

already, and the work done in it is increasing. Space is also required for the linotype machines which were ordered for delivery during the summer, and room for map-mounting is much needed. The need of more accommodation was pointed out last year by my predecessor, and it was suggested at that time that both wings of the building should be extended. The statute under which the Bureau was organized, provides that the lithographic work of the Government should be done here and, if that be decided upon, an addition to the building would be absolutely necessary. This extension of one wing only would provide sufficient space for a long time to come for all possible needs. The departmental composing room and the sheet and pamphlet bindery could then be extended. There would be room for a fast perfecting press, feeding from the web and able to overtake any requirements of long orders, such as the Experimental Farm Report. The folding and clamping up of sheets could be done on the ground floor in immediate connection with the presses, thus saving the loss of time and labour in handling the sheets. There would be space in the attic for map-mounting and a photographic room, and on the remaining floors for the lithographing and printing of the Government maps and plans.

Lithographing.—It has been suggested to me by the Civil Service Commission, and by others, that, in accordance with the law, the lithographing work of the Government should be under the supervision of the Bureau. It would seem to be the natural place for such work rather than attaching, as now, a lithographic establishment to the Department of the Interior. I was glad to avail myself of the services of that department to produce the illustrations of the Patent Office Record, and on one occasion of special emergency, when a mass of tabular reprinting was required at a week's notice, beyond the power of the whole staff of the Bureau to produce in a month, I was glad to find in the Department of the Interior men willing and capable of putting at my disposal the resources of photolithography to meet the emergencies of the public service. It fortunately happened that sufficient copies of the required documents were found in time, but the knowledge that this resource was within my reach saved much anxiety. In that department good work is now being done, but there is no steam press, and while hand-printing is sufficient for short numbers of a few hundreds, it is unable to meet the requirements of the public service generally. The proper course would seem to be to transfer the whole lithographing staff to the Department of Public Printing, and provide a steam press and all other requisite plant at a place where abundant motive power already exists.

I do not think that it would be advisable to set to work and at once get up an extensive lithographic office, but I think it would be well to provide room and to assemble there the present staff and organize it, providing only what is presently necessary and letting the business grow in a natural manner, advancing in proportion to the requirements of the public service. It would be impossible for the Queen's Printer to supervise the operations of a staff working in a building a half a mile distant and at the same time to attend properly to his own duties. No transfer should therefore be made until room is provided under the same roof. It would be better to go on as at present, distributing the work among the lithographing firms of the Dominion and putting up with present inconveniences and expense until the extension of the building can be made. Every year it will become more pressing, as the increasing applications of photography to the lithographing and printing