

thousand dollars was taken in the other House for this purpose. A much smaller vote would suffice for the Senate. I am sure my hon. friend will consider his colleagues in this House are worthy of as much consideration as the distinguished gentlemen who occupy seats in another Chamber.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—It seems to me if any step is taken along the lines indicated, it should be done by an expression of the Senate, and instructions will be given to place a sufficient amount in the estimates. I am not prepared to say what action the government would take upon the subject, but it seems to me the initial step to be taken in securing any such advantage as the services of stenographers should be in the direction I have indicated. A sum should certainly be placed in the Senate estimates before anything could be done.

Hon. Sir GEORGE ROSS—It looks as if we might have to wait another year.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Not necessarily.

Hon. Mr. POWER—We have got along for forty years without these stenographers, and I think we can get along during the present session. That is my humble opinion, and, further, it strikes me that the regular course would be to refer the question to the Committee on Internal Economy, and let the House act on their report.

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—Do the government know what the policy adopted is in the other Chamber with regard to the supplying of stenographers? I have understood there was some change.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—My impression is that the House of Commons voted a specific sum, placed that sum in the estimates, and in pursuance of that vote stenographers have been employed.

Hon. Mr. POWER—But only a comparatively small number of stenographers; not one for each man.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Oh, no. I shall be very glad to acquaint the government with whatever expression of opinion the

Hon. Sir GEORGE ROSS.

Senate gives, but until we have an expression of opinion I cannot very well see how we can proceed with the matter.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—I quite appreciate that our situation is not exactly similar to that of the Commons, who have to be in constant contact with their electors. We have not that obligation, but at the same time there is considerable work which appertains to the fulfilment of our duties in this Chamber, which sometimes calls for shorthand writers or amanuenses, and, perhaps, inasmuch as the precedent has been created in the other Chamber on a much larger scale, a few stenographers, a small number to begin with, could be retained. The question has sprung up suddenly just now, and I would not like to give my own impression of what would be required for the discharge of that duty. But surely we would all welcome the retaining of a certain number of stenographers for the work performed in relation to the discharge of our duties in this Chamber.

Hon. Mr. DERBYSHIRE—We require a shorthand writer and typewriter in room No. 2. He is wanted there at once because we have six of the best senators of the House.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I am not in any sense disparaging the advisability of this being done, but it had better be taken up in a businesslike way, so that the views of the Senate can be conveyed in some way to the government, and not in such a desultory manner as the present method.

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—The suggestion made by the hon. gentleman from Calgary (Hon. Mr. Lougheed) would strike me as a reasonable proposition—that the matter be taken up first by a committee of this House.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—The matter would have to be referred to the committee.

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—Not necessarily. The committee makes a recommendation which is within the four corners of their powers, and that recommendation can be considered by this House and accepted or rejected.

Hon. Mr. GIBSON—How would the Committee on Internal Economy know the de-