

The Budget

nity once again to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the remission order that has been extended has exempted such benefits from taxation. That remission order has been extended within the designated area to which northern benefits apply. I must add that in addition, the so-called housing loan provision was also exempted within that designated area north of 60 and isolated posts. That has been the definition we have used. There has been absolutely no change in the pre-existing situation with respect to northern allowances.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, the release that the minister tabled in the House tonight lists 18 changes to the budget. Previously there were another three, so that is 20 plus changes. Any other self-respecting minister of finance operating in a western parliamentary democracy would resign.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Question.

Mr. Nielsen: My question is, for the good of the country, will the Minister of Finance submit his resignation in recognition of his incompetence?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Have a merry Christmas!

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, if hon. members on the backbenches of the Liberal Party would calm down, I have a question. I know this is very agitating for them.

● (1700)

Mr. Clark: I have a question. No, my colleague—that is my colleague.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair is in the hands of the House. However, if the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition

wishes to be recognized, the Chair will recognize him at this point.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Clark: Mr. Speaker, I would welcome being recognized after my colleague, the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser), has completed his question.

Mr. Nielsen: No more time! Muzzling us again!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being five o'clock, p.m., pursuant to an order made Thursday, December 10, 1981, this House does adjourn.

Mr. Clark: Mr. Speaker, I have a point of order.

Mr. Nielsen: Point of order!

Mr. Clark: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to see if the hon. members opposite will not reconsider their refusal earlier this day to gag the House of Commons and to stop us from examining what is, in effect, the presentation of a new budget. I am consequently asking for the unanimous consent of the House—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Clark: —to continue our questioning of the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen). Mr. Speaker, may I have that unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No, no!

Some hon. Members: Agreed!

Mr. Nielsen: Parliament is a nuisance to the Liberals!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being 5.02 o'clock p.m., pursuant to an order made Thursday, December 10, 1981, this House stands adjourned until Monday, January 25, 1982, at two o'clock p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

At 5.02 p.m. the House adjourned until Monday, January 25, 1982, at 2 p.m.