December ...., 1953

... ...

Dear ...:

The Post Office Department has given us the following information with respect to the discontinuance of the Post Office at Fairdale, Illinois:

"This will acknowledge your communication of November 23, 1953 with which you transmitted a letter addressed to you by Mr. Glenn G. Wilson of Fairdale, Illinois, and a petition signed by patrons of that office, protesting the discontinuance of the post office. The statements of the petitioners have been noted. However, in view of the adequate service which will be provided by rural route from Kirkland, and the sizeable savings which will be realized, consideration could not consistently be given to the continuance of the Fairdale post office."

I might advise also that a prior investigation made by the Post Office Department disclosed the following facts:

"Fairdale is a community of approximately 56 families. Between 15 and 20 of these families use the post office for financial transactions only and get their mail on a rural route. The receipts of the Fairdale office for the calendar year ended December 31, 1952 were $803.65. The compensation of the postmaster, including an allowance to cover the cost of rent, fuel, light, and equipment, effective July 1, 1953, is $2352.26. The salary of the mail messenger who supplies the office is $300 per annum.

"Rural route No. 1 from Kirkland, Illinois passes by the Fairdale post office. A rearrangement of this route would afford door service to all but two residents of Fairdale, if the office is discontinued. This change in the rural route would cost about $47 and the salary of the postmaster at Kirkland would be increased $136 per annum, due to adjusted receipts of that office. By discontinuing the Fairdale office and providing rural delivery service in lieu thereof, the Department could save the compensation of the postmaster and the mail messenger and the only additional expense would be the cost of extending the rural route and the slight increase in the salary of the postmaster at Kirkland."

If you have any other suggestions to make after examining the above facts, I trust you will not hesitate to advise.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen