

Customs Tariff

Now we have a Government that is intent upon shifting that direction, forging greater north-south links, supposedly because of the belief in the free enterprise system which means, in a nutshell, that if you can compete you can win. In some cases the private sector can compete fairly both within Canada and on the world stage. But there are times when it cannot. There are times when fledgling industries need some extra protection to allow them to develop their product line and their markets to the point where, because of the volume and the quality, they can produce a product at a per unit cost that is competitive. There are some that may never reach that point. We, as a country, have decided over the years that it is important to have those products produced in Canada by Canadians, sold primarily to Canadians, and, where possible, sold to individuals in other lands. That is the nature of our country. We on this side of the House want to keep it that way. A button I have seen states "We want to buy from our brothers and sisters, our neighbours and our friends, our friends and neighbours in Canada".

Whether it is an automobile produced in southern Ontario or Quebec, or components thereof, whether it is a by-product of wheat on the Prairies, or whether it is a McDonald's hamburger bun, we would prefer to use our earnings to reinvest in our country not in someone else's. Sometimes it means that we have to pay a little bit more because we have a smaller population, a smaller consumer group, than our neighbour to the south and, therefore, we are not able to maximize our distribution systems and our volumes because that consumer group is spread across a very narrow corridor, at least the bulk of it.

There are other parts away from that corridor which are even more expensive to reach than the grid system in the United States where a plant in almost any area is within a reasonable distance of a fairly large consumer base. Our neighbour to the south also has regional disparities. The Americans have differing laws that have drawn their industrial sector from the northern fringe of their country, the industrial heartland of the United States, into the deep south where the wages are \$3 less per hour, fringe benefits are lacking and there are very few, if any, unions. That is what will happen here if the trade deal goes through. We do not have a Bill or a resolution yet. We do not even have an agreement and we have no details.

Mr. Cassidy: What do we have?

Mr. Angus: We have a lot of fluff and a lot of wishful thinking, Mr. Speaker. We are concerned that this headlong rush into a deal that will last for many years will do to Canada what Alabama has done to the United States, namely, draw off the work, the jobs and the creation of wealth. We hear people say "They will be able to invest in Canada", but what will the Americans do? They will come here, buy a few more branch plants, close them and move south, transferring the jobs away from Canada.

I have taken the opportunity in the last little while to speak to my constituents specifically about this agreement. I made a point of talking to individuals, whom I know personally, but are committed to parties other than mine. I have spoken to Conservatives, Liberals and New Democrats. When I raised the question of the trade agreement and asked them "What do you think about it", their answers were identical. "I am scared of it" and I agree with them, Mr. Speaker.

• (1640)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The question is on Motion No. 1 standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy). Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

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

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

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

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

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

And more than five Members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Pursuant to Standing Order 114(11), the recorded division on the proposed motion stands deferred.

Motions Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 which relate to parliamentary approval by either resolution or legislation shall be debated together and a vote on Motion No. 2 will apply to Motions Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11.

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre) moved:

Motion No. 2.

That Bill C-87, be amended in Clause 19 by striking out lines 43 and 44 at page 5 and substituting the following therefor:

"other Act of Parliament.

(3) The rates of Customs duty set out in Schedule I and section 46 and the customs duties imposed by this Act are further subjected to such increases, reductions, removals or other exceptions as may be specified in any regulation or order made under this or any other Act of Parliament, provided that no such regulation or order shall have effect for more than sixty days unless it is adopted by resolution of both Houses of Parliament."