

- (6) Elimination of tariffs will help consumers as well, reducing the cost of goods for an average family of four by an estimated \$800 per year.
- (7) The Free Trade Agreement will provide a shield against U.S. protectionism through binding dispute settlement in countervail and anti-dumping cases. To Newfoundland, this is especially important for the fishery. As Gordon Cummings, President of National Sea Products, has said,

"[At present] we find that the U.S. political lobbyists have been hard at work; that the [U.S. Trade] Commission is judge, jury and prosecutor in one; that we stand guilty unless we can prove ourselves innocent ... What the Free Trade Agreement can and will do is stop the frivolous U.S. actions, the bullying and the pre-judgment that has hurt the Atlantic fishery ... We welcome the dispute settlement mechanism outlined in the Free Trade Agreement."

Gordon Cummings speaks from experience. In recent years, the Atlantic fishery has faced seven countervail actions and one anti-dumping actions.

- (8) The Free Trade Agreement will not only act as a shield against unfair application of existing U.S. trade laws, it will help prevent new U.S. protectionist measures that could harm Canadian exports. The Agreement gives Canada the right to challenge proposed new trade laws before they go into effect and to have a panel composed jointly of Canadians and Americans determine whether those laws would be consistent with the rules set out in the Free Trade Agreement and in the GATT.
- (9) The Free Trade Agreement will give assured access to the U.S. market for Canadian energy exports. For offshore petroleum, this will help provide the confidence investors need to commit the huge sums needed to bring on stream future developments, like TerraNova, White Rose and Ben Nevis. As Arnie Neilson, President of Mobil Canada has said,

"[If] the free trade deal should not develop, it could cast doubt as to where oil might go in the future and we would need assurances that oil could be marketed in the United States. This will be provided by the Free Trade Agreement."