

Yukon public buildings—Rents, repairs, fuel, light water service and caretakers' salaries, \$40,000.

Mr. SPENCER: What is the explanation of this increase of \$13,000?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): When the estimates were made up to the amount required \$40,000, we found that the foundations of the administrative building and the post office building had gone bad and were in need of repair. Since the estimate was made up as a result of further inquiry, we have decided not to repair the post office building, and I am asking the Acting Postmaster General to move to reduce the estimate by \$5,000. After this year there will be a consolidation of the post office, telegraph, customs and administration branches in one building. It is necessary to vote \$35,000 for maintenance and repairs of the administration building.

Mr. GRAHAM: I move that the vote be reduced by the sum of \$5,000.

Amendment agreed to.

Item as amended agreed to.

Hull—Public building—Government's share of cost of local improvement, \$2,204.

Mr. SPENCER: Would the minister inform us what the government's share of the cost of local improvements is?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): This is to provide for the government's share of the cost of local improvement by the municipal authorities in front of the public buildings on Main street, Hull.

Item agreed to.

Ottawa—Paving Connaught place, \$20,000.

Mr. GARDINER: Will the minister explain this item?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Connaught place is in a very bad condition. We cannot get any assistance from the city in making repairs. On both sides it is government property, and this is to carry out the work.

Mr. SHAW: Will it be done by contract?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Yes, the work will be done by contract.

Item agreed to.

Port Colborne—Public building, \$35,000.

Mr. HOEY: Will the minister explain this item?

[Mr. J. C. King.]

Mr. KING (Kootenay): The construction of the canal has necessitated the tearing down and removal of the post office. This vote is for the purpose of rebuilding the post office.

Item agreed to.

Pigeon River bridge—Immigration office, \$3,500.

Mr. SPENCER: Is that for repairs?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): This money is required for erecting a building for immigration purposes at Pigeon River on the international boundary. It will be a one storey frame structure and will be located on property leased by the Department of Customs and Excise from the province of Ontario. The erection of this building was asked for by the Department of Immigration and Colonization.

Mr. GARDINER: Is there much immigration coming in through that port at the present time?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I think there is a considerable movement back and forth.

Item agreed to.

Ottawa—Rideau Hall—Alterations and improvements, \$13,900.

Mr. SHAW: In addition to this item in the supplementaries there are two other items for Rideau Hall in the main estimates. What is the trouble with Rideau Hall that it requires such an expenditure every year?

Mr. GRAHAM: It is an old historic building.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): This is for an improvement in the heating system by the substitution of three new self-feeding boilers for the ten existing hot-water boilers. The heating system is obsolete and very expensive. There are ten furnaces scattered through the building. It is proposed to take out the smaller furnaces and install these self-feeding boilers, and to complete improvements to the palm room.

Mr. CAMPBELL: In respect to Rideau Hall, in addition to the item of \$13,900 in the supplementaries, there are two items of \$60,000 and \$19,000 in the main estimates, making over \$90,000 for repairs of one kind and another. It hardly seems that there is any justification for such an amount of money as this to be expended.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I have already explained to my hon. friend the items in the supplementary estimates. If he wishes a further explanation regarding the main estimate which is passed, we will look it up.