

the estimates were made up, and if the desire was to economize these votes could have been kept out as well as put in. Therefore, that is not a good argument. The minister says that I did not object to the vote for Gananoque. It was called so quickly that I did not know what the estimate was, and it was declared carried immediately. Some one said 'carried', but it was not I. I have brought this matter up twice before, and I have got no satisfactory answer. This was never done without being first considered by some of the cabinet ministers. Estimates should never be voted in that way without being considered, and a conclusion arrived at as to whether it is wise to do that. I do not think a reasonable explanation has yet been given why this practice has been adopted. I think the explanation is that these estimates were padded out in anticipation of a general election, and that it was not intended at that time to commence any of these public works. No one can reach any other conclusion than that. If a public work is not needed a vote for it should not be put in the estimates. If it is needed then the money, or a portion of it, should be spent, and the work commenced, and it would save a great deal of trouble and time in the House asking questions if money was not placed in the estimates that it was never intended to expend.

Mr. PUGSLEY. In this case we actually bought the land, which is pretty good evidence of our bona fides.

Mr. SPROULE. That is so much to the good, and shows evidence of a desire to go on. What are these public buildings in Harriston?

Mr. PUGSLEY. The building is for post office and customs purposes.

Mr. BLAIN. From whom was the site purchased?

Mr. PUGSLEY. The larger portion of the site was purchased from the town of Harriston, and a small piece of land from Mr. Matthew Hastey, to whom we paid \$450. We paid the town \$2,550.

Mr. SPROULE. What was the total price of the site?

Mr. PUGSLEY. The site, including \$18.45 travelling expenses, cost \$3,018.45.

Mr. SPROULE. How much land have you bought?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Approximately 80 feet 6 inches on Elora street, and 77 feet on Maitland street.

Mr. SPROULE. What is the size of Harriston?

Mr. SPROULE.

Mr. PUGSLEY. In 1901 the population was 1,637; postal revenue, \$4,168.86; customs duties, \$29.06; money orders \$8,738.47; money orders paid, \$16,356.51.

Mr. SPROULE. Have you an outport of customs there?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It must be one.

Mr. SPROULE. And the collections are only \$29 a year?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It is very small; it is an outport of Guelph.

Mr. SPROULE. In my hon. friend's riding there is a revenue of thousands of dollars, but no outport.

Mr. PUGSLEY. He hopes to get it.

Mr. SPROULE. That hope is not shared by the minister.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I think there is a great deal to be said in favour of it.

Mr. SPROULE. What is this building to cost?

Mr. PUGSLEY. We will endeavour to keep the cost down to \$15,000 or \$16,000 for the building completed and furnished, not including the land.

Kincardine—public building, \$4,500.

Mr. PUGSLEY. This building is nearly completed. The total cost is estimated at \$29,600.

Mr. BLAIN. What qualifications has Angus Kerr, clerk of this work?

Mr. PUGSLEY. We do not appoint any man inspector of public buildings unless he is experienced and thoroughly competent for the work.

Mr. TOLMIE. Mr. Kerr is a first-class carpenter.

Mr. BLAIN. Was it upon my hon. friend's recommendation he was appointed?

Mr. TOLMIE. Certainly.

Mr. GOODEVE. The clerk of works on the Guelph armoury was paid a commission of two per cent, and on this building I see the clerk was paid \$3.50 a day.

Mr. PUGSLEY. When the clerk of works is an architect we allow him the usual two per cent commission.

Mr. SPROULE. Who made application for this building?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It was urged very strongly by the hon. member who represents the constituency, and the interest the town took in it is shown by their giving a site free of cost. It is required for post office and customs and examining warehouse purposes.