

think he is certainly not helping parliament or the House of Commons by using language that is perhaps a bit strong in the circumstances.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I assure you I am being very cautious, and my caution is supported by the written word in the *Hansard* record. If you want me to cite one case it is backed up by the recorded words in *Hansard*. It was a case not too long ago when the Prime Minister, in excusing the absence of one of his ministers, said that minister was indisposed and under his doctor's orders. But the next day we had the very minister in question come in and explain his absence by telling the house he was escorting the Shah of Iran. Just try to tell me I cannot back up my accusations that we have dishonest statements, that we have dishonest government, a government that is leading this country down the road to ruin.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): I do not propose at any time to make statements in this house that cannot be verified by the records, statements that show that members of this cabinet day after day have been contradicting one another. I would like to wrap up on this note, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Thank you, gentlemen; I am glad you appreciate it. Now that they have enticed me to make one more remark I might say for the benefit of Liberal supporters in this house that their discipline is not what it appears to be at all. Discipline is not discipline if it is brought about by either a promise or a threat. The discipline shown by the Liberal party here today can be brought about with some members by the fact that possibly you are going to have your pensions doubled; or then again the discipline may be brought about by the fact that you are faced with the threat that your franking privileges will be cut off or your transportation privileges will be removed. A bunch of sheep—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's time has expired.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, it is with a genuine feeling of regret that I rise to speak on this matter at this time. I regret being compelled

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to speak upon a question that I do not believe has any proper place in the order of house business at this time. Most of all, Mr. Speaker, I regret what the government have done to the constitution of parliament and the theory and practice of parliamentary democratic government by their brazen determination to cling to power. In their obsession with office, their arrogant assumption that they and they alone have a right to govern, they have debased parliament and degraded every member forced by their stubborn attitude to take part in these proceedings.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. McIntosh: We saw something of that this afternoon. Their course is clear following their defeat on a major item of budgetary policy in the House of Commons. They should get out, and not stand upon the order of their going. From a layman's point of view, Mr. Speaker, I contend that you should not have allowed or ordered this motion, worded as it is, to come before this house for consideration. It is a direct contravention of standing order 35 of the House of Commons, which reads in part:

No member may reflect upon any vote of the house, except for the purpose of moving that such vote be rescinded.

I repeat the last part of that:

—except for the purpose of moving that such vote be rescinded.

It is difficult for me, Mr. Speaker, to believe that you have prior knowledge from the government that it is their purpose to rescind the vote if this motion is carried, or even if it is defeated. I ask myself, Mr. Speaker, why then did you allow this motion to come before the house?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to bring to the hon. member's attention that it is entirely out of order, and certainly against the most basic principles of parliamentary procedure, to speak or reflect on the Speaker's position in the way the hon. member is doing now.

• (3:10 p.m.)

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, with all deference I will read the order if you—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I understand the point made by the hon. member. He is referring to the procedural aspect of it. He can do that without bringing the Speaker into the argument.

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, you are the only authority I recognize in the house at the