

commercially salable in their present form. They put those to one side as they are clearing the plant and they invite representatives of the educational people to come in and look at that to see what they would like. A large volume of stuff is passed out in that way.

Q. But you said, that which is not commercially salable?—A. That is the only thing we can allow out on indefinite loan, the items which are not commercially saleable.

Q. Is that in some cases material approaching scrap?—A. No, I do not think so. For instance it is possible that part of an aeroplane engine would not be commercially saleable in its present form but might be allowed out on indefinite loan for educational purposes.

Q. What about equipment such as typewriters?—A. That is commercially saleable.

Q. All of it?—A. Yes, I am afraid so.

Q. And, as Mr. Probe says, moving picture projectors?—A. Those are commercially saleable.

Q. So that all material that is commercially saleable is not available to departments of education?—A. I beg your pardon?

Q. So that all material that is not commercially saleable is available to departments of education, but anything which is commercially saleable is not so available?—A. Not on the indefinite loan basis. It is available at the sale price, at the going market price, in accordance with the priorities on which we are working. It is not available on indefinite loan.

*By Mr. Probe:*

Q. How many projectors have you declared surplus?—A. I would have to guess on the answer to that one. I would say it does not run into double figures. I would have to check that up. I am purely guessing, from conversations which I have heard.

Mr. STEWART: There is one other point I would like to make, this perhaps is not a proper matter for the witness; but it seems to be the purpose of War Assets Corporation to sell everything possible. I think that a great deal of social advantage could be derived if this policy were changed so that educational authorities could get materials which the Corporation has for sale. I think that we have to look at the disposal of these assets not only from a point of view of dollars and cents but also from the point of view of social benefits which will accrue to Canada through the disposal of these assets.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. I see according to page three of your brief that a policy of decentralization of sales has been put into effect. I have a question in connection with that, and it is this; in British Columbia you have a local office for the disposal of surplus war property at the present time, but a great deal of the surplus war material in British Columbia is being handled through your central office in Montreal. When will the policy be changed in regard to the purchase of fishing boats, particularly? You have competent local men in charge of that end of it in British Columbia. Why should not the people in British Columbia have in their own hands this question of the selling of fishing boats? Why should they be singled out to come under the jurisdiction and sale of the Montreal office?—A. There are I believe three exceptions, three main exceptions, to our decentralization policy. One is ships, irrespective of where they are, and irrespective of whether they are fishing boats or tugs, or large ships; another is real estate; and another one is aircraft and aircraft parts. We may find it possible at a later date to decentralize those types of operations as well, we have not found it possible so to do as yet.