

On October 4 Mrs. Stewart wrote to the Postmaster General and at the bottom of her letter stated "Please acknowledge". On October 18 her mother wrote from Toronto to the Postmaster General, and as of October 25 no reply had been received by either. On October 10 I received a letter from the service officer of the Royal Canadian Legion, branch 458, asking me to make representations on behalf of Mrs. Stewart. On that date I wrote to the Post Office Department. Only this morning did I receive a reply.

The minister also stated that the new appointee had 10 children. I should like to lay before the house the facts with regard to the 10 children. One girl is married and is living in Kingston. One son is working in Ottawa. Two daughters are working in Ottawa and one daughter is working in a bank in Kingston. The husband works as a carpenter for a construction firm. The appointee works part time as a store clerk and also drives a mail route. They also own a farm.

An hon. Member: Also Grit.

Mr. Webb: On Friday October 25 I received a petition which reads as follows:

We, the patrons of Enterprise post office and the rural routes are well satisfied with the excellent services of our postmistress, Mrs. Betty Stewart, and it is our wish that she remain in her present position.

This petition involving this small post office contains 190 signatures.

[Translation]

Hon. Azellus Denis (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to give an answer to the hon. member, since I did so on the twenty third when I gave a precise summary of the facts.

First of all, Mrs. Stewart is not entitled to the privileges granted to veterans.

Then, she has never been postmistress. She was employed in the post office in question, on a temporary basis, after her husband's death.

It has also been said that she had increased the post office revenue to \$2,000. In fact, she was employed for one month only, and the revenue was not increased to \$2,000 a year, the total annual revenue of that post office being of about \$1,421.

The hon. member has mentioned what type of work Mrs. Dillon's children do. That they work in a bank, as labourers or carpenters, does not change the fact that Mrs. Dillon is the mother of 10 children.

[Text]

Mr. Webb: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Administrative Change in Parks Branch

Mr. Webb: —in regard to revenue, sir—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please; it seems to me we have spent a considerable time on this matter. I thought the quickest way to deal with it was to let the hon. member explain his point and then get on with our business. If the hon. member is not satisfied he should follow through with a motion. Otherwise we must follow the regular routine.

Mr. Webb: I just want to put before the house, sir—

Mr. Speaker: I am sure there are other ways of doing that. For example, there will be the estimates of the Postmaster General.

LABOUR RELATIONS

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES—TABLING OF ORDER IN COUNCIL AND LETTER FROM MINISTER

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in compliance with a request made by the Leader of the Opposition on Friday I should like to table copies of the order in council appointing the board of trustees and also copy of a letter which I sent to Mr. Banks dated October 23. I regret that I stated incorrectly on Friday it had been sent on October 22. This was an inadvertent statement.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I did not hear what the inadvertence was.

Mr. MacEachen: It was an inadvertent mistake which I made on Friday, which I wanted to draw to the attention of the house.

NATIONAL PARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATION OF BRANCH

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make an announcement concerning the national parks branch of my department. Because of the ever-expanding increase in the use of our national parks and national historic parks and sites, it has been concluded that a decentralization of administration is necessary. Therefore, instead of all park field units reporting directly to Ottawa, in future each unit will report to a regional headquarters and only the regional offices will report to Ottawa.

There will be three regions, each headed by a regional director. The western region, with headquarters at Calgary, will cover everything west of the Manitoba-Ontario boundary. The central region, with headquarters at Cornwall, will cover Ontario and