

Mr. HUGHES. The total sum should appear.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I admit that I asked for \$5,000 more than last year.

Towards a monument to the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie..... \$7,000

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Models have been sent in according to the tenders advertised for. We have found some difficulty in taking upon ourselves the responsibility of deciding between the competitors.

Mr. FOSTER. How long have the models been in ?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. They were sent here in January.

Mr. FOSTER. How does the hon. Minister propose to make a selection ?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. We propose to make a selection through experts. I have not quite made up my mind as to whom we will engage as experts, and I will be very glad to receive names from hon. members on both sides of the House, for, of course, it is not a party question.

Mr. SPROULE. What is likely to be the total cost when completed ?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I estimate that the statues of Her Majesty the Queen and the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie will cost about \$15,000 each.

Mr. ROSS ROBERTSON. There is no item for which I will vote more willingly than that to perpetuate the memory of Alexander Mackenzie in bronze and to erect a statue of Her Majesty the Queen. But I should like to know from the Minister whether the intention is to select from the clay models now in the National Gallery the bronze statues that are proposed to be placed in front of the Parliamentary Buildings ; or whether those models, executed by Canadian artists, are adjudged by the Government to be the best examples of Canadian art ? If the Government are not satisfied, would it not be well to extend the competition to British artists, so that when we perpetuate Her Majesty the Queen and the late Mr. Mackenzie, we may have the best examples of bronze work that it is possible to produce. I do not suppose the hon. Minister, who has seen the examples in clay in the National Gallery, will say they in any way, either in pose, proportion or in likeness, portray either Her Majesty or the late Mr. Mackenzie ; and therefore I think the Minister and the Government should take seriously into consideration whether it would not be well to extend the competition to British artists. We have very few men in this country who can give us good pieces in this particular class of art. The only good pieces of bronze that I know of in Canada are at Montreal

and Quebec, and are the work of a French Canadian. I regret our sculptors have not accomplished more in the models in the National Gallery, and suggest that before the Minister makes a selection, the hon. gentleman and the Government should seriously consider whether we should not obtain examples from the best British artists, so as to secure life-like representations of Mr. Mackenzie and Her Majesty the Queen as she appeared on the Jubilee day.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. When tenders were asked I was not in Ottawa, being away on a trip, and my colleagues thought, as the time was progressing, they should invite tenders immediately. Tenders were asked only from Canadian artists. I do not want to reflect in any way on the models sent in, but my hon. friend can understand the hesitation I and my colleagues feel in regard to the delay that has taken place. I cannot say more today. I shall be very glad to receive suggestions privately from both sides of the House in regard to this matter.

Mr. LEMIEUX. (Translation.) I have listened with very great pleasure to the remarks fallen from the hon. gentlemen in connection with the models now exhibited in the National Gallery. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Ross Robertson) thinks that it would be well to extend the competition to British artists, concurrently with our Canadian sculptors. I do not think, Sir, that is necessary at all. We have had, within the last few years, monuments executed by foreign artists which are far from being good pieces of art. The city of Montreal, for instance, has had a statue of Sir John Macdonald erected on the Dominion Square, which was executed by a London sculptor, and everybody knows that it is art in its very infancy. This statue, if I am correctly informed, has cost \$50,000. We have another monument in Montreal, on the Place d'Armes, representing Maisonneuve taking possession of Ville-Marie, surrounded by his friends and fellow-countrymen, his fellow-labourers in his work of colonization. That monument has cost but the modest sum of from \$20,000 to \$25,000, but it is generally considered to be vastly superior, as a piece of art, to the costly monument I have just mentioned. I avail myself of the opportunity to say, in this connection, that it is not necessary for us to go abroad in order to find what we need. We have in this country all the artistic talent that is needed for producing master-pieces of art. We have in our midst, I am proud to say, a French Canadian artist, Mr. Philippe Hébert, whose work is a credit to this country and bears witness to the artistic genius of the French race in Canada. Reference has been made here to the clay models now exhibited in the National Gallery in this city. I have examined, with some friends of mine, during the session, those models, and I entirely agree with the