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ENVIRONMENT—RECORD OF UNINSURED LOSSES

Question No. 723—**Mr. Clarke:**

1. With reference to the uninsured losses of more than \$1,000 of equipment recorded by the Department of the Environment in footnote number 3 at page 9.60, volume I of the 1977-78 Public Accounts of Canada and the losses recorded in footnote number 5 at page 12.62, volume I of the 1978-79 Public Accounts of Canada, in what way does the department explain the similarity of the losses described in both years of (a) one Nikon camera with lenses—\$2,000 (b) one recorder, pen—\$1,855 (c) one magnetic tape transport—\$4,000 (d) one spectrophotometer—\$3,000?

2. Did such losses actually incur and (a) if not, was a clerical error made in preparing the Public Accounts (b) if so (i) what steps has the department undertaken to ensure that such losses do not recur (ii) in each case, in what location were the losses sustained and under what circumstances?

Mr. Roger Simmons (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State for Science and Technology and Minister of the Environment): 1. These losses were reported in the 1977/78 Public Accounts in the year in which the loss occurred and were reported again in error in the 1978/79 Public Accounts in the year in which the losses were written off. Public Accounts Instructions Manual states: "Individual losses of \$1,000 or more must be reported in the year in which they occur rather than when approval for the write-off is obtained."

2. Yes, such losses actually occurred in 1977/78 but not in 1978/79.

(a) An error was made in preparing the 1978/79 Public Accounts.

(b) (i) The thefts occurred in the Chemical Control Research Institute located in the Dustbane building, Ottawa. The security at the Dustbane building was adequately handled, but the building was not burglar proof and was easily accessible by thieves as stated in the police report showing how entries were made into the building, i.e. through the ceiling, over walls, etc. The Chemical Control Research Institute now known as the Forest Pest Management Institute is, now, located in a departmentally-owned facility at Sault Ste Marie. The new location provides for better measures of security.

(ii) Thefts at the Chemical Control Research Institute, 25 Pickering Place, Ottawa, Ontario.

Order Paper Questions

INCOME TAX—COST OF EDUCATIONAL AIDS AND ADVERTISING

Question No. 830—**Mr. Howie:**

What was the total cost for (a) educational aids (b) advertising with regard to the 1979 individual tax return (i) on television (ii) on radio (iii) in printed publications (iv) by other means and what were such means?

Mr. Yves Demers (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Revenue):

(a) Educational aids: Teaching Taxes Program, \$34,000,

Volunteer Tax Information Program, \$12,000.

(b) Advertising: There was no advertising campaign related to the 1979 tax return. The department prepares tax materials and provides these free of charge to the media for use in public service programming. Departmental costs for materials related to the 1979 tax return were: (i) television: \$35,000, (ii) radio: \$10,000, (iii) print: \$3,000 and (iv) none.

ATLANTIC SALMON BOARD

Question No. 866—**Mr. Gass:**

1. (a) What is the function of the Atlantic Salmon Board (b) who are its members (c) how often has the board met?

2. What recommendations, if any, have been issued by the board?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):

1. (a) Purpose and Objective

As the official focal point for federal-provincial, commercial, recreational and native people consultations relating to resource management, the Atlantic Salmon Board provides to the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans advice and recommendations on broad policy matters governing conservation, enhancement and utilization of Atlantic salmon as it relates to the five Atlantic provinces.

Duties and Responsibilities

In addition to providing responses to matters specifically referred to the board by the department, the board is expected to consider and provide advice and recommendations on the following:

(i) Establishment of policy guidelines upon which the department can base decisions on matters pertaining to access to and utilization of the salmon resource, while providing due consideration of such factors as types of fisheries, interception, community impacts, seasonal parameters, markets for salmon products, social and recreational benefits, international implications and developmental or enhancement techniques and strategies; and,