

that kind of tax system. Yet lo and behold, as soon as hon. gentlemen opposite came back with a minority, they proposed indexing.

Mr. Breau: Of personal exemptions.

Mr. Yewchuk: All of a sudden it was a good idea. You can look at it whichever way you want, but if you look at it honestly you will have to accept the fact that this was deviousness and dishonesty on the part of that minister of finance. I suggest there is no other way to look at it.

Let me give the House another example why Canadians are unhappy with government and with the situation that exists in this country. Let me go to the 1974 election. Our party proposed a program which was known as price and income controls. I am sure that every member on the other side who is sitting there smiling right now and getting a little excited went out on the hustings and spoke against that program. I can remember advertisements on the radio to the effect, "if the Conservatives win, they will freeze your wages; is that what you want?" That is what hon. members said, and they all admit it.

Mr. MacFarlane: That is what you said, too.

Mr. Yewchuk: We did not say that.

Mr. Roy (Laval): That was a long time ago when things were quite different.

Mr. Yewchuk: In proposing that program, Mr. Speaker, we put forward a positive and honest approach, knowing full well that there were dangers in it. But we consciously made the decision to be honest with the people and to tell them what the prescription was going to be. But the members on the other side who still govern, thought we were rather foolish for being honest with the people and they chose the other course. They chose to be the opposite of honest and they were re-elected.

Mr. MacFarlane: Surely you are not challenging our honesty.

Mr. Yewchuk: They came back with a majority and the very first thing they did was to bring in income and price controls. I do not know how they justify it, Mr. Speaker. I have heard the Prime Minister say, "Well, that is just smart politics", or something to that effect, and many of his friends have said the same thing. They sit and drink their beer and laugh about it. It is smart politics to them. They were dishonest with the rest of the people, but they are in government.

Mr. MacFarlane: Do not try to analyse the last election after so long.

Mr. Kempling: Anything to win!

Mr. Yewchuk: I hope the whip on the government side will take the opportunity to say a few words on the bill when I sit down. He seems to be so anxious to participate; so do many other members over there. But it is rather curious that none of

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them has made a speech on this bill today. They have all sat back in their usual sheep-like manner waiting for the bill to be rushed through. I hope they will save some of their interjections, Mr. Speaker, put them together in a speech and present them as soon as I sit down.

To get back to the question of price and income controls which hon. members opposite campaigned against, and won the election because they campaigned against them, the result of that has been a total—

Mr. Breau: Order. Get back to the bill.

Mr. Paproski: This is part of the bill. Let Charlie look after it, Breau.

Mr. Yewchuk: The result of that, Mr. Speaker, has been a total—

Mr. Roy (Laval): This was two years ago, and the results are there for all to see.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. The hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) has the floor for the purpose of making a speech.

Mr. Paproski: We saw the results of November 15.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, you must have an inordinate amount of patience not to have thrown your show at hon. members by this time. I hope they will listen and learn, because I want to tell them that honesty in politics is a very essential ingredient if we are to preserve the democratic system. The fact is that the result of the flip-flops on the part of this government has indeed undermined the democratic system in this country. You see reports in the press every day, and hear people from all over saying that you cannot trust politicians, that "they are like a bunch of bananas—they hang around in a bunch, they are yellow and there is not a straight one among them." That is the kind of picture that the people of Canada have of their politicians today, and it is a direct result of the kind of dishonest dealing this government has participated in ever since it has been in power, simply out of a desire to propel itself into power, not at all caring what effect these tactics will have on confederation or on the democratic system itself.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, when the Prime Minister says to us that all we have to do, if we want Quebec to stay in, is to say to them, "I love you" it makes me want to laugh. As a matter of fact, it does a lot more than that; it makes me sick to hear him talk that way. I think it is high time he stopped fooling around with the people of Canada, came clean and tried to come to grips with the problems that face this country today.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Paproski: Now we are getting the truth.

Mr. Yewchuk: I have been in this place, Mr. Speaker, for nearly nine years. I grew up in a community where there were