December 15, 1953

Dear Friend:

Enclosed is an explanatory letter which we have received from the Post Office Department with respect to the inquiry that was directed to my attention concerning rural route No. 1 at Trowbridge.

If you have any other suggestions, I trust you will not hesitate to advise.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Hon. Everett M. Dirksen,

United States Senate.

Dear Senator Dirksen:

Further reference is made to your letter of September 11, 1953, relative to the opposition expressed by the patrons of rural route No. 1, Trowbridge, Illinois, to the discontinuance of that route.

The report of the inspector who made the investigation in this case has been received, and on the basis of the information furnished, it appears that it is not feasible to consolidate the rural service at Sigel, Illinois, where the vacancy exists, with other routes, but that it is practicable to discontinue the route from Trowbridge and have the territory served by that route added to the routes from Stewardson and Neoga, Illinois.

Under this plan, the Trowbridge route, which is 29.15 miles long, would be discontinued, and the Stewardson route would be increased from 44.5 to 61.80 miles, and the Neoga route from 41.85 to 52.75 miles.

The consolidation will result in a net saving of more than $2579.00 per annum.

The carrier on the Trowbridge route will be transferred to the vacant route at Sigel.

If the rural route from Trowbridge is discontinued, it will also be feasible to discontinue the post office and the mail messenger route which supplies it, resulting in a further saving of more than $3000.00 per annum.

The Department is under obligations to reduce its operating expenditures to whatever extent the maintenance of adequate service to the public will permit. All factors considered, we believe that
consolidation of the service as outlined above is both feasible and desirable.

It is our purpose to place it in effect at an early date, but final action will be withheld for a short time in order to afford you an opportunity to submit any representations as you may desire to have considered.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) N. R. Abrams
N. R. Abrams
Assistant Postmaster General.