

servants? Their views seem to prevail and I wonder what they stand to gain by blocking Bill C-116.

I would suggest it is imperative to set the situation right and include the automatic sharing of Canada Pension Plan credits when a marriage breaks up.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The 60 seconds have expired.

* * *

[English]

TRADE

UNITED STATES TARIFF ON CANADIAN CEDAR SHAKES AND SHINGLES

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, the House has once again been entertained by the Hon. Member for Capilano (Mrs. Collins) as she rose to extoll the virtues of free trade. She told us that the people of British Columbia are excited about the prospect of having free trade with the United States, and urged that we embrace it with all our hearts.

I wonder if she is speaking for the shakes and shingles workers who, until now, have been operating within a free trade agreement and in fact have had tariff-free trade for 50 years. The very moment they proved they were more competitive and could produce the product better and cheaper than their counterparts in the United States, they learned that free trade was not really free after all.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS—PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, like many other Canadians I listened with great interest to the Prime Minister's speech on television last night. Like many other Canadians I am confused as to where he stands. In his argument he cited as Exhibit A the Auto Pact with the U.S. Yet he must know the Auto Pact is not an example of free trade, given the safeguards properly imposed to protect Canadian investment and employment. Where does the Prime Minister stand? Are we moving towards a comprehensive free trade agreement? Are we moving towards a managed sectoral agreement? Are we moving towards freer trade or enhanced trade? What was he trying to tell us last night?

Oral Questions

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I was repeating a political and economic engagement by the Government of Canada in what I hope were clear terms. That, I suspect, is more than can be said for the Right Hon. Member and his Party regarding their position. What I was talking about last evening was essentially what we have talked about in other circumstances, a new, comprehensive, bilateral trading arrangement with the U.S. designed to create more jobs and greater prosperity.

[Translation]

INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO NEGOTIATOR

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Last night, the only example the Prime Minister gave of good trade relations with the United States was the Auto Pact, but the Pact is certainly not an example of free trade. In fact, it is a pact that was introduced by the Liberals and opposed by the Conservatives at the time. My question is as follows.

Has the Prime Minister, after last night's speech, given new instructions to his principal negotiator to make specific and sectoral arrangements with the United States instead of negotiating a comprehensive free trade pact? Did he change his instructions to Mr. Reisman?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think my hon. friend's memory is at fault. It is true that the Auto Pact raised a tremendous amount of concern and opposition, and the almost ongoing opposition has come mainly from the United Auto Workers and the New Democrats. Last night I said history has shown that when barriers to trade fall away, a new prosperity ensues. Take for instance the Auto Pact in 1964. It has been profitable for both countries. It has brought us jobs. That is what I said last night. In the general field of trade exchanges, we have to start by eliminating barriers, and that is what the discussions that started this morning are about.

[English]

CANADIAN OBJECTIVE

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, let us see whether we can get this absolutely clear. When the Prime Minister was contesting the leadership of his Party against the now Secretary of State for External Affairs and the now Minister of Justice, he opposed free trade. I want to read to him the words of President Reagan on May 29 before the National Association of Manufacturers. He said: "Just last week we began negotiations with Canada on a new, comprehensive free trade agreement." That is not some minor American official, that is the President. Does the Prime Minister agree that is the objective, so we know where we stand?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the objective is exactly the one I set forth last night. The objective is more jobs and greater prosperity. The Leader