

*Oral Questions*

member for LaSalle—Émard, who is in the shipping business, is having all his ships built in Brazil.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some Hon. Members:** Shame!

**Mr. Andre:** That is one of the things that we are having to deal with, but we are wrestling with that problem and will address it.

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## WAYS AND MEANS

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville):** My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Minister of Finance.

I wonder if the Minister of Finance can explain this to the House. On December 19, when he tabled a notice of Ways and Means in the House related to the goods and services tax, a very important part of that Ways and Means Motion was an increase in the surtax for wealthy Canadians, and an increase in the large corporations tax, which would have resulted in an increase in tax for those people of some \$400 million per year. Can he explain why in the motion we concurred in yesterday these two items are mysteriously missing? They went up in a puff of smoke. They are no longer there.

I want to ask the minister quite bluntly, did he deliberately omit those two items in the Ways and Means Motion we passed yesterday? Can he explain why he has decided to omit this tax increase for his wealthy friends in this country?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, it saddens me to hear this hon. member, who has been in this House for a number of years now, spread stories which he knows are not true. He knows that my assistant spoke directly to his assistant and told him clearly why those particular pieces of legislation were not covered in the Ways and Means Motion.

The proposal of December 19 still stands. The income tax amendments from the last budget are still before the Senate. As soon as those items are passed the amendments that I referred to in the December 19 statement on the large corporations tax and the high income surtax will be made the subject of new legislation.

He knows that. He knows perfectly well that he was told that by his assistant. Yet he deliberately fosters these untrue stories in order to confuse people.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** There has been a serious allegation made by the minister. It amounts to an allegation of untruth on the part of the hon. member. I would ask the hon. minister to withdraw.

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw the statement that I have made. But I will say, Mr. Speaker—

**Some Hon. Members:** No!

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):**—that the hon. member's staff was advised of the information that I just expressed to the House today.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Yorkton—Melville.

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville):** Mr. Speaker, in the press yesterday it was said, and I quote: "The minister's spokesman, John Fieldhouse, later said, 'The measures will be included in amendments to a tax bill currently in the Senate'."

I would like to ask the Minister of Finance to explain how he can give the Senate the new prerogative of amending a tax bill which is a bill to increase taxes on individuals and increase taxes on corporations. How can he give them that prerogative?

• (1450)

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** Mr. Speaker, this is blatant mischief-making on the part of the hon. member. I made it quite clear in my statement on December 19 and I just made it very clear two minutes ago that the large corporation tax amendments I announced on December 19 will come to pass, if passed by this House. The increase in the high income surtax that I announced on December 19, if passed by this House will come to pass.

I would appreciate it, and I think Canadians would appreciate it, if their members of Parliament would not do the things that—now the hon. member is waving about a piece of paper, a newspaper report.

Would the hon. member check with his assistant to whom my assistant spoke and to whom he gave the