

Supply

per cent U.S. tariff on red cedar shakes and shingles would be devastating to the B.C. economy and particularly to the Mission—Port Moody area.

On May 12, as reported at page 13167 of *Hansard*, I stated:

Last year we sold more than \$100 billion worth of goods and services to Americans. We are the closest and most important trading partner of the largest and richest market in the world.

We must secure our access to that market if Canadian export industries, such as our lumber industry and the B.C. cedar shake and shingle industry, are to survive.

● (1540)

I have lived up to my responsibility and I shall not quit.

I want to deal now with what was said by the Hon. Member for New Westminster—Coquitlam (Ms. Jewett) in the House yesterday during Question Period. The Hon. Member may be a neighbour but she certainly has a lot of nerve pretending to speak for the people of Mission or for any of my constituents. I want the House and the people of Mission—Port Moody to know that the Member for New Westminster—Coquitlam has actually opposed economic development in my riding. She has gone so far as to attempt to block a strategic economic development project in my riding. She has supported the doomsayers and apostles of the *status quo*. Now she tries to portray herself as a saviour of the people in my riding. What nerve!

Ms. Jewett: Somebody has to save them, Gerry.

Mr. St. Germain: The Member for New Westminster—Coquitlam wrote to my colleague, the Minister of Transport (Mr. Mazankowski), some months ago asking him not to proceed with an important runway extension project at Pitt Meadows Airport.

Mr. Fulton: Stick to the subject.

Mr. St. Germain: It relates to the project. It is tied in to forestry.

Mr. Fulton: You are the Member.

Mr. St. Germain: This project was intended solely to enhance economic development in the area.

Mr. Fulton: You are trying to divert attention from an incompetent Government. Your Government is incompetent.

Ms. Jewett: It's pretty sad.

Mr. Fulton: Mulroney has not even phoned.

Mr. St. Germain: The Minister of Transport proceeded with the—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. There will be time for questions and comments. Let the Hon. Member finish his debate. I am sure I will be able to recognize both Hon. Members.

Ms. Jewett: Okay, but it is a real red herring.

Mr. St. Germain: Not surprisingly, the Minister proceeded with this important project and I had the honour of attending a ceremony last Saturday, marking its completion. On hand with the Minister of Transport were many of those whose livelihoods depend on forestry and its related industries. That is what made this project so important. These are the people whom the Member opposite claims to defend. They are the ones whom in fact she knowingly proceeded to hinder when she tried to block this great project.

Ms. Jewett: What was the project?

Mr. St. Germain: The Pitt Meadows Airport.

Ms. Jewett: Why not tell the House all about it?

Mr. St. Germain: Where does the Member really stand? Where does she get her nerve? The people of Mission—Port Moody do not need to hear any more of her lectures. They know where I stand. I stand to protect their jobs and I have fought and will continue to fight for their interests.

Mr. Fulton: And your friend, Ron Reagan.

Mr. St. Germain: Economic development in British Columbia is our goal. The Member for New Westminster—Coquitlam has pure petty politics as her prime objective. The people must understand that that is the NDP way, the socialist way and the wrong way.

It has only been through continual receipt of up to date information that I have been able to stay on top of this critical issue.

Mr. Fulton: You free enterprisers are doing a great job.

Mr. St. Germain: I certainly appreciate the assistance I have received from my colleagues, the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) and the Minister for International Trade (Mr. Kelleher) in this regard.

Further to my efforts to remain fully informed, I have kept in close contact with local and regional representatives of the industry, as well as representatives of local Governments whose municipalities will be severely affected by this action. These meetings have proved to be very informative. It is necessary for the Government to have complete briefings from all parties that are affected because their contribution provides us with an understanding of how this action will impact the people in the communities, whose entire survival rests with this industry.

Yesterday, I had the opportunity to speak with Mayor John Agnew of Mission. His outrage was only surpassed by his real concern for the future of his community. Mayor Agnew told me that the people of this area are petrified and that the entire area is devastated. He said that bankers were already starting to withdraw the lines of credit upon which shake and shingle producers depend for their cash flow. One mill has already shut down, laying off 75 workers.