ability to produce food and a multi-billion dollar export trade critical to Canada's economic well-being.

We need to protect our country. Canadian law says you **must** declare all plant and animal products you bring back. It restricts and prohibits entry of products that could harm Canada's agriculture and forestry or pose a danger to human health and safety. To enforce these laws, we have Canadian inspectors with dogs trained to sniff out plant and animal products.

As of April 1, 1997, all federally mandated food inspection and quarantine services will be consolidated in a single government agency, called the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Before you leave Canada, call a local office of the Agency for more information.

## **Canada Customs and Import Controls**

You must declare everything acquired abroad, whether purchases for yourself or gifts, as well as goods bought at a Canadian or foreign duty-free store. Keep your original receipts for possible inspection.

If you've been away from Canada for 24 hours, you may claim C\$50 worth of goods, excluding alcohol and tobacco, duty-free. After 48 hours, you may claim C\$200. You can now claim the C\$500 exemption including alcohol and tobacco, any time you have been away from Canada for seven days or longer.

Certain goods are restricted from entering Canada. If you are considering importing meat or dairy products, weapons, plants, vehicles, or exotic animals or products made from their skins or feathers, please contact Canada Customs beforehand for guidance.

Obscene materials, hate propaganda, most weapons including firearms, and goods harmful to the environment are prohibited from entering Canada.

If you have any questions about what you can bring home, call your local Canada Customs office. Someone is available 24 hours a day,

## PICK UP THIS CROCODILE-SKIN CASE AND YOU COULD RECEIVE A NASTY BITE.

In co-operation with over 130 countries, Canada is committed to protecting some 40,000 plant and animal species. Before bringing any item made from them into Canada (even if you owned it before leaving), know the rules.

You risk losing the item, prosecution and fines up to \$150,000.

For more information on current legislation see page 30 or contact:
CITES\* Administrator

Environment Canada Ottawa, Ontario K1A OH3 Tel.: (819) 997-1840 Fax: (819) 953-6283

\*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora



Environment Canada Environnement Canada Canada