

We're going to have to learn to reuse our resources financially as well. We can't keep finding more and more income, we have to find new ways to put our money into the country. It's more efficient and more economical. They just keep taking more from our pockets in order to give out evenly to a certain extent. You see something that says made in Canada and it costs more. Take diapers, flannel diapers, the ones from Canada cost more and they are comparable. Are you really going to pay more, I mean we all talk about it but do we really...

They mentioned diapers in the _____, well there's going to be quite a hefty tax on plastic diapers.

I'm thinking more about social programs where some have an overabundance of finances and other social programs, depending on what you deem to be more essential, have had nothing. I think it's very uneven...

Yeah, but that's an internal problem. I think Canada's big problem is that we haven't faced up to what's happening in Europe right now. I go back twice a year. In Paris, they speak English to you and this is totally unheard of, they don't do that and now they do. They have 500 million people, they are highly trained, they are extremely motivated, the technological background that makes Japan seem backwards and they have set themselves. The US and Canada in particular are standing with their hands in their pockets.

P. WHAT DO YOU THINK THE IMPACT WILL BE OF THE SCENARIO THAT TOM HAS JUST PAINTED ON THE CANADIAN ECONOMY AND ON THIS REGION?

There won't be any more investment here, people just won't invest.

Not only locally but nationally, the investments will just drop off.

I think Canada is in great danger of being left behind. I think that's one of the reasons that free trade was pushed as strongly as it was. I think they are trying to counter the big economic trading blocs.

P. WHAT WILL THE CONCRETE IMPACT BE RIGHT IN YOUR NECK OF THE WOODS?

I think maybe we're underestimating the economic power of the United States. I think we've tied ourselves to the States. I think another economic union is coming with Mexico. They're talking about that now. I think that if you have a bloc in Europe, the world is going to end up in different blocs that are sort of incestuous. The answer for Canada is a North American free trade zone as a counter to Europe because Europe is also, particularly with eastern Europe opened...

Eastern Europe will be the Taiwan of Europe. Cheap labour, cheap machines to make the primary products to supply western Europe.

You read about the appalling ecological problems of Poland and Hungary, the Danube is a sewer...

Since free trade has been brought in, do you find that there have been a lot of businesses moving their businesses and their manufacturing plants to the States?

Yes.

Of course.

In turn, it has left the Canadians without jobs...