

Order Paper Questions

for total suspended solids and biochemical oxygen demand. In fact, a great percentage will likely be in compliance before the end of the program period, that is, before 1984. Also several more proposals are expected, which should increase that percentage even more.

6. The government ensures that when compiling statistics on discharge requirements, only the best available data are used. The reliability of the data is verified by random spot-check samples which are taken by trained field personnel and analysed in government laboratories.

7. As a result of the findings of the lower Great Lakes study between 1963-68, it was determined that the accelerated eutrophication of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario was the result of increased nutrient inputs especially phosphate. In order to deal quickly and effectively with this identified problem, Canada acted independently to reduce the phosphorous (P) content of laundry detergents 8.5 per cent P dry weight in 1970 and 2.2 per cent P dry weight in 1972. This action resulted in a rapid reduction in the total phosphorous loading from municipal sewage treatment plants. In recognition of the deteriorating state of Great Lakes quality, the governments of Canada and the United States signed the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 1972. This agreement called for implementation of phosphorous removal facilities at all sewage treatment plants discharging more than 1 million gallons per day into the lower Great Lakes. Plants of this size were required to reduce phosphorous concentrations in their effluents 1.0 mg/l or less. By 1978, 40 of the 68 Canadian plants discharging to Lake Erie and Lake Ontario had achieved the 1.0 mg/l target. In terms of the total allowable phosphorous discharge from these principal sewage treatment plants, Canadian sources exceeded the agreed upon limit to Lake Erie and Lake Ontario by 468 kg/day. In the United States, plants discharging to these lakes exceeded the limit by 11,288 kg/day. In Lakes Superior and Huron where a policy of nondegradation has been recommended, phosphorous control programs are now under review. The terms of the 1972 agreement also recognized the importance of determining the magnitude of the phosphorous loading coming from non-point sources, including runoff from agriculture and forested areas. An international reference group was established to investigate this problem and its final report was presented to the International Joint Commission in July, 1978. This report identified runoff from agricultural land as an important source of phosphorous. The two governments have just received the final recommendations from the IJC and are preparing a formal response in consultation with Ontario. In 1978 the governments of Canada and the United States reaffirmed their commitment to improve Great Lakes water quality by signing a second Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The agreement specified future phosphorous target loads for each of the Great Lakes. Before proceeding under this agreement to further reduce phosphorous loadings to the Great Lakes, a number of issues remain which require resolution. These include refinement of the target loadings and existing loading estimates and clarification of the importance of determining

that portion of total phosphorous entering the lakes which is available to promote undesirable algae and other growth. The governments of Canada and the United States are now proceeding to negotiate the phosphorous reductions which must be undertaken by each party to achieve the agreed upon target loadings. It is expected that these further reductions will be directed to municipal point sources and to important nonpoint sources of phosphorous. Until the negotiations on phosphorous loading allocations and compliance schedules are completed, it is difficult to estimate what commitment to further phosphorous reduction will be required in Canada.

8. (a) The Department of the Environment has monitored the levels of photomirex in herring gull eggs from Lake Ontario and found that the long-term trend in levels is downwards. Photomirex has also been monitored in fish samples. Co-operative studies with the Department of National Health and Welfare on the effects of photomirex are currently being conducted on laboratory animals.
- (b) In so far as the Department of National Health and Welfare is concerned: No. In order to assess the effects of photomirex on humans, the toxic properties of photomirex are being studied in experimental animals.

IMPORT STATISTICS

Question No. 941—Mr. MacKay:

With reference to a first quarter 1979 directive to Statistics Canada and Revenue Canada (Customs) from the Board of Economic Development Ministers concerning the problems of accuracy and detail in import statistics, what action has been taken by these departments?

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of National Revenue and Statistics Canada as follows: Revenue Canada has accepted responsibility for implementation of the government approved policy for handling the problems of accuracy of detailed import statistics. Treasury Board has approved the additional resources required by Revenue Canada for the next fiscal year, and for the remainder of the current fiscal year those resources which are available at Statistics Canada are being transferred to Revenue Canada.

RCMP—RELOCATION—BEDFORD-SACKVILLE, N.S.

Question No. 1,428—Mr. Crosby:

1. Was a proposal made for the relocation of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment in the Bedford-Sackville area of Halifax county, Nova Scotia and, if so, what was the proposal?
2. Is the RCMP authorized to purchase a property or purchase land and construct a building directly or must it go through a government agency?
3. Is the RCMP authorized to negotiate for the rental of (a) existing premises (b) premises to be constructed by a private party?
4. What is the estimated capital building cost or annual rental cost for providing facilities for the RCMP in Bedford-Sackville?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): By the Ministry of the Solicitor General (Royal Canadian Mounted Police):