

And, finally, we have agreed to open discussions with the United States, which could lead to a new bilateral trading agreement between our two countries.

Our access to the American market is now in serious danger of being eroded. The Americans, in particular the Congress, are getting more protectionist by the day. The threat faces all regions of Canada, and a wide range of commodities. There are over three hundred protectionist bills in the Congress today. They either threaten or have already harmed \$6 billion in Canadian exports, and 140,000 jobs. They threaten our exports of lumber, steel, fish, uranium, agricultural products, raspberries, potatoes, salt cod, asbestos and even shingles and shakes.

That is today's list, coming from Congress. In addition, various States dream of other ways to stop our trade. This summer, for example, four western states slapped a prohibition on our pork, claiming they didn't like the antibiotics our pigs were being fed.

The most serious threat today is to the lumber industry, in every Canadian province except New Foundland and Prince Edward Island. Americans buy more than half of all we produce and 60,000 Canadian jobs depend on it and are continuing to do so. There are three separate bills now before the United States Congress, that would restrict our sales of softwood lumber. That adds up to a lot of Canadian jobs.