

order for the printing of the agricultural reports.

Mr. SPROULE. This does not refer to either the Agriculture or Dairy Commissioner's report. It refers to the Committee's work only.

Mr. FOSTER. I see that the hon. gentleman's report is modified to the extent of recommending simply with reference to the Committee's own report, the printing of one hundred thousand copies. If the House would favour the idea, I would have no objection for my part to agreeing to the suspension of the rules to move to authorize the printing of fifty thousand copies of the committee's report. That is still a large order, taking into consideration that two hundred thousand copies of the Agriculture and Dairy reports have been ordered.

Mr. FLINT. How many pages will it cover?

Mr. FOSTER. I do not think it is a very large report.

Mr. SPEAKER. The evidence will bring it up to about eighty or one hundred pages.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). I should think fifty thousand copies would be a pretty large order, but that will be as many copies as will be read.

Mr. O'BRIEN. There is a very great deal of printing in this Agricultural Committee's work that is repeated unnecessarily, as it seems to me. We have examinations before that Committee of the head of the department and the director of Experimental Farms, and testimony given that is very interesting and instructive. But what they say to us is already dealt with in the reports. A question is asked, and the answer very frequently is: "I have already dealt with that in my report." I think it might be arranged so that a great deal would be saved in this printing by not repeating.

Mr. CARGILL. With reference to the number of the reports, I think the number asked for is little enough. There is a great deal of valuable information contained in these reports, and I have never heard any good reason why the reports should be put into the hands of half the agriculturists and the other half not supplied. Another thing in connection with the distribution of these pamphlets—the same number is given to every senator as is given to every member of the House, and I think that in many cases the distribution is duplicated. I have spoken to members of the Senate upon the subject, and they tell me that they do not care about having any of these reports, and I think if the number distributed to the senators were divided among the members of the House, the distribution to the public would be more satisfactory. I do not think the order given by the committee is an extravagant one, in

fact, I think more of these reports should be printed.

Mr. SPROULE. As the sense of the House seems to be against the printing of such a large number, I move:

That the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Colonization for the current year be now adopted in so far as the recommendation therein contained relates to the printing and distribution of the report itself, to the extent of fifty thousand copies, and that rule 94 be suspended.

Motion agreed to.

DEBATES AMANUENSES.

Mr. LARIVIERE. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I wish to mention to this House that, having learned that the Internal Economy Commission have granted an extra allowance of fifteen days to the sessional clerks and the messengers, as well as the pages, it was my intention, had I been able to do so, to call a meeting of the Debates Committee in order that we might suggest that the amanuenses of the "Hansard" reporters, who are under the control of that committee, be put on the same footing as the other officials of the House favoured in that direction. But as it is impossible at this late hour of the session to have a meeting, and to have a quorum, I have thought it advisable to bring this matter before the House. The amanuenses work as hard as any of the other officials, and I think they should be treated with the same favour as the others are being treated. I would willingly move that they be paid at the same rate as the others are to be paid, according to the report of the Internal Economy Commission; but, as I understand that such a motion would be out of order, I ask the hon. leader of this House to advise us as to what can be done in the matter, so that these men may receive the same treatment as their brother officials of the House.

Mr. FOSTER. I do not see that anything can be done except upon a report of the Printing Committee itself, and out of its own vote. As my hon. friend says that it is quite impossible to get a meeting of that committee this year, I do not see any other course open than for the Printing Committee to take up the subject next year, when they come together, and when they can make a report, which I have no doubt the House will consider sympathetically, just the same as it would were the report made this year.

Mr. LARIVIERE. The hon. leader of the House will bear in mind that the Committee which will exist next session will not be the same as that which exists this session. Our committee is not a sessional committee, therefore there might be some doubt as to what the powers of the committee next session will be with regard to the matters that may have taken place this session.