

Finance Minister would see his way to placing a sum in the estimates for the purpose suggested.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said the matter would be taken under consideration.

Mr. THOMPSON (Welland) also spoke of Mr. TODD's valuable services, and urged the Government to grant the aid suggested.—The item was carried.

On the item, \$35,860, for salaries and contingencies per Sergeant-at-Arms' estimate,

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said there was an increase of \$2,290 over last year's vote. A large part of it was taken up in contingencies for payments to tradesmen and others. There were three additional messengers and one page required.

Hon. Mr. ANGLIN explained that the three messengers referred to had been employed for some three or four years past, though this was the first reference made to them in the estimates. There had been a slight increase in salaries according to law, but no special increase of any kind except for the employment of an additional page. The \$1,000 for contingencies was found to be necessary, and he thought it was fairer and better to take a sufficient amount than to ask for a sum which the experience of the past had shown would be insufficient.—The item was carried.

On the \$7,000, grant to Parliamentary Library,

Right Hon. Sir JOHN MACDONALD asked when the Library Building would be completed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said every possible expedition had been used, but the amount of labor to be done was very great indeed. No doubt, though, it would be ready for occupation before next winter. It was now nearly completed so far as the masonry was concerned, and steps had been taken to provide fittings such as shelves and galleries.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN MACDONALD suggested that as soon as the building was finished, the library should be enlarged. Until the books were classified, which could not be done until the new building was ready, they could only keep up with the current literature of the day.—The item was carried.

On the item of \$12,500 for printing, binding and distributing the laws,

Hon. J. H. Cameron.

Mr. YOUNG (Waterloo) asked what mode had been taken to distribute the statutes to the public who might wish to buy copies. He had frequently found persons looking for them, who were unable to get them. If the issue was short, steps could be taken to supply the demand.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he believed the course pursued was this:—Any bookseller might order copies from the printer, but unless they did give an order at the time the statutes were in type, it was impossible to furnish copies. All that the House provided for was the distribution of the Statutes.

Mr. YOUNG said that must lead to a very considerable amount of inconvenience, because, if the booksellers failed to give their orders in time, there might be a dearth in the supply. He thought the Government should print a small number extra, so that the public could get copies. Nobody would go into the publication of them as a private speculation.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said they could not. The QUEEN'S PRINTER alone could print them.

Mr. YOUNG said that made it all the more necessary to have a larger number printed.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said no representations had been made up to the present time to the Government that there was any scarcity in the number of copies. It was a very easy matter to publish a larger number if necessary.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN MACDONALD agreed with the hon. member for South Waterloo. Professional men occasionally had a good deal of difficulty in getting copies of the Statutes. Originally large numbers were published and distributed gratuitously. The English system was now pursued, which was to order enough for Parliament, leaving the publishers to supply the public. He suggested to the Printing Committee that the Statutes should be stereotyped so that extra copies could be struck off from time to time as they might be required. At present if the edition should be exhausted there was no means of getting more.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said there was a great scarcity of copies of the Statutes in Halifax, and something should be done to supply the demand. Professional men were obliged to lend the copies they possessed to each other.