

Oral Questions

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not know where to start.

An Hon. Member: How typical!

An Hon. Member: That is why you are at 24 per cent.

An Hon. Member: Do you know when to finish?

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): We will be putting out a White Paper on Tax Reform. That discussion paper will be out before the end of spring, and it will be comprehensive.

An Hon. Member: It is getting awfully grey now.

An Hon. Member: It will be a long spring.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KURT WALDHEIM—INQUIRY CONCERNING ADMISSIBILITY TO CANADA

Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Yesterday the United States announced that Kurt Waldheim, President of Austria, has been placed on their "watch list" and that he is no longer welcome in that country because of the war crime allegations that have been levelled against him, and he will not be allowed into that country until the issue is satisfactorily resolved.

My question for the Minister is: Will Canada be taking a similar position should Mr. Waldheim ask to visit our country?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, there is no plan to have Mr. Waldheim visit this country, nor is there any intention on his part to visit Canada.

A question similar to the one raised by the Hon. Member was put to the Prime Minister earlier today, and the Prime Minister made it very clear, in response, that Mr. Waldheim would not be welcome in Canada.

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[Translation]

TAX REFORM

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF PROPOSAL MINISTER INTENDS TO INTRODUCE

Mr. Raymond Garneau (Laval-des-Rapides): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance and has to do with the tax reform as well. The Minister has just stated in the House that he intends to table a proposal before the end of

spring, that is June 21 or 22. May I ask him whether the proposal he intends to introduce will be a White Paper setting forth the Government position, because I heard him say a few moments ago that it would be a discussion paper, which is usually referred to as a Green Paper?

[English]

The reason I ask the question is that there is a big difference between a White Paper and a Green Paper. In one of today's newspapers the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the House of Commons, the Member for Mississauga South, said that instead of a White Paper it would be a Green Paper.

Was the Chairman of the Finance Committee, in making that remark, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Finance?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance has never been able to control the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): In response to the previous question on the subject I said that it would be a White Paper.

[Translation]

INQUIRY WHEN MINISTER WILL ANNOUNCE NEW TAX RULES

Mr. Raymond Garneau (Laval-des-Rapides): I thank the Minister for clearing up this point but he knows as well and probably better than I that the Canadian public and particularly business circles are anxious to have an inkling about the nature of the tax rules. Could the Minister tell the House, and businessmen in particular, whether he intends to table a Budget this fall or wait until the 1988 Budget presentation to implement his White Paper?

[English]

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, once the White Paper is tabled later this spring, all of that information will become quite clear to the Hon. Member and to interested Canadians.

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APARTHEID

SOUTH AFRICA—CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

On April 15 last, the Minister said that the Government would take no additional action against South Africa until after the elections. In the meantime, the Government of South Africa has used those very elections as an excuse for increased oppression and violence, and most recently for an attack against Zambia.