

Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

deficit in the United States to realize that those pressures will become unbearable on an administration and will reflect themselves on protectionist measures against Canada. The moment that happens, Canada will lose jobs. We cannot allow that to happen. We care about jobs. The other two Parties obviously do not care about jobs. That is why we are the Government and they are not.

Mr. Darling: Madam Speaker, I listened with great interest to the Minister's comments. He pointed out how important this agreement was to northern Ontario and listed the effects it would have on the forestry and mining sectors. I wonder what his comments would be with respect to the second most important industry in Canada today, one which has a great effect on northern Ontario and down into my own riding as well, and that is the tourist industry. I am of the impression that this free trade agreement will greatly enhance the tourist industry and will make it much more viable and even better than it is.

We are all aware, and I know the Minister is as well, that the one province that will gain the most from this, the Province of Ontario, is one of the two provinces opposed to it. Yet, if my memory serves me correctly, the Ontario Government sent trade and industry people to Europe and to the Pacific Rim to point out that it would be to their advantage to come to Ontario to establish industries because they would then have a springboard to the great American market of 250 million people. If that isn't talking out of both sides of their mouth at the same time, I would like to know what is. I would appreciate the Minister's comments on that.

● (2120)

One very prominent speaker, who I will admit was in favour of the free trade agreement, said that prior to the last Ontario general election the campaign was sort of blah and no one was excited. The back-room boys told Premier Peterson that he should get on to something really sexy which the people would jump for, and that was free trade. He was rather hesitant at the time so they said: "You don't have to worry, Mr. Premier; go out against free trade because there is no way in God's green earth that the free trade agreement will ever come to pass". As a result, that is what the Ontario Government did.

I think Premier Peterson is finding out that that is backfiring now because a lot of his friends and those who helped him to be elected are putting pressure on him to take it easy as far as the free trade agreement is concerned. I would appreciate the Minister's comments on that.

Mr. Kelleher: Madam Speaker, I certainly agree with the Hon. Member and, if I did not, he would certainly tell me about it. However, in this particular case he is absolutely correct. How a province which exports 90 per cent of its exports to one country could possibly be opposed to a trade agreement with that country, when this agreement is going to enhance trade and secure jobs for that province, is beyond me.

The Province of Ontario, more than any other province, knows the benefits of free trade because some 20 years ago we negotiated the Auto Pact which, in effect, is a free trade agreement. No other province in this country benefits more from the Auto Pact than the Province of Ontario and, I may say, the riding of the Leader of the NDP. General Motors has invested \$2 billion in that riding because of the Auto Pact which has created thousands of jobs there. I have not yet heard the Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent) stand up in this House and condemn that agreement.

I cannot understand why the Province of Ontario or the opposition Parties are against an agreement which is going to provide more secure jobs for the people of not only Ontario but the whole country. That is beyond me.

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Madam Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to speak in the third reading debate on Bill C-130 which implements the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. I cannot stress enough the importance of this debate and of this Bill as we lead up to the next election, because the trade agreement and Bill C-130 which implements it foreclose on the possibilities for the Canada of the future which we could create after the next election.

Bill C-130 is a radical Bill in the sense that it goes to the roots of what Canada is all about. It is my position and the position of the New Democratic Party that it is destroying those roots. It is radically evil in that way. The trade deal is the Government's way of recognizing new economic forces in our world, forces which we must all recognize. These forces strengthen the power of multinational corporations at the same time as diminishing the power of nation states.

Mr. McDermid: Why is small business supporting it?

Mr. Manly: Pay attention and you will find out. Bill C-130 not only recognizes these forces but submits to them and places Canada at their service. The rise of multinational corporations and the loss of sovereignty by nations come at the very time when ordinary people throughout many nations in our world were taking control of their own lives by assuming control of their nations. How frustrating this is. The struggle of hundreds of years by common people to control their own lives and their own economic destiny by having a form of social democracy is now being eroded by multinational corporations. Practices such as multiple sourcing, transfer pricing, and electronic currency flows mean that when these nations attempt to regulate their own economies multinational corporations can get around those regulations.

The first nations that felt these new forces were, of course, the developing nations. Immediately after fighting for and winning their independence from European colonial powers, they became the playthings of the new colonialism. Instead of their economies taking off as they had hoped, they found that