

must share—that the building occupied by the Printing Bureau is an eyesore, and should be removed. Now, from the practical point of view of the Bureau itself, we have the opinion, embodied in the recent report of the Secretary of State, that the present building is inadequate, and that the needs of the Bureau demand a larger building on a more commodious site. It would be a comparatively easy matter to secure a satisfactory site for the Printing Bureau elsewhere, leaving the present site for a national library building that would harmonize with the existing buildings on Parliament Hill and with the new departmental block which is to face Major Hill Park. The national library would then be within easy reach of the archives, the Library of Parliament, and all the government departments, and, as has been done in Washington, it could, if necessary, be connected with the other government buildings by pneumatic tubes, for the conveyance of both messages and books.

If it were thought preferable to adopt the Washington plan, and combine the national and the legislative library in one, the proposed site would still be the best available. The present library chamber could then be used purely as a reading-room, similar to the reading-rooms in the British Museum and the rotunda of the Library of Congress. The bulk of the books could still be removed to the national library building, and conveyed thence by pneumatic tubes to the reading-room on Parliament Hill, as they might be called for.

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