

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, June 8, 1987

The House met at 11 a.m.

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*Prayers*

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

### SMALL BUSINESSES LOANS ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

**Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-63, an Act to amend the Small Businesses Loans Act.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall the Minister have leave to introduce the said Bill?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to, Bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

**Mr. Speaker:** When shall the Bill be read the second time? At the next sitting of the House?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

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[*English*]

### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

**Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall all questions be allowed to stand?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

• (1110)

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

### BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S. O. 82—CONSTITUTIONAL ACCORD, 1987—RIGHTS OF NORTHERN CANADIANS—FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, Members of Parliament who are very interested in today's motion will recall the recommendation in the McGrath report that motions, unless they are declared such, are considered not to be motions of confidence in the Government. I want to make it very clear that, as a member of the caucus of a Party which supports the constitutional Accord and wishes today to make some fine tuning comments, we consider the motion before the House to be not a motion of confidence—no reflection of a non-confidence vote—if it is voted in the affirmative. I just wanted to make it very clear in the spirit of the McGrath report that this motion has nothing to do with confidence in the Government.

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, in responding to my hon. friend's point, I know the motion is well intended and that my hon. friend wishes to have a full and complete debate on the matter, but he will remember that while the Government responded favourably to many parts of the McGrath Committee report—and you will know, Mr. Speaker, as will the House, that this is the first day under which the new rules have been brought into full force without any provision—I would point out to the House that the confidence convention was considered by the Government, and we did not feel that we were able to put the confidence convention into play as suggested by the McGrath Committee.

The Government will be considering today as an allotted day and the motion as a matter of confidence. That does not mean we cannot have a full debate on the matter or have it explored fully.

While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, if I may, I gave my friend notice that I wanted very briefly, without interfering with the debate which shall go forward, to make a point of order with respect to the Opposition Day motion. I suggest that the Hon. Member's motion deals with two distinct propositions. One is the rights of Canadians in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, and the second is a request for a First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Rights.

There is no doubt in my mind that it is appropriate to put a complicated question before the House, but I am concerned in that the first part of the motion deals with the constitutional