

Supply

the New Democratic economic policy. That is what is there.

It would seem to me that with the hon. member having mentioned that the fiscal policy and the monetary policy have to be part of an industrial policy, then I think that most Canadians would be looking for something definitive and clear on the GST.

I would give it to the hon. member and his party that they are staying on that tack of wanting to renegotiate the free trade agreement. I want to know exactly what article in the free trade agreement the Liberals are referring to that permits renegotiation.

Mr. Peterson: Mr. Speaker, Canada is just as free to renegotiate the free trade agreement as the NDP is to switch its policies.

• (1635)

Our position is very simple. We want to renegotiate this free trade agreement involving Mexico because we find it deficient. Unlike the government, we are not in favour of rushing in to pass this deal at a time when the United States has put it on hold. It is totally irresponsible.

Second, we have a number of problems with this deal the way it is. It does not give a detailed definition of subsidies. This government is waiting for pie in the sky and for the GAITT to finally give us a subsidies code. In the absence of that, it will not come forward with a subsidies code which would end some of the trade harassment that we have experienced under the free trade agreement. We need that.

We need anti-dumping laws that will benefit our steel makers.

I would like to see provisions which would ensure for all time that the auto workers in that member's riding do not have to worry about the erosion of the auto pact because the seeds for erosion are in the NAFTA.

I would like to see a parallel agreement dealing with energy. Why should Mexicans not have the same treatment in terms of their energy and their self-sufficiency as Canadians?

There are many flaws in this agreement. We have not been satisfied that the trade harassment will end under the NAFTA. This is why we are not going to support it

the way it is and this is why we urge Her Majesty's government to press on and put the Canadian agenda forward. It is critical that we do so.

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, in 10 minutes I would like to make a few comments about the political party advancing this motion and obviously make a few comments on the economic policy direction being pursued by the government.

First, one has to take a look at the NDP motion. One is struck by how convoluted this particular motion actually is. That one run-on paragraph it talks about concepts of full employment, abrogating the FTA and abrogating the NAFTA. Then it talks about something called the jobs plan which I am not sure is any different from the first concept of full employment. Then it talks about an infrastructure program. Just to make sure, it throws in a child-care package to really make the paragraph or the motion being debated before us very convoluted and abstract. It basically throws in the kitchen sink.

Canadians and certainly members of this House are looking for a very practical and realistic motion that we can discuss and debate intelligently and hopefully be understood by Canadians at large.

Second the motion is quite frankly irresponsible in that everyone understands, both inside this Chamber and outside this Chamber, what the real aspects of this particular motion are. Members of the NDP talk about the abrogation of the free trade agreement and the NAFTA because obviously they are not too concerned with the members on the other side. They are more concerned with the Liberal Party of Canada. They think that because we have opted for renegotiation that somehow we are vulnerable in the face of Canadians' dissatisfaction with the free trade agreement and the NAFTA.

Yet, when asked whether they want the status quo or whether they want abrogation or renegotiation, close to 70 per cent of Canadians in any opinion poll essentially agree with the position that we have adopted for some time now.

It is odd to hear the New Democratic Party coming from a viewpoint of indignation. We should cast our minds back some years to the 1988 campaign when the New Democratic Party and its leader in the first press conference of the campaign never mentioned the words 'free trade agreement'.