

*By Mr. Euler:*

Q. In the smaller post offices, would you say that under the old patronage system the recommendations made by members of Parliament were good ones?—A. Yes, 95 per cent of them, made by either party, because they were themselves held responsible for the appointment, and the men they selected were good men.

Q. As good as now?—A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Or better?—A. I do not know that they were any better, but I think they were fully as good.

*By Mr. Currie:*

Q. Any defaulters now?—A. Lots of them.

*By Hon. Mr. Calder:*

Q. This work is carried on by the inspector? How many inspectors have you had to add to your staff?—A. We have added between 17 and 18.

Q. Have you had to add any on account of that additional duty thrust upon them?—A. No, I do not think so. We are increasing the duties of inspectors now, and that will give them more responsibility.

*By Mr. Currie:*

Q. Can you find out for us some time between now and to-morrow morning something concrete as to who has the appointing power of these country postmasters. We are all interested to know as members of Parliament, although we do not have anything to do with it. That is the recommending power?—A. The recommending of promotion?

Q. Yes. The minister gave you a concrete case. Will you enquire of your inspectors?—A. Yes.

*By Hon. Mr. Calder:*

Q. Could we get one or two of your inspectors here?—A. Yes, I can give you one of the best.

Q. Have you got one who operates away up through the Ottawa valley?—A. Yes.

Q. What is his name?—A. Mr. Cooligan.

*By Mr. Currie:*

Q. And you might add Sutherland of Toronto?—A. Yes.

*By Hon. Mr. Calder:*

Q. These inspectors must have spent a lot of money travelling around the country?—A. Yes, they do spend a lot of money.

Q. Do they travel on passes?—A. Yes, we get compulsory passes for travelling officers outside the law—we are exempt from the law.

*By Mr. Currie:*

Q. They have to pay their buggy hire and meals?—A. Yes.

*By Hon. Mr. Calder:*

Q. Could you give us any estimate of what it costs?—A. I could not give it in figures. It is a large sum of money.

Q. Could any one of your officers give it?—A. Yes, I can give it to-morrow.

Q. Give an estimate of the travelling expenses of these men in looking after that branch of your work, and ascertain what you have had to add to your staff to look after that work?—A. The staff is not increasing materially, but pretty steadily with regard to that.

Witness retired.