepared. The hon. gentleman wants me to furnish a copy of a pamphlet like that. Suppose I have not seen it?

MR. ANGLIN: Does the hon. gentleman buy a pig in a poke in that fashion?

MR. JONES: My hon. friend does not say he buys a pig in a poke. He says, when a pamphlet suits him, he will take it. Perhaps the hon. member (Mr. Trow) would like to have a copy of the pamphlets to be printed next year.

MR. CASEY: The hon. Minister certainly stated that perhaps he might order somebody to write a pamphlet for the Department without seeing it. That certainly means that he gives a commission to write the pamphlet and undertakes to publish it. This is probably what my hon. friend (Mr. Trow) is trying to get at. It is certainly an extraordinary admission for a Minister to make, that he would give somebody a commission to write a pamphlet and undertake to buy it without knowing what it is. But, if he means they will take the pamphlet after he sees it, that slightly alters the complexion of the matter, but not very much. No one will write a pamphlet and submit it to inspection without having received a hint that it was pretty sure to be accepted.

MR. POPE: I think anybody that publishes a book expects to sell it. It it suits, people may promise to take a certain number of copies. Am I then to bring down a pamphlet before it is published or I obtain a copy myself. This motion, if passed, would make me buy all

pamphlets for all time to come, before the House, whether it was convenient or suitable or not.

MR. PATERSON (South Brant): Perhaps the hon. the Minister of Agriculture would tell whether he has given permission to anyone to try his hand at writing a pamphlet, and how much he is giving for it.

MR. BOULTBEE: I think it would be rather hard to press for the particulars in this case. For we all know we have a number of very ambitious, clever young men, who think they know a great deal, and though they may not resort to public speaking, think they should be writingsomething frequently. It would be very hard if the young, rising intellect of this kind should be crushed out by harsh and economical Ministers, who refused to look at such lucubrations. It would be very hard if the House should return such writings, and add them to the number of rejected addresses. It is very much better to let them produce what they can, and let the Minister get it printed. Why cover a man with shame, who has been trying to do something for his country and has simply failed?

MR. TROW: I merely ask for a return of the pamphlets contracted for by the Department of Agriculture; the amounts paid and promised, and the number of copies of such pamphlets.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER: It is impossible to pass the motion in its present form. The mover asks for a statement, in detail, of all the books, pamphlets, etc., issued or to be issued. It would be quite possible to give a statement in detail of all the books, pamphlets and papers issued, ordered or contracted for; and I would suggest the amendment of the motion in that sense. I am a little surprised to hear hon. gentlemen opposite argue that it would be monstrous for the Government to engage to promote the publication of a work not already written. That is constantly done—not by the Government, but by the public, which subscribes and pledges itself to take certain works before they are written or published. Gentlemen do this often, because confident of the character and capacity of the authors and publishers. So, in the same way, if a gentleman offered to publish a work which the Government believed, from his knowledge and character;