

Commons to see today's unanimous policy, and tomorrow there will be another unanimous policy from the Liberal Party!

As far as the Government's policy is concerned, Mr. Reisman has a mandate, and I am not going to tell the United States about it in my answer to the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition here in the House.

[English]

CANADIAN NEGOTIATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Putting it very simply for the Secretary of State of External Affairs and to circumscribe some of his new-found enthusiasm and eloquence in the House, are there matters beyond the scope of Mr. Reisman, as chief negotiator for our country, to negotiate? If Mr. Reisman has been told by the Secretary of State of External Affairs and by the Prime Minister that there are matters beyond his power to negotiate, would the Secretary of State let the people of Canada know so we can have precision as to the scope of the negotiations?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if I may repeat my response to the Leader of the Opposition's first question, the question of cultural matters is not a matter of negotiation in a trade negotiation. We see no reason to change an Auto Pact which is working well. The social programs of Canada are not at question in a trade negotiation.

These matters have all been repeated several times. They are well known to the country. I look forward to the occasion when the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition, in fact, finds a unanimous policy that will last longer than one day, so he can stop repeating questions to me in the House.

UNITED STATES POSITION

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State. He has just stated that matters such as the social programs and Auto Pact are not to be discussed. Yet Peter Murphy, the U.S. negotiator, said yesterday that the United States has the right to study the impact of Canadian social programs and the Auto Pact. When will the Secretary of State or the Prime Minister contact Mr. Murphy's boss, the President of the United States, and tell him that they do not have the right to study these matters and that we get the negotiations off on a proper footing so that we both understand what we are talking about?

• (1420)

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Official Opposition should at least become consistent in its outrage. The Leader of the Opposition is outraged that the United States would determine what they want to discuss. Now the Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry pretends outrage that we would determine what we want to

discuss. We will decide what Canada discusses at the table. What the Americans might put on the table is their business. What we might put on or take off the table is our business.

Oral Questions

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, we are outraged about the dialogue of the deaf that is going on, where you are both talking about totally separate things. You do not do something that is as historically important as this and talk about two different agendas and two different items.

If Mr. Murphy is saying that the Government of the United States has a right to study everything, why are we acquiescing in the Government of the United States pulling financial services from the agenda?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, now the Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry is consistent with his Leader and inconsistent with himself.

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APARTHEID

SOUTH AFRICA—CANADIAN COMPANIES' NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CODE OF CONDUCT

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Yesterday we received the report of Albert Hart on the activities of Canadian corporations in South Africa operating under the voluntary Code of Conduct. The Minister indicated that the Canadian people could judge for themselves the behaviour of those companies under that code. The more important question is what the Government thinks of a situation in which five companies are paying wages which are below the minimum level for living in South Africa?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for his question. He will know that it was as a result of an initiative by this Government that, for the first time, the responses to that Code of Conduct were made public and are now a matter of public scrutiny and debate. As far as I am concerned, I do not approve of those practices by the Canadian companies. I would hope that those practices will change.

The reason we put the facts in public view is so that the pressure of public opinion, which is clearly effective in a country like ours, will be joined with the pressure and advice of the Government of Canada in trying to encourage a change on the part of those companies in what we consider to be a continuation of the Canadian fight against apartheid.