

For example, Canada increased high-tech exports by \$4 billion since the deal, while such imports from the United States fell by \$600 million. Obviously in the high-tech area, the area that the hon. member talks about or the value added area, we are doing much better. Resource exports declined during that period of time.

It says here: "During the first 22 months of free trade Canada not only posted slightly better numbers than the United States, but made its gains in high-tech and capital intensive industries rather than selling off resources." That was a research study done by the Canada West Foundation, a non-partisan and federalist organization.

Ever time a report comes out that does not agree with the opposition, obviously it is suspect. If it agrees with with opposition, it is wonderful. I see my hon. friend from Willowdale over there chuckling to himself, but he knows that is very true.

I am very optimistic about the free trade agreement. I think back to when the auto pact was signed by a Liberal government of the day.

I can remember the New Democratic Party at that time flailing away at it, together with the auto unions, saying that it was one of the worst pieces of negotiation that had ever gone on, that we had sold out the Canadian auto industry, and so on and so forth.

Two and a half years into it and we are calling for it to be completely amended or wiped out. Today the same group protects the auto pact most vehemently. That is fair ball.

I am sure that when the free trade agreement is fully implemented, when the second round of acceleration of tariffs is announced in the not too distant future, it will be very obvious that we will have some great advantages in the free trade agreement. Restructuring is going on, and that is exactly what we expect to go on in this country. It is a very positive thing. It is going to assure Canada that it will have its rightful place in world trade; not just trade with the United States and down into South American but world trade. The restructuring that is going on is very important.

I think my hon. friend from Willowdale would agree with that. He has not totally annihilated the free trade agreement like the New Democratic Party would. He

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said that there were some areas they would like to look at perhaps to renegotiate, and that is fair ball. I can understand that. In any negotiations you win some and you lose some. That is the way negotiations go on.

The New Democratic Party however would wipe out the free trade agreement. It would go back to the old protectionist days of putting up tariff barriers—

**Mr. Brewin:** Sir John A. Macdonald.

**Mr. McDermid:** Sir John A. was back 125 years ago. Are you telling me that the New Democratic Party is going back 125 years? I say: "Yes, it is". That is the problem with the New Democratic Party. It cannot get in step with what is going on in the modern world. That is exactly why it is behind the eight ball. That is exactly why it will never form a federal government. It wants to go back to the old ways, put up the tariff barriers, put up high tariffs on everything, and protect this little island called Canada. Never mind that we trade 35 per cent of what we produce, never mind that; the hon. member wants to go back to the old ways, the old high tariffs. That is what he wants.

That is what New Democrats are talking about over there. I am not sure that his friend from Windsor would agree with that. The hon. member should maybe get together with him. Maybe he wants to wipe out the free trade agreement and go back to the old tariff walls and so on, but I do not think he does. I really do not think he does. I sat with him throughout the free trade debate, and I think he found a lot of positive things within that as well. Am I not correct?

**Mr. Langdon:** Is that a question?

**Mr. McDermid:** Certainly. He is smiling and nodding his head.

**Mr. Langdon:** The answer is no.

**An hon. member:** He said no.

**Mr. McDermid:** Certainly he found some very positive things in the free trade agreement. I am sure he will find more as time goes on.

The February 28 budget lays down the—

**Mr. Langdon:** Mr. Speaker, I hesitate to interrupt the minister's flights of fancy here, but it should be made very clear that this party continues to oppose the free trade deal and that I said so from my seat when he threw this ridiculous question at me.