

declared surplus or not, then the supply departments are the first ones who have knowledge of that fact. The sales department only receives knowledge of that at the time the supply department tell them.

Q. Who is the official of the supply department in British Columbia?—

A. The regional supply manager for British Columbia is Mr. E. M. Bourque.

Q. And to whom is he responsible, Montreal or yourself?—A. He is responsible to Mr. H. M. Malley, vice-president in charge of supply at Ottawa.

*By Mr. Marquis:*

Q. Is it not the policy of War Assets Corporation in taking a plant over to have their representatives confer with a representative of the department concerned and check over all the articles being declared surplus before those articles are actually turned over to War Assets?—A. In the case of a plant we may get what we call a blanket declaration of surplus covering one complete entity, the entire contents of the plant. We then send a plant clearance team in and take a joint inventory of the contents of that plant with the man who has been operating the plant. When we have that joint inventory we then give him a signature for the inventory as it stands and we take that stuff out of his plant and either sell it or put it in warehouse.

Q. Did you do that in the case to which Mr. Reid referred, Boundary Bay.—A. The same principle is operating there as I have stated previously in my prepared statement.

The CHAIRMAN: If there are no other questions on this particular item we will pass on to the question raised by Mr. Golding and Mr. Stewart, Mr. Probe and other members relating to trucks and cars.

The WITNESS: I believe the question was, Mr. Chairman, how many trucks and cars have been sold by War Assets Corporation. We have actually sold 16,460.

*By Mr. Probe:*

Q. New, used or both?—A. That is the combined total, new and used. I have some other figures which I will be glad to give the committee.

Q. Are these trucks or cars—A. Trucks and cars. There has been declared a surplus, according to our records, of 9,176 used cars and 13,492 new cars and trucks. These are cars and trucks, gentlemen.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you a breakdown?

The WITNESS: Of that total we have sold 16,460, and the balance on hand at the moment is 6,079 new trucks and 129 used trucks and cars. I should say trucks and cars in each case, gentlemen. Of the 6,079 which are indicated as still being in our hands, new, 819 of these are complete vehicles and 5,260 of them are not complete vehicles; they consist of vehicles in what we call a completely knocked down form, and they may be short axles, or they may be short bodies, or may be short cabs, or they may be short other things, which under the arrangement during the war were to be supplied where they were to be used.

*By Mr. Jackman:*

Q. You have substantially 5,000 complete cars?—A. Very possibly not, for instance—

Q. Have you ordered the missing axles then?—A. No.

Q. Why isn't something of that kind done so that we can get these things on to the market before production has brought about a surplus?—A. In this particular case these trucks are in the main what are known as the army four-wheel drive trucks which are a military pattern only.

Q. What kind of a pattern?—A. A military pattern.