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Robo - Postal Rates

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

February 24, 1956

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Dear ...:

The President's proposal to increase postal rates has naturally developed some controversy and people are aligned on both sides of this matter.

There is, however, one fact which cannot be controverted and that is that the Post Office Department is today operating at 1956 costs and on a basis of 1932 revenues. The inevitable result is the kind of deficit which has continued for a long time and runs into hundreds of millions of dollars. The Postmaster General has done very creditable job in increasing the efficiency and reducing costs, but there is a limit beyond which he cannot go.

If, therefore, the huge deficit is to be reduced and the Department placed on a self sustaining basis, there is only one course to pursue and that is a reasonable increase in postal rates. The matter is now pending before the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service and the hearings will no doubt disclose in great detail what the exact situation is.

Let me assure you that this will have good attention.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen