

## CEMENT

## AVAILABILITY TO VETERANS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): Mr. Speaker, I should like to answer a question asked by the hon. member for Peterborough West (Mr. Fraser): "Can the minister tell the house what is being done by the department to see that veterans are able to secure cement in order to construct their houses?" As my hon. friend knows, veterans have full priority in obtaining materials for house building. Examination of our records indicates that we have no applications from veterans for cement priorities in the Peterborough area. On a national basis cement is not in as short supply as formerly, and if the veterans in Peterborough will apply to the controller of priorities for assistance it will be forthcoming.

Mr. FRASER: May I ask the minister a question on that? The veteran is allowed priority if he has his house 50 per cent completed. What about the cement for the first 50 per cent?

Mr. HOWE: I may tell my hon. friend that today the veteran has full priority in house building. The 50 per cent requirement has been eliminated.

Mr. FRASER: Further in reference to the statement made by the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply that full preference was given to the veteran building his own house, will the minister tell the house when the regulation was changed from 50 per cent to full priority?

Mr. HOWE: I cannot say the exact date, but I shall be glad to look it up. The notice does not seem to have received wide attention; therefore I shall make a statement in the house.

Mr. STEPHENSON: May I address a question to the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply? In the course of his statement he made reference to full priority being given to veterans. It is possible that veterans may have to get their nails from the local hardware stores. Will something be done to see that equitable distribution of nails is made to the hardware stores so that the veterans can get nails?

Mr. HOWE: Under the system of full priority the veteran will get priority on nails. Arrangements will be made to see that nails are available to him.

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## TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

## VANCOUVER AIRPORT—PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER FACILITIES TO ABBOTSFORD

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): The hon. member for Fraser Valley (Mr. Cruickshank) asked whether the Pacific terminal of Trans-Canada Air Lines could be moved from Vancouver airport to Abbotsford. I am afraid that the citizens of Vancouver would object, and I cannot promise him that that will be done.

## REDISTRIBUTION

## PETITION AGAINST ENLARGEMENT OF YUKON ELECTORAL DISTRICT TO INCLUDE MACKENZIE

Mr. GEORGE BLACK (Yukon): With the leave of the house I present to the honourable the House of Commons of Canada in parliament assembled the petition of a number of Canadian and British subjects residing in Yukon, petitioning parliament that the district of Mackenzie and Northwest Territories be not included in or added to the electoral district of Yukon, and stating their reasons for the petition.

## HOUSING

## ELIMINATION OF VETERANS' PREFERENCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. THOMAS REID (New Westminster): Will the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply take this question as a notice? A report has just reached me that returned men in New Westminster and the Fraser Valley are complaining that priority credits have been eliminated and that all subsidiary preference given to them at the beginning of the year is now gone. Many of them are being cut off supplies.

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): I shall investigate the situation. Certainly it is not the policy of the department to cut off any veterans' preferences, and if anything has happened to that end I shall see that it is corrected.

## PATENT ACT

## PROVISIONS FOR EXTENSIONS OF TIME—SECRECY—ADJUSTMENT OF TARIFF FEES

Hon. COLIN GIBSON (Secretary of State) moved the second reading of and concurrence in amendments made by the senate to Bill No. 16, to amend the Patent Act, 1935.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I ask the Secretary of State whether the amendments which the