

ago as to the proportion of expenditure charged to his own Department of Finance which properly belongs to the Savings Bank ?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I have asked for a memorandum which is being prepared, and which I will give the hon. gentleman before Concurrence.

24. Amount required for salaries of Board of Examiners and other expenses in connection with the Civil Service Act ..... \$4,750 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I see the expenditure has risen from \$2,500 to nearly \$5,000. What is the cause of the increase ?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. We will be obliged to add \$500 or \$600 to the amount already asked. Year after year more expenditure is necessarily incurred, on account of examinations being asked in different parts of the Dominion. The number of examiners for the work, and the expenditure, are, I think, very limited, when we consider that for the last examinations over 15,000 different papers had to be examined. There are only three Commissioners, one of whom is secretary and who is certainly doing a work almost impossible for a human being to perform. From every part of the Dominion people are corresponding with us, and we will probably have to ask an additional grant for this branch of the service. If we compare the expenditure with that of similar Departments in other countries, in the States, for instance, we will find that we are doing the work at a very limited outlay, and that for the good working of this Board more expenditure is required. The addition, probably, of a clerk will have to be made, for whom a salary of \$500 or \$600 will be asked, and this will be in addition to the amount now required.

Mr. MILLS. I would like very much to have from the Secretary of State information as to the number of persons who have been appointed since this Act has come into operation, and who have passed the required examinations ; also the number of persons who have been appointed since then without having been required to undergo the examination called for by the Act. It is important we should know whether there is really foundation for the rumours that have gone abroad through the local press, that a very considerable number of persons have been appointed without examination, on the ground of their special qualifications. I do not think that such appointments are in keeping with the spirit of the Act or the intention of the Legislature. It is clear that the elementary examination required is such that no one fit for the service ought to be unable to pass it ; and unless in the case of persons holding positions for a long series of years, it seems to me that however special the qualifications may be that are required, and however well fitted the particular party may be, this much, at least, is necessary, that he should be able to pass the examination required by the Act. It will be satisfactory to the public to know that this Act has been fairly and fully carried into operation, and that under the pretext of possessing special qualifications, a large number of persons have not been appointed to office without being required to undergo examination.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I am very thankful to my hon. friend for the question he is putting and the explanation he is asking, as it affords me the pleasure of stating that I think the Civil Service regulations and the different clauses of the Act have been put into practice by the Government, as far as I know, with the utmost severity, and in a great number of cases I think really with too great severity. The law has been complied with in every point. As the hon. gentleman has referred to rumours, and I have seen some questions put, one of which is still on the Orders of the Day, if it was intended to refer to my own Department, I may state that no appointment has been otherwise made, though some

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

applications were made by parties, but refused by the Treasury Board and by the Government as not being in compliance with the requirements of the Statute regulating the Civil Service. There is only one instance in the Department of the Secretary of State where a special officer has been appointed, and the establishment of that office is not due to this Government, but to the preceding Government. It was the office of the Keeper of the Records, of the Archives of the Dominion. Everyone knows that the Department of the Secretary of State is the Department in which all State papers should be preserved, and that, during the time of the administration of our predecessors in office, and at the demand, I think, of one of the members of that Government, a large number of the most valuable papers were transferred from the vaults of the Court House in Montreal, where they were kept perishing, to Ottawa and placed in the rooms of the Department of the Secretary of State. I would refer my hon. friend very modestly to the small report of the Secretary of State this year in which there is a special mention of the subject of which I am now speaking. The officer who was first specially appointed to fill the office which was then created was Mr. Henry J. Morgan, a gentleman who was well qualified for that work, which is not at all ordinary office work. It consists of selecting and perusing old documents and classifying them in a certain order, which requires knowledge of the history of the country which an ordinary officer is not supposed to have. That officer was appointed specially to that office. In the course of last year, that gentleman was appointed to the chief clerkship of the correspondence branch of the Department, the vacancy being caused by the transfer of the Under Secretary of State to the Senate and the appointment of the chief clerk of the correspondence branch to the Under Secretaryship. Mr. Morgan was then transferred from the office of Keeper of the Records, and a special officer was appointed there. Still I may say that the officer who succeeded him might be called a Civil Service employé, because he had been for several years in the employment of this House. Beside that—and that was a necessity, we had to do it—there has not been a single appointment made to my knowledge in my Department, or that I know of in any other Department, and I know that the requirements of the Civil Service Act have been very strictly and rigorously carried out. This I am very glad to put before the House, because, if I were to put before the House the correspondence and the reproaches, and the blame about the severity, the utmost severity I may say, which the Department has shown in that respect, it would perhaps not edify the hon. gentleman in reference to the good will, or the too great good will, which is perhaps supposed to be in the Secretary of State. In the office of the Civil Service Board no new appointment has been made. The three Commissioners who were appointed are the only Commissioners, and we may ask this year, perhaps, to give them a secretary, but there has been no other officer. They have had assistance, when it was required, among themselves, but no other officer has been appointed.

Mr. MILLS. I do not think the Secretary of State has altogether apprehended my enquiry. His statement, of course, is satisfactory as far as it goes, but what I asked the hon. gentleman was as to the number of persons who had been appointed to offices since this Act has come into operation, and how many of those parties have been appointed to the offices they now hold, since the Act has come into operation, without passing the examination required by the Act ? I think it would be very satisfactory if that information could be given, for I understand, on the plea that certain parties have special qualifications, they have been appointed without undergoing the examination which the Act requires, and some, it is said, are notoriously without the qualifications which are required of persons in the public service.