

what is contained in the plant. War Assets Corporation goes into a plant with what we call a clearance team and inventories are made as they go along; so the actual picture on projectors is a little different to what I stated it to be the other day, due to the fact that some of the projectors were found by us in plants reported as a whole with the plant; so that the number of projectors which have been reported as surplus directly to us is four but we have actually sold seven, having found three in plants which we have gone into and inventoried. Do I make myself clear, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: You do, but I think your statement is rather surprising as to the numbers. Before we leave that are there any questions the members would like to ask, or is any enlargement of that statement necessary?

*By Mr. Stewart:*

Q. To whom would these projectors be sold; were they sold back to the company who manufactured them, or were they sold to departments; were they sold as a lot or were they sold separately?—A. That I cannot answer. I will get that information for you if you would like to know exactly at what amount the seven sold.

Q. I was just wondering whether you were following the policy there of selling back to the manufacturer, if that was the policy?—A. Speaking from memory I know one projector which due to error on the part of one of the staff was sold to one of the universities.

Q. They were very fortunate there.—A. Yes, when there are prior claims from the federal departments, and according to my own knowledge the balance have all been passed over to the federal government departments under priorities. I will look into that and give you a report at the next sitting.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. May I ask a question about these projectors, Mr. Chairman: If you find let us say three projectors, in the Vancouver district would they be reported to the head office; and when you get the inventory at head office showing that these projectors were there, would they be called east and disposed of in Ontario? Why should not the projectors we have in the province of British Columbia be left in that province for disposal by the local office of your corporation?—A. I do not know the answer to that one.

Q. I would like to have it, because I may tell you that there have been persistent rumours and statements have been made that some projectors have been found in certain places and immediately they are declared surplus they were taken out of the hands of the local administrator of the War Assets Corporation and disposed of in another province. I think it would be well for the committee to have a statement on that. I know that I would like to have a statement as to the reason for following such a policy. If such a policy is in force and being carried out it certainly is grossly unfair.—A. As far as I know our general policy in a case of that kind would not be to move them, unless they were required by federal government departments under a priority, or unless in the same way they were required by a provincial government or municipal authority under their priority. Otherwise these projectors would be sold in the province through the local office. That would be the policy.

Q. I take it that in the case of priority users wanting the projectors, the fact that other people were interested would be of comparatively little interest. But let us suppose the priority users did not elect to take them up, would these projectors be advertised for sale throughout the province to public bodies or individuals; I merely use projectors as a convenient example, the same principle would apply to a lot of other articles as well?—A. Generally that is the policy we will try to apply. I will say that I will have to check up on individual cases to find out what has happened and what is happening.