

Supply

industry. It's true. The wine industry in Ontario and British Columbia was sold down the river because the U.S. president had a preference for California wines. And that while 20,000 people earn a decent living in the wine industry! I fail to understand how the Government can sacrifice an entire industry just to do the U.S. president a favour. That shows the kind of negotiators we have.

And what about industrial jobs? Some Quebec Members here who blindly support their Leader will go down to defeat with him. But the fact is that in Quebec, according to studies conducted by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, in the clothing, footwear and furniture industries, 50,000 jobs are threatened, and 30,000 more in the mechanical manufacturing industry.

Mr. Speaker, in Quebec only, in the printing and publishing industry, 22,000 jobs are threatened. In data processing, 17,000; in the jewelry, rubber and plastic goods industries, 13,000; in electrical manufacturing, 17,000; in metal products manufacturing, 37,500. Those studies were conducted by experts from the Quebec Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. When I heard the Minister of Employment and Immigration suggest that up to 500,000 jobs were threatened, I can believe him because here only we have 350,000 to 400,000. Therefore, I cannot accept that no one in this Government has ever thought of having transitional measures.

Instead of helping people adjust, you did the exact opposite. You have the textile industry. For several years we have had great respect for older people leaving the textile, clothing and footwear industries. We wanted, for instance, to protect this 54-year old lady working as a seamstress on a overlock, twin-needle machine. That lady had often been suffering from arthritis because she had been working in basements, and was entitled to early retirement with a decent standard of living. Hard-nosed Conservatives cut that program but they had nothing with which to replace it. You should have your heads in shame. They said: Do not worry, we will have programs for that! You had the beginnings of programs but you cut them off. Therefore, I cannot trust that you will care for the most needy in our society. We know where the Prime Minister's priorities are. To this day, whom did he meet for a briefing on his free trade agreement? He went to Toronto to meet a group of fat cats. Then he told himself: That might be good for fund-raising!

So he went to Halifax and met the 500 Club. He did not discuss this with ordinary people. On the contrary, he has gone into hiding. This coming Saturday he might travel through his own riding and send out feelers, he would find out that his free trade story is not a magic potion by any means. He would realize that people have reasons to be concerned. I urge you to get out of Ottawa. I hope we will have a short parliamentary recess, that would enable you to meet ordinary people, to get away from your brainwashing caucus which has you convinced this is a good deal. It is good only for the big people. I happen to know they make up your traditional clientele but, let us face

facts, the interests of Canada do come before those of the Conservative Party.

Mr. Speaker, I could elaborate on the energy sector. The food issue has been raised, so now let us talk about heating. For 30 years the Americans have been dreaming about getting ready access to our natural resources and now, thanks to this Government and this Prime Minister, their dreams have become reality. History tells us that Canada used to be the world's wheat basket, now we have become the American's reservoir. Even in times of crises they will feel free to siphon off our resources at any time. You should hang your heads in shame. Imagine, Mr. Speaker, these are our very own resources. But henceforth, as my leader said yesterday, what is theirs is theirs, and what is ours is theirs as well. Yet we are talking about a basic issue. We all know an energy crisis can break out from one moment to the next. We are fully aware of the very explosive situation in the Middle East, and if Canadians have to line up at service stations in times of crises, oil will flow down huge pipelines directly to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, we are not contemplating our nationalistic navel, we are simply talking plain common sense. I understand that this Government is very sensitive to foreign interests, so much so that it grovels before them. However, this is unreasonable. We shall know the whole details within a few weeks, because we have only had a preview until now and it has left a bitter taste. When we have the 2,000 page document promised by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, we shall examine it carefully. I believe that Canadians will then realize that the Americans are really the winners in this deal.

Mr. Speaker, I had many other things to say. I believe that this debate will go on for a long time. One thing is certain; this will probably be the most important decision ever made as far as the future of Canadians is concerned. It will probably be the most important decision as far as the future of our children and our culture is concerned. I do not especially want my children to become like the Louisiana Cajuns.

Mr. Gray (Bonaventure—Îles-de-la-Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, I find it very strange to listen to the Hon. Member for Shefford (Mr. Lapierre) and to the other members of the opposition. I listened to the Leader of the Liberal Party and to the NDP Members. If I may refer to my own Bonaventure—Îles-de-la-Madeleine riding, I would like to say that my constituents supported with the previous Liberal Government for 25 years. The Liberals kept pushing the famous Canada Works Program to create jobs. I would like to remind the Hon. Member for Shefford who has just spoken and who was born, I believe, in our region, that the Canada Works Program put people to work for ten weeks at cutting branches and that this did nothing to help our development. All that changed in 1984. The Prime Minister said: You can get \$1.25 for every dollar spent in this country by the federal Government, whether in Quebec, in the Magdalen Islands, in Newfoundland or in British Columbia.