

Major General HUGHES:

1. Two thousand one hundred and sixty.
2. \$1.47½.
3. Not known.
4. Not known.
5. 'For deposit only to credit of Dominion Machinery and Supply Co.' Bank of Ottawa, Chaudière Branch, 29th December, 1914.
6. Not known.

SACKVILLE POST OFFICE SITE.

Mr. COPP:

1. Has the Government purchased a site for a new post office in the town of Sackville, county of Westmorland?
2. If so, when was such purchase made?
3. What was the price paid for said site?
4. Is it the intention of the Government to proceed with the erection of a new post office building at Sackville during the present war?

Mr. ROGERS:

1. Yes.
2. In July, 1913.
3. \$8,000.
4. The matter is under consideration.

VICTORIA MEMORIAL MUSEUM TOWER.

Mr. MURPHY:

1. Has the Government undertaken to repair the tower of the Royal Victoria museum by day labour, or has it awarded a contract for the repair of the same?
2. If the latter, to whom was the contract given and what is the amount thereof?
3. Were tenders for the work invited by public advertisement? If not, why not?
4. What is the official estimate of the total cost of the repairs?

Mr. ROGERS: No; the department is having tests made at the present time with regard to the foundation, but no work of repair has yet been undertaken. I am adding to the answer the report of Mr. Monsarrat, who made a very full report with respect to the museum:

Montreal, January 27, 1915.

Sir,—In accordance with the Order in Council dated January 5, 1915, authorizing me to examine the foundations of the Victoria Memorial Museum at Ottawa and report thereon, I beg to make a preliminary report as follows:

In order to deal intelligently with this matter there are points that should be definitely established, viz:

- (1) To what extent has settlement occurred in the foundations of the building.
- (2) Has such settlement affected the stability of the building.
- (3) Is this settlement still going on.

When these points have been determined, and if it is found that settlement is still going on, it would then be in order to point out what steps should be taken to prevent further settlement in the future.

After an examination of the building, I will consider this subject under two heads, namely:

- (1) The foundations of the main building.
- (2) Foundations of the tower and heavy cross walls.

Main Building.

With regard to the settlement of the foundations of the main building there can be no question. How much this has amounted to is, however, more difficult to determine. There seem to be no plans in existence which show the original elevations of the footings or piers, nor have any observations been made to determine the progress of the settlement. The amount of settlement, however, can be arrived at approximately by comparing the present elevations of footings which have been subjected to unit loads of varying amounts. On the outside walls of the building an estimate of the weights shows that there is approximately an average pressure on all the bearing areas of about three tons per square foot. On the interior sub-basement walls and footings of columns there are loads varying from one to two tons per square foot. The result is that the outside walls have gone down much faster than these interior walls or footings.

This movement is more plainly in evidence on the ground floor, which is supported at the centre, on two rows of columns resting on light interior walls in the sub-basement, and at the sides on the main walls.

Accompanying this report is a blue print dated January 27, 1915, showing elevations which I have had taken on this main floor. The cross sections and profiles shown thereon indicate at a glance what the settlement amounts to at all points on this floor.

The settlement around the four walls of the east and west wings is shown to be fairly uniform, although there seems to be about one inch more settlement towards the north face of these wings. From the cross sections of these wings it would seem that there has been between 5 and 6 inches settlement of these walls, assuming that there has been little or no settlement of the interior walls.

There is nothing to show that the interior walls in the two wings have settled to any appreciable extent. While the average elevation of the floor over these walls is about one inch higher in the west wing than in the east wing, yet it is quite possible that some of this difference may have occurred in the original laying of the floor.

The interior walls of the main building do not show such a regular line, the settlement being much more pronounced near the main tower and wings. This, however, can be accounted for from the fact that these walls, being incorporated in the heavier walls of the tower and cross walls, would be carried down simultaneously with the latter.

From the elevations taken it would appear that settlement of the walls of the main building amounts to from 5 to 9 inches. The slope of these walls is towards the main tower, where the greatest settlement has taken place.

This indication of the settlement of the main walls is practically confined to the ground floor and basement. On the first, second and third floors, where the supporting girders extend from wall, there is little or no evidence that any such settlement has taken place.

As regards the stability of the walls of the main building, I do not consider that this has been seriously affected. If the ground floor had