

dependent on social programs. The Canadian Government must put pressure on the American Government to exempt Canadian native people from the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

The Government of Canada and the Inuit are in negotiations toward a land claims agreement which could establish the Inuit as the largest landowners in Canada. Let us hope that the resources upon which their economic prosperity depends are not diminished by the Free Trade Agreement.

Mr. Butland: I thank you, Madam Chairman, for the opportunity to speak on this issue for the one-hundredth time but for the first time in this House. People in my constituency of Sault-Ste-Marie, 29,000 strong, voted against my predecessor and the only issue of which they spoke was the Free Trade Agreement.

Our major industry suggested that 1,000 jobs would be lost if the Algoma Steel employees did not vote Progressive Conservative. The President of Dofasco said there would be no expansion if the Free Trade Agreement did not come to pass. The Chamber of Commerce and the media openly endorsed the Free Trade Agreement and predicted doom if Sault-Ste-Marie did not support free trade. A whole series of Cabinet Ministers, many of whom are across the aisle, including the Prime Minister, came into Sault-Ste-Marie. These were powerful forces at work, but the people of Sault-Ste-Marie did not listen and said in a democratic way, "We do not believe you. We do not trust you. We are troubled by the Free Trade Agreement".

I campaigned long and hard against the free trade and I believe it in my heart, my head and most of all in my gut that this is a bad deal.

Mrs. McDougall: Are you going to read us some more American poetry?

Mr. Butland: As I say, I hope against hope that the deal will bring prosperity to my community. I must because I care for my city and its people, I hope that all the promises of prosperity will come to fruition because it will be of little consolation for me to say, "I told you so". I hope this leap of faith will, indeed, be a leap which will land us somewhere and not in to an abyss. I prefer to believe Leo Gerard who said, when addressing the steel industry.

They'll ship on their subsidized barges and their de-regulated trucks and then over our border on free trade.

Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

This steel will originate in non-union mini mills in the southern United States. The acceptance and endorsement of this deal is the most dramatic turnaround in political history, and that prompts anyone to ask why. What changed all of these people's minds? Who are these people and which Party do they espouse? I suggest it is a very notable list.

The Prime Minister, who said, "It affects Canadian sovereignty and we will have none of it"; the External Affairs Minister, who said, "Unrestrained free trade with the United States raises the possibility that thousands of jobs could be lost in such critical industries as textiles, furniture and footwear"; the Minister of Finance, who said, "Bilateral free trade with the United States is simplistic and naive"; the former Secretary of State, David Crombie, who said, "Our natural destiny is to become a global leader, not America's weak sisters"; ex Veterans' Affairs Minister, George Hees, who said, "A clear indication of a move toward free trade with the United States would not be a good thing for this country"; the Ontario Conservative Leader, Andy Brandt, who said, "Taking a multilateral route in trade negotiations is the best long-term way for Canada"; former Ontario Leader, Larry Grossman, who said, "I contend it would be a mistake for anyone to have excessively high expectations about the results of any trade arrangements with the United States." It goes on. Then there was Tory strategist, Hugh Segal, but the *pièce de résistance* was former Ontario Premier Bill Davis, who said: "You will not get me". Six months later he said: "What a courageous course of action by the federal Government".

Did a bolt of lightning strike in so many places at once as to profoundly affect the way such so-called learned politicians read into such an agreement? It makes anyone wonder about the credibility of people who espouse the deal now but who were vehemently opposed just a few scant years ago.

Have we not precluded ourselves from the international world of business?

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Butland: I believe we have. We have tied Canada to a unilateral market, one that will indeed swallow us up, as Mr. Yeutter has said. The Government has cut back on the very budget that could rescue us from economic domination, and that is research and development.