

The newspapers generally should not be made to suffer through the increased cost to the Post Office Department of rural mail delivery or other improvements serving special interests.

The Post Office Department should give adequate consideration to the following, among other points:—

(a) The position of the newspapers as a factor in the diffusion of knowledge; and in the educational system of the country.

(b) The fact that without the newspapers the Government would be put to enormous expense in keeping the electorate and general public in touch with public issues and proceedings at Ottawa.

(c) The fact that because of the tremendously heavy expense of publishing a newspaper the business is not on the whole a profitable one, as is evinced by the condition of most of the small newspapers and many of the large ones; and by the fact that when the large daily newspapers represented in Canadian Associated Press decided to supplement their news service by a special service from Great Britain they had to secure a large subsidy from the Government to enable them to do so.

(d) The fact that much of the work, such as sorting, that is done by the Post Office Department in connection with other classes of mail matter is done by the newspapers in connection with second-class matter.

Because of the above and other considerations the case for a low postage rate on newspapers is exceedingly strong.

Before any change in the rate of postage on second-class matter is made the Post Office Department should be required to submit conclusive evidence that the cost of handling second-class matter is such that despite the above and other arguments in favor of a low postage rate on newspapers, the present rate is too low.

J. H. Woods, *Calgary Herald*, suggested the appointment of certain members of the deputation to act as spokesmen for the various interests represented in it provided any questions concerning these interests were asked by the Postmaster-General.

It was moved by John A. Cooper, seconded by W. M. Southam, and carried, that W. J. Taylor, *Woodstock Star and Free Press*, represent the small dailies; H. B. Smyth, *Simcoe Reformer*, the weekly newspapers; Col. J. B. Maclean, the trade and class publications; J. H. Woods, *Calgary Herald*, the press of Western Canada; and Senator Wm. Dennis, *Halifax Herald*, the press of the Maritime Provinces.

The deputation then adjourned to the Parliament Buildings to meet the Honorable the Postmaster-General.