

interesting information he has given as to these relationships, but perhaps it is not necessary for me to remind him that I am not responsible for them.

Mr. POULIOT: You are not the ancestor.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I am rather inclined to think that these relationships in that vicinity have existed for some time. Perhaps they would be complete if these families could trace relationship to my hon. friend himself.

This lease was made in the regular way. I was not visited, nor importuned, nor asked, as far as I know, by any member of this interesting family to enter into this lease.

Sir EUGENE FISET: Your answer says that your engineer is the head of the family.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): He recommended it as the engineer, in the regular way, and he is the one from whom in the ordinary course we would receive a report on the accommodation being provided. The former rental was the same as the present rental. Our reports show that the accommodation that is provided is superior to the accommodation that we enjoyed before.

Sir EUGENE FISET: Even as to the quality of the building.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Both as to space and in every other way it is superior accommodation. Not only is the space provided, but the lessor attends to all repairs during the currency of the lease, pays taxes and water rates, and provides heating, lighting, cleaning and toilet accommodations. All that is worth something and must be taken into consideration in addition to the actual value of the building.

Sir EUGENE FISET: Were not all these provided under the old lease?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Yes, but the point I am trying to make, and which I think my hon. friend will admit is a fair one, is that you must take something else into consideration besides the actual value of the building when all these services are provided.

Sir EUGENE FISET: They were all provided before.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): And they are provided in this building. So I say you must take into consideration the value of the services as well as the actual value of the property. I would say to my hon. friend that

[Mr. H. A. Stewart.]

I propose to inquire into this transaction and to investigate matters around Rimouski, and if I find that there have been any irregularities, that any official has been guilty of neglect of duty or has in any way imposed improperly upon the department, he will not be very long in his position.

Sir EUGENE FISET: I rise simply to thank the minister for his last statement. That is all I was asking. I want to deal fairly with him and his department.

Mr. POULIOT: Now that we are away from Rimouski, may we stop at Trois Pistoles for a moment?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Yes.

Mr. POULIOT: Thank you. The other day I asked the minister this question:

Is the minister aware that that very building has been condemned by the board of health?

The Minister replied:

This is the first intimation that I have received of anything of that nature.

I want to say just a few words about the post office at Trois Pistoles. The building was condemned by the board of health of the province of Quebec.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hanson): This discussion is out of order, but will be quite in order under vote 191. I suggest that the hon. member defer his remarks until we reach that item; otherwise on this item we may be discussing buildings all over the province of Quebec.

Mr. POULIOT: I am ready to bow to your ruling, Mr. Chairman, but I would stress the fact that I asked for and received the minister's permission to speak. I wish to be very courteous to him because he is a friend of mine.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I have no objection to my hon. friend completing his discussion right here and now.

Mr. POULIOT: I thank the minister very much. Let me say at once that I do not wish to put the blame on him but on the people in my constituency who made the recommendations. The report of the board of health was sent to the Deputy Minister of Public Works on May 5, 1930, and the receipt of it acknowledged on the following day, as follows:

Dear Mr. Pouliot,—

I have yours of the 5th instant with enclosed copy of report in regard to existing conditions at the post office at Trois Pistoles, and in reply