

retained, as were the taxidermist department, the laboratory of vertebrate palaeontology, the photographic department, and half a hall devoted to the workshop of the National Gallery. Some work rooms were vacated, however, and the distribution offices, with their vast store of publications and maps, were moved to another part of the city.

Of about a hundred and forty members of the Survey staff, over seventy moved about a mile to a series of buildings recently taken over by the Government on the north side of Wellington Street, between Bank and Kent streets, while some sixty of those most intimately connected with museum work retained room in the Victoria Memorial Museum building. In this work of moving, militia motor lorries were pressed into service, as well as sleighs and other transports, and the office furnishings and working specimens went out at the rate of sixty loads in one day.

His Royal Highness, the Governor-General, inspected the House of Commons and the other parts of the Victoria Memorial Museum building turned over for the use of Parliament, at eleven a.m. on Monday, less than eighty-seven hours after the fire began, or less than seventy-four hours after the museum authorities were notified of need for the space.

The Museum retains intact only one and a quarter of the exhibition halls, namely, the anthropological hall and part of the hall of vertebrate palaeontology.

A sample museum, by means of which to advance museum interests in the Dominion, has been begun in the anthropological hall. The archaeological and ethnological exhibits are intact, some of the best zoological exhibition cases of birds, reptiles and insects, have been placed in the wider aisles where they may be viewed; while mounted mammals and skeletons of various animals have also been placed in the aisles and on top of the cases.

On the whole, the scientific work of the museum may go on practically unhampered. The lecture work is being carried on in other auditoriums. The exhibitions eventually may be facilitated by the present apparent set back, as the museum staff is undiscouraged, and the members of parliament, who are now in daily proximity to the exhibits, and constantly meeting museum workers, may become so interested that they will provide future facilities for museum work in the Victoria Memorial Museum building, or in a building even better adapted for museum purposes. Besides this they may carry home to all parts of the Dominion inspiration to establish useful museums and to improve those already in existence.