

There seems to be a view in some quarters in Canada that the United States administration in Congress is just sitting down, just on its knees waiting for splendid Canada to come down and make a deal. Nothing could be further from the truth.

More and more the Americans are saying, "We want protectionism, we do not want to have anything to do with this kind of better trading arrangements". Some of their historic trading partners, particularly for example, Japan, are now being singled out for very substantial penalties in Congress. This, of course, if you transformed it or transposed it to Canada would debilitate our economy. Eighty per cent of our trade goes to the United States. Thousands of jobs would be wiped out with the stroke of a pen. That is how important what we are doing is to the future of Canada.

We have got three million jobs in this country and we are looking for a lot more that depend directly on foreign trade. And we must increase that percentage of foreign trade if we are going to put the kinds of Canadians back to work that we must. We cannot have 1.3 million Canadians out of work forever. It is morally unacceptable in a country like Canada.

Nobody is going to do us any favours anymore. They are not going to buy our products because of the colour of our eyes or the colour of our jib. They are going to buy them if they are competitive, and if they are good, and if they are sellable, and if the price is right. That is what Canadians, I think, have to understand.