

*Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement*

obligation to buy from Canada should cheaper supplies be available elsewhere. The bottom line on energy under this agreement is that we have become an energy reservoir of the United States.

Time does not allow me to touch upon all the concerns flowing from this trade agreement. However, I would like to briefly repeat my concerns. We have not gained secure access to the U.S. market, as my colleagues have outlined in some detail. Our social and regional development programs are indeed threatened. People who do not believe that, particularly Members opposite, might as well believe in the tooth fairy. In fact, I have several bridges that I could sell them right now if they do not believe that. Have they not heard of harmonization? Have they not heard of the integration of the two economies?

I said it during the election campaign and I will say it now. What is the point in consummating this agreement if things are just going to be the same afterwards? The fact of the matter is that things are not going to be the same. We are going to have a continental economy. We are going to have a continental energy regime. There will be harmonization, and I can assure you that they will not be harmonizing with us. We will be harmonizing with them because it comes down to a matter of power and size.

The Americans are aggressive. I can assure you that in the tough days that lie ahead it will be Winnipeg bending toward Minneapolis. It will be Toronto bending toward Washington. It will be Vancouver bending toward New York. That is the lesson we have to learn from the trade agreement. It is a lesson that has been learned on this side of the House, but it has yet to be learned on that side of the House. Will they ever wake up?

I also would like to point out, as I have already said in some detail, that our agriculture sector is threatened as well. We have given up the ability to conduct an independent energy policy. It is for those reasons and many, many more that when the time comes I will stand up and vote against this trade agreement.

**Mr. Ross Reid (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, if I may, I would like to first congratulate you and your colleagues on your election to this House. It is indeed a great honour and I think you and your colleagues, as you have shown in the past, will show in the future that you justly deserve it.

I rise today to speak on the great and historic free trade agreement before us. With your permission,

however, I would like first to speak of my constituents in St. John's East. I would like to thank them for the confidence they have placed in me by electing me to this place and assure them that I will serve them with dignity and distinction.

• (1820)

In this election campaign my constituents were asked to consider many things. I believe in the end they made the decision based on those that were important to them, things that mattered to them, to their children. It ultimately was a decision that involved the future, a decision based on opportunities, employment and leadership, a better tomorrow for all Newfoundlanders and, indeed, all Canadians.

I am well aware of the honour bestowed upon me to stand in my place in this House. With your leave, Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention four others who have gone before me representing my province, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, in this place. First I mention the Hon. W. J. Browne who was a Member of Parliament here many years ago, known variously as Judge Browne or Billy Browne. Today, at 92, as the dean of my Party in Newfoundland and Labrador, he remains active and involved. I would like to mention the Hon. James A. McGrath, a man known to many Hon. Members, a distinguished parliamentarian, a great reformer in this House, a great representative of his constituents, and today the Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador. I mention the Hon. Don Jamieson, a renowned broadcaster, parliamentarian, and diplomat who to many of my age is remembered particularly at this time of year. Also, if I may, Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention the Minister for International Trade (Mr. Crosbie) with whom I came to this place some 12 years ago and with whom I served for five years. I would like to say it is indeed an honour to serve in this House with him today.

My constituency stretches from the Town of Cupids on one end around Cape St. Francis to St. John's. Cupids is the oldest English speaking community in North America. Georgetown and Brigus, the home of one of the world's greatest explorers, Bob Bartlett, are new to the constituency in the riding of St. John's East. I would like to welcome them and pay tribute to them.

Mine is a district of fishermen and of fish plant workers, a district of ironworkers, boiler makers, and other skilled tradesmen who have worked on every major project in North America and built most of the major buildings in Canada and the United States. Mine