

I2I664

Ottawa Jan 20, 1909

Sir,-

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant No. 326589 I beg to inform you that in accordance with instructions to this Department another report has been received from British Columbia relating to the room in question occupied as a drafting room in the offices of the Indian Superintendent, Mr. A.W. Vowell,

The report is to the effect that the said room has been used from the date of leaving the old office on Douglas street many years ago as a drafting room. It is just as necessary now as it ever was and is at present occupied by the Surveyor of the Department who is engaged in important work. There is a vault attached to the room which is full of books, letter books, books of minutes of decision, maps and plans, accounts, letters and other documents of importance which require to be carefully guarded against accident by fire and for which there appears to be no other place of safety available.

The reports you have received on the matter do not appear to have been complete, as no mention is made of the vault.

Under the circumstances I think you will concur in the view of this Department that the room should not be vacated until another convenient one can be obtained which will answer the purpose.

The Secretary,

Dept. of Public Works,
Ottawa.

Your obedient servant