

Minister of Finance with a request for half or less than half that appropriation for my constituency. I can understand why this vote is going through; I saw the reason the moment the hon. gentleman rose to his feet. You have only to take one look at him, a fine up-standing fellow, to realize how he put it over the Minister of Finance. There of course he has an advantage which I cannot claim: I have not the same engaging features nor have I the same appeal in the matter of physique. But notwithstanding these handicaps I am ready to go with the hon. gentleman and, on the strength of his promise, appeal to the Minister. I am sure my constituency would benefit one hundred per cent, and then somewhat. The hon. member says his people do not expect the whole \$12,000. Why then is \$12,000 being voted? On that point I want to make this observation in all seriousness. I believe that millions of dollars have been wasted in this country in putting up public buildings here and there because of the pull which this or that particular member had on the government. Because of that pull he was able to obtain an expenditure in his locality fifty or seventy-five per cent over and above what was really needed. If a man had the necessary influence he could get a building costing \$50,000 when one of \$20,000 would have been more in keeping with the other buildings in his district. I do not wonder that the hon. member says they do not expect the whole of \$12,000; I should not think they would in a village of 500. In my constituency there is a larger village than that whose claim is stronger, and I appeal to the minister to cut that \$12,000 in two and allot half of it to Kensington to provide the kind of building they ought to have there, and give the other half to Frontenac. Both places would then have buildings in keeping with their importance.

Mr. ROBB: What do you say to cutting them both out?

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): No; I do not say that. I want my hon. friend who is interested in this vote to understand that I am not in any way knocking the item. I do not want him to labour under any such impression. I simply say that \$12,000 is more than is required for such a building as would be suitable to a village with a population of 500. For some reason or other, because of some magnetism by which fortunately his constituency benefits, a member is able to get twice as much spent as is necessary, while the money ought to be distributed around so that

other places which for many years have been waiting for some consideration might get something.

Mr. ADSHEAD: The hon. member for Frontenac (Mr. Edwards) suggests that some one probably had some pull to get a post office somewhere in Prince Edward Island. May I remind that hon. gentleman that somebody must have had a pull when the government of which he was a supporter was in power to have a post office in Calgary, not put up but pulled down. The post office there was pulled down and we have had to rent a building. I would suggest to the Minister of Public Works that a building be erected in my constituency in the near future to take the place of the one pulled down in 1911.

Item agreed to.

Quebec—Baie St. Paul—site for public building, \$4,000.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): What is that for?

Mr. ROBB: It is intended for the purchase of a site for a public building in Baie St. Paul. The estimated cost of the building is \$27,000. We propose at present to purchase only the site.

Mr. ARTHURS: What is the population?

Mr. ROBB: 2,600.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): What is the building for?

Mr. ROBB: A post office.

Item agreed to.

Chicoutimi public building—addition, \$20,000.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): What is that for?

Mr. ROBB: This is for a two-storey stone addition to the public building at Chicoutimi. It is an extension to provide for increased accommodation for the postal and customs services. There has been a very large development up there.

Item agreed to.

Drummondville—public building, addition, \$13,000.

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

Mr. ROBB: No, this is a one storey addition at Drummondville, where there has also been a large development, with new factories going up.

Item agreed to.