

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

the same subject from J. A. Laforest, mayor of Squatteck, Temiscouata county, be referred to the standing committee on standing orders.

I would read the accompanying letter from His Worship the Mayor, but it is such a fine one that I should be embarrassed if I did so.

Motion agreed to.

## FISHERIES RESEARCH BOARD

## PROVISION FOR SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND OTHER OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Hon. H. F. G. BRIDGES (Minister of Fisheries) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to present a measure to amend the Fisheries Research Board Act to provide for the election of a vice-chairman, the appointment of an executive director who shall be the secretary of the board, and for the employment of such scientific, technical and other officers and employees as may be necessary for the proper performance of the board's work; and for the emoluments, salary or remuneration, as the case may be, of such officers and employees, also for the application to them of the Civil Service Superannuation Act as well as of the benefits enjoyed by civil servants.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the consideration of the house.

Motion agreed to.

## DOMINION—PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

INQUIRY REGARDING OFFER TO NOVA SCOTIA—  
REQUEST FOR TABLING OF RECENT  
CORRESPONDENCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. JOHN BRACKEN (Leader of the Opposition): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. It has to do with the subject of dominion-provincial relations. In view of the press reports with regard to Nova Scotia's attitude to the dominion's proposal with respect to dominion-provincial relations, will the minister say whether there has been any recent offer or any implied change in the offer made to the Nova Scotia government which has not been made to the other provinces? Will the minister table the recent correspondence with the province of Nova Scotia, more particularly a reported letter from the minister dated April 21?

Hon. DOUGLAS ABBOTT (Minister of Finance): The answer to the first part of my hon. friend's question is, no. As to the second part, I think it is the intention of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) to table the

[Mr. Pouliot.]

correspondence between the dominion and the provincial premiers since the last correspondence was tabled.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): With the permission of the house, I should like to table the correspondence in English since January 30, 1947, on matters of substance regarding tax agreements with the provinces.

Mr. BRACKEN: Will the government give consideration to the printing of this correspondence separately, or to having it appear in *Hansard*? I think the other correspondence was printed.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I think the other correspondence was printed in the *Votes and Proceedings*. If that is correct, I would ask that this correspondence be printed in the *Votes and Proceedings* of today.

## CEMENT

AVAILABILITY TO VETERANS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF  
HOUSES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. K. FRASER (Peterborough West): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Reconstruction. On Friday he told the house that he would make a statement about the fifty per cent priority to veterans building their own houses. He said on Friday that priority was eliminated. Can he make a statement now?

Right Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): I asked that a proper statement be prepared, but I am sorry to say that it has not yet been delivered to me. I will promise to make a statement not later than tomorrow.

Mr. FRASER: The reason I asked the question today is that the building supply men had no word of this until Saturday.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARD BY U.S. GOVERNMENT OF MEDAL OF FREEDOM  
TO F. J. A. ORCHARD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. RALPH MAYBANK (Winnipeg South Centre): I desire to ask a question of the Minister of Veterans Affairs or his parliamentary assistant. Is he aware of the signal honour which has been paid by another government to a distinguished Canadian veteran? I am referring to Mr. F. J. A. Orchard of Winnipeg, former president of the International War Veterans Alliance.

Mr. W. A. TUCKER (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Veterans Affairs): I am glad that the hon. member brought this