

Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

If the Liberal Party ever comes to power, God forbid, the Liberals will sit back and say: "Lads, the Tories did all the dirty work for us. They have done the things that we might not have ever been able to do. Let us just take them as given and go from here".

I know that the last time I criticized the Liberals in the House on the free trade agreement some people phoned me and said: "How can you be critical of the Liberals? They are against the free trade agreement. You guys should stick together". I tell you, Mr. Speaker, the Liberals are not to be trusted on this free trade agreement.

I would say to all those Canadians who are genuinely against this agreement: "Do not trust the Liberals when it comes to this free trade agreement". If they get in, they will as they have done so many times—who are the original continentalists in this country; it is the Liberal Party of Canada—buckle to American pressure as sure as I am standing here, and that six-month clause which the Parliamentary Secretary has been talking about will never be used. It is only the New Democratic Party that sees in this agreement—

Some Hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Prud'homme: Virtuous.

Mr. Blaikie: It is not a question of virtue. It is a question of this agreement being against what we stand for. I say this agreement is not against what the Liberals stand for. It was the Liberals who allowed all kinds of foreign ownership to take place.

Mr. Prud'homme: Do not preach.

Mr. Blaikie: We remember it was the Liberals who presided over the creation of the branch plant economy which eroded Canadian economic independence.

Mr. Prud'homme: The NDP is in danger in Winnipeg.

Mr. Blaikie: What we have is an attempt to win for all time debates which should exist separately, issues which should be debated separately and I have confidence that the Canadian people will see that this is the case. They will not be able to see that this is the case on the basis of what they have been told by the Government because the Government has concentrated almost entirely on the so-called elimination of tariffs and the opportunities this will create for Canadian businesses.

If you look at the analysis of the Conservatives, Madam Speaker, indeed if you read the Prime Minister's (Mr. Mulroney) book—

Mr. Prud'homme: Do not preach.

Mr. Blaikie: The Member keeps accusing me of preaching. I make no apologies for that. I am preaching against the free trade agreement which I thought he was against, but you see he is a Liberal and maybe he is not really against it, and that is why he is uncomfortable with the vehemence of my style.

Mr. Prud'homme: I rise on a point of order, Madam Speaker. It is a technical point of order. Listening to the Hon. Member I realize now how badly the NDP is in trouble in Winnipeg.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I must tell the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Birds Hill (Mr. Blaikie) that his time had expired. I feel much happier knowing that his eyesight is getting a lot better and he realized that I was in the Chair for the last 15 minutes or so.

Mr. Hockin: Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the Hon. Member a couple of questions. I am very interested in cosmology. The Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Birds Hill (Mr. Blaikie) is interested in cosmology. He is trying to make this debate about this commercial agreement into a cosmological obsession in the country. He is obsessed with cosmology. He wants to make this that kind of issue, but I have a couple of questions for him.

Mr. Blaikie: I can hardly wait.

Mr. Hockin: They deal with his theory of red Tories. His theory is that they would not support this agreement. I do not know what a red Tory is. I guess Gad Horowitz knows what a red Tory is and Louis Hartz or other people who invented the term. If you are using a term you should know who invented it.

An Hon. Member: He used to be one of them.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hockin: When you were president of the Young Tories you would have known what a red Tory is. A red Tory, according to Horowitz, is one who believes in protecting the state and protecting the country to make sure that society has cohesion and sensitivity. Also that it is not frozen into place in some sort of static kind of form that does not move dynamically and does not refresh each generation with new challenges. That is a red Tory. It is rather an interesting combination of protecting the collectivity and also giving liberty. That is what a red Tory is. If that is a red Tory, I think most Members of our caucus are red Tories.

An Hon. Member: What about Taylor, Shields and Jepson?