

That's right and they couldn't go across the line and work.

Yeah, but there were 500 jobs saved somewhere else.

Yeah, but that's just one company. General Motors in Oshawa, Ontario, closed down their plant and moved to the States. How many people were laid off there, I think it was 2500.

It was up pretty high, I know that.

There was a cannery back east where people were laid off. I think it's been a decline in jobs for Canadians, a lot of businesses have moved. Just a stones throw across the border but they knew that the GST was coming in, they knew exactly where they would be if they continued to remain in Canada. Consequently when we spoke of the GST earlier as being tied into free trade, yes, it is tied in there very much so and that's why a lot of businesses are leaving Canada.

Well, we shouldn't say that free trade caused it. We're doing something wrong here.

That's right.

If we can't be competitive, get out of the damn kitchen. I think free trade is a hoax, it hasn't worked because it's neither free nor is it trade.

It's only started though. We've got another nine years to go. I don't think people have even realized that it's there yet.

Look at the common market, they go in four years, they go from full duties to zilch. We should do that, we shouldn't drag it out for ten years. It's like having somebody slowly sticking a needle into you, it might be better to take one solid punch and then say no border line-ups. If you want to move to the States, just move across.

But you're talking about Canada being with the States now.

But if you look at Europe, this is what is happening now. They don't even have customs any more. They have a traffic light between Germany and France.

There is a confidence between Germany and France that those people are not going to lose their culture. My own feeling is that we are going to lose our Canadian identity.

Do we have one?

Yes, I think so.

If it can't survive across the border then is the damned thing worth fighting for?

Maybe it's like Quebec, maybe we have to take heroic measures to protect ourselves.

I think Quebec should separate and join the common market.

I'm a sixth generation Canadian and to me the Canadian identity is just as strong if not stronger than it has ever been. We just don't go shouting it.

I agree with Tom if you have to build a fence around your country to protect your culture, there's something wrong.