

### Supply

Right now, for instance, there are places in western Canada that are under snow. We used to think that we had security in those kinds of situations. Back in 1984, there was a suggestion by this government that it would put in place a security system which would work when it was needed. We have been waiting for that system ever since. Instead of that, we are getting less and less security, more and more of it is being taken away.

This particular motion talks about the problems developed by one particular policy, the policy of free trade. This government signed an agreement with the United States which was supposed to increase our access to the U.S. market, and it was supposed to put in place the kind of structure which would allow us to make use of that access and consequently, we were supposed to live happily and prosperously ever after.

One of the agreements that we made when we signed this free trade agreement was the fact that none of the trade laws, none of the protectionist trade laws that were already in place or that the government would want to put in place or make use of in the future were going to be changed. Consequently, we have a situation now where we have gone in to all of the bad protectionist laws which the U.S. had in place and which we could fight.

Now that government gives itself two alternatives when it wants to defeat the Canadian farmer. If the Americans cannot get what they want under GATT, then they turn to the free trade agreement. If they cannot get it under the free trade agreement, they try and bring it through under GATT. Because this government has established the kind of structure which allows us to be taken in by these kinds of situations, we are worse off now than we were before.

It is kind of interesting to look back a little bit when we are talking about this situation. What did the government say it was going to do for agriculture? What did it say was going to be the situation after the free trade had been put into place? The Prime Minister, when he spoke in Dundurn on October 7, 1988, as reported in *The Montreal Gazette*, said:

We're not going to allow a single farmer to hang out to dry simply because the Americans and the Europeans have this (subsidy) war going on—Until the matter is brought to a halt, the Canadian government has a responsibility to step in and defend the interests of the Canadian farmer.

He said that "free trade will help farmers by guaranteeing access to U.S. markets while maintaining marketing boards. In their response to the Canadian Federation of Agriculture during the election in 1988, the Tories said, "Nothing in the free trade agreement affects our ability to maintain our supply management systems in Canada. The agreement will not require any changes in current supply management programs with the sole exception of the slightly larger import quotas for chicken, turkey, and eggs." They could not really get around the fact that they had already taken a considerable slice out of the possibility of the maintenance of the free trade structure. They said, "these small import quota increases pose no threat to the continued viability of the supply management programs in place for these sectors. In addition, the agreement will not prevent Canada from implementing new supply management programs".

• (1200)

I can go on. They spoke about GATT, saying that free trade was not going to affect GATT in the least. To use one more quote, when the Prime Minister was in his leadership mode, which he stayed in only until he became leader, he made the statement that free trade was a danger to Canadian sovereignty. On Friday, when the Minister of Agriculture was speaking in Calgary, he pointed out that free trade was not working quite the way they thought it should work, that there were some things that were going a little bit wrong with it. He suggested that the U.S. was using the free trade agreement to harass the Canadian farmer. He stated that the United States is harassing Canada with some trade policies which are wrong, unfair, and hypocritical, and he sounded surprised.

#### A newspaper article reports:

Speaking in Calgary Friday Mazankowski hinted that Canada will have to get tough in response but he refused to specify what actions would be taken.

He said:

Rather than harmony, we have been subjected to harassment and it is timely and necessary to remind our American friends of the spirit within which the free trade agreement was negotiated.