

situated in the northeast corner of the exhibition grounds for the proposed structure, and the association proposes raising the necessary funds for the erection of an armoury building costing approximately \$400,000. It is proposed to lease the building to the Dominion government on a rental-purchase basis at an annual rental of \$33,500 for a period of twenty years, at the end of which time the building becomes the property of the government.

Mr. DUNNING: Perhaps I might say that while the term "private enterprise" was used by the minister, the association which is being formed is a non-profit organization consisting of the officers of the various units in the city. In connection with the arrangement there is no private profit of any kind at all. The city itself is contributing the site, as I say the organization will be a holding company merely to enable the cost to be amortized over a period of years.

Mr. LUCAS: What is to be the total cost?

Mr. ELLIOTT: \$400,000.

Mr. GARDINER: Can the minister tell us how many units will make use of this building?

Mr. ELLIOTT: I do not think we have the number of units; I am afraid my hon. friend will have to get that from the Department of National Defence. The technical officers advise us that it is not possible for the units concerned to function efficiently in their present quarters, and the erection of an armoury is the only means of providing a suitable building. They also advise that the present rentals may be given up as an offset against the expenditure which acceptance of these proposals would entail. In this opinion the deputy ministers of National Defence and Public Works concur, and are of the opinion that acceptance of the above proposals would tend towards greater efficiency and the acquisition by the crown of a suitable building at a minimum of expenditure.

Mr. GARDINER: What is the present rental?

Mr. DUNNING: Approximately \$13,000 a year is now being paid in the form of rent, speaking from memory.

Mr. ELLIOTT: And the accommodation is entirely inadequate.

Mr. FANSHER (Last Mountain): Is this building at Regina larger than the armoury at Moose Jaw, or how does it compare?

Mr. ELLIOTT: I am not able to say, because I have not the figures with regard to Moose Jaw. I understand that it is about the size of the Edmonton armoury, if my hon. friend knows that building.

Item agreed to.

Rosthern—public building, \$28,000.

Mr. LUCAS: Will the minister explain this item?

Mr. ELLIOTT: This is required for the purchase of a site and towards the erection of a public building for postal purposes in the town of Rosthern. For a number of years representations have been made that the present accommodation is entirely inadequate, and a report to council was prepared for the purchase of a certain lot from the Union Supply Company Limited. This was done in 1915, but it was not proceeded with at that time, and has stood over since. Various resolutions have been passed and requests made, one by the district superintendent of postal services on December 23, 1927. Among other things he points out that the postmaster has 174 small lock boxes, all rented, and 97 larger size boxes rented; he contemplates an additional 40 small size boxes, and has a demand for a number more. The revenue is \$6,248 per year. The members of the board of trade and representatives of the postal department have urged upon the government the necessity of the building.

Mr. LUCAS: What is the population?

Mr. ELLIOTT: The population is now a bit over 1,500.

Mr. GARDINER: And the revenue is over \$6,000?

Mr. ELLIOTT: From postal revenue, \$6,248, and from the customs \$6,534.

Mr. GARDINER: Are the post office and the customs house in one building?

Mr. ELLIOTT: Yes.

Mr. GARDINER: Will the minister give the house some information as to the rental of the building?

Mr. ELLIOTT: It is a rented building, supplied by the postmaster.

Mr. GARDINER: What is the rent paid?

Mr. ELLIOTT: The postmaster receives so much and supplies the accommodation.