

Order Paper Questions

Follow-up tests for mercury levels have been performed on individuals who have had high levels.

GOVERNMENT EXPENSES

Question No. 393—Mr. Herbert:

What was the total of all government expenses as a percentage of the gross national product for the years 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78 and, what are the estimated percentages for 1978-79 and 1979-80?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Finance):

	Actual			Forecast ⁽¹⁾	
	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80
Public Accounts Basis					
Federal Government	21.7	21.0	20.5	20.3	19.9
Total Outlays ⁽³⁾					

⁽¹⁾ Consistent with the Minister of Finance's budget speech dated November 16, 1978.

⁽²⁾ Calculations are based on the corresponding fiscal year gross national product figures.

⁽³⁾ The federal government sets its spending ceiling in terms of total outlays. Total outlays is the sum of budgetary expenditures and loans, investment and advances. Savings of approximately \$700 million in 1977-78 budgetary expenditure resulted from the partial replacement of cash transfers to provinces by the transfer of additional tax points under the established programs financing arrangement. Adjustment for this change would increase the 1977-78 total outlays/GNP ratios to 20.8 per cent.

CROWN ASSETS DISPOSAL CORPORATION

Question No. 398—Mr. Bawden:

1. How many persons were employed by Crown Assets Disposal Corporation since January 1, 1978?

2. How many have left the employ of the Corporation since January 1, 1978?

3. What is considered to be an acceptable level of employee turnover?

Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Supply and Services): 1 and 2. Since January 1, 1978, 32 employees have left the corporation and 32 were hired.

3. An acceptable level of employee turn-over is whatever is considered to be necessary for the most efficient operation of the corporation.

Question No. 399—Mr. Bawden:

1. Does the Surplus Crown Assets Act state that revenue from sales of surplus Crown assets should be deposited to the credit of the Receiver General?

2. Were funds received for the reissue of furniture refinished by the Refinishing Branch of the Department of Supply and Services, amounting to \$286,800 in 1966-67, remitted to the Supply Revolving Fund rather than deposited to the credit of the Receiver General and, if so, under what authority?

Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. No.

2. Funds received for the reissue of refinished furniture are credited to the supply revolving fund to offset related expenses, such as the cost of collecting, receiving, documenting and warehousing surplus furniture, as well as the cost of refinishing.

[Miss Bégin.]

ing, reissuing and delivering furniture, which meets an acceptable standard.

The Crown Assets Disposal Corporation "sells" acceptable furniture to the supply revolving fund at zero value. After absorbing the costs referred to above, any profits exceeding the limitation on the supply revolving fund retained earnings are remitted to the Receiver General, Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Question No. 400—Mr. Bawden:

1. Does the Procedure Manual of Crown Assets Disposal Corporation state that all merchandise must be inspected and valued prior to sale?

2. Is all merchandise sold by Crown Assets Disposal Corporation inspected and valued prior to sale and, if not, what is the percentage per annum of goods sold and not handled in this manner?

Hon. Pierre De Bané (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. No.

2. (a) No.

(b) Approximately 50 per cent.

UIC BENEFITS—LAVAL

Question No. 407—Mr. Roy (Laval):

During the past five years, did the City of Laval's Manpower Centre pay unemployment insurance benefits and, if so (a) to how many persons (b) in what amount annually?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration): The city of Laval's Canada Employment Centre which consists of the old Unemployment Insurance Centre and the Canada Manpower Centre, paid the following unemployment insurance benefits:

	Claims	Benefits Paid (\$ Millions)
1973	18,360	13.9
1974	20,147	16.8
1975	22,845	23.4
1976	25,067	29.6
1977	27,102	39.8

The response provided was calculated on a calendar year basis.

WEATHER SHIPS

Question No. 425—Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):

1. Is it the government's intention to retire the two weather ships collectively known as *Ocean Station Papa* and, if so, on what date?

2. What is the undepreciated and depreciated value of the ships, and what will the government do with them once they have been retired?

3. (a) How old are the ships (b) what is their scrap value (c) what is the estimated price that they could be sold "as is" (d) will they be put up for public auction?

4. What is the annual operating cost of the two ships on the west coast?

5. (a) What is the value of the research that has been conducted in order to develop the satellite sounding systems which are to be substituted for the weather ships (b) what is the cost of the research to be done?