

In this case, the memory of that tenuous hope that was the principle of my ancestors. "The insignificance of that hope in the endless ebb and flow of nature does not prevent us from mourning". At least we can say with Richard Hooker: "Prosperity may know we have not loosely through silence permitted things to pass away as in a dream".

That is why we in this Party throughout this debate have refused to accept the silence which the Government has consistently attempted to impose not just on us as a Party, not just on the Opposition in the House, but on the people of this country.

It is a silence which it has attempted to impose through every possible rule in the book.

It is silence put upon the people of the House through the most Draconian use of the rules of closure. It is silence put upon the people of this country by the most constraining use of hearings across this country, which should normally in the course of a decision so vast and crucial to our country's future have been simply taken for granted and organized as a matter of course, so that every community across Canada would have had the chance to ask the questions, make the representations and put the points of view they as Canadians felt they had the right to put forward. We have faced not just an attempt to silence the voices of Canada. We have faced as well betrayals on the part of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) at every stage of this debate. These betrayals have been so clear, so evident, so absolutely forthright, that they will live black throughout the rest of the history of our country.

● (1640)

In April 1987, the Prime Minister said, and I quote him exactly: "The trade remedy laws the United States cannot apply to Canada, period." Yet we find in this agreement that these trade remedy laws still apply, despite the Prime Minister's absolute commitment.

Second, quoting from *Fortune* magazine, the Prime Minister said, after he was elected: "If somebody wanted to buy a little of our water, somebody wants to buy some oil, someone wants to buy some wheat, hell, we're in business. That's what it's all about." Yet this same Prime Minister has claimed that he and his Party were attempting to do everything possible to stop the sale of water to the United States, despite those comments. I call it a betrayal.

Finally, perhaps the most unfortunate, the saddest, the blackest of his statements was: "Free trade with the United States is like sleeping with an elephant. It is terrific until the elephant twitches, and if it ever rolls

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over, you're a dead man. Canadians rejected free trade with the United States in 1911. They would do so again in 1983."

In his campaign literature, the Prime Minister said he intended to "pursue bilateral discussions with the United States in specific sectors". That is precisely the policy of the New Democratic Party, which we were consistent in following and the Prime Minister was inconsistent in rejecting, leaving to the people of Canada a legacy of betrayal.

I do not want to fight the last election campaign, tempting though it is. I want instead to pay tribute to all our new Members who have spoken in this debate. These Hon. Members, each of them from previous Conservative constituencies, have brought to the floor of the House the concerns of Canadians. The Hon. Member for Saanich—Gulf Islands (Ms. Hunter) talked about the environmental problems which face our country as a consequence of this deal. The Hon. Member for Timmins—Chapleau (Mr. Samson) has talked about the problems which face the forests of Canada and the workers therein as a consequence of the Government's refusal to insist on a Memorandum of Understanding with respect to softwood lumber being eliminated before any trade deal is signed with the United States.

The Hon. Member for The Battlefords—Meadow Lake (Mr. Taylor) talked in detailed, effective terms about the agricultural problems which we face as a country as a consequence of this agreement. The Hon. Member for Prince Albert—Churchill River (Mr. Funk) talked with passion of the social problems which face our country in the future as a consequence of the trade deal.

Finally, the Hon. Member for Edmonton East (Mr. Harvey), the first Alberta voice speaking from other than Conservative ranks, has spoken from this caucus and has told this House that unlike what we have heard from all the Conservatives from Alberta, the energy consequences of this deal will hurt not just Canadians in central Canada, in eastern Canada and in British Columbia, but in Alberta itself.

There is not a commitment in this deal, search as the Hon. Member for Calgary Southwest (Mrs. Sparrow) might search, to guaranteed access for Alberta energy to the American market, nor is there a commitment that in the future, Canadians will be able to count on security of supply for our energy needs. That is shameful, and I