

*Oral Questions*

mishap took place when a tanker car containing lethal gas sprang a leak. Officials worked eight hours on the particular tanker car without informing residents who live within 1,000 metres of this particular location.

I draw this matter to the attention of the House because it is a disaster waiting to happen. I want to urge the Minister of Transport (Mr. Bouchard) strongly, or his representatives, to inquire into and investigate the problem of the storage of dangerous goods in the CN Fort Rouge yards because it represents a serious potential threat to thousands of residents who are in close proximity to the yards.

In fact I suggest that the CNR should be responsible for removing all goods of a dangerous nature that are stored in those areas, and provide major barriers to protect the citizens of that region.

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**TRADE**

## CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—BENEFITS FOR WOMEN

**Mrs. Mary Collins (Capilano):** Mr. Speaker, free trade, as a Canadian woman, what's in it for me? As a business woman, free trade means economic expansion and jobs, particularly in the retail and wholesale, trade, commercial, personal care, and business services. It looks like some good opportunities there to make my future more secure and prosperous.

As a mother, not only are there jobs but more highly skilled jobs to secure my children's future. Free trade will create a firm financial foundation to secure our social programs too, such as child care and health care.

As a consumer, listen, I count my pennies. When tariffs are removed those pennies will grow into dollars. In fact, I will probably save about \$1,000 per year in my household.

As a woman in all my roles, free trade is for me!

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**TRADE**

## CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION—POSITION OF PREMIERS

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister for International Trade. He will know by now that a number of premiers have said that the Bill on trade that was tabled in the House this week is an unacceptable intrusion into their provincial jurisdiction. The only explanation we have had back from the Minister is: "The Americans made me do it". He counters them with a threat of: "Take me to court".

That is no way to run a country. Canadians expect a more constructive and positive response on the very important impact this trade Bill will have on federal-provincial relations.

I wish to ask the Minister this question. What is he going to do about the major confrontation that is now building up with the provinces over the trade Bill? Will he withdraw this offensive Bill and rework it so that we will not put in danger the important balance of federal-provincial relations? Will he take a reference himself to the Supreme Court to get a proper ruling before we engage in open warfare with the provinces over a deal that does not do much for this country at all in any event?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman's question shows just how far out of touch he is, and how anxious he is to try to damage the free trade agreement for which he or his Party has no alternative.

As an example of how inaccurate the hypothesis of his question is—and I don't know if it had an hypothesis, I don't know if it had anything actually—here is the latest information on Saskatchewan Premier Grant Devine who said today that he does not believe that the proposed federal free trade legislation affects his province's rights. I can quote, of course, a number of other premiers.

The reaction of the premiers has been most positive because they recognize that it is only by the exercise of our trade and commerce power, and it is only by our having the limited authority given us in Clause 9 to deal with Ontario, which is out to block the benefits of this agreement for the rest of the country, that we can proceed with the free trade agreement, which was negotiated freely and in consultation with the provinces with the United States of America.

## HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, by that answer I presume we can expect the Premier of Saskatchewan to be receiving another major grant for his province within 24 hours.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Axworthy:** The Minister is ignoring the statements made by the Premiers of Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Alberta, and others.

● (1420)

I wish to cite to him the study released by the Attorney General of Ontario that clearly points out that this trade deal will put in danger the operation of health clinics, blood clinics, and the practice of medicine and health care in the Province of Ontario, and open the door to profit oriented businesses to distort that system totally.

In light of that clear evidence of the way in which this trade Bill will have a serious impact upon the health care system of