

Mr. PUGSLEY: Is that a wood or a stone building?

Mr. REID: It is a brick building with stone trimmings.

Saskatchewan public buildings—Regina—alterations to Assistant Receiver General's buildings, to accommodate post office, \$10,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Why is this required?

Mr. REID: This vote of \$10,000 is required for alterations to the Assistant Receiver General's building (old Royal Bank), Regina. This will provide for a proper staircase, overhauling heating apparatus, paving lane, installing electric freight elevator, conveyor from present post office across lane, etc. The estimated cost of the proposed alterations is \$9,250, with contingencies of \$750, or a total of \$10,000.

Alberta public buildings—Coutts—immigration building, \$2,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Where is that?

Mr. REID: That is right on the boundary line, south of Calgary. There are no buildings there. It is where the Canadian Pacific crosses the boundary. This amount of \$2,000 is required to reimburse the Department of the Interior for the construction of immigration building at Coutts.

Mr. PUGSLEY: It is right on the international boundary line?

Mr. REID: Yes.

Spirit River—immigration building, \$5,000.

Mr. REID: This is to reimburse the Department of the Interior for the erection of an immigration building at Spirit River settlement.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Where is Spirit river?

Mr. REID: It is in Edmonton county. We have a recommendation for this from the hon. member for Edmonton (Mr. Oliver).

British Columbia public buildings—William's Head quarantine station water supply, \$150,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY: This is a large item. What is the explanation?

Mr. REID: This amount of \$150,000 is required to provide an adequate water supply for the quarantine station at William's Head. The present water supply is obtained from the Quarantine lake, a distance of 3½ miles, and was installed about 1894. It was repaired on many occasions between 1900 and 1913; but constant attention is necessary in stopping leaks, etc. In case of fire the pressure would be greatly inadequate and the chief of the fire department

[Mr. J. D. Reid.]

states that the existing conditions are extremely dangerous and unsatisfactory. During the summer months the watershed from which the present water supply is obtained dries up, and there is always a scarcity of water. To overcome this serious drawback it is proposed to obtain a new source of supply. The proposed work consists in the construction of a water main from a point known as "Bray's Farm" on the waterworks system of the city of Victoria, to the quarantine station at William's Head, a distance of about 8½ miles. The construction of this main is in accordance with an offer made by a resolution of the municipal council of the city of Victoria on the 28th May, 1917, as follows:

Resolved, that the Water Commissioner be authorized to submit an offer to the proper official of the Dominion Government to supply water from the city water works to the said quarantine station in accordance with arrangements to be mutually agreed upon, embracing the following general terms and conditions, namely, to sell water to the Dominion Government for this purpose, delivered at a point known as "Braye Farm," at six cents per thousand gallons, the Government to furnish and lay the necessary main, and the city to maintain said main, after it is laid, for a period of five years.

In view of the increasing prices for cast iron pipe it is proposed to use the pneumatic tubes which have been in storage in Toronto for post office purposes and thereby effect a material reduction in the cost of the work. The chief architect of the Department of Public Works in a report dated 23rd June, 1917, states as follows:

Since negotiations with regard to this supply have been in progress the cost of cast iron pipe has advanced very materially. In January, 1917, our resident architect at Victoria estimated the cost of 10-inch water pipe on that date as \$52 per ton. I am now in receipt of an estimate from him, dated 22nd June, in which the price is quoted at \$85.20 per ton. This difference in cost of cast iron pipe will, of course, very materially affect the estimate for the cost of the work, which was about \$150,000.

I have taken up the matter of using the pneumatic tubes which we have in storage in Toronto, with Mr. Chipman, C.E., of Toronto, and have received from him a report as follows:

That from the tests made on the pneumatic tubes he is of the opinion that the pipe would prove satisfactory for water works purposes under a working head not exceeding 300 ft., but before being used they should be thoroughly cleaned, re-coated, tested and weighed; and that greater care will be necessary in laying these pipes than in laying standard cast iron water pipes. The pipes must be laid more closely to grade and to line than with standard pipes. For a long conduit these pipes would be equivalent if not superior to the standard pattern of pipes. He states he would have no hesitation in using these pipes on a water works system provided they were cleaned, coated and tested.