

Re fishing, Mr. Cummings said: "The most important aspect to us is a dispute resolving mechanism that we got. It is a hell of a gain for Canada". I could go on.

He should listen to the Premier of the Province of Quebec. He should listen to the energy sector and the textile sector. These people, speaking on behalf of their particular industries, believe that the free trade arrangement that was negotiated by the Government is good for Canada and good for their industries.

Mr. Broadbent: I say to the Minister that the people of Canada expect Ministers of the Crown to answer the questions they are asked.

If the Deputy Prime Minister does not understand this agreement, I can tell him that President Reagan understands, the Mexicans understand, many provincial Premiers understand, and we understand. We are not going to yield our sovereignty in this country to the likes of that Government over there.

ROLE OF PROVINCES

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, since the Deputy Prime Minister will not deal with that question, there is another important aspect of the agreement for which his own Government has provided. He will find it on page 35, and it says the following:

The parties to this Agreement shall ensure that all necessary measures are taken in order to give effect to its provisions, including their observance,—

And it goes on to say:

—by state, provincial and local governments.

Since the clause I have just quoted says that the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States are required to get the appropriate agreements by state and provincial Governments, and since there are major changes in services and energy, which are clearly within the constitutional domain of the provinces, is the federal Government now going to live up to its obligation to get agreement from the provinces for such fundamental changes? That is the issue.

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party is talking about energy, I would refer him to the Premiers of the three energy producing provinces, namely, Mr. Getty, Mr. Vander Zalm, and Mr. Devine. They all agree with the thrust of the free trade proposal because it is good for the energy sector and it is good for Canada. Why doesn't the Hon. Leader of the NDP start paying a little attention to what is good for western Canada?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Oral Questions

Mr. Mazankowski: He knows what is good for Oshawa, and we support him on that. Why doesn't he support westerners for a change?

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I say to the Deputy Prime Minister that as a former car dealer he knows the Auto Pact was not a free trade pact. Any day of the year they would put that in place in western Canada, we would support it 100 per cent. We want its investment protection safeguards.

[Translation]

PROVINCIAL CONSULTATION—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): One last question, Mr. Speaker. The Minister has decided to ignore the provinces altogether. According to the Agreement with the United States, the federal Government has an obligation to consult directly to obtain the support of the provinces.

Does the federal Government intend to act according to the principles of the Agreement, yes or no? That is the question.

[English]

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, during the course of the negotiation I think that the federal Government set a tremendous precedent in terms of consultation, in keeping the provinces and in keeping the sectors informed, and even offering to keep the opposition Parties informed on progress involving the talks. That will certainly continue.

It is very interesting that the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party talks about how great the Auto Pact is. Maybe he would like to explain to the Canadian people why his Party opposed it in 1965.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry.

Mr. Broadbent: Get your act straight. Have an election on it, Don; go ahead.

Mr. Mazankowski: Tell the truth for a change.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nystrom: Don't forget Hatfield is more popular than Mulroney.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry.

CANADIAN CULTURAL POLICY

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. I was about to comment that there have been two Tory Leaders who put their faith in free trade to the electoral test in the last two months, and we know what has happened to them; they don't even have a seat to stand on.