

the flow of risk capital into this country for the development of our resources, I will say, rubbish. In order to bolster this argument that the new bill is not going to scare away risk capital, because the Canada mining regulations have contained such a clause for many years, he cited the development in the Northwest Territories. He pointed out the difference in the great increase in the number of claims that have been staked and the great increase in the annual production in the Northwest Territories. But he refrained from saying what part was played in that increase in staking activity, and what part was played in that increase in production, by foreign risk capital. If one were to analyse the situation before the introduction of the Canadian mining regulations, and the situation in the years following their introduction, one might have a fairer idea whether or not the Canadian mining regulations foreign ownership clause did inhibit foreign risk capital coming into the country.

He says that another feature of the bill requires the approval of the Governor in Council for the export of any mineral ore from the territory. If that is not complete and absolute control by the state of the mining industry, I certainly do not know what is. Could the minister inform the House how many of the provinces exercise this power by Governor in Council? Could the minister tell us whether or not the province of British Columbia, or the province of Alberta, or the province of Saskatchewan, or indeed any other province even his own province of Quebec, exercises the power of export control over mineral production in the province? It would be very interesting to hear the answer to that.

And what a prospect this is for existing mines! Here are mines that in some cases, came into production in the Yukon on the basis of an investment in excess of \$100 million, with plans laid over the space of three or four years and projected for 20 years. Now, the minister comes along and says that future export approvals will be reviewed on an individual basis, and if he so chooses, or the Governor in Council so chooses to disapprove of any particular mining company exporting ore, he may do so. What a prospect this is for existing producers. I wonder how many of them would have decided to go into production if they had been confronted with such a dictatorial power.

The minister speaks of a smelter improving the economic future of the Yukon. If this is such a great idea why doesn't the government do something about it? Why doesn't the government provide real incentive, and co-operate with private industry by establishing a smelter in the Yukon? The minister knows that has been the cry there for a good many years, and not only there but by organizations such as the British Columbia Chamber of Mines in Vancouver, as well as the Alberta Chamber of Mines in Edmonton. The minister says that if a smelter were constructed there would be hundreds of new jobs. He says that perhaps several hundreds of people would find new jobs. I can tell him, and he has received briefs from individuals and organizations which support this statement, that the very existence of this bill, the very disclosure of it last November when it was tabled for first reading, has caused all sorts of companies that were

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planning exploration activities in the Yukon this year to pull back. The general estimate of the Yukon Chamber of Mines, and of the British Columbia Chamber of Mines, is that exploration plans have been pulled back one-third, or that roughly 30 per cent of the dollars that would have gone into exploration activities in the Yukon this year are going elsewhere because of the existence of Bill C-187 and the land use regulations.

**Mr. Woolliams:** And the white paper on taxation.

**Mr. Nielsen:** The white paper on taxation is another matter, and it is the prime reason for the introduction of the amendment which I will be introducing shortly. Then, the minister speaks of the regulatory power. The Yukon Quartz Mining Act has been with us in the Yukon for almost half a century, with no regulatory power, and yet we have made the astounding progress in mineral development that we have. Now, the minister wants the House to believe that, because of the introduction of a new regulatory power, all of a sudden we are going to experience even more progress and development; that is garbage.

All the government wants by the introduction of that regulatory power is more control, more say over how the mines are going to be operated, more say over how much they are going to produce, and more say as to where their production is going to go. The minister says these are mainly administrative matters, having to do with rents and fees. Out of the nine subclauses only three have that import. The minister speaks about consultation. The minister has listened. He has listened to the members of the Yukon Chamber of Mines talking about consultation, consultation which he promised but did not initiate.

**Mr. Chrétien:** I met them personally last week.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Yes, the minister met them personally at the airport, with placards and a demonstration.

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member is not too familiar with the situation. He was not at the airport. There were no placards. There was a good group of Scottish pipers, and it was a welcome such as I never received anywhere else in Canada.

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

**Mr. Nielsen:** All I can say is that the minister does not know a placard from a babypipe.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker. on a question of privilege—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. Is the minister rising on a point of order?

**Mr. Chrétien:** On a point of order, in travelling from Ottawa I met far more people in the Yukon last weekend than the hon. member. I do not know why he had to hide.