

They were waiting for the dreaded knock at the door.

I have been dickering for a car, Mr. Speaker, for about four weeks now, and while the first dealer was ready to make a deal, and the next guy was ready to make a deal, I wasn't ready to make a deal—and I am still not quite ready to make a deal.

Imagine the pressure that was on the chief negotiator when it was ten minutes to twelve. He had to make a deal, and he had to get it through by midnight.

Where I come from, we wouldn't buy a necktie or a pair of shoelaces under that type of pressure. Yet, here we had a representative of our Government who was willing to put the nation at risk, and in fact did put the nation at risk, by entering into a deal in order to meet a time deadline.

Whether it turns out in fact to be a bad deal, only time will tell. I hope the Government is right in its view. I hope the country has not been put at risk. But only time will tell.

No right thinking country in the world would put the quality and quantity of its basic food supply at the mercy of another. It just isn't done. The first thing a country must do to get itself on its feet is to guarantee itself a basic food supply. It is not something that is handed over to another nation.

As I read the Free Trade Agreement, I think we are running the risk of putting the quality and quantity of our basic food supply at risk.

I hope that turns out not to be the case, but certainly those of us in opposition will be closely monitoring the situation and doing what we can to prevent it.

I am a free enterpriser, up to a point. I do not feel that a country's basic food supply should be subjected to the whims of the market-place. Rather, it is something that needs to be stabilized, and that can only be done through government intervention.

During the campaign I was surprised to find that high on the list of priorities of the young people of Canada is the environment. Canada's youth is very concerned about the environment; they are concerned about their quality of life.

The U.S. is the largest consumer nation in the world. It constitutes less than 5 per cent of the world's population but consumes 20 per cent of the world's consumable goods, and experience has shown that there is a direct correlation between the goods consumed and the lack of

respect that one has for the environment. That is a known; that is a given.

We recently had a company establish itself in my part of the country, a toxic waste disposal company whose headquarters are in Arkansas. That company, known as EMSCO, has established itself near the international bridge in my part of the country, and it has done so because, like many Americans, it considers Canada to be a great vast land with lots of empty spaces wherein a lot of garbage can be dumped.

In taking up the fight against this company, I found its representatives to be a rather arrogant lot. It is a company that has taken out an option on some land in my area, and it is saying that it is here to stay.

This is a company that is headquartered in a foreign country—though I am not sure that they will be foreign to us for very much longer.

Here we have a company setting up in the Thousand Islands region, one of the most beautiful and picturesque parts of the world, an area which relies heavily on tourism, and its desire is to set up a toxic waste disposal plant.

Now, wouldn't that make the Thousand Islands region a great place in which to spend one's holidays? Heck, you could take the children with you. In fact, perhaps you could go and have dinner at the toxic waste disposal plant in Leeds—Grenville.

Over my dead body. I am going to ensure that that whole situation is closely monitored.

As well, Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the Government will bring research and development up to previous levels.

A farmer friend of mine visited a food processing plant in Australia and found that, in one corner, duck feet were being processed. While we do not have a great market for duck feet in this country, I mention it to illustrate the value of research and development.

If we are going to enter into this trade deal with the U.S., we had better start pursuing world markets fiercely. We can no longer consider duck feet to be a useless by-product.

It is only through research and development that we can learn about this type of thing. Certainly, the Government will hear no complaint from this quarter should it increase research and development funding.