Lester Pearson as betraying this country because he entered into the Auto Pact. Today they have the Auto Pact wrapped around their bosoms so closely that they have in-grown chest hairs. You cannot touch the Auto Pact, according to the Leader of the New Democratic Party who represents Oshawa.

Oshawa has tremendous prosperity as a result of the Auto Pact. There is not even a blip on the unemployment screen in Oshawa. There is full employment. General Motors has invested $10 billion in Oshawa over the last 10 years because of the Auto Pact, which is basically free trade in the automobile industry and is the main reason for the tremendous prosperity of Ontario today. There is full employment in the southern part of Ontario.

However, in 1965 Pearson was said to be selling out the auto industry. He went ahead anyway and signed the Auto Pact. He did not go to an election first. He was not asked to go to an election. It had not featured in earlier elections. The Canadian electorate had not been asked to give their opinion on this subject.

When opinions were given the unions and precursors of the NDP were against it, of course. They are against everything. They are against every change in the *status quo*. They do not want anything in Canada or the world to change. The NDP policy is the policy of Clement Attlee of 1945. We all know that his policies got the United Kingdom autarky. We can live in Canada with our little market of 26 million people and prosper and increase our national wealth by trading back and forth with one another.

Lester Pearson went ahead anyway. Lester Pearson understood the difference between opposition politics of calculated hysteria and Canada's national interest and he went ahead. Who gained? Oshawa gained, Ontario gained, and Québec has gained from the Auto Pact.

Last year 89 per cent of all of Ontario's exports went to the United States of America, a tremendous proportion of them being automobiles and parts, compared to a national percentage of 76 per cent of our exports going to the United States of America. The part of Canada which is the most dependant on the United States market for its prosperity is Ontario. Is it not peculiar that many people in Ontario do not understand that? However, there is beginning to be a much better understanding of that. Perhaps that is because the Ontario provincial Government has not taken the lead. For some reason it has appeared to be against this agreement.

Over one-quarter of the gross domestic product of Ontario, 27.4 per cent, over one-quarter of the wealth generated in Ontario every year, comes from exports by Ontario to the United States and hon. gentlemen opposite are willing to put that at risk. The people of Ontario would be 27.4 per cent poorer every year if they did not have this trade with the United States which we are trying to protect for them. In Canada as a whole 18.7 per cent of our gross domestic product comes from trade with the United States. The national average is, therefore, much lower than the average in Ontario. We on this side of the House are fighting for the strength and prosperity of Ontario, whether or not they know it.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crosbie: All the Canadian leaders I have cited sought the same thing, they sought to give Canadians the opportunity to sell freely abroad and thus build prosperity at home. That is what we are attempting to do. We want to give Canadians the opportunity to sell freely in the United States and to continue to build prosperity at home, which is what we have been doing since 1945. In 1945, only 36 per cent of Canadian exports went to the United States. Today, 76 to 80 per cent of our exports go to the United States of America. That is where our opportunities are. We are trying to enlarge them, secure them, and protect them.

To my astonishment two national Parties are fighting this tooth and nail, and the labour movement is doing the same. No amount of obfuscation or misrepresentation will satisfy the two Parties I have mentioned and the Canadian labour movement, which are all against this agreement. All we are doing is trying to protect how well we have done and to increase our opportunities in the future.

• (1130)

The effort of successive Canadian Governments to strengthen Canada by putting our trade relationship with the United States on a secure and equal footing is not new. The Opposition strategy that tries to obscure this objective by encouraging unfounded fears about a loss of sovereignty is not new either. In fact, our sovereignty is enhanced by this agreement. We become more sovereign, we become more powerful. We become better able to defend and protect Canada as a result of this agreement.

For example, if this agreement is carried into effect in future disputes, we will have binational panels to decide these disputes. In the United States, a binational panel including Canadians will sit with Americans and decide what action should be taken as a result of a complaint made in the United States under American trade law. That is an extension of Canadian sovereignty. We do not have that right or any protection in that line now. We can be subject to the most political kind of decision.

We are enhancing the sovereignty of this country, yet there are people sitting opposite who are so blinded by their desire to be in power or see someone else out of power that they will not grant one virtue to this agreement. I have not heard one of them, once in this debate, say one positive thing about the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement. All they have done is try to encourage fear.

When trade barriers between Canada and the United States have been lowered, we are told by the Leader of the Opposition that Canadians will have been hosed, harmonized and homogenized. The Leader of the Opposition does not have very many good lines, that is why he uses this one so often. He