

(Mr. Lancaster) for the abolition of that ancient body, the Senate, and in the course of his address I noticed he said that the Senate cost this country \$318,000 a year. Now whether we would be justified in abolishing the Senate or not, how can we satisfy the people who are crying out for a recognition of their just needs, when we have to point out to them that the senators are taken care of to the tune of \$6,000 worth of rubber tiling, for their chamber and are robed in purple and fine linen, while at the same time places which afford very considerable revenues to the government are not given the consideration which they deserve. I would like to suggest to the minister that if this sort of thing goes on to any great extent, and much longer, the people will be disposed to agree with that biting cynicism of Max Nordau, when writing of the non-success of democracy, particularly in the larger sense of that word when he said:

The cabinet not only rules the country but the parliament as well. Instead of their following a policy prescribed to them, they dictate the policy of parliament and nation. They manage all the powers and resources of the nation according to their own discretion, bestow favours and presents, support innumerable hangers on in luxury at the expense of the community, and never hear a word of reproach if they but remember to send to the majority in parliament occasional tit-bits from the royal feast spread for them by the state.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I may say that it would be a horrible thing if it had to be said in our country that that language was absolutely true. That it is partly true, we have got to admit, right in this country of ours, of which we are all so proud. I want to say to the Minister of Public Works and to other ministers who are here, that they will get a generous recognition of any efforts they may put forth to try and wipe out this system, and make at least some attempt, before they spread out this tremendous distribution of money in needless ways, to attend to the legitimate needs of the country, whether it be a post office or anything else.

Prince Rupert quarantine station, \$25,000.

Mr. BARNARD. I would like some explanation of this item.

Mr. PUGSLEY. It is well known that a good many people are now going to Prince Rupert, and in the coming summer a large number, probably many thousands, will be going to that city. We have felt that it would be very desirable, in fact absolutely essential to the public health, to have a quarantine station established there. My hon. friend the Minister of Agriculture made a very strong appeal to me to have an amount for that purpose put in the estimates.

Mr. HUGHES. Will tenders be called for?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Tenders will be called for just as soon as possible, and it is hoped that a suitable building will be erected for the purpose of taking care of sick persons who may go there during the coming season.

Mr. HUGHES. Will Canadians have a chance to work on that building?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes.

Mr. BARNARD. Have the government provided for any other expenditures in connection with the city of Prince Rupert?

Mr. PUGSLEY. No.

Mr. BARNARD. Any post office or public building?

Mr. PUGSLEY. No.

Mr. BARNARD. Has it occurred to the minister that there will possibly be something a good deal more necessary than a quarantine station?

Mr. PUGSLEY. A quarantine station is essential to the public health.

Vancouver public buildings, \$60,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY. That is to complete the public building at Vancouver.

Mr. HUGHES. What building is that?

Mr. PUGSLEY. The new post office—a very fine building.

Mr. HUGHES. From whom was the site purchased?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It was purchased from Mr. Robertson.

Mr. HUGHES. And the adjoining property?

Mr. PUGSLEY. We purchased that for an examining warehouse.

Mr. HUGHES. From whom was that purchased and at what price?

Mr. PUGSLEY. From Mr. Robertson also, I think, at about \$80,000.

Mr. HUGHES. Are you sure?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes.

Victoria immigration building, \$43,000.

Mr. PUGSLEY. That is to finish the building.

Mr. BARNARD. Could the minister tell us what the immigration into Victoria was last year?

Mr. PUGSLEY. No, I have not the figures. That would be in the Interior Department.

Mr. BARNARD. Could the minister give us an idea of what this building is intended for?