

the Government of Quebec seized the ships, they asked me whether the licences could be transferred. My answer was negative. Subsequently, they seized the ships, and today, unlike what the Hon. Member said, it is no longer a matter of federal-provincial relations but blackmail or worse. I understand perfectly well that the people on the Islands are only concerned about their plant. However, if I allow one creditor, even if he happens to be the government of one of the provinces, to proceed with seizure, there are sixty other plants where creditors could also act to protect themselves by seizing plants. If that happens, there will be a wave of bankruptcies throughout the Maritimes, and it is my responsibility to consider the welfare of all concerned.

\* \* \*

[English]

**HOUSING**REGISTERED HOME OWNERSHIP SAVINGS PLANS—  
WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works, who is responsible for housing. May I first thank him for responding positively to the pressures applied by the applicants and by this side of the House. In regard to the Registered Home Ownership Savings Plan, since there is some confusion and it seems impossible to withdraw funds without any guidelines, will the Minister indicate when certain guidelines or legislation will be brought forward so that people can take advantage of the program announced in the budget?

**Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Public Works):** Madam Speaker, I apologize to my hon. friend if I cannot give him a full answer. As he well knows, this program is not administered under my responsibility. Although we have been working with the Department of Finance and the Department of National Revenue to ensure that as much information is distributed to CMHC offices as possible, I am told that some institutions are releasing funds. I think it was really a question of clearing up some details, and this appears to have been done. However, I would defer for details to my colleagues who are more responsible than I am.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** Are you saying that you are irresponsible?

## APPLICATION OF PROGRAM TO RENTERS

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Madam Speaker, perhaps the Minister of Finance may be able to enlighten me on this particular situation. Since there seems to be some discrimination against apartment dwellers and people who rent homes, and since this plan is supposed to be a stimulation for the furniture industry, could the Minister look at providing these people with a similar opportunity as home owners enjoy?

*Business of the House*

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, the provision in the budget concerns the use of registered home ownership savings plans, and only Canadians who are eligible for such plans will be able to make use of this provision.

\* \* \*

[English]

**INDIAN AFFAIRS**NATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND—APPROVAL OF  
EXPENDITURES

**Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River):** Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development I will direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It relates to the \$345 million "phantom" Native Economic Development Fund. I see the Minister returning to his seat. Would he be in a position today to tell the house whether Cabinet has given approval to the spending of this money and whether this approval is in accordance with the memorandum to Cabinet of April 29, 1983?

**Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Madam Speaker, that is being discussed by Cabinet at the present time. We hope to make an announcement shortly.

\* \* \*

**AUDITOR GENERAL**TABLING OF REPORT RESPECTING COMPREHENSIVE AUDIT OF  
HOUSE OF COMMONS

**Madam Speaker:** I have the honour to lay upon the table the Report of the Auditor General of Canada on the follow-up of the 1980 Comprehensive Audit of the House of Commons.

\* \* \*

● (1500)

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

## WEEKLY STATEMENT

**Mr. Lewis:** Madam Speaker, today being Thursday, I would like to ask the Government House Leader what is the business of the House for tomorrow and for as much of next week as possible.

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, tomorrow, Friday, we will deal with four items. First, 45 minutes will be allowed to start debate and consideration of the objections which are Nos. 5 and 6 on the Order Paper relating to the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Alberta. I have had consultation and if within 45 minutes, which seems to be a reasonable