

information was before the members as to what was contemplated by the Department the meetings were unable to discuss the matter with any satisfaction, and it was accordingly resolved to ask the Postmaster-General to kindly meet a deputation from the associations. The present large deputation was therefore before the Postmaster-General with a twofold purpose. First, to ascertain what the frame of mind of the Post Office Department was, and secondly, to offer their co-operation in any possible way regarding whatever information could be furnished by the newspapers for the Minister's consideration.

#### MR. PELLETIER'S REPLY.

The Postmaster-General, Hon. L. P. Pelletier, expressed his pleasure at receiving so representative a deputation and said the Post Office Department had not made up its mind regarding any policy on this matter. The department has in mind the need of going into this question very fully. Mr. Pelletier said he had been told there was some unrest among newspapers regarding this policy, but this is not necessary.

"I may say, gentlemen," he said, "that there is no occasion for that. Anything that I may do here, with the help of my Deputy Minister, Dr. Coulter, will be done after full consultation with, and the advice of, the newspapers. We have, the doctor and I, put our heads together in order to prepare a circular which we thought would give us some of the preliminary—and I underline the word 'preliminary'—information which we think ought to be in the hands of the Department, so that we may go further into this matter. This circular has no other bearing than that. I have been a journalist myself and I believe in newspapers and I think they are a power in the land which we have to reckon with in the first place, and which, in the second place, ought to be well treated. We believe here that we are confronted with a serious situation. We may be right or wrong. It will be matter for very complete and full discussion with you gentlemen—discussion as full as possible. I am glad to see, as Mr. Ross has said, that I have the pleasure to-day of having such