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non-committal. This attitude is intolerable. He refuses to act in his capacity as Minister and take action, yet he hopes other people will protest. What hope do any protest groups have, if the man with the power to do something about the situation does not care? Unless he takes a stand on this matter, the voices of decency in this country are going to be drowned out and the "exploiters" will be laughing all the way to the bank.

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TRADE**IMPORTANCE OF ASIAN MARKETS—SUGGESTED FOLLOW-UP TO PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP**

Miss Aileen Nicholson (Trinity): Madam Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), accompanied by a delegation of senior Canadian businessmen, just completed a visit to the Asian Pacific region, the world's fastest growing region and one which is now planning major capital projects worth billions of dollars in areas such as transportation, energy and communications where Canadian expertise is second to none. Asian markets want North American technology and want to diversify their trade. Canadian success in winning some of these contracts means jobs for Canadians now and in the future.

The prime Minister undertook this visit in response to many requests from Canadian business interests. It is important that the momentum not be lost and that every effort now be made to remind Canadians of the importance of Asian markets, as well as keeping Canadian trade information before our Asian friends.

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INCOME TAX**TAXATION OF NORTHERN BENEFITS—CALL FOR RETENTION OF REMISSION ORDER**

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Madam Speaker, because of the higher cost of living in the north and because of the progressive nature of the Canadian income tax system, northerners are effectively taxed at higher rates than southern Canadians. In Australia, Denmark, and the U.S.S.R. a tax zoning system is in effect, designed to encourage people to live in remote areas, but this is not the case in Canada.

In 1980, because of the public outcry over the taxation of certain necessary benefits, the then Minister of Finance was forced to issue a remission order which partially solved the problem, although it was still unfair to many. The announcement by the present Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) on December 2 that the remission order will expire and benefits will be taxed under a complex bureaucratic formula, has rekindled public outrage. The tax grab from the pockets of northern employees and industry at a time of acute recession is senseless and bad public policy, and the proposed system will promote the fly in fly out situations instead of building up a

steadfast northern community. We therefore call upon the Minister of Finance to abandon his ill-considered scheme and retain the present remission order until it can be replaced by permanent amendments to the Income Tax Act, resulting in fair and equitable taxation for all northerners.

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LABOUR RELATIONS**IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE**

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches): Madam Speaker, yesterday was the last day of the National Occupational Outlook Conference which was studying the job implications of technological change as well as the over-all outlook for jobs in coming decades. Yet despite the fact these issues have profound implications for the labour movement, only two labour representatives were asked to participate. The Deputy Minister of Labour has acknowledged that the human side of technological change has received little attention at policy levels in Ottawa.

Since the human implications of economic planning are precisely the concerns the labour movement wants to address, and since the Canadian population strongly supports the call of the Bishops to put people first in economic planning, I would ask the Minister responsible for labour and the Minister responsible for employment to take immediate steps to improve the climate of labour and Government relations in Canada, and to call on their cabinet colleagues to withdraw the six and five program as a first step towards creating real growth in employment in our country.

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PARLIAMENTARY REFORM**SUPPORT FOR HOLDING OF FREE VOTES**

Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton-Lawrence): Madam Speaker, the steps being taken toward parliamentary reform have been excellent, but we urgently need to realize the full extent of the frustration and misgivings of the Canadian people. They are correct when they conclude that the way we operate our parliamentary system demands an almost slavish subservience to party lines and provides little or no opportunity for a genuine open dialogue and co-operation in a time of crisis such as the world is presently experiencing. I suggest that, in order to provide Canadians with new evidence of our integrity, we badly and urgently need to have more free votes in this House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. de Corneille: If more Bills could be presented to the House of Commons on a free-vote basis, Members could represent their views and those of their constituents forthrightly. They could listen with more sympathy to the opinions of Members of opposing parties as well as to those of their own. A quality of respect, dialogue, and co-operation might have a