

Gaspé—purchase of building for postal purposes, etc., \$20,000.

Mr. ROBB: That is a rented building which it is proposed to purchase; it would be cheaper to own than to rent. The present rental is \$700 per annum, of which \$175 is paid by the Post Office department and \$525 by the Department of Public Works.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): Is this a post office?

Mr. ROBB: Yes, and it is for the customs as well.

Mr. HANSON: What is the assessed value of the property for which it is proposed to pay \$20,000?

Mr. ROBB: Mr. John Baker of Gaspé was asked to submit a valuation in March, 1926, and he valued it at \$20,000 for the building and \$5,000 for the land.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): Where is that situated in Gaspé?

Mr. ROBB: At the harbour.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): What is the size of the place?

Mr. ROBB: The total postal revenue for 1924-25 was \$3,858.69.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): Would the minister give us some idea of the character of this building; is it brick, or frame, or log?

Mr. ROBB: It is a brick building, apparently.

Mr. DUNNING: Here is a picture of it; it is a very fine building.

Mr. GARDINER: Did the minister state that the income of this post office was between \$3,000 and \$4,000 a year?

Mr. ROBB: The gross revenue was \$3,858.69.

Mr. GARDINER: Is this building used for any other purposes?

Mr. ROBB: It is used for customs and telegraph purposes.

Mr. GARDINER: What proportion of this building will be taken up by the postal service?

Mr. ROBB: The ground floor, and the next floor is the customs.

Mr. ERNST: Did I understand the minister to say that the total rental to-day was \$700 per annum?

[Mr. Robb.]

Mr. ROBB: This lease must have been made just prior to the government going out in 1921, because it is dated December 21, 1921.

Mr. ERNST: I ask because I was unable to understand the statement of the minister that it would be cheaper to buy than to rent. At five per cent the interest on \$20,000 would be approximately \$1,000.

Mr. ROBB: They require larger accommodation.

Mr. DUNNING: The whole building is not now rented.

Item agreed to.

Grosse Isle quarantine station—shelter shed, \$22,000.

Mr. QUINN: Explain.

Mr. ROBB: This is for increased accommodation at the quarantine station, which, as my hon. friend understands, serves as a quarantine station for all vessels coming up the St. Lawrence.

Mr. QUINN: I notice in the estimates for Nova Scotia there is a vote of \$2,500 for the quarantine station at Halifax, for repairs and improvements. In comparison, \$22,000 for a shelter shed at Grosse Isle appears to be a very large amount, because the quarantine station at Halifax is used six months a year, the same as the station at Grosse Isle.

Mr. ROBB: My hon. friend will realize that at Halifax it was a repair but this is a new shed. My friend knows there is greater immigration during the summer months than during the winter months. The officers of the Department of Health advise what is required and we are doing this on the recommendation of the medical advisers of the department.

Item agreed to.

Maisonneuve — public building — further amount required, \$75,000.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): I think we should have a little explanation here.

Mr. ROBB: This building which we are purchasing for a postal station is the old Maisonneuve city hall. Maisonneuve is one of the growing parts of Montreal and is a large manufacturing centre. As my friend will recall, all these suburban parts have been taken into the city, and this building is now available.

Mr. QUINN: Who represents that constituency?

Mr. ROBB: Mr. Robitaille.

Item agreed to.