

*Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement*

In Windsor we have a much more intimate relationship, and I would say a deeper understanding, of the character of American society than do many other Canadians. That is not to imply a fundamental anti-Americanism, as I am sure you have heard me say before. Most of us in Windsor have American relatives and are engaged in constant commerce between Windsor and Detroit. We like Americans. However, we do not want to be American. We know that their society is quite different from ours. It is a society that we do not want to see replicated in Canada.

It is not only a question of experiencing those differences. We have felt the impact of the subsidiary syndrome in Canada. We have had an intimation of what will happen in this country insofar as it concerns those subsidiary plants that are owned by American multinationals. Nobody in Windsor doubts that efficiency and rationalization will mean a loss of Canadian jobs. There is no doubt about that.

I know there will be a Member on the other side, in typical ignorance not having read anything, and most particularly not having read the trade deal, who will say once more that the Auto Pact was a nice example, a prototype of this trade deal, and we ought to appreciate that what we are doing here is expanding the benefits of that type of relationship with the United States to the rest of Canada. Ignorance cannot be penetrated on that side of the House to convince those Members that the Auto Pact had within it guarantees that ensured Canadian jobs.

Insofar as it relates to something I am going to say later, there was one aspect of the Auto Pact that has not yet been sufficiently attended to in our debate. While it is true that the Auto Pact did ensure some measure of job production in Canada and a rationalization of the industry that assured production in Canada, one of the unremarked features of the Auto Pact was the loss to Canada of engineering, designing, and management. In other words, it was fine for Canadians to work on the factory floor, but not to work in the laboratories, design rooms, and offices of the Big Three. That is very important in respect of this trade deal.

I think that it is necessary to call attention to the fact that when the Government talks about competitiveness it has disregarded the importance of science and technology, and the impact of the trade deal on our ability to compete to the extent that we are able to develop the resources of development for us that will permit us to compete, not only with the United States, but with the whole world.

Let me return to the notion in Windsor, shared by many Canadians, that the inevitable result of this deal will be that Canada will become much more like the United States. Even Simon Reisman had the good sense, in one rare moment, to recognize that fact. He said that it was inevitable that a country with the population of Canada, very much smaller than the population of the United States, would inevitably become more like the United States. The implications of that are very significant.

Most Canadians have a notion of our country that it is in many respects superior to the United States. It is much more civilized and much more humane. All one has to do is live in Windsor and look across at Detroit and see the poverty and the manner in which the poor are treated, to understand that Canada is a much more humane and civilized country, and we want to keep it that way.

We do not believe that we have to sacrifice those characteristics in order to prosper. Indeed, we think that we have an experiment going in this country that would demonstrate that prosperity and social justice could go together, make us successful in the world, and make us just as able to compete as anybody else without doing it on the backs of those who are poor, deprived or oppressed.

Not long ago I had occasion to discuss the trade deal before an audience celebrating the annual meeting of the North American Black Museum in Amherstburg. I have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I was surprised at the passion of reaction to the notion of the trade deal. Those of us who came to Canada from the United States to escape slavery do not want to see that society replicated here. There is serious potential for harm to minority groups, because the minorities in this country who have not yet achieved equality will not achieve it in a society whose primary imperative is market forces.

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It is not only New Democrats who have called attention to the inevitability of Canada becoming more like the U.S., and the consequences which flow therefrom. Tom Stanfield expressed it in appropriate terms when he said: "It is the cost of government, the cost of energy, the cost of human resources that will allow us to compete or not to compete, and therefore we will slowly adopt the American way, with very few modifications. Why is it that manufacturing is largely located in the southern United States, rather than in the northern