

## MINIMUM TAX PROPOSAL

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I hope we do not hear it by way of a rumour from Bonn. Considering that those thousands of ordinary families who had to send in cheques to the federal Government on the weekend are paying more than their share, and have been looking forward to tax reform to ensure that those thousands of rich Canadians who are not paying any taxes will be doing so in the future, I have a specific question for the Minister.

Since the election, and according to figures produced by the Government in the past two weeks, the number of rich not paying their share of taxes actually increased by about a third last year. Will the Minister make a promise to all those ordinary Canadians who are paying too much that he will be bringing in a minimum tax on upper income Canadians?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I can commiserate with those Canadians who are filling out their tax returns. That is what I was doing myself last night. I should say that the matter which the Hon. Member raised has been dealt with by the Prime Minister and by myself in the House. That matter will be dealt with in the Budget.

## REQUEST FOR MINISTERIAL ASSURANCE

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I asked that question because it has not been dealt with precisely by the Minister. However, the Prime Minister said on November 22 in the House, and I quote: "We will follow through with regard to a minimum tax". After that the Minister indicated that there may be a study of a minimum tax, that he might be looking at it, but he did not indicate clearly that there would be a minimum tax. Since the Prime Minister promised that in the election campaign, and since he reiterated it on November 22 in the House, will the Minister clarify the matter for sure, and tell overburdened, ordinary taxpayers that the rich finally will face a minimum tax in the forthcoming Budget?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, this line of questioning can lead us down a path where the Hon. Member will be asking me questions on all sorts of things which might or might not be in the Budget.

**Mr. Broadbent:** The Prime Minister said it.

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** As I indicated, and as the Prime Minister indicated, that matter will be dealt with in the Budget as the Hon. Member has indicated in his question.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## EXTRADITION OF ALLEGED WAR CRIMINALS

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It arises out of the fact that during the recent visit to Canada of Prime Minister Shamir, Israel indicated for the first time that

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it would welcome the opportunity to extradite Nazi war criminals from Canada for trial in Israel. Is the Government prepared to respond positively to Israel to permit such extraditions to occur?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, we will be following up on representations which might or might not have been made by the Government of Israel. I think the Hon. Member would agree that there is no particular advantage at this point in time, before any formal response has been made, to speculate on the floor of the House of Commons.

## POSSIBLE EXISTENCE OF WAR CRIMINALS

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I gather from that that the Secretary of State for External Affairs is intending to wait on that matter until the Deschênes Commission reports. I want to ask him for an assurance that the Government will continue, while awaiting the report of the Deschênes Commission, to carry out the work begun by the former Government in dealing with war criminals and, if possible, to expand that work in view of additional legal advice and opinions and the findings of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police during recent periods.

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, as the former Government did not, we have established the Deschênes inquiry. We intend to ensure that that inquiry carries out its obligations and its mandate. Where it is appropriate for the Government of Canada to be acting in advance of receipt of the recommendations of that commission, naturally we will continue to do that.

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● (1430)

## INDUSTRY

## CANADIAN PORCELAIN LIMITED

**Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. The Minister is aware that Canadian Porcelain, which manufactures insulators in Hamilton, was recently forced into receivership, primarily because of the dumping of insulators by Lapp Industries of New York State. Will the Minister look into the bizarre circumstances which now appear to have put Canadian Porcelain into the pocket of Lapp Industries Canadian Industries, whereby the receiver has accepted an offer from Lapp Industries to buy that company over a more significant and more substantial offer made by the former employees of Canadian Porcelain?

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, in reply to the Hon. Member, who was good enough to mention this problem orally to me, I can assure him that, if the facts are as represented by the Hon. Member, we will be looking into the situation and seeing if