

brief tenure of office in such a way that his successor may find what he himself did not find, that is, the business of the department placed upon a sound, economic and common-sense basis? My hon. friend from South Huron (Mr. McMillan) would deal with it in that way if he were dealing with a cheese factory; why cannot we follow that method in carrying on the business of the country? My hon. friend from Laprairie-Napierville (Mr. Lanctot) would deal with it in that way, and every day business men are following the same practice. We are not doing so, but I think we should ascertain if it cannot be done.

Mr. LANCTOT: In answer to my hon. friend I will tell him that I do not need to do that, because I have no public building in my riding.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I have no desire to delay the passing of these estimates, but I do think I should express my appreciation and I think the appreciation of every other hon. member for the very helpful suggestions which have been made by hon. gentlemen opposite and for the manner in which they have been made. I cannot entirely agree with the first part of the remarks of the leader of the opposition, but I very sincerely appreciate the tone of his criticism, if it can be so called, as well as that of the other hon. gentlemen who have expressed themselves on this subject this afternoon.

The suggestion has been made that these estimates are prepared with some political end in view, and at the risk of having to meet my hon. friends on this side of the house from Quebec at six o'clock, I am going to refer hon. members of the house to the vote which we are considering now. We are dealing with an amount of \$1,304,647, and in this vote are included a number of separate items. I hope all my hon. friends have copies of the estimates before them; if they will look at the vote they will see that it covers buildings in the province of Quebec. I think it is a fine thing for the country, if I may say so, that in votes for the province of Quebec no man even on the other side of the house will expect to find a great many items covering ridings represented by gentlemen across the way. However, I believe there are three Quebec ridings represented by hon. gentlemen opposite, and hon. gentlemen will notice that included in this vote is a Montreal postal terminal building.

Mr. KAISER: The minister should not reduce our numbers; we have four members from Quebec.

[Mr. Bennett.]

Mr. ELLIOTT: I apologize to my hon. friend.

Mr. BENNETT: And 260,000 people voted for us.

Mr. ELLIOTT: If my hon. friend will look at the amounts being spent in Quebec, he will find that a postal terminal building costing \$650,000 is to be constructed in the riding of St. Antoine.

Mr. BENNETT: Of course that is where the building must be.

Mr. ELLIOTT: That is where the government intend to construct it.

Mr. MANION: We hope the rest of the people of Quebec will profit by this lesson.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I think all the people throughout Canada profit by the actions of this government. Then, in the constituency of St. Lawrence-St. George \$14,005 is being spent, and an armoury costing \$13,000 is to be constructed in the constituency of Mount Royal.

Mr. ARTHURS: How did the hon. gentleman square himself with the hon. member for Southeast Grey?

Mr. ELLIOTT: I will just have to do the best I can, that is all. However, of a total amount of \$1,304,647 which is being spent in the sixty-five ridings of Quebec, about \$677,000 or more than half is being spent in three ridings represented by hon. gentlemen opposite. Of course I do not mean to say that these items were included because these constituencies were represented by these three gentlemen.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I want to make that perfectly clear to my hon. friends from Quebec. These items were included because they were in line with the policy which this department is trying to pursue; they were necessary for carrying on the business of the country. I think these figures are the best answer to the criticism that these estimates have been prepared for the sake of helping our friends in certain political ridings. So much for that; I do not think this argument can be readily controverted, because the figures speak for themselves. Coming to what my hon. friend said with regard to the city of Calgary, it is quite true that a site for a building was purchased—a site which I