

another country. It is the legitimate right of companies to promote the work of their own artists, we don't dispute that. But we do not want our country to be run to the tune of the United States or to the tune of any other country.

One of the speakers this afternoon on this subject of foreign investment talked about the very difficult situation of high unemployment in Cape Breton. The speaker said that we in the New Democratic Party were being ideological in being concerned about foreign investment and seemed to take this very simplistic approach that the more foreign investment there is, the more jobs there are going to be. Unfortunately, that is not true. I was part of the jobs action group that went to Cape Breton and listened to people in local communities. They said very strongly that they wanted to see Canadian control so that money made in the community would stay in the community, be recycled and produce other jobs there. If you have a foreign-owned company, the money goes out in profits. Some of the jobs stay out of the country because they remain in the head office. These are the research and development and the managerial jobs. All of those jobs never get into the community in the first place.

Of course, there is always the risks of shut-downs and layoffs. Foreign ownership means a great deal of vulnerability to a community. The people of Cape Breton told us that they wanted to see more Canadian control so jobs would be created and produced in Canada for Canadians. It is a very practical matter. It is not a matter of ideology. Where we see it will be harmful, we must limit it. Where we see it is going to be useful, where the benefits outweigh the disadvantages, we can make a decision. However, we must retain the power to make that decision.

• (1520)

There are some areas in which we do not allow foreign investment, such as culture and communications. We have these restrictions in broadcasting and are demanding more of it in publishing. We should be demanding more in the film industry. If we give it away in free trade negotiations, we will not have the power to make those kinds of decisions. We have to control these industries and build jobs in them because they are very important. We must have Canadian investment and control so we can promote our own artistic people and our own creative life. We cannot do that if we give away the power to other countries.

[Translation]

I blame this Government for having betrayed its mandate, for having betrayed Canadians in the free trade negotiations. We do need investment, but the kind that will create jobs in Canada, good jobs. For that we must have control, we must be able to choose among purchasing offers; we must be able to say no to banks and private companies like foreign companies—

[English]

—the Hon. Member's time has expired. Questions and comments?

*Supply*

**Mrs. Mailly:** Mr. Speaker, there is an old saw that wishing will not make it so. I am afraid the Hon. Member has just proven that her speech was based on wishful thinking. Wishing will not change the fact there are 25 million people in Canada stretched over a vast area and 250 million people in the U.S. Wishing will not allow us to say that we do not want to trade with the Americans because they are so big and powerful and everywhere. Wishing will not change the fact that Canadians seem to be enamoured with things American. When the best seller list comes out at Christmastime—and I know because I am a published author and I went through it—you will see at last some Canadian authors who make it to the top and even stay there for a few weeks. However, as soon as the Christmas rush is over Canadians rush to buy American books. Is it because the big bad Government does not support the Canadian industry? No. As a matter of fact, this Government has supported the industry even more than previous Governments in spite of the need for cutting our spending and trying to bring down the deficit.

What happened when we put a tax on imported books because the Americans were taxing shakes and shingles? The NDP and the Liberals got up in the House and screamed because we were limiting the importation of American books. Why did they do that? Because Canadian booksellers, not big bad American booksellers, were worried about their bottom line. They were selling fewer books because Canadians, in spite of the fact that our books were cheaper, were not buying more Canadian books.

As I say, wishing will not make it so. We are living in the real world. What would the Hon. Member have us do? Should we scramble the airwaves and stop all American influence in Canada? Should we tell Canadians who love to watch American sitcoms that there will be no more cable, no more *Cosby Show* or all the other shows they love because it is considered unCanadian to look at things American?

That is the kind of policy recommended by the NDP. It would lead us to a controlled environment, a closed society, and we would not be able to enjoy the marvellous outpouring of culture from other countries, including the United States. The Americans are our friends and they are just as interested as Canadians are in their own culture. However, we are 25 million people living next door to a giant. Our very intelligent way of dealing with this problem is not to stick our head in the sand, not to be worried or scared, but to say we will negotiate. These people want something from us, we want something from them.

It has been said all along that our culture is not on the table. All kinds of measures exist in our legislation to protect those industries from being taken over by anyone, including the Americans. I do not understand why the Hon. Member chooses this unrealistic approach to what is a very serious problem with a great potential for creating the jobs we need in Canada, including the Atlantic region which has had an outpouring of billions of dollars and has not been able to create jobs.