Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

York, and Ohio decreased by 17 per cent, 10 per cent, and 11 per cent respectively. At the same time, manufacturing employment in Texas and California increased by 31 per cent and 21 per cent respectively. This same north-south trend would apply to the Canadian manufacturing sector in the aftermath of the trade deal.

The pull will take Canadian industries south into the United States now that the Government has caved in and given the U.S. the markets of Canada. Our industry will be pulled south, just as the industries of the northern United States are pulled south because of cheaper labour and operating costs in the southern United States. The Government has given up trying to build Canada on an east-west basis, the basis that pioneers for a century and a half have worked to build up to form a Canadian identity and a Canadian national spirit. This Government is destroying that in one fell swoop with this trade deal.

Mr. Bill Gottselig (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, I want to make some general comments, particularly to follow up on some of the misinformation that was put forward by the Hon. Member who just spoke.

The natural flow of trade, and I speak as a western Canadian here, is north-south. There is absolutely no question about that. We have seen that over and over again with the fact that 80 per cent of our trade today is with the United States. The Party represented by the Hon. Member who just spoke is the Party that has been in power for most of the last 100 years that he spoke of. Some of that north-south development came as a result of the Liberals being in government. Are they now saying that it is bad?

Normally and naturally we would trade with the Americans. A large percentage of the population of Canada lives close to the American border, particularly in southern Ontario. The Hon. Member spoke as a Member from Ontario and put forward an argument that the provincial Government of Ontario has been putting forward with some vigour, although it is certainly losing its vigour as we get further into this debate. They argue that if it is good for Ontario, it is good for Canada. That simply is not so.

I have a constituent who manufactures fibreglass truck tops south of Moose Jaw. He sells these truck tops all over western Canada and into the United States. Over 40 per cent of his production is now marketed in the United States. He has absolutely no difficulty selling his product. He makes a very, very good product which is readily accepted in the States. The projection is that with the removal of tariffs, he will get an ever-increasing share of the American market, and he is looking forward to that.

My constituent has told me that Toronto is about the same distance away from him as Los Angeles where there is a much larger market which is much easier to get into. Why would we not trade that way? This is what will result from the Canada-U.S. trade agreement. The cry of the people who are against

this agreement that we are losing our sovereignty is codswallop, to quote the Member from Newfoundland. We will see an ever-increasing amount of trade with the Americans, and that is as it should be. We will gain more secure access, and some of these hazards to trade that exist will be removed.

Hon. Members should speak to the red meat producers of western Canada. Saskatchewan pork producers will tell Hon. Members the same thing. There is an ever-increasing market in California—

Mr. Axworthy: Tell us about the Saskatchewan pools. What will they say?

**Mr.** Gottselig: Listen to the Hon. Member who is just leaving the Chamber talk about Saskatchewan pools.

Mr. Langdon: Answer his question.

Mr. Gottselig: The Canadian Federation of Agriculture does not take a position on this. It does not support it but neither does it go against the agreement.

Mr. Hovdebo: They just did.

Mr. Gottselig: No, they did not. That is the Hon. Member's interpretation. Another problem with this debate is that when people take a very narrow interpretation of it, it is like taking a quote from the Bible. Those people would like to try to rewrite the Bible as well, but that will not work either.

Saskatchewan pork producers have an ever-increasing market for a very, very good product. They will gain a more secure access to that American market through this agreement. The same is true of the beef producers. The Canadian Cattlemen's Association is very strongly supportive of this agreement. These are the people who are producing a commodity that they will sell in the American market.

I welcome the upcoming election for which the Parties that oppose this agreement are calling. I think the Liberal Party would be well advised to refer back to an article which appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press last week that took the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) to task for some of the statements he has made. The article referred to how the Leader of the Opposition plucked a section of the agreement out and put it together with other words. The article mentioned that the Liberal Party has been crying: "Let the people decide". The Leader of the Liberal Party should have a look at the closing words of that article which were: "Tell the people the truth".

The people will decide. The people of western Canada who I represent are strongly supportive of this trade agreement. They will return me in the next election as a result of their support for me and for the free trade agreement. I will be very happy to go on the election trail and to debate this agreement, and my people support this agreement and will continue to support it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?