

port, involved in the collective bargaining process, a process which they say they support.

I am not carrying any brief for them, Mr. Speaker, and I want the House to understand that. I am carrying a brief for justice, equality and good conscience. If the government denies that right of appeal which is symbolic, and these three matters which are important in a free society, then it is denying to a large group of Canadians something they ought to have. The system could operate satisfactorily if they had those rights.

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

**Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, I was interested to hear the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro) apologize for the so-called anti-inflation program. We all witnessed some of the scenes on television. The minister said he had gone before organized labour and presented the case of the government for anti-inflation and organized labour supported the anti-inflation program. Does the minister forget that we saw the way he was booed at the CUPE convention in Toronto? Does he forget that he was booed in my own riding of Nickel Belt when he came there to sell the trade union movement a bill of goods? He was not permitted to finish his speech because the workers in the Sudbury basin thought he was coming to sell them the way to wage controls.

We also saw the minister booed when he spoke to the British Columbia Federation of Labour and tried to sell them the same bill of goods. He was booed when he went to Newfoundland and spoke to the Newfoundland Federation of Labour. This is the minister who gets up in the House, sweating and panting and trying to put across to the House the message that there is support in the trade union movement for the government's wage controls.

Do we forget that the minister was silent—but of course he was taking the treatment then—when the former minister of finance and other ministers were going around naming labour as the scapegoat for inflation? That minister sat quietly even though he was minister of labour. The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) will at least stand up for the farmers from time to time, but the Minister of Labour was silent and he was condemned by his silence. Now he comes along, belatedly, saying he has the support of labour.

Next we have the spectacle of the hon. member for Langelier (Mr. Marchand), the Minister of the Environment, the minister who has run through so many portfolios in the cabinet that he has only three or four left. He got up and patted himself on the back; I was surprised that he did not break his arm through doing so. He told us what a friend of labour he is, that he was 23 years in the labour movement. All I can say is—

**Mr. Roy (Timmins):** That is longer than you have.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Why don't you get up and make a speech?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order, please. Would the hon. member please address the Chair?

**Mr. Rodriguez:** The hon. member for Timmins (Mr. Roy) should be as vocal in his riding about the injustice of this

### *Labour Conditions*

legislation as he is in the House. He is a great defender of the workers, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Roy (Timmins):** I have already defeated two of your party; sent both of them down.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** I have already defeated two Liberals. The minister was patting himself on the back. From the condemnation of labour that he has displayed in this House, I can only say he has come a long way since those 23 years when he was active in the trade union movement. Give a man a ministry and a chauffeur to drive his limousine and he soon forgets his roots. The minister said quite bluntly that there was no historic relationship in his wage control bill. He also said, in effect, that the trade union movement needs to be controlled in terms of wages.

Mr. Speaker, last year 90 per cent of the wage contracts in this country were settled without strikes or disruption of services. Surely we will hear shortly from the Postmaster General (Mr. Mackasey). We know what he has on other occasions; he has said that patriotism is important in wage control bills. I was on the fact-finding trip to New Brunswick to look at the situation with regard to the Canadian Paper Workers Union. Let us consider how dynamic, radical and left-wing those unions are. We seem to think we are talking about workers who would strike at the drop of a hat. The pitworkers' union in Grand Falls, Newfoundland, has not been on strike for one day in 60 years. Paper workers at MacMillan-Rothesay Company, a subsidiary of MacMillan-Bloedell, were out for three weeks in the last ten years. At Irving Pulp and Paper Company, workers have been out for eight weeks in the last 30 years. Workers at the Miramichi Timber Resources Company have been out for eight days in the last 30 years.

Are these radical workers? It is not in the nature of workers to strike. It is not in the nature of workers to walk the picket lines without a pay cheque coming in. May I remind the fat-cats in this House that it is the nature of workers to earn money and to keep their families with their heads held high. These are the kind of workers this legislation works against. Do I see the government moving as resolutely against prices? Why could we not set up a system which says that no prices will go up until approved by the Anti-Inflation Board and then the administrator?

● (2230)

**An hon. Member:** It is the same process.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** It is not, and the hon. member knows it. Every week I have supplied the Minister of Finance (Mr. Macdonald) and the Anti-Inflation Board with a monitored price list of those items constantly rising by 10 per cent, 20 per cent and even 25 per cent, but have not seen any action by the Anti-Inflation Board to deal with my complaints. At the same time workers' wages are effectively controlled. Not only that, the collective bargaining process is dead, deader than a door nail. Perhaps the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro (Hamilton East)) wants to tell railway workers that it is not dead. I challenge him to tell the railway workers how this program will work.

When I was in New Brunswick I met with union representatives, and met a chap by the name of James K. Irving, the owner of the paper company. I never thought I would