

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Laing:** I only want to make this remark. I understand the hon. member for Yukon has widely circulated a number of telegrams taking full responsibility for the fact that the road was going to be kept open. I was so informed. However, if he wants to share that with me, that is all right. I see no advantage in further explanations today, and the hon. member is aware of the nature of the negotiations taking place. I am quite certain he is so happy it is the intention of the government to keep the road open that he would not wish to do anything to disturb those arrangements.

**Mr. Nielsen:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I think the minister got his roads mixed up. He was referring to keeping a road open. The Alaska highway is, of course, open all year round; and I can assure the minister, knowing he will take my word, that I have not sent out one single wire concerning these roads.

## REQUEST FOR COPY OF ADDRESS BY MINISTER

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** I wish to address a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Mr. Speaker, and while its urgency is not too obvious, the urgency is there and time is of the essence. In view of the general interest in the minister's forthcoming address to the eighteenth annual meeting of the Saskatchewan river development association—and there is intense interest—will the minister provide the members of the house with a copy of this address after delivery?

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I am quite certain there is general agreement in this house that the unchallenged authority on water, wherever found and in whatever form, is the hon. member for Kootenay West. I am quite certain that if I could use his ability to assist me in the preparation of this talk, then the distribution which he suggests might be worth while.

## POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

BELLEVILLE, ONT.—CHANGE IN LOCATION OF  
POST OFFICE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. A. Webb (Hastings-Frontenac):** Is the Postmaster General aware, Mr. Speaker, that the location of a post office in Belleville, Ontario, is being changed for purely political reasons, as set out in the notice received by the owner of the present premises?

[Mr. Nielsen.]

**Hon. Azellus Denis (Postmaster General):** I am not aware of that, and I deny the allegations made by the hon. member. At any rate, I will take his question as notice and answer it in a day or two.

**Mr. Webb:** May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware of the fact that the proposed new appointee is the secretary of the local Liberal association and a close relative of the present Liberal member for Hastings South?

## Some hon. Members: Patronage.

**Mr. Denis:** I am not aware of that, and I will say the same thing tomorrow or the day after.

**Mr. Robert Temple (Hastings South):** I rise on a question of personal privilege. I should like to point out to this house and particularly to the hon. member for Hastings-Frontenac that there is no nepotism in my family. I am not interested in the genealogical affiliations of any applicant in Enterprise, either.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES  
BY COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Postmaster General. In view of the answer which he gave to another question of mine today regarding the irregularity of air mail service from the west coast to the Queen Charlotte islands, would the minister be agreeable to consulting his colleagues with a view to having the estimates of his department referred to the appropriate standing committee so that we can thoroughly inquire into all these matters of administration?

[Later:]

**Mr. Howard:** Mr. Speaker, I was expecting a reply from the Postmaster General and I wonder will he give one.

**Hon. Azellus Denis (Postmaster General):** Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to give the hon. member every detail he asks for during the consideration of the estimates of my department. It is not necessary to have a standing committee for two or three questions, since the estimates will come before the House of Commons.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

INQUIRY AS TO PAY INCREASES FOR CERTAIN  
STAFF MEMBERS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State in his