

it to me. I think the government would be saving money if it would consider the erection of an adequate public building in the city of Prince Rupert.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): The claims of Prince Rupert have been strongly urged upon the government, and have been supplemented by my hon. friend to-night. Many representations have been made to the department by the people of that city. Let me assure my hon. friend that the claims and requirements of Prince Rupert will not be overlooked, and as soon as revenues warrant it the construction of a building will be considered. I can only ask my hon. friend to be patient. The item of \$45,000 is the same amount as that voted last year. It is for general upkeep and repair of public buildings in British Columbia. No new building is included in this item.

Mr. FRASER (Cariboo): Of that amount how much was expended in the last year?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): It was all required last year.

Mr. HANSON (Skeena): I would add that the Dominion government did buy a federal site about ten or twelve years ago in the city of Prince Rupert. I am not criticizing the government because of the way they picked out their sites. I am advocating the establishment of a federal building in Prince Rupert, whether a site owned by the federal government be chosen or otherwise; I am not particular about that so long as Prince Rupert and central British Columbia are recognized. To my mind it is vital to have a federal building in that portion of British North America. I call it British North America instead of British Columbia, because as I say we are the second port on the Pacific coast, Vancouver being the first. Sometimes it has been said that British Columbia is in Vancouver, but I am here to demonstrate that Vancouver is in British Columbia. I would like the house to learn where British Columbia is. I would ask hon. members not to look for Vancouver but to look for British Columbia, and they will find that there is such a place as Prince Rupert. When we receive the report concerning the Peace River outlet which my hon. friend the Minister of Railways and Canals is going to give us, I hope hon. members will study it and realize our geographical position. British Columbia requires not only the port of Vancouver but another port in order to do justice to the development of British North America, and Prince Rupert is the second port.

Mr. FRASER (Cariboo): Hear, hear.

[Mr. O. Hanson.]

Mr. HANSON (Skeena): My hon. friend says "hear, hear". He is a friend of mine. I realize what he has in mind, but I am not prepared to go into that now. Probably we will need three or four ports, because in that part of the country we have room for millions of people. I represent a constituency which is bigger in area than England, Ireland, Scotland and Belgium combined.

An hon. MEMBER: Mr. Brady told us that.

Mr. HANSON (Skeena): Well, it is all right if you know it. I venture to say that most hon. members do not know, however, that there is room for 30,000,000 people in that part of the country, and we have plenty of resources to back them up. We have agriculture, fishing, mining and all the resources to be found on God's earth. They are all in there.

When the government is considering the erection of public buildings I feel they should give my constituency some consideration. I know, however, that my hon. friend has it in mind and will give it due consideration. We are not trying to force the minister; I have no criticism to offer. However, I just wish to draw his attention to the magnitude of the country I represent, and especially the territory of Prince Rupert. The government is paying something like \$7,000 a year by way of rental for a building that is nothing more than a shack. Why not erect a proper building and apply that \$7,000 towards interest on the capital invested and thus have something for your money? By doing that we would get somewhere. I hope the present government will consider that proposition. If they do not now see the necessity for this accommodation at Prince Rupert, I have no doubt that some time they will, because I cannot believe they will leave it to their successors.

Mr. REID: Not seeing any appropriation in this item for the constituency I have the honour to represent, I would like to direct a few words to the Minister of Public Works. I was glad the hon. member began at last to talk about British Columbia, because although I have heard the north, south, east, and west mentioned, this is the first time British Columbia has been under consideration. Some of us are too far away. Three thousand miles is a long journey, and it is about time the members from British Columbia raised their voices. I wish to draw the attention of hon. members to some figures I have before me. For the erection of public buildings, out of a vote of over \$6,000,000