

facing Canada and Canadians, which is that we have a government that has lost all credibility. The government has lost its credibility because it has totally mismanaged the economy. It has lost it because it did not level with the Canadian people. It was elected on a program of refusal to impose price and wage controls, yet it imposed these very controls a year later and did so in a manner far more rigid than that proposed by the Progressive Conservative Party during the 1974 election. If that election had turned out differently, we would have been through with controls by now. The program would have been ended at this time.

The "just society" became the "new society," and all that seemed to guide either one was the whim of the Prime Minister. First, he was permeated by Galbraith; now he is back sounding for all the world like a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. The Speech from the Throne suggested a transfer of responsibilities from the public sector to the private sector, a suggestion that comes only a few months after the Prime Minister was condemning the private sector and proposing more government intervention and control.

I have one final word, and that is about bilingualism. In this area the government succeeded in arousing the extremists of both sides. Mr. Lang's abject capitulation to CALPA and CATCA, in an effort to win at any price the settlement of an illegal strike, was shameful. That incident became a major issue, and is responsible for much of the present backlash in areas where people are less exposed to all the complexities of the problem.

Among the Anglophones, some extremists pointed to the government's action and said, "You see? We were right; the government agrees that bilingualism is impractical." The Francophone extremists pointed to the government's action and said, "You see? We were right; this government is not really convinced of the need and value of bilingualism in the public service."

Let's face it. The government fouled up this question as it has so many others. Ineptitude, lack of fortitude—the weakness that fosters problems and delays their solution—that's what this government is all about.

In the area of labour-management relations, the government has lost the confidence of the unions, and it is difficult to imagine how it can regain it. A storm of irresponsibility and illegality blows in that sector today—today especially, though I am happy to see that the demonstration in front of the Parliament Buildings was less than a success. I hope our friends of the NDP will see the handwriting on the wall.

Labour is fed up. There is no doubt of that. Business is fed up. There is no doubt of that either. Hell, everybody is fed up with this government. Even many of its own backbenchers are fed up with it. It has even lost confidence in itself, as I have indicated, and as is proven by so many resignations and departures.

What this country needs is a new government, a government which is strong where the present one is weak; one which is

strong in foresight and planning, strong in decision and implementation, strong in courage and vision.

Senator Greene: Joe who?

Senator Flynn: Not Joe Greene. We need a government that would be strong in the western provinces where, because of geographical alienation, the aspirations of the people of Quebec are so sorely misunderstood.

We need a new government, and the people of Canada are going to give themselves one; but the problem is that they are likely not to have the opportunity to do so for another two years.

Our most sincere hope is that the present administration, in those two years, will not so complicate the major issues, and so muddy the waters, that solutions will have become almost impossible to find by the time a Conservative government comes to power.

Some Hon. Senators: Oh, oh.

Senator Flynn: Honourable senators, I shall be happy to entertain any questions by Senator Greene. He is my favourite interlocutor, because I can more easily reply to him than to anyone else; but I would hope that he would stay quiet for a while, because I do not like to hurt him. Every time I exchange ideas with Senator Greene, I come up with a blank.

Honourable senators, speeches are like babies: easy and pleasant to conceive, but difficult as hell to deliver. But I do not mind taking all this time, because I know that a political speech pleases everyone. Those who agree lap it up; those who do not are glad it is over.

It is over.

Hon. Raymond J. Perrault: Honourable senators, together with the esteemed Leader of the Opposition in this chamber, I join in the good wishes and expressions of appreciation that have been extended to His Excellency the Governor General and Madam Léger for their superb performance the other day. We always appreciate their presence in our midst. We are thankful for the diligence, ability and dedication which they demonstrate in carrying out their important responsibilities. We are proud of both of them.

As far as Senator Lucier is concerned, he made what all of us considered to be a great speech on behalf of the Yukon Territory. I listened with interest, as did other honourable senators, to the historic background he gave us of that particular part of Canada. This territory has a great history, and it has an even more magnificent future, and I hope that just as soon as possible we can send a Senate committee into the Yukon to discuss with the people Senator Lucier represents the important problems and difficulties which he brought to our attention.

We are also grateful to Senator Barrow for his constructive contribution to the debate, and for his lucid development of a number of ideas relevant to his important and historic province. The problems of the maritimes, and the province of Newfoundland, are problems not only for the people who reside in those provinces, but for all Canadians. When an