Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

Canada is already the most foreign-dominated of any industrialized country in the world. With the FTA, we give up the right to screen any new American investment. Under this agreement, by 1992 we will not be able to screen or control takeovers of any corporations in Canada of a value of less than \$150 million. And I note, Mr. Speaker, that that would include nearly 90 per cent of the corporations in Canada. We have handed the U.S. a Gold Card and told them to charge it. They will buy Canada. They will own Canada—and we will have lost control of our own country.

Big businesses like this deal. Why wouldn't they? It is full of the loopholes which corporate Canada had in mind when they encouraged it, when they pushed for it—and pushed for it they did, especially in the last few days of the election campaign, when they realized that the majority of Canadians had seen through their scheme and had realized that their corporate success in the future in North America—I didn't say Canada; I said North America—was going to be on the backs of the average Canadian.

That is when they started to buy the ads; that is when they started to buy Canadians. And that is when they, in the short run, bought Canada, and Canada will suffer for that in the future.

We all know what economic union means. It points to an economic build-up in certain areas of that union. History has shown that where economic power goes, political power will follow—and that has been true for centuries the world over. It may not happen for three years, or five years, or ten years, but it will happen. Mark my words, eventually it will happen. And the centre of the economic power in North America will not be in Canada but somewhere in the United States; and the centre of the political power will not be in Canada but in Washington.

I am sure that there are some in the U.S. Embassy right across the street looking at us right now and saying: "Give us time, we will have that building, too."

They did it in Hawaii starting in 1876, and finishing the process by making Hawaii a state in 1950. They did it in Puerto Rico starting in 1927, and now they control all aspects of Puerto Rican's defence, its foreign policy, its postage, and even its currency.

Is that what we want?

Some Hon, Members: No.

Mr. Vanclief: No, not ever.

Mr. McDermid: Tell us about Alaska, then.

Mr. Vanclief: I should like to now say a few words about energy. We are told we can compete. Yes, we can compete—but how successfully can we compete?

Mr. Della Noce: Read Luigi's letter.

Mr. Vanclief: The one main thing we had over the U.S. in terms of being able to compete successfully was our supply of energy. We had it. They wanted it. And they got it.

They do not have the resources to draw on; they need ours. That bargaining point alone at the negotiation table should have gotten us a better deal on the environment, and perhaps even an acid rain treaty.

An Hon. Member: We didn't have good negotiators.

Mr. Vanclief: We have agreed to share our energy with the U.S. They have not agreed to buy it. They will only buy it if they cannot find a cheaper source anywhere else in the world.

An Hon. Member: It is called world price.

Mr. Vanclief: Once our energy sector gears up to supply the U.S. market, who is going to hold them at ransom?—the U.S. buyers.

I would like to have a little more time in order to discuss the other concerns, including the concerns that my constituents have about subsidies. And I know they are more concerned after the Minister for International Trade (Mr. Crosbie) yesterday, when questioned on subsidies, said: "We don't know whether the negotiations to find a definition of 'trade distorting subsidies' will be successful or not. In the history of the world, there has never been a successful negotiation to that end. But we will give it our best effort."

We sure hope that he will be successful, Mr. Speaker. If he isn't, this deal will not be successful. It rides on that.

Let me turn now to a few comments about agriculture. As I said earlier, it is the largest single industry in my riding.

I should like to state at the outset that I am a firm believer that as goes agriculture, so goes the economy of any country. The dairy farmers and all of the farmers in my riding are concerned and worried. They are being told that their supply management marketing board is protected. That they don't quarrel with. But what they