

Oral Questions

Mr. Hovdebo: Can he tell us what happened to his promise to the farmers to bring forward debt review legislation with real teeth to deal with farm creditors?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, nothing has happened to it. If he listened to the Minister of Finance the night he presented his Budget, he would know that the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs will be bringing forward debt review legislation.

Mr. Hovdebo: With no teeth.

Mr. Wise: There will be teeth in it, just wait and see.

Mr. Rodriguez: Stop gumming around.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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CHILDREN

PASSPORT ORDER TO HELP PREVENT ABDUCTIONS

Mr. Alan Redway (York East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. Yesterday there was a news report to the effect that he was going to make some changes in the passport rules to help prevent child abduction by separated and divorced parents. Was that report correct and, if so, what changes does he intend to make?

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, there are no changes necessary at present because since 1981 the Canadian Passport Order has been in effect. Unfortunately, a good percentage of the cases where children are abducted involve estranged parents where the child is used as a weapon. As a result, the Government passed the Canadian Passport Order which requires that, in cases where there is a court order affecting movement of children, no passport will be issued in contravention of that order. As well, where custody has been awarded to one parent or where visiting rights are affected, that parent must sign off on any attempt to include the child on the other parent's passport.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

STATEMENT MADE BY MEMBER FOR MISSISSAUGA SOUTH

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Finance).

According to the Member for Mississauga South, the Government intends to levy a new tax of between 4 and 6 per cent, starting this fall.

Could the Minister inform the House whether the Hon. Member for Mississauga is speaking for the Government?

[English]

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I should quote from the budget speech of my colleague, the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Orlikow: We heard it once, that is enough.

Mrs. McDougall: He said, referring to the business transfer tax:

I expect to complete a review of the options in the very near future and put forward a paper with a concrete proposal for public discussion at an early date.

Is that not the answer?

● (1450)

[Translation]

MEASURES CONTAINED IN BUDGET

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou): Mr. Speaker, there is no mention of 4 per cent or 6 per cent tax anywhere in the Budget.

[English]

My question is as follows. Can the Minister of State for Finance assure Canadians that no tax increase will be passed to consumers if this business transfer tax is implemented?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Member reads further on page 16 he will find: "Our intention is to move to a new system that will encourage growth, improve equity, and yield revenues sufficient to replace the federal sales tax, to end the surtaxes I have announced today and to provide adequate offsets for low-income Canadians".

An Hon. Member: You should have read the speech.

An Hon. Member: We know you can read.

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[Translation]

YOUTH

MANNER IN WHICH AID IS GIVEN

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Youth). Does the Minister believe that the Government's policy on youth should include support for the political efforts of the youth organizations of the Progressive Conservative Party, and that this should be one of the Government's priorities for its election platform?

Hon. Andrée Champagne (Minister of State (Youth)): This Government's policy is to create jobs for young people, to ensure they will have a future, to ensure they will have a say in how things are run and a place in society. And that is what we have done. We created over 5,000 jobs a month since we came