

Postal Service

is 30,380 multiplied by \$3, or \$91,140, or a profit of \$74,957. The increase to mail subscribers is therefore more than 5½ times the increase in the postage rates provided for in the new act.

Mr. Graydon: May I ask the minister just one question? Is he aware that he would not have got into all this trouble had he not read mail addressed to people other than himself?

Mr. Rinfret: According to the interpretation of the act by some hon. members in the house the other day, the Postmaster General is supposed personally to deliver mail in the country. This letter was addressed to the postmaster.

Mr. Graydon: You are not supposed to read other people's mail.

Mr. Rinfret: The letter was addressed—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Postmaster General has been asked a question, and he should be permitted to answer.

Mr. Rinfret: The letter was addressed to the postmasters or the rural couriers, which belong to the department of which I am the head, and I had the right to read that letter.

Mr. Graydon: No, you did not.

Mr. Pouliot: Well said.

RAILWAYS, CANALS AND TELEGRAPH LINES

Seventh report of standing committee on railways, canals and telegraph lines.—Mr. Whitman.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Second and third reports of special committee on veterans affairs.—Mr. Mutch.

REFERENCE OF CERTAIN ESTIMATES TO COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. Alphonse Fournier (Minister of Public Works) moved:

That the message of His Excellency the Governor General, dated May 1, 1951, together with item No. 650 of the estimates for 1951-52, which was reported on this day by the special committee on veterans affairs, be referred to the committee of supply.

Motion agreed to.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Second report of standing committee on external affairs.—Mr. Bradette.

[Mr. Rinfret.]

REFERENCE OF CERTAIN ESTIMATES TO COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. Alphonse Fournier (Minister of Public Works) moved:

That votes 84 to 111 inclusive, and vote 566 of the main estimates 1951-52, approved and reported upon by the standing committee on external affairs this day, be referred back to the committee of supply.

Motion agreed to.

TAX AGREEMENTS

CANADA-SWEDEN—INCOME TAX—APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT SIGNED AT OTTAWA, APRIL 6, 1951

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 372, respecting an income tax agreement between Canada and Sweden.

Mr. Knowles: Explain.

Mr. McCann: This bill and the two which follow on the order paper, Mr. Speaker, are presented to confirm agreements between the countries named, with a view to avoiding double taxation. They are similar to bills that were introduced at former sessions and enactments that are already in operation as between Canada and the United States and Canada and the United Kingdom. Two of them refer to income tax agreements and one to the succession duty convention.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

CANADA-FRANCE—SUCCESSION DUTY—APPROVAL OF CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL SIGNED AT PARIS, MARCH 16, 1951

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 373, respecting a succession duty convention and protocol between Canada and France.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

CANADA-FRANCE—INCOME TAX—APPROVAL OF CONVENTION SIGNED AT PARIS, MARCH 16, 1951

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 374, respecting an income tax convention between Canada and France.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

QUESTIONS

NATIONAL DEFENCE—CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood):

1. How many civilian employees are engaged in the Department of National Defence?
2. What is the total cost of civilian personnel, including salaries, wages and all other expenses?