We must set out sail firmly against this Tory tide of reaction and make the pledge that this party will put people first.

The people of Canada believed the Prime Minister and now they want the Tory Party back. They know that with us they will see real progress and will hear the truth. They know that they will have a Party that will carry out what it promises, not a Party that says it is committed to enhancing the dignity and security of individual Canadians but does not do anything about that except bring in legislation which flies in the face of that promise.

In the next paragraph he said:

We must endorse the right of every Canadian to have a job.

How can Members opposite stand in this House after having made that kind of commitment? How can they look at the figures for Newfoundland where unemployment runs at over 30 per cent, or at Sudbury? How can they stand the situation there? It is only because they are so used to being in power that they are beyond feeling anything. How can they say that they endorse the right of every Canadian to have a job when 1.6 million Canadians are out of work? Finally he said:

And most important of all, we must guarantee the income security of our older citizens. Retirement should be a time of peace rather than a time of fear. All this we will do. And more.

You can just see the Prime Minister in Toronto, all emotional and excited, telling the press that, most important of all, they must guarantee the income security of our older citizens and that retirement should be a time of peace rather than a time of fear, and that they will do all this.

He did not say that they were going to bring in legislation to stop people getting an indexed pension. He did not say to the tens of thousands of civil servants retired from Government employment and that he was going to cap their pensions. He did not say to the people who were getting Family Allowances or Old Age Security that those things were not going to be indexed any longer. He said that they must guarantee the income security of our older citizens.

It makes one sick to see how a Party can turn its back on its pledges and commitments and still carry on. This Party opposite will carry on right till the five years are up, right till they are forced out by the letter of the law. We will have to get writs of mandamus, injunctions and call out the army. The Governor General will have to act to get them to call an election because they are afraid to face the electorate. This is why I am voting against this legislation. I am voting against the legislation because it flies in the face of the Liberal program about which we were told in January and February 1980. These lies, deception and deceit inveigled the Canadian people to put us out before we had a chance to show what we could do, and put back in this bunch of cynics, hypocrites, defrauders and fraudulent misrepresentators. They fraudulently misrepresented their position to every old age pensioner. They promised them income security.

• (1630)

Mr. Lang: You should be ashamed.

Mr. Crosbie: You should be ashamed. You should vacate your seat. You should be the first to show some decency. The Hon. Member for Kitchener should show some decency. He should stop staying here bleating and get out. His finest moment will be the day that he resigns his seat.

Mr. Lang: It is your blood pressure that is going up.

Mr. Crosbie: I do not want to get excited, Mr. Speaker.

This legislation enables the Government to break an agreement into which it entered with public servants who are no longer there. They served their time and they are gone. This is the difference between all the other things they have done. Public servants are being—screwed is not the right word, not the polite word; what is a better word than screwed—screwed, blued and tattooed. The old age pensioners and Government pensioners are having that done to them. These people are now retired. They gave their services. They thought they had a commitment from the Government. Now they are told that they must bring down inflation by having the indexing removed from their pensions.

First the Government captures their votes, or tries to, by saying, "We are incompetent; we do not know how to overcome inflation, but we will protect you, the public servants of Canada, the Armed Forces personnel and so on, by giving you indexed pensions. Therefore, you do not have to worry about our economic incompetence. No matter how incompetent we are, if the cost of living goes up 100 per cent, your pensions will go up 100 per cent". That is what they said to those people. Many of them went out and voted for them on that condition. Then in 1980 they said what I quoted. Now they turn around and say, "It was all make believe. You will be better off if you do not get this additional income. Why, your security in your old age and your golden days you will enjoy much more if you have a Government which breaks its commitments and promises to you". That is what they have said to them. This is what the Prime Minister said when he stated that platform from which I read. He said, "We have an economic program which will enhance dignity". This is part of the program of the Prime Minister to enhance dignity—cutting back on Government pensioners. This is creating opportunities for whom? For the scoundrels that inhabit the Government like maggots in a piece of old fish. They are creating opportunities for them. They are not creating opportunities for anyone else. Yes, the patronage opportunity is there, but not for the ordinary person, not likely. "To provide security", this is what the Prime Minister said.

Where is that program? His backbenchers do not revolt. The Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre does not go into or come out of caucus saying, "I will make our leader stick to the promises or, by God, I will leave the Party". No, he is the Indian rubber man. He has no backbone, no gumption. He rises in the House with these silly hypocrisies which we heard today, the slipshod nonsense about how, after all, they are not indexing the 1 per cent which employees contributed toward the indexing, that they will only limit the indexing on the part the Government contributes.