

—contains instructions to the customs officers on their respective duties. We have 1,617 officials and I suppose each one should have a copy.

Now the minister got last year \$2,500 for the purpose of preparing this book. He says that nothing has been expended so far for that purpose. Now will he tell us what he did with that \$2,500?

Mr. PATERSON. We did not use it, it lapsed.

Mr. BLAIN. Is this a revote, then?

Mr. PATERSON. Practically, yes.

Mr. BLAIN. Am I correct then in understanding the minister to say that the \$2,500 voted last year was not any of it expended?

Mr. PATERSON. It has not been expended this current year. It is not expected any part of it will be used.

Mr. TAYLOR. Will the hon. gentleman give us the details of the expenditure of this \$37,500 this year?

Mr. PATERSON. The expenses are about the same each year.

Mr. BLAIN. I do not wish to weary the minister, but I have another question. I have read what he said last year about the \$2,500. I would like the minister to state emphatically, if he is able, that no part of the \$2,500 was expended last year for any purpose.

Mr. PATERSON. I say emphatically it will not be.

Mr. BLAIN. What was done with the \$2,500 that was voted last year?

Mr. PATERSON. Nothing done.

Mr. INGRAM. The hon. gentleman has this item of \$37,500 placed under seven or eight different headings under which he proposes to expend the money. Will the hon. gentleman give the figures under the different items making up the total of \$37,500? If the hon. minister will give the explanation under each item as it is called it would facilitate the progress of business. We have been trying to get this information for hour after hour and yet these hon. gentlemen opposite tell us we are killing time. I think it is high time the hon. gentleman should give us this information. There is no reason in asking us to sit here until two o'clock in the morning, and I protest against this kind of thing. Of all the estimates that it was ever attempted to get through this House, I have never known of there having been less effort to give an explanation than that made by the hon. minister to-night. We have to drag it out of him. When other hon. gentlemen come down with estimates, they give an explanation upon each item as it is called without being asked for it. Either the hon. gentle-

man is holding back the information or he is not posted on his own estimates, because if he were he could give a better explanation than that which he has given.

Mr. PATERSON. The hon. gentleman has the Auditor General's Report there in which the expenditure is given for the previous year. The estimates for the coming year are based upon the expenditures of the past year. The hon. gentleman can see how these expenditures were made. We anticipate there will be equal expenses upon equal lines, from the same operations as those shown upon the book before the hon. gentleman. Therefore we ask for \$37,500. The details of the expenditures are in the hon. gentleman's hand. He is asking for information which he has in his hand and can get. There is no desire to withhold information. There have been as complete explanations given as can be given. The hon. gentleman is insisting upon getting from me, what he has already and he is insisting upon something that is not necessary for the proper understanding of the subject. The expenditures do not vary in any considerable degree. He can see that this estimate must be approximately correct, but if it varies in any respect and there is more estimated for than will be expended the vote simply lapses and the money is not expended.

Mr. INGRAM. The hon. gentleman has not enlightened us very much. What is the hon. gentleman paid for if he is not paid to come down to this House and give information? When he goes to council and asks for a certain amount of money to carry on the affairs of the department, does he tell the other ministers to look at the Auditor General's report and see what the expenditure was last year? If he went over to the council and asked for so much on these various items we assume that he would be in a position to tell the other ministers what the items are and how he makes up the total of \$37,500. I am not here to peruse two volumes of the Auditor General's Report—

Mr. PATERSON. Yes, you are; it is printed for you.

Mr. INGRAM. The hon. minister is paid for that. We have on page 75 of the estimates, an item of \$37,500 for miscellaneous, consisting of printing and stationery, subscriptions to commercial papers, flags, dating stamps, locks, instruments, &c., for various ports of entry, legal expenses, and uniforms for the customs officers. I want to know how much the hon. gentleman requires for each of these items. I do not want to be told that I am to come to this House and read page after page of the Auditor General's Report to see what you expended last year. I want to know what you propose to do for the coming year. You may expend twice as much