

TRADE

CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—POSITION OF NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, all this talk by the NDP about loss of sovereignty and loss of jobs under free trade does not fizz on me. I heard the same arguments 40 years ago made by the CCF when the Alberta Government invited the Americans to bring their capital and expertise to develop our gas and oil under Canadian rules.

The socialists cried then, as the NDP is crying now: "We will lose sovereignty, we will lose jobs!" Well, the Americans came, rigidly adhered to Canadian law, and developed our gas and oil industry that has been such a boon to Canada. Thousands of jobs were created, hundreds of people earned cheques instead of getting welfare, the standard of living rose, and a buoyant economy brought revenue to the Governments and put money in the pockets of the people. There was no loss of sovereignty.

The CCF has changed its name but the New Democrats have not learned a thing in 40 years. They are so brainwashed with socialism that they cannot recognize a good thing when they see it. Free trade will do for Canada what American capital did for Alberta, so on with free trade!

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PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

NEWFOUNDLAND—ELECTION OF LIBERAL PARTY LEADER TO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I know that all Hon. Members would want to be aware that last night marked the beginning of a great and important crusade in the history of that great Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. Hon. Members would want to know that, despite the best efforts of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Crosbie), who hollered, stamped his feet and beat his breast, despite the great efforts of the Premier of Newfoundland, Mr. Peckford, who hollered and beat his breast and carried his minions from Cabinet behind him with baubles and taxpayers' purses hanging out of their pockets, last night in the great historic Province of Newfoundland, a crusade began when the Liberal leader of Newfoundland was elected in a by-election to the House of Assembly.

It is important to note that this crusade not only put the lie to the myth of the Tory notion that you can buy the taxpayers with their own dollars, it also burst the bubble of the NDP myth. The NDP polled a total of 9 per cent of the vote last night and lost their deposit, in that great Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

I say that the people of Newfoundland and Labrador answered the Prime Minister's (Mr. Mulroney) plaudits, words, adjectives, and exhortations to the people of Canada

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last night when they elected a Liberal leader in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, a leader who will join with the federal team to put an end to the scourge of phony Toryism in the Province of Newfoundland and in Canada come the new year, whenever they have the nerve to call a federal general election.

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NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

GOVERNING BOARD—SELECTION OF NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL

Mr. Bill Tupper (Nepean—Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the National Arts Centre is one of Canada's great national and cultural institutions with an outstanding international reputation. A search committee seeking a new Director General at the National Arts Centre recently announced that the nomination for the Director General post would be the bilingual career diplomat, Mr. Ian Clarke, to be assisted by the skilled and accomplished former Stratford Festival Chief, Mr. Robin Phillips, as Artistic Director, and assisted by a francophone Business Manager.

That triumvirate would have served as an elegant choice to manage the National Arts Centre. I am dismayed to learn that the Governing Board of the National Arts Centre did not accept these recommendations.

Clearly it is important that the new directorship reflect Canada's heritage. At the same time it is important that a cultural institution such as that which reaches out to all Canadians be run by a management chosen on the basis of merit.

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EXTERNAL AID

ETHIOPIA—DROUGHT AND FAMINE—CANADIAN ASSISTANCE

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Mr. Speaker, the gap between rich and poor never seems greater or more unjust than at this time of year when we celebrate peace on earth, good will among all people. People of good will can always find ways of reaching across that gap and helping decrease it.

My parents always remembered with thanks the gift of food they received from an unknown family in Ontario one Saskatchewan Christmas during the drought of the 1930s.

This Christmas again, the lives of five million to eight million people in Ethiopia are under threat because of drought and starvation. Once again, with imagination, generosity, and good will, the people of Canada, working with others from around the world, can help to avert a major tragedy.