

steel is a problem to the United States, they "safeguard" themselves against steel from all countries, including Canada. We are vulnerable to being side-swiped by action directed at others.

That has threatened Canadian jobs in steel and with respect to petroleum-related products.

That is a roadblock we would like to talk about in any trade negotiations.

Countervail and anti-dumping are part of an array of so-called "contingency protection" measures designed to offset predatory pricing or unfair subsidies applied by exporting countries. Threats of countervail are blossoming in the United States, threatening Canadian jobs in export industries ranging from lumber to steel to uranium to raspberries. They are being applied in an increasingly aggressive and undisciplined manner. That is a roadblock we would like to talk about in any trade negotiations.

Our general access to the American market is threatened with more erosion every day. There are over three hundred protectionist bills in the Congress today. They either threaten or have already harmed \$6 billion in Canadian exports, and 140 000 jobs; affecting all regions of the country and a wide range of commodities.

That's the threat from Congress. In addition, various states dream up other ways to stop our trade. This summer, for example, four Western states slapped a prohibition on our pork, claiming they didn't like the antibiotics our pigs were being fed.

Even when we are successful in beating back protectionist measures, we get only temporary relief. Today's victory results in tomorrow's attempts in Congress to change the legislation to catch us next time. That leaves a constant cloud over our exports, and naturally drives away some investment in these industries.

One of the most serious threats now is to the lumber industry. Americans buy more than half of all we produce and 60 000 Canadian jobs are at stake. Three years ago, an attempt in Congress to impose new duties on Canadian lumber was defeated. There are now three new bills before Congress that would restrict our sales of softwood lumber.

The Canadian steel industry is also under recurrent threat. We managed a year ago to avoid safeguard action by the United States which would have adversely affected \$1-billion worth of Canadian exports. But we don't yet have a permanent solution to the problem.

Other exports under threat include sugar. And fish. And salt. And raspberries. And blueberries. And other products. There is even talk in the United States of imposing surcharges on all imports, and that would be a severe blow to our economy.

It has been estimated that a 10 per cent reduction in our exports alone could throw a quarter of a million Canadians out of work.
