

Mr. ISNOR: On page 10 a revenue of \$34,274,552 is shown and on page 9 a gross revenue of \$41,181,566.35 is shown. Then you make certain deductions. Why do you not show the six million and some odd dollars as expenditures?

Mr. EULER: I am informed that the revenue shown on page 10 is that from the outside offices, whereas that shown on page 9 is the total revenue of the department.

Mr. ISNOR: What appears on page 10 is not correct in so far as the total revenue is concerned?

Mr. EULER: That applies only to the outside service.

Mr. ISNOR: Then I agree with the hon. member for Winnipeg North when he says that it does not reflect the true condition of the revenue of our Post Office Department. I think that should be set out more clearly.

Mr. BETTS: I want to say "amen" to the remarks of the hon. member for Halifax as to the desirability of having a more accurate picture. A few moments ago the minister said it would be a matter of great difficulty to tell how much more mail had been carried this year than last year. I cannot understand that as it seems to me inevitable that the contracts with the railways would be made on a tonnage or poundage basis. Surely it would be a simple matter for the minister, with his two capable assistants, to tell the committee at once what has been the increase in the weights.

Mr. EULER: I can assure my hon. friend it is not so easy as he seems to think. I am informed by the officials that it is not possible to give that information so readily, and I shall have to ask him to accept my word for that. It is not possible to give it completely without a great deal of work. I do not think that is an unreasonable reply to make.

Mr. BETTS: If that is the case, then I think it adds a great deal of weight to what the hon. member for Halifax and other hon. members have said with regard to the accounting system of this department needing revamping.

Mr. EULER: If one wishes to make comparisons, the really important thing is the amount of money involved, not the weight of the mail carried. I think that is a relatively small matter.

Mr. BETTS: If the minister were running this business as his own, I think he would want to know how much money was spent,

what he was paying for carrying this mail and how much mail was carried. He would not be satisfied with just a gross amount.

Mr. EULER: The information can be given, but not to-night. If my hon. friend insists on having that information, we shall try to dig it up for him and let him have it later on.

Mr. BETTS: It is not a matter of my wanting it; it is a question of its being information that the country should have. I am not asking for it to-night, but I still contend that if there was a proper system of accounting in the department it would be a matter of no difficulty to get this information.

Mr. LENNARD: Does the Post Office Department make the actual sale of government annuities?

Mr. EULER: I am informed that the Post Office Department sells them for the Department of Labour.

Mr. LENNARD: But does the Post Office Department make the actual sale?

Mr. EULER: In some post offices the deposits for annuities are received, while in other post offices the Department of Labour has its own agents.

Mr. LENNARD: This matter has come in for considerable criticism because it is felt that the postmaster, who may be doing the advertising and spade work and in many cases the selling of the idea to the people who take out these annuities, should make the actual sale and receive any commission or benefit which accrues from the sale.

Mr. EULER: Perhaps that would be a matter for the consideration of the Department of Labour.

Mr. LENNARD: I brought it up so that it would receive consideration.

Mr. BETTS: How many people are going to Buenos Aires to attend this conference, and who are they?

Mr. EULER: That has not been decided as yet.

Item agreed to.

Post offices, including salaries and other expenses of headquarters and staff post offices and supplies and equipment for revenue post offices, \$14,624,470.

Mr. GREEN: Does the department still deliver mail on Saturday afternoons and holidays? This service was inaugurated in December, 1936, and many complaints have been made about it.