

some kind of help with regard to the danger to their health resulting from this program prepared and sponsored by the Government of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Madam Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition is certainly indulging in a lot of political partisanship today, if he wants to tell us how to deal with a matter he could have dealt with himself when he was in the government. What did his government do during the ten months they were in power? Madam Speaker, the quality of this product was first questioned under a Conservative government. Nevertheless, the Conservatives did not ban the product while they were in power, so I do not think the Leader of the Opposition is in a very good position to tell me what to do. In any case, we shall announce our program as soon as we are able to do so, regardless of the petty politics indulged in by the Leader of the Opposition.

[English]

INFORMATION TO BE GIVEN TO HOME OWNERS

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, this minister speaks about 80,000 homes. We know that there are 100,000 homes, and maybe more, which are affected—

An hon. Member: Name them.

Mr. Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth):—and certainly a great number of apartment units. What are 20,000 home owners, to this Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs? This UFFI problem simply cannot be blown away.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: Order. We have heard a series of lengthy questions; but I expect that from now on hon. members will ask very short questions. The hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth.

Mr. Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, I ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs how people with UFFI in their homes or apartment units will know whether they qualify for outright grants. Has the government decided to make nation-wide testing available and, if so, when?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Try another Ouelletism.

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Madam Speaker, within the next few days I intend to announce the government's full program, and the hon. member's question, which is indeed a valid one, will be answered at that time.

Oral Questions

[English]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL WHO PARTICIPATED IN SEA RESCUES

Madam Speaker: I would like to draw the attention of the House to the presence in our gallery of members of the Canadian Forces personnel who participated in the rescue, off Sable Island, of the crews of the ship *Euro-Princess* and the oil rig "Rowan Juneau", a total of 70 persons in all. I am sure the House will want to congratulate them.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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PIPELINES

CONSTRUCTION OF QUEBEC-MARITIME GAS LINE PROJECT

Miss Coline Campbell (South West Nova): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and relates to the cabinet decision to go ahead with the construction of a Quebec-Maritime pipeline. Could the minister advise the House whether or not there has been any support for this decision by either the government of New Brunswick or the government of Nova Scotia?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Yes, Madam Speaker. During the last few months, I have been very happy to see that the government of Nova Scotia and the government of New Brunswick have been eager to see the approval of this very important project for the maritime provinces. It was with great pleasure that the cabinet took the decision to approve the recommendation of the National Energy Board to proceed with the extension of the gas pipeline across Canada, right through to Halifax. It is now a matter of ensuring that the necessary regulatory approvals take place in each of these provinces, including Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, in order to see a speedy implementation of this project. As far as the Government of Canada is concerned, we are fully behind this project and we want to see it implemented as soon as possible.

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HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

UREA FORMALDEHYDE FOAM INSULATION—STANDARDS USED IN TESTING FOR HEALTH DANGERS

Mrs. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. It also concerns the really terrible plight of urea formaldehyde foam insulation victims. Will the minister explain how he can justify using .1 parts of formaldehyde as an arbitrary standard in providing assistance, which he announced yesterday, since we know that medical authorities agree that individuals greatly vary in their sensitivity to UFFI? Will he also explain whether there will be ongoing assistance