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## SSEA BOOK

MINA/ White Brady Kergin Chambers McNee Mason MINT/ Fountain Kneale Burbridge Boisjoli MINE USS DMF DMT DMX DMXN CPD SCI/ Mikkelborg Leblanc SCS / Strouts Storsater Bouchard FPR/ 

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We're going to be hearing a lot about free CBC: trade over the next few months and the arguments could get hot and heavy. There's a lot of opposition to the idea, particularly in Canada's industrial heartland, Ontario and Quebec.

The Western Premiers have fired the first shots. At the end of their two-day meeting in Grand Prairie, Alberta, they came down firmly on the side of dropping all trade barriers with the United States. Peter Lougheed of Alberta made free trade the big issue at the western premiers' meeting. He says there's already one example of free trade at work in Canada.

You know, we have an Auto Pact between Lougheed: Canada and the United States. It's been very successful. It's been good for Canadians. It's provided a lot of jobs. I guess from a western point of view, I'd like to see a Canada-wide Auto Pact.

Premier Lougheed had no trouble persuading Bill Bennett of British Columbia or Grant Devine of Saskatchewan. They were already free-traders. Howard Pawley of Manitoba was another matter. He was worried that Canadian workers would lose their jobs because of competition from south of the border. So Mr. Lougheed and the others suggested a period of transition to give some industries time to adapt to the new conditions. Mr. Pawley could go along with that.

We're not going to throw hundreds of people out of work because of some commitment to