

*Supply—Post Office*

**Mr. Bryce:** Was that discontinued after the 19th April?

**Mr. Gardiner:** The provision referred to in the estimates was, but the other matter has nothing to do with this. It is between the farmer and the packing plant.

**Mr. Bryce:** The farmer can claim yet?

**Mr. Gardiner:** Yes.

Item agreed to.

## POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

311. Departmental administration, \$1,118,455.

**Mr. Fraser:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister a question. Has the postal department considered denying the royal Canadian postal facilities to communist Endicott and his communist peace friends?

**Mr. Cote (St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville):** Would you repeat your question?

**Mr. Fraser:** I wonder whether the Post Office Department has considered denying the royal Canadian postal facilities to communist Endicott—the one they call “doctor”, though I do not know why—and his communist peace friends who are continually sending through the mails peace literature. I wonder if the minister wants to answer now, or whether he would like me to ask a couple more questions.

**Mr. Cote (St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville):** Mr. Chairman, there is no possibility of the department uncovering the matter. If it is in a sealed envelope, I am sorry to answer that we cannot do anything. Where we can find obscenity and things like that we do act.

**Mr. Fraser:** Well, Mr. Chairman, I think some of these letters are going through unsealed. Members of parliament have received unsealed letters containing Endicott literature. I should not say it is literature, because it is not; it is just trash. Then there are letters from this peace union which are also unsealed. Members of parliament are receiving them, as do other people throughout the country. There should be some regulation, and I imagine there is, to prevent that stuff going through.

**Mr. Cote (St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville):** Mr. Chairman, we will be happy to do whatever can be done in such cases. If there is a contentious matter we refer it to the Department of Justice to decide; or in other cases we refer the items to the attorney general of the province for action.

**Mr. Fraser:** Mr. Chairman, I just want to finish out a couple more questions. Since the department put in the one mail a day system in residential districts across Canada

[Mr. Gardiner.]

there has been great dissatisfaction among the postal carriers owing to the fact that it does not mean one postal delivery a day to them but two postal deliveries; and in some cases these men have to make between four and six hundred calls a day. There are one or two routes in Peterborough on which the postmen have to make 600 calls a day. There is a feeling amongst postal delivery men that their pay is not in line with the pay received by policemen or firemen in the various municipalities in which they are working. The postmen feel, too, that since the office workers in the post office receive overtime pay they should also get overtime pay. Is the department doing anything in regard to that?

In the United States postal workers receive what is called special service pay after ten years of service. Is the department considering any such recognition here.

**Mr. Cote (St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville):** I think it is only fair to say that all questions of salary come under the civil service commission. So far as the overtime question is concerned, it is actually under a national joint council survey.

**Mr. Coldwell:** I should like to ask a question of the minister.

**Mr. Fraser:** The minister never answered the question concerning the possibility of having two deliveries a day.

**Mr. Cote (St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville):** Perhaps I might make a statement on that question. I think it will be immediately apparent to almost anyone that it is impossible to give as good a delivery service on a one delivery per day basis as it was formerly on a minimum of two deliveries a day; therefore, from the standpoint of service to the public, the Post Office Department looks forward to the day when conditions will be such that it will be appropriate to reinstate the minimum two deliveries per day.

On the other hand, I think I should mention that there have been many expressions of opinion from patrons who are now receiving one delivery a day that this service is adequate. I must admit that these expressions of opinion are from private individuals, and are not from business concerns who happen to have located in residential sections and therefore are only receiving the one delivery a day. The department fully realizes the disabilities which these business concerns might conceivably suffer and we have therefore, whenever circumstances have permitted, made a special study of these cases with a view to making such rearrangements as the circumstances permit to improve the service. Today we receive very few complaints indeed, and this in itself I think is an