

I believe that brings out the picture very clearly. It shows that some people think that the government says to people: You have not got enough sense to know how to spend your own money; we are going to look after it for you. Therefore the whole structure that is being erected is a denial of the rights of the individual to look after himself and to live his life as he wants to live it.

With regard to taxation policy the minister hides behind the fact that the Carter Commission has not made its report. I think the government is hiding behind that report. There is no reason why it could not proceed to bring about relief to the Canadian people. Instead, it hides behind this report, making excuses. We hope that the commission will report quickly.

In view of the agreed limitation of debate and the courtesy extended by the house, I am going to conclude my remarks at this time. I do, however, register my strong exception to the policies followed by the government in dealing with some of our national problems and I object to the lack of any policy with respect to other issues of concern to the Canadian people.

**Mr. J. G. Lind (Middlesex East):** Mr. Speaker, allow me to congratulate you on your appointment as Speaker of this house. Everyone to whom I have spoken about you has praised your ability to handle difficult situations quickly, fairly and in an orderly manner.

I should like to thank the Minister of Finance (Mr. Sharp) for presenting to this house a wise budget which fits the needs of the hour. The task of the government is to sustain the longest economic expansion in Canadian history and therefore we must have some restraint in our expansion to safeguard the continued growth of our economy. *Time Magazine* says:

This inflation-dampening budget earned a round of editorial and business approval.

I have checked the reaction of many of my constituents to this budget. One farmer said, "It did not hurt us, but Joe Greene sure saved our hide". A businessman said that he thought it was a budget that should check inflation and it did not hurt him too badly; he had expected an increase in personal taxes but he did like the 5 per cent refundable corporation tax. "Over all" he said, "this budget should trim inflation." I quote from an article in the *Globe and Mail* of April 5:

Economists generally like the refundable tax, which they regard as perhaps the most sophisticated

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instrument of economic control that Ottawa has devised in a generation.

What does the ordinary man on the street think of this budget? I have talked to many on this point. They generally agreed that it did not hurt us and they expected the minister to check the inflation so why not clip those who can afford it? This judicious rebalancing of income tax will help to check or dampen inflation without disturbing the underlying uptrend in business.

I would like to suggest to hon. members and the government that they consider the image of this parliament and the business life of our country by considering for a moment the meaning and value of integrity. Colton once said:

Nothing more completely baffles one who is full of trick and duplicity than the straightforward and simple integrity in another.

The Oxford Dictionary defines integrity as "wholeness, uprightness, and honesty". The World Book Dictionary defines it as "honesty and sincerity". A man of integrity is a respected man and I believe it is our duty as members to be respected men and women. I believe that a re-dedication to those principles for which our forefathers and predecessors stood is necessary if we are not to slip back into the morass of a totalitarian state. Popularity and public acclaim are not the measure of a man. What should matter most to hon. members is that we conduct the business of our country with integrity. We should, when necessary, operate as a trust, doing the unpopular thing when it is in the best interest of the country so to do and always foregoing self-interest. As the business leaders of Canada entrusted with the affairs of this nation, we must at all times exercise integrity.

Some hon. members may greet this suggestion with cynicism but it is not too difficult for the thinking person to see the practical values of integrity. It is both efficient and economical and although not always easy to practise its reward is serenity of mind.

I should like to suggest to the Minister of Finance and our government an area which I call the erosion of our tax base through business failures, namely, bankruptcies. Our government has and is doing something about this situation, but I urge them to speed up the process and save the consumer, the farmer, the businessman and corporation from the terrible loss through bankruptcies which, last year were in excess of \$500 million in Canada.