Supply

• (1300)

It is Canadians who will make this agreement work. It is Canadians who will build a stronger and more vibrant Canada by rising to the challenge of the world competition rather than withdrawing, as the Opposition suggests, into the 19th Century. I firmly believe Canadians will choose our vision of the future. Protectionism leads to depression and liberalized trade leads to prosperity. Those are the lessons of history. That is the choice facing us all. There is no other. This Government and the people of Canada know that the Opposition offers no alternatives. We know that the free trade choice is in the best interests of us all.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister for International Trade (Miss Carney). She started her speech today by saying that the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Broadbent) is opposed to foreign investment, is opposed to free trade, and has never given a single alternative to free trade. I want to deal with two points; first, the Minister saying our Leader was opposed to foreign investment and, second, that he did not give any alternatives.

I want to ask the Minister why she says this, in light of the fact that when the Hon. Member for Mission—Port Moody (Mr. St. Germain) posed a question to my Leader on that very point a few moments before she rose to speak, my Leader said very clearly that we support the principles in the Auto Pact, but they are not free trade? It is a trade agreement. He said on behalf of our Party that if we could have Auto Pact type principles, sector by sector, our Party would support that kind of approach.

Our Leader also said to the Hon. Member for Mission—Port Moody that we do not oppose foreign investment if we have an arrangement where foreign investment works for Canada, where we have guarantees, where we have an accord. He made that very, very clear. Our Leader as well as other people have also spoken many times in this House about an economic strategy, an industrial strategy, particularly where it concerns foreign investment.

I want to ask the Minister of International Trade why she cannot be more honest and truthful in this House and tell the Canadian people that the Leader of our Party, the Hon. Member for Oshawa, does propose some alternatives to this free trade negotiations, that he did point out that the Auto Pact is the kind of agreement we in this Party support, and we would support that kind of agreement, sector by sector, where there are built-in guarantees for the people of Canada?

It is the time to be honest with the people of Canada. It is the time to tell the people the truth, and I want to know why the Minister of International Trade will not be forthright rather than trying to distort the position of the New Democratic Party? Please answer that question.

Miss Carney: Mr. Speaker, let me go to my notes for what the Hon. Member for Oshawa said. He said it is a massive sellout.

Some Hon. Members: It is.

Miss Carney: It is not a massive sell-out. We have dismantled the investment barriers that create the kind of vibrant economy the Hon. Member enjoys in Oshawa. He is the one who is suggesting that it should not be opened up to foreign investment.

He also said—and I hope he campaigns on this—that Americans are more honest than Canadians.

Mr. Broadbent: I never said they were more honest than Canadians.

Mr. Nystrom: Answer the question, Pat.

Mr. Broadbent: They are more honest than you.

Miss Carney: That is what he said, that Americans are more honest than Canadians. I hope he goes to an election on it.

Mr. Broadbent: That is not true. You are at it again.

Miss Carney: Those are exactly the words. If he is in favour of the Auto Pact, as he has not been in the past, but as he says he is now, may I point out that he should be in favour of this agreement because it protects the Auto Pact, it makes rules of origin tougher, which benefits Canadian auto makers and workers. I have already quoted the chairman of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association. I have quoted the Automotive Industries Association. I have quoted other people in the industry. If the Hon. Member were being honest, and if he was putting the interests of his voters ahead of his own, he would be for the free trade agreement because it improves the Auto Pact.

Mr. Nystrom: You didn't answer the question, Pat.

Mr. Foster: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for International Trade (Miss Carney). In the trade agreement the Government of Canada seems to be saying "Me, too" to any international negotiations with regard to trade, that when it goes to the MTN, the Uruguay Round, Canada is going to backing up the United States in the elimination of agriculture subsidies.

I wonder if the Minister could tell us precisely whether the Government of Canada will be supporting the United States with regard to Section 11 of the GATT, which would remove the power of countries like Canada to have supply management systems and to have border controls? Clearly it is the position of the United States that that section of the GATT should be removed. It is crucial to Canada as to whether or not the United States succeeds in that regard. The United States has made it clear. It has published its position and proposals to the GATT. The Canadian Government has filed its position secretly. The Minister will not make them available to the farmers of Canada and to Canadian citizens generally.

Since this document says we are going to support the United States in the removal of all agriculture subsidy programs, I