

More Consumer Goods Available: Reflecting the improvement in the availability of consumer goods, the dollar volume of wholesale sales climbed 19 per cent in September compared with the same month last year. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported that all regions of the country shared in the general advance. Footwear and automotive equipment registered the greatest increase and clothing and footwear showed inventory improvement of 68 and 39 per cent, respectively. Wholesale grocers' sales were 24 per cent higher than a year ago. Retail sales increased 11 per cent higher over September, 1945, with radio and electrical stores marking the largest gain of 80 per cent more business.

Montreal Hotel to House Veterans: The old Place Viger Hotel in Montreal's lower east section is being prepared to house 60 needy families of war veterans. Built by the Canadian Pacific Railway, it was closed to the public in 1935 (after the hotel centre of the city shifted westward and during the war served as a manning pool for merchant seamen. Fifteen families, involved recently in a squatter movement, already have been moved in. The Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation has taken over the building. Meanwhile, in Vancouver, the C.P.R. has given notice that the lease to citizens' committee of the 525-room old Hotel Vancouver will not be renewed. The lease has six months to run. The committee has operated the building as a veterans' hostel and it has 1,400 occupants, including 300 children. (CP)

Veterans' Land Act Settlement Progressing: More than 46,000 veterans have qualified for settlement under the terms of the Veterans' Land Act, of whom more than 17,000 are already settled on their properties. Veterans Affairs Minister Mackenzie, in releasing figures on the operations of the VLA up to the end of September, reports that of the number qualified, 22,272 were for small holding in connection with industrial or other employment, and 626 for small holdings combined with commercial fishing. The remainder qualified for full-time farming and includes those settling on Provincial and Dominion lands. There were 7,709 veterans settled on small holdings, including 290 commercial fishermen. The other 9,591 were full-time farmers. The average assistance granted full-time farmers was \$5,126; to small holders employed in industry or otherwise \$4,891; and for commercial fishing small holdings \$3,693.

Lumber Price Ceilings Remain: Following conferences with Timber Controller Terrence Flahiff, Prices Board Chairman Donald Gordon announced today that no general increase in the price ceiling on lumber or removal of price ceilings was contemplated at present. Mr. Gordon pointed out that information available with respect to the overall earnings position of the lumber industry had not indicated a need for price adjustments except possibly in a few instances which still were under review.

Liberals Chose Richelieu-Verchères Candidate: A Liberal convention at Sorel, Québec has chosen Gerard Cournoyer, law partner of the late Hon. P.J.A. Cardin, to contest the by-election in Richelieu-Verchères next December 23 made necessary by the death of Mr. Cardin. Mr. Cardin held the seat for 35 years.

Gleanings: B.K. Boulton of Montreal has resigned as president of Wartime Housing Ltd., to return to private industry... Frank H. Brown of Toronto, financial advisor to the Reconstruction Department, has been named Deputy Revenue Minister for Taxation, succeeding C. Fraser Elliott, newly-appointed Ambassador to Chile... Operations of domestic airlines continue to expand with 76,000 passengers carried in August, 11,000 more than in July and almost double the total in August, 1945... With the return of the Lady Rodney to the Canadian National Steamships only two ships remain on the repatriation service -- the Samaria and the Empire Brent... Health Minister Brooke Claxton, who headed Canada's delegation at the close of the Paris Peace Conference and recently made an extensive tour of Europe, arrived at New York aboard the Queen Elizabeth... Hon. Thibaudeau Rinfret, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, has arrived in Paris for a month-long tour of France as guest of the French Information Ministry... The first group of Polish farmer-veterans, 1,700 in all, has arrived at Halifax aboard the Sea Robin.