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This letter was received from Mrs. Harvey Mitchell, R.R. No. 2, Hamilton, Canada.

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How The Kensington Post Office Was Secured

Following is the Hansard report of the discussion on an item of \$12,000 for a Post Office building at Kensington:

Prince Edward Island—Kensington—public building, \$12,000.
 Mr. HANSON: Has this money been spent?
 Mr. ROBB: No. That is another new building.
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): For what purpose?
 Mr. ROBB: A post office.
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): What is the size of the place?
 Mr. ROBB: The population in 1921 was 556, and it was the same in 1926. Kensington is 39 miles from Charlottetown and 9 miles from Summerside. It contains three hotels, four churches, one bank, one butter and cheese factory and one sash and door factory. Of course the post office serves a large surrounding country.
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): What is the revenue from this office?
 Mr. ROBB: About \$3,000.
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): What are the reasons why Kensington with a population of 500 and a postal revenue of about \$3,000 should have \$12,000 expended for a post office, when other places—for instance, Cydenham in the county of Frontenac—have waited a long time in order to get cold justice, although they have much larger populations and greater postal revenues? What particular constituency is Kensington in, and just what peculiar pull has the member got? I should like to get a little information on this in order that by copying the same sort of manoeuvre I might secure something for my riding. I am perfectly frank; will the minister be equally frank in telling me what justification there is for spending \$12,000 for a post office in a little place of 500 inhabitants, this or other places from the Atlantic to the Pacific with two or three times that population are ignored? The minister says, you have to take in consideration the surrounding country. Well, invariably there is country surrounding every town and village, and Kensington with a population of 500 is not the only place surrounded. I should like to shake hands with the member for the constituency in which Kensington is situated. What particular pull has he got on this government to be able to draw \$12,000 out of the treasury for a post office in a little village of 500 population, while other parts of the country have never had a dollar spent on them since confederation and have to wait for favours until they smile in such a way as to suit hon. gentlemen opposite?

Mr. ROBB: Mr. Chairman, I sympathize with the viewpoint of my hon. friend from Frontenac. I represent a constituency that has received no public building since confederation—a very good constituency too.
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): But the difference between my hon. friend and myself is that while his constituency may be in the same position as mine in not getting anything for public buildings, yet look at what it is getting through the salary that its member is pulling down?
 Mr. ROBB: Would you not like to do that?
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): Yes, in three or four years we may change places, and then my turn will come. But that does not answer my question. Seriously, what are the grounds to justify \$12,000 being spent at this particular spot in these very hard times?—because the minister always puts up that plea, lack of money.
 An Hon. MEMBER: The building is needed.
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): No, it cannot be from the standpoint of need, because if that place needs a post office, there are other places of larger population and providing much more postal revenue that have waited a longer time to get justice. I appreciate the fact that during the period of the war lots of public works had to be left in abeyance, but now the time is come when this or any government that may be in power ought to consider seriously the fact that many places throughout the country have waited during those years of the war and do deserve some consideration for the length of time that they have waited. I want to see fair play all round. Will the minister answer my question: What are the reasons why Kensington is treated in this favourable manner while other places with stronger claims are passed by?
 Mr. MAOJEAN (Prince): Mr. Chairman, my hon. friend from Frontenac said he would like to shake hands with the member who represents the county in which Kensington is to be found. Well, if he will just come across the floor and up this aisle I shall be glad to shake with him. This vote is being considered by the House, because, although the population of this little town may not be quite

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seventy-five per cent over and above what was really needed. If a man had the necessary influence he could get a building costing \$50,000 when one of \$20,000 would have been more in keeping with the other buildings in his district. I do not wonder that the hon. member says they do not expect the whole of \$12,000; I should not think they would in a village of 500. In my constituency there is a larger village than that whose claim is stronger, and I appeal to the minister to cut that \$12,000 in two and allot half of it to Kensington to provide the kind of building they ought to have there and give the other half to Frontenac. Both places would then have buildings in keeping with their importance.
 Mr. ROBB: What do you say to cutting them both out?
 Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): I simply say that \$12,000 is more than is required for such a building as would be suitable to a village with a population of 500. For some reason or other, because of some magnetism by which fortunately his constituency benefits, a member is able to get twice as much spent as is necessary, while the money ought to be distributed around so that other places which for many years have been waiting for some consideration might get something.
 Mr. ADISHA: The hon. member suggests that some one probably had some pull to get a post office somewhere in Prince Edward Island. May I remind that hon. gentleman that somebody must have had a pull when the government of which he was a supporter was in power to have a post office in Calgary, not put up but pulled down. The post office there was pulled down and we have had to rent a building. I would suggest to the Minister of Public Works that a building be erected in my constituency in the

Tomorrow's Radio Program

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17
 International Radio Programs

- EVENING CONCERTS**
 7.30 P. M.
 WSAI (326) Cincin. Request Program.
 WTIC (476) Hartford. Staff artists
 WREI (349) Boston. Music.
 WBAL (246) Baltimore. Organ recital.
 8.00 P. M.
 WEEI (349) Boston. The Morgans.
 WGST (270) Atlanta. Studio Program.
 KDKA (309) E. Pitts. Program.
 WTAG (545) Worcester. Standard-yne Trio.
 WBZ (333) Springfield. Twilight Song Trio.
 WHK (273) Cleveland. I. B. S. A. Program.
 WEEI (349) Boston. Musicale.
 8.45 P. M.
 WIP (509) Phila. Recital.
 9.00 P. M.
 WEAJ (492) N. Y. C. C. Club Es-kimos, to WEEI, WIAR, WTAG, WFL, WCAE, WSAI, WTAM, WWR, WJW, WOC, WCCO, KSD and WGN.
 WSB (428) Atlanta. Concert.
 WCAU (278) Phila. Unity Artists.
 WMAK (266) Buffalo. Song recital.
 9.15 P. M.
 WNYC (526) N. Y. Vocal.
 9.25 P. M.
 WIP (509) Phila. Ave Marie Mandolin Club.
 9.30 P. M.
 WOAI (395) San Antonio. Studio program.
 10.00 P. M.
 WJZ (455) N. Y. Artist Recital, also WGY.

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- WGHP (270) Detroit. Vandeville.
 WLW (423) Cincin. Light Opera.
 WBAL (246) Baltimore. Staff Artists.
 WBSZ (333) Springfield. Japanese Musical Comedy.
 WCAU (278) Phila. Songs.
 10.20 P. M.
 WPG (300) Atlantic City. Vocal.
 11.00 P. M.
 WTAM (390) Cleveland. Studio Program.
 WLW (423) Cincin. Latonia Melody Boys.
 12.05 A. M.
 WLW (423) Cincin. Night Howls.
 11.45 P. M.
 WSB (428) Atlanta. Organ Recital.
 12.00 Mtd.
 WFOAU (278) Phila. Piccadilly Revue.
 12.15 A. M.
 WLW (423) Cincin. Night Howls.
FEATURE TALKS
 7.30 P. M.
 WGBS (316) New York. "Footlight and Lamplight."
 WGY (380) Schenectady. Book Chat
 WJZ (455) N. Y. Bi-Span Yarns—
- Col. True and his boy Fab. To WJZ, WBZ, KYW and KDKA.
- WANT TO DANCE?**
 9.00 P. M.
 WRC (469) Wash. Royal Salon.
 10.00 P. M.
 WIP (509) Phila. Steeplechase Pier
 WEAJ (492) N. Y. Goodrich Zippers, also WEEI, WJAR, WTAG, WGR, WFL, WOSH, WCAE, WJW, WSAI, WGN, KSD, WOC, WCCO, and WADC.
 10.30 P. M.
 WIP (509) Phila. Fry's.
 WCAU (278) Phila. Parodians, Club Cadis.
 WBSZ (333) Springfield. Trivoltly Club.
 WJZ (455) New York. Frivolity Club.
 11.00 P. M.
 WPG (300) Atlantic City. Silver Slipper Club.
 WTAM (390) Cleveland. Bamboo Gardens.
 12.15 A. M.
 WLW (423) Cincin. Castle Farmers. (Copyright, 1927, by International Radio Programs, Chicago.)

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sufficient to meet the requirements for a public building, still what it lacks in quantity is made up in quality, and as the Minister of Finance has said, it is the centre of a very large surrounding country and a considerable number of rural routes are served from the local post office. Moreover, there is a strong demand from the whole community for a public building. At present there is no suitable building there sufficiently large and heated for a post office; it is not in the centre of the town nor does it fill the requirements, although it is well kept and has served the community for a long time. We ask not perhaps for a \$12,000 building, but for a building which will give the town and country better accommodation than they have to-day. My hon. friend from Frontenac (Mr. Edwards) is a genial, good-natured fellow who is always willing to support anything that is fair and just, and I am surprised that he should get up now and single out this one small item for the little province of Prince Edward Island and attack it in the way he has done. I appeal to the hon. gentleman to support me in my request for improved accommodation for that little town down there and I promise him that when he comes forward with a similar request I will back him up and do my best to see that his constituency gets what it deserves.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): It would not do for me not to express my appreciation of the hon. gentleman's promise. I sincerely appreciate it coming as it does from a member who has been successful as he has been in securing what he wanted for his own constituency. He says that the people there do not want a \$12,000 building. Well, I feel I have a strong ally in my arm and I am prepared to stand with him and go arm in arm with him to the Minister of Finance with a request for half or less than half that appropriation for my constituency. I can understand why this vote is going through. The hon. gentleman rose to his feet. You have only to take one look at him a fine upstanding fellow, to realize how he put it over the Minister of Finance. There of course he has an advantage which I cannot claim; I have not the same engaging features nor have I the same appeal in the matter of physique. But notwithstanding these handicaps I am ready to go with the hon. gentleman and, on the strength of his promise, appeal to the Minister. I am sure one hundred per cent, and then somewhat. The hon. member says the people do not expect the whole \$12,000. Why then is \$12,000 being voted? On that point I want to make this observation in all seriousness. I believe that millions of dollars have been wasted in this country in putting up public building here and there because of the pull which this or that particular member had on the government. Because of that pull he was able to obtain an expenditure in his locality fifty or



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