Questions

2. The document will become public on the day of its ratification.

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION— SAVING OF MAN-HOURS AS A RESULT OF USE OF COMPUTERS

Question No. 459-Mr. Robinson:

How many man-hours have been saved as a result of the utilization of computers by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion during each year since computers have been used?

Mr. Martin P. O'Connell (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): The use of computer facilities in the Department of Regional Economic Expansion has contributed significantly to availability of information. Since the department's information systems have been developed on the basis of computer using techniques, there is no precise measure of the alternative manpower costs of manual methods of compiling, storing and retrieving the data. It is certain, however, that these costs would be high.

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION—
CHANGE IN PERSONNEL AS A RESULT OF USE
OF COMPUTERS

Question No. 460-Mr. Robinson:

As a result of the use of computers by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion how many employees have been (a) laid off (b) hired?

Mr. Martin P. O'Connell (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): (a) None; (b)

REPAYMENT BY BOTSWANA OF \$20 MILLION LOAN

Question No. 505-Mr. Rodrigue:

- 1. What are the required conditions for repayment by Botswana concerning the \$20 million loan made to that country?
- 2. What is the rate in interest for this loan?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. This loan has a life of 50 years and a tenyear grace period with semi-annual payments of \$250,000 beginning on March 31, 1981.

2. There is no interest charge on this loan.

SALE OF "NO RETURN" DISPOSABLE GLASS BOTTLES

Question No. 566-Mr. Mather:

Is consideration being given to the request of the Consumers Association of Canada to make the sale of "no return" disposable glass bottles unlawful?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): The government is concerned over all types of solid waste pollution, including that attributable to non-returnable bottles. Most non-returnable bottles are sold within a province in a limited geographical area and do not enter into interprovincial trade and are therefore readily controllable by provincial government.

[Mr. Sharp.]

IMPORTATION OF BUTTER

Question No. 572-Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):

Has Canada imported butter during the past twelve months and, if so (a) in what quantities (b) from what countries?

[Translation]

Mr. Bruce Howard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that: From October 1969 to September 1970 inclusive, Canada's imports of butter were as follows:

Country

Quantity (cwt) Value (\$'000)

Belgium & Luxembourg

19,115 440

All of the butter imported from Belgium and Luxembourg during the above-mentioned period was processed into ice cream and exported from Canada.

[English]

NUCLEAR POWER—SAFETY ASSURANCES FROM U.S. WITH RESPECT TO IODINE-131

Question No. 611-Mr. Forrestall:

Has the government sought safety assurances from the United States with respect to Iodine-131 which results from exhaust gases from nuclear reactors and associated fuel processing plants that could be carried over to Canadian soil from nuclear plants programmed for construction during the next ten years on the shores of the Great Lakes?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Atomic Energy Control Board reports as follows: The United States Atomic Energy Commission routinely transmits detailed information to the Atomic Energy Control Board on nuclear-electric generating stations which are planned for construction on the shores of the Great Lakes or elsewhere along the common Canada/-U.S.A. national boundary. This data is available for AECB evaluation and comment. All waste materials accumulated as by-products of the operation of a U.S. nuclear-electric plant whether gaseous (including Iodine-131) liquid or solid are subject to stringent regulations concerning handling and disposal. These rules may be found in Title 10 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, and, as for most countries, are based on the standards recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection, the world authority in this field.

RELOCATION OF CRUSTAL GEOLOGY DIVISION, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

Question No. 637-Mr. Forrestall:

- 1. Is the government considering a transfer from Ottawa of the Appalachian, Eastern Lowlands and Atlantic Margins Branch of the Crustal Geology Division, Geological Survey of Canada and, if so (a) what locations are being considered (b) for what reason is the transfer being considered (c) when will a decision on this move be announced?
- 2. Has this Branch ever been located in an area other than the National Capital Region and, if so (a) where was the Branch located (b) when was it transferred to Ottawa (c) for what reason was it transferred?
 - 3. How many employees does this Branch now have?