

*Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement*

prime example of the benefits secure access to a large market can bring.

There is still a huge, untapped potential in Alberta's energy resources. This agreement will enhance our security of supply. Security of supply depends on a strong domestic energy industry, capable of developing new energy resources to meet future requirements. Free trade will strengthen Canada's energy industry, both through new investment and through an increase in exploration and development activity. In turn, this will enable the industry to find and develop the energy resources necessary to ensure that Canada's requirements are met.

Finally, the Free Trade Agreement is important for the long-term viability of the energy sector because it provides, for the first time, a means by which Canada and the United States can settle trade disputes when they arise.

The binational dispute settlement mechanism, and the commitment to prior consultation concerning trade legislation affecting the other country, will ensure that trade between Canada and the United States operates fairly and reasonably. With this arrangement in place we no longer need to talk about mice and elephants. Canadians and Americans will meet as equals.

The people of my constituency and I believe that as long as the rules of the game are followed we can compete with the best in the world. We will still have to work long and hard, because even though the Free Trade Agreement creates an opportunity we must go out there and take advantage of it.

My Province of Alberta is a province of pioneers. Our parents and grandparents settled the land. They passed down to us a solid rural work ethic. We still believe that the good Lord helps those who help themselves, that hard work should be rewarded, and that there is a place in our world for creative and free enterprise.

Albertans are bold and independent. They do not want government to intervene in areas where they can take better care of themselves. We are not afraid of competition. We have met challenges before. We look forward to the challenge of maximizing the benefits of the Free Trade Agreement.

I conclude by saying that the Free Trade Agreement is a golden opportunity not just for Red Deer, not just for Alberta, but for all the regions of Canada. By further opening up and securing access to American markets, the Free Trade Agreement will promote

regional development and therefore stronger regions and a stronger Canada.

This agreement will be successful not because it weakens central Canada but because it strengthens the regions. Regions of Canada do not want to rely on hand-outs, nor do we want to remove ourselves somehow from Confederation. We only want a chance to live up to our potential. This agreement will help us do that.

• (1940)

**Mr. McGuire:** Mr. Chairman, it is an honour for me to rise in my place tonight representing the great riding of Egmont in the House of Commons. Egmont has had many distinguished representatives over the years, including Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King when he first became Prime Minister in 1919, Colonel James Ralston, Minister of War during World War II, and the Hon. J. Watson MacNaught who served as Solicitor General of Canada, to name just a few.

I pledge to my constituents of Egmont that I will represent their views to the best of my ability and in the best tradition of my predecessors. The riding of Egmont in western Prince Edward Island is a district whose wealth is based on agriculture, fishing, and tourism. Egmont is an urban-rural riding whose population is fairly evenly distributed between the urban areas of Summerside, St. Eleanor's, and Wilmot, and the rural area which stretches from St. Eleanor's to the north-western tip of Prince Edward Island.

The riding of Egmont voted decisively against the Government's Free Trade Agreement. This agreement was described to me by a fisherman in my riding as being like an iceberg which is approximately one-tenth above water and approximately nine-tenths below water. Indeed that was and still is an apt description of the Free Trade Agreement.

Because there is no definition of what is a subsidy, because regional development programs are not guaranteed, because there is no assurance that marketing boards will survive this agreement, and because the support programs for our fishermen will likely be discontinued, the iceberg analogy is very applicable. There is far too much that we do not know or understand about this agreement. The Canadian people are not being told and will not be told what is likely to happen to them, except that there will be winners and losers.