

*By Mr. Jackman:*

Q. And they were sold or given on mutual aid, or something of that description, most of them?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you suspect there are a great many of those vehicles being held by the armed services for future use? I understand that our army or the American army seal them in some kind of rubber containers, or something?—A. That I do not know.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. My question was this. Have there been any instances of officials of UNRRA stepping in and taking possession of the vehicles or boats or other materials for shipment abroad?—A. No, anything that UNRRA has obtained from us out of surplus has been sold to them by War Assets Corporation.

Q. And they bid on them the same as a municipality or a provincial government, or have they a priority?—A. No. In some cases it has been a direct negotiated sale with UNRRA. I think I might point out in the case of these trucks that we did anticipate in the early days that truck production in Canada would get under way very quickly, but unfortunately due to labour trouble and the strikes in the United States production did not run as fast as it should have done. We did follow the policy of exporting as many of the new trucks, particularly the military type, as we could so that we would not interfere with employment in the truck industry in Canada pending the introduction of passenger cars into production. We felt that a lot of employment would be taken up filling up the vacuum in the domestic market on the trucks while they were getting ready to put passenger cars in. When we found there was a delay in getting into production on the trucks and that we were not getting the volume we then switched over for domestic sale, for example, 1,200 trucks of Chrysler manufacture for distribution in the domestic market, and we had to cancel one order we had taken for the export of those trucks to do that. It was not anticipated there would be a shortage for any length of time in the domestic market for trucks.

*By Mr. Jackman:*

Q. How long do you think it will take to get rid of the 6,079 new cars on hand?—A. I am hoping those will all be gone within the next month.

Q. So all you will have will be used cars and any further surplus declared by the services?—A. Yes.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Will you go on to the next question?—A. The next one was the question of the sale of the Naugatuck Chemicals Limited.

Q. As Mr. Stewart is not here I think that in fairness to him we should pass on to No. 6.—A. Disposal of lands and buildings. I promised to bring a statement of certain buildings and lands that had been sold by War Assets Corporation and distribute that to members of the committee so they could pick out individual ones they would like to ask questions about. I should like to say here that within the last twenty-four hours I have been through quite a number of the files relative to these deals, and we have brought about ten of them over here just to indicate the volume of paper work that is involved in the ten deals. I have stuck the files in my bag.

Mr. BRADETTE: Let the members go through them.

The WITNESS: So if any questions are asked relative to any one specific deal it will take me some little time to extract all the relevant information and get it written down.