

would be more demand for loans from the banks, and I would be very sorry to see the banks get into a position where because of long term loans they were handicapped in carrying on their business with regard to day to day commercial requirements. However, that is my own opinion, and it may not be worth very much. How have your relationships been with the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation?

Mr. FRIESEN: Oh, very good.

Senator CRERAR: I am delighted to hear that. I have one other question: Of this \$900 million in loans you have made in the last four years are repayments coming right in ?

Mr. FRIESEN: The experience has been very good indeed.

Senator CRERAR: In other words, you have no occasion for worry in that respect?

Mr. FRIESEN: No, there has been no worry at the present time; that is quite so.

Senator CRERAR: Personally I think that is rather a remarkable situation, because it discounts, in my judgment, at least, all the talk we have been hearing about a recession, which is not as serious as a lot of people try to make out.

The Acting CHAIRMAN: Senator White?

Senator WHITE: Mr. Friesen, taking the total amount of mortgage loans, are they fairly evenly distributed among all banks in proportion to capital, or are there certain banks that have a certain amount or a certain proportion?

Mr. FRIESEN: I cannot answer that without the figures before me. The figures of actual loans available, not commitments, are available from the monthly statements of the banks, but I must admit that I have not the figures with me and cannot comment on that. I doubt if they are all uniformly the same.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Can you tell us what percentage of the banks' loan business is tied up in housing; is it a large percentage of the lending business of the chartered banks in Canada?

Mr. FRIESEN: Yes. \$631 million in mortgage loans at the end of May. Now the total loans of all the banks combined. Of course, the loans are in various categories, unfortunately. The current loans, that is, current commercial loans of the banks on May 31 were \$4,807,000,000. There are of course call and day to day loans, but they fluctuate widely every day. But the current loans are \$4,807,000,000; and the current loans outside Canada, \$619 million, almost the same as the mortgage loans themselves. So that out of a total in Canada of loans of \$5,407,000,000, \$631 million were mortgage loans.

Senator SMITH: That is a small percentage, but it is a large amount of money.

Senator HAIG: What is the capital and reserves of your bank?

Mr. FRIESEN: Total assets, \$913 million on May 31, and of that we had \$36 million in mortgage loans.

Senator HAIG: I am asking you for the capital and reserves.

Mr. FRIESEN: I am giving you the total assets of the Imperial Bank, which are \$913 million. Of that, \$36 million is in mortgage loans.

Senator HAIG: I do not want that, I want to know how much your capital and reserves are in the Imperial Bank.

Mr. FRIESEN: Paid up capital, \$11,200,000; rest account, \$30 million; undivided profit \$650,000. That adds up to almost \$42 million.