

should be passing as there is a desperate need in the country for retraining.

I regret informing the people who come to visit me and seek my help that there is not enough money in the jobs retraining program because it is held up by the Senate. I have been to graduation ceremonies from some of these job retraining programs. Virtually 90 per cent of the people who have taken some of these job retraining programs have jobs. They go into the workforce where the private sector has co-operated, and the private sector business people and others are so impressed with what they have been able to contribute that they hire them immediately. This very important program is being denied to them by the Liberal senators.

Another central plank in our policy to create economic growth has been the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. Because Canada depends on trade for 30 per cent of our gross domestic product, it was vital that we secure access to our largest and most important trading partner. Gaining broad, secure access to the large American market means additional sales and more jobs.

We can see this in my province of Alberta where we have had a tremendous amount of investment in the petrochemical industry. Last week, for example, the President of Finland was in Alberta, in the county of Strathcona, to place a corner-stone for a new petrochemical plant that will employ hundreds of people. These are the high quality, high value-added jobs that the member for Ottawa South was talking about. The reason they came to Alberta was because of the free trade agreement and our access to markets in the U.S.

In Gibbons, Alberta, there is another petrochemical plant which is under construction right now. We had 17 per cent tariffs on petrochemicals and those are gone, or they are diminishing so quickly that we are experiencing a tremendous amount of growth in the petrochemical sector. These are high paying and highly skilled jobs taking our raw resources and adding value to them. The member for Ottawa South was complaining that we are selling these resources at low prices to the world but we are adding value to them and creating a tremendous benefit for the economy and exporting these products to the U.S. and world markets. These are world-scale facilities.

Supply

The free trade agreement has allowed greater economies of scale and specialization. That will mean increased growth, not a made-in-Canada recession, as opposition is talking about.

We have a healthy growing economy and with that we can not have a tax system that distorts economic decisions and penalizes economic efficiency. I would like to tell members opposite that their motion is partisan, wrong and will be defeated.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Order, please! I regret to interrupt the hon. member but since it being 6.45 p.m., it is my duty pursuant to Standing Order 81(14) to interrupt the proceedings and put forthwith all questions necessary to dispose of the supply proceedings.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five Members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Call in the Members.

• (1910)

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Young (Acadie-Bathurst)), which was negated on the following division:

(Division No. 305)

YEAS

Members

Arseneault
Bélair
Benjamin
Blaikie
Brewin
Campbell (South West Nova)
Clançy
de Jong
Dionne
Flis
Foster
Gardiner
Gray (Windsor West)
Harb

Assad
Bellemare
Berger
Blondin
Caccia
Catterall
Copps
Dingwall
Ferguson
Fontana
Funk
Gauthier
Guarnieri
Harvey (Edmonton East)