

meet, draw lots, and so on, as to who should get a vehicle. Has that been continued?—A. That is continuing in a slightly different form that is more workable, and I believe will be more acceptable to the farmers.

*By Mr. Probe:*

Q. For old vehicles only?—A. Used vehicles only.

*By Mr. Smith:*

Q. What is the change?—A. I might add that is used military type vehicles only.

Q. In other words, other vehicles all go through the normal course of trade?—A. That is correct.

Q. May we go back to our people who are abusing us by letter and telephone and tell them that War Assets Corporation definitely will not change that and it intends to continue to operate through the trade?—A. That is correct; unless we receive special instructions in the matter that is our recommended policy which we are following pretty coldly.

Q. So far as you are concerned this is a Crown corporation and that is your definite policy?—A. That is the Crown corporation's policy. We do sell some trucks directly to federal government departments.

Q. I am not concerned about them. It is the little fellow up in the country that I am worrying about now. I want to ask you about these used vehicles. You said there was a change in the policy of their disposition. What is it? You said there was a more satisfactory way.—A. Relatively the same system I think will be continued. We are negotiating at the moment and discussing this matter with the Federation of Agriculture as to the possibility of making an allocation of a certain number of trucks for sale to farmers in accordance with the Federation's recommendation to us, and we are requesting them to let us know how many of that number they require in each province. We are then attempting to make these trucks available to the farmers in each province in accordance with that list.

Q. That has not yet become effective?—A. We have a verbal agreement on the thing and the letter confirming it is sitting on my desk waiting to be dictated now.

Q. How can it be sitting there waiting to be dictated? You mean answered. I have just one further question. Has anything been done since we last met with respect to preference for veterans in the purchase of goods under War Assets Corporation? Either you or Mr. Peterson told us last time that you expressed the wish to dealers that veterans should be preferred but that was as far as you went. Is the situation still the same in that respect?—A. The situation is still the same.

*By Mr. Stewart:*

Q. May I ask one or two more questions as to the lands and buildings department? You say that is a specialized operation which has as its purpose the selling of industrial properties to the best advantage. I am wondering whose best advantage, whether it is the country's or the company's because land and property today are at a premium, as everybody knows who is trying to buy land to build a house or even to buy land for the purpose of erecting a plant. I have press release No. 43-46 here which gives the original cost of land and buildings sold as \$12,592,424, and the sale price—that is the price at which War Assets sold them, at \$5,455,223. In other words, we really realized 43 per cent of the original cost. More specifically on this release under lands and buildings I read: