

Mr. MACKENZIE: My recollection is that it has been in operation for about six months.

Mr. LOCKHART: That is the point. We have not heard much about the results from that committee. In the light of all that has been said to-day, it seems to me that coordination is certainly necessary, and that we should have had better results.

I am not going to repeat what has been said, but I should like to correct an impression the minister left, following something I may have said. He rushed in to say something about the dealers making more money. Let me tell the minister there is not any thought about the dealers making more money. The hon. member for Kingston City has touched upon the kernel of the subject to which I was referring when I spoke. The supply dealers have had no trucks; the supply dealers cannot get help; they have been distracted in trying to deliver the materials they have at their disposal. I want to enlarge a little upon what the hon. member for Kingston City has said.

This afternoon I cited one case which the local volunteer committee had brought to my attention. I knew about this case five months ago. It represents the type of person who came back from overseas and with the assistance of his father or friends proceeded at once to get a home. I know of a dozen cases of men who have brought back war brides. They did not want to live with their in-laws and they decided to put up a little home. They would get the foundation in and the first obstacle would be lumber; the next obstacle would be plumbing fixtures; the next would be the plastering because of lack of gypsum lath, and so it went until the local service committee took up the matter and brought these cases to my attention.

This is not an appeal being made on behalf of those who are handling materials because, goodness knows, they have had all they can do to keep going with the trucks and the men they have at their disposal. I want to make that clear to the minister and to correct any wrong impression he may have. I was happy to hear the Minister of Veterans Affairs say that something will be done to help these veterans. There are dozens of these men in my community who are just frantic to get going.

Do not think that all the houses being built are being built by Wartime Housing. I do not believe the minister claims that is so. In many cases houses are being built by men who have just come out of the army. They are ganging up to help one another to get five-roomed cottages built. I just want to impress upon the minister that he has a wrong

[Mr. Lockhart.]

idea. He seems to overlook the fact that there is a great body of veterans who seem to be out in the cold and who cannot get going. That is the thing I wanted to clear up in the minister's mind. I hope something will be done to take care of them. All power to the Minister of Veterans Affairs for helping a certain number of veterans and providing housing, but there is a great group of men in between who are not getting the break they should because of the restrictions brought about by Wartime Housing.

Mr. PROBE: Far be it from me to defend Wartime Housing, but when I hear a speech like that of the hon. member who has just sat down it makes me boil. As I stated this afternoon, only two per cent of our lumber production for the last three or four years has been taken by government departments, such as Wartime Housing or Veterans Affairs; the other ninety-eight per cent has been channeled out through private dealers.

Mr. LOCKHART: Where is that two per cent?

An hon. MEMBER: He does not know.

Mr. PROBE: I will show you what I am talking about.

Mr. LOCKHART: In what province?

Mr. PROBE: I accept the word of the Minister of Munitions and Supply when he says that our average production in the last number of years has been 4,000 million feet of lumber. The Veterans Land Act took 25 million feet.

An hon. MEMBER: Four thousand million feet?

Mr. PROBE: Four thousand million feet.

Mr. HOWE: Four billion eight hundred million feet.

Mr. PROBE: During the current year the Veterans' Land Act used 25 million feet, while Wartime Housing used approximately 60 million feet in the construction of 7,000 houses. That is a matter of simple multiplication for my hon. friend over here.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. PROBE: I am not defending the government by any means, but I just wish to be fair. Those two channels have used 80 million feet of our cut. Where is the rest of the lumber going to? According to figures produced by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, 564 million feet of lumber left Canada in the first eight months of this year. In other words, seven times the amount of lumber used by those two government agencies