Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

flow. When his mother came back she asked: Where is the piano, Pierre? He answered, I needed money, Ma, to start my first printing shop and I sold the piano because we are not using it anymore, we are working.

But now, Mr. Péladeau has a \$2 billion sales figure. That's right, \$2 billion in Quebec! It would be bad if he would close his business because a lot of people work there. And then you would have reason to complain that Péladeau, Québécor closed down. You would do like Gillette. It is funny you do not mention the good things. You referred to Gillette. You are late, because people have been talking of Gillette's closure for years.

You could look up La Presse of December 9. Alain Dubuc, I think, one of Ouebec's major columnists, described it very well when he wrote: It is beyond me that people would still be talking about closures like Gillette's, because we know that Gillette has been closing down plants around the world, including the United States, including France. You should be listening. Opposition Members—the tremor that happened at the other end was caused by free trade once more! Come now! Talk about IBM, talk about the other investments. But you don't take people . . . It would appear that you no longer have any respect for the people who elected vou because those people said: Go for free trade, no matter what. Go for it. The figures don't matter, even when they are higher. What you need to represent the people of Canada is a seat.

When I look at all that was said during the election campaign, by the leaders and others . . . I'll just quote a couple of them who were here. They wanted an election, and one was held, but unfortunately, they are no longer here. Lynn McDonald, for example, said: We want an election. Consult the people of Canada right now by calling an election. Well, she got what she wanted and now she's gone, gone somewhere where the air is fresh and clean. The people have decided and she has decided. Her decision has brought some good people to this side of the House. Another member, who is still with us, said: Call an election. Let's go to the people. And that is what we did. Then, there was the former mayor of Ottawa, Mrs. Dewar, who said recently: An election must be called immediately to let the people of Canada decide on this issue.

An Hon. Member: She had an election.

Mr. Della Noce: She had an election. She got her chance, she had an election, she is no longer here, she is gone. People said to themselves that they wanted prosperity in Ottawa. Canadians are not stupid, they are

capable of reaching a decision, they are intelligent enough. It does not matter what happens between elections.

I checked around my constituency when the polls favoured the NDP. People had a mild reaction. The NDP thought it would make a clean sweep of all ridings.

I met one of them during the election campaign and he asked me what I and my Quebec colleagues would do after losing the election. Another one kept repeating that our days were numbered. Yet a third one boasted about winning a majority. Another one was sure he would be a Minister, so he had already re-awarded the frigate contracts. He had taken them away from New Brunswick and given them to Montreal. He too is no longer here, but we all know he wanted an election, he was from Ottawa Centre.

That is what we hear from the other side every day, but they forget to talk about the basic issues, projects to help Quebec or another province. Other provinces stand to benefit, not only Quebec.

I should like to refer to the Economic Council of Canada report released on April 13, 1988 which commented on the various aspects of free trade and featured a regional breakdown of increased employment opportunities. Here are the figures concerning Québec. For example, they predicted a 1.8 per cent increase in the number of new jobs, up 58,000; 94,900 new jobs in Ontario; 50,900 in the Prairies; 17,700 in the Atlantic Provinces, and 28,900 in British Columbia.

Madam Speaker, I am saying to these people: You wanted an election, you had one! Perhaps it did not quite turn out as you expected, but that is the way it goes! Now that the people have decided, have faith in them and tell them you are here to help them, not to make life tougher for them.

Members opposite are acting as if they were saying: Protect Canadians, but they are holding them back, dragging them 20 years back.

You know, if I were on the other side I would probably not be smiling as my colleague on the other side is doing as he signals to me. He can hardly wait for me to shut up. I understand that hurts! But my hon. colleague should understand one thing: Not only has the Liberal Party prevented the country from moving forward... He knows that well because he is of the same origin as I am; he is of Italian origin and his party prevented Italy from selling Italian shoes in Canada. They imposed