

Today we stand ready to negotiate our new system, a system in which this sort of trade harassment would not be a normal part of business. However, the Opposition says that the recent action on shingles is a signal that Americans can never be trusted so we should not try to do business with them. As angry as we are over this decision, that is clearly an unacceptable suggestion.

There should be no mistake about our concern for this industry. The manufacturing of shingles and shakes is an industry that we are proud to dominate. It is a value added offshoot of our massive forest products sector. Thanks to our efficiency and marketing skills, we have gradually increased our market share, winning a free market battle on the basis of superior natural resources and efficient production, coupled with a 100-year supply of old growth cedar, that is, cedar that is 300 to 600 years of age. That can be compared with a 20-year supply of old growth cedar in the United States.

Where is that old growth cedar in the United States? It can be found on lands owned by Weyerhaeuser, Louisiana Pacific, Pope and Talbot and a host of other American forest giants. They are not cutting cedar since cedar makes up only 6 per cent of their total reserves. Unless they have a stand of cedar that comprises 75 per cent or 80 per cent of their total reserves, they are not going to cut it.

The bottom line is that there is an acute shortage of cedar in the United States. Not only is it difficult to come by and isolate from shake and shingle mills, it is also very costly because in 1979 and 1980, the American forestry sector began paying a premium for its timber. Companies outbid one another and they had a field day. As a result, they pay too much for the product and they are not going to sell it cheap.

Today some 4,000 Canadians make their living in this industry, producing \$250 million worth of product and serving as the only major industry in towns like Nakusp, which is in my constituency, and Mission, which is in the constituency of the Hon. Member for Mission—Port Moody.

Nakusp is a small town which had a population of around 1,400 in 1981, according to Stats Canada. I am not really certain what the population is now because of the actions taken by Westar to withdraw manpower requirements. It has pulled out of Nakusp and left that community in very difficult economic circumstances.

What is the sole or principal support of those who live in the community of Nakusp? It is the Columbia River Shake and Shingle Company, which employs about 120 people in its mill and 75 people securing wood to supply the mill. The action that is now being taken is deadly for that small community.

I know Dick Jones, owner and manager of Columbia River Shake and Shingle Company, and I know him well. I know the kind of man he is. I know that if one were to put him in a lineup with his crew, one would not be able to pick him out because he wears his working boots all the time. He is a hands-on operator. He knows what is going on in his mill. That is the kind of fellow he is, and he works long hours. He deserves the

benefits that may accrue to him from the results of his endeavours.

Dick Jones is not a quitter. When I spoke to him a few days ago, he said: "My father told me during the Depression that there were always a few mills in operation, and if we are now into a depression, this mill is going to continue to operate". I believe that Dick Jones will do everything he possibly can to make that happen because he believes not only in what he is doing but in his community and the people who work for him.

The shake and shingle industry produces building material which is durable and beautiful. Many home builders in the United States and Canada have benefited from the availability of this pleasing and economic product. We were shocked that this action was selected from the many options available to the President of the United States. We are furious because the main result will not be recovery for the United States sector, which suffers from a shortage of raw material and a lack of investment, but a shift from wood materials to aluminum siding. Roofing material will be asphalt, tile, clay tile, or derivatives of plastic made to appear like shake and shingle products. That 10 per cent of the market which is now occupied by the shake and shingle industry in the United States will diminish to zero.

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This latest action is only the most recent in a long series of measures which the shingle industry has fought, measures such as building codes and fire codes designed to discourage home builders from using wood products. Non-tariff barriers are always present in international trade and probably will always be, but the action announced on Thursday was different. It was an action taken at the President's discretion, selected from a series of options which included measures to support the U.S. industry without harming Canadians. If we examine the measures taken to support the U.S. industry without harming Canadians, we see the options they requested from the industry. They canvassed about 35 shake and shingle operators, the majority of whom did not bother to reply, on what options, upgrading, modernization, and benefits would accrue if the British Columbia shake and shingle industry were stopped in its tracks. Out of the twelve or so who had some kind of response, five did not really know what they could do and the other seven thought that perhaps they could do something. The industry in the United States was on its back, and there is nothing in the form of resuscitation which Canada or the United States could do to revive it, short of shipping the logs and bolts that have been the subject of discussion in the last 30 minutes. Clearly that is not an option we are about to exercise.

The fact that the President is under incredible pressure from protectionists in Washington may provide an explanation, but it is cold comfort for Canadian workers whose jobs may be lost. The hardships of the U.S. shingle industry reflect badly on the U.S. stumpage system. That system does not control speculation in timber prices. Some companies are now holding