

Printing Problems

The printing of these compilations of documents, which were confidential or secret, was a constant "production" problem for Pope and Walker, and, like other departments, his Department was frequently impatient with the over-worked Printing Bureau.

During January, 1910, Mr. Pope had some argument with the King's Printer over the apparently exorbitant bills to his Department for the printing of certain "Confidential Prints". This complaint centred on a bill charging \$121.65 for twenty-five copies of an unbound document of sixty-two pages, entitled "Inland Fisheries No. 1"; and \$21.75 for an unstated but probably the same number of copies of a ten-page document, "North Atlantic Fisheries No.5". "These charges", he wrote, "appear to be enormous and no ordinary contingencies can stand them." Mr. Parmelee, the King's Printer, replied that on enquiry "our charge for composition is considerably lower than that charged by outside offices. . . I fancy the only way for you will be to secure a larger appropriation." This correspondence was both verbally and in a letter of January 29, 1911 referred to Mr. Murphy.⁽¹⁾

Pope made the suggestion that the larger and less urgent Prints be printed by the printer of the Civil Service Commission, who had a small printing press "over my head" in the Trafalgar Building, and whose time was not fully occupied. Professor Adam Shortt, head of the Civil Service Commission "interposed no

(1) Departmental file 48/1909.