

We will become a part of fortress North America, in competition with other large trading blocs around the world. And, as nothing more than the junior partner in that enterprise, our role as a voice for reducing trade barriers around the world will be severely weakened and curtailed.

I believe that the Canada-U.S. free trade deal now before this House, Mr. Speaker, will prove to be an historic mistake for Canada. It will fundamentally change Canada as no other action in our history has changed Canada. It reduces our choices, and it reduces our ability to make those choices for ourselves as Canadians in our own way as a nation.

I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that we in the Liberal Party will abide by the rules of this House; that we will be responsible in our conduct in this House. We will state our case, and nothing more than our case.

I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker—and, through you, to all Canadians—that the fight over this deal is not finished. It is far from over. A new battle has just begun. We in the Liberal Party will continue to lead the fight for Canadian sovereignty. We continue to speak for the millions of Canadians, the majority of Canadians, who voted against this Government and against this deal. We continue to speak for Canada.

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Winnipeg South Centre:

“That the motion be amended by deleting all of the words after the word “That” and by substituting the following:

That this House opposes in principle and therefore declines to proceed with Bill C-2, an Act to implement the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States of America, because that agreement, which was negotiated in a secretive and irresponsible manner and has been rejected by 57 per cent of the Canadian people, will undermine the economic, social and political institutions of Canada, because it will fail to provide guaranteed and secure access to U.S. and other world trade markets, because it will create severe adverse effects on many industries and communities and because it will endanger the economic and social fabric and political independence of Canada.”

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

• (1740)

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding with debate on the amendment, and I will be recognizing the Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent) in just a moment, the Hon. Minister has a point of order.

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, the normal business question was not asked today by my hon. friend, the House Leader for the Liberal Party. Therefore, I wish to advise the House that tomorrow the Government will call Item

*Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement*

No. 1 on the Order Paper, that is, the motion to provide for extended sittings. I want to offer once again on behalf of the Government an opportunity to the House to extend the sittings over the weekend. I am sure that if there is a disposition among the opposition Parties to consider that suggestion, they can get back to me.

As well, I give notice that at the next sitting of the House, before the Order is called for resuming debate on the motion for second reading and reference to committee of Bill C-2, an Act to implement the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States, I shall move that the debate shall not be further adjourned.

**Mr. Speaker:** I should say to all Hon. Members that debate will continue on the amendment. There is of course agreement and the usual courtesies for the Hon. Member for Oshawa, Leader of the NDP, and we will not see the clock until he is finished his address.

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to rise on behalf of my colleagues in this House to participate in this historic debate. The motion we have before us, as Members on all sides recognize, has been appropriately described—and I do not normally agree with the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Mulroney) on most matters of political significance in this country—as perhaps the most important measure the Parliament of Canada has debated since World War II.

What is at stake in the Bill that the Government has before the Parliament of Canada is the very future of this country, and it is precisely for this reason that before the election, during the election, and in the present Parliament of Canada the New Democratic Party, in all of its sections, in every province, in every council, including the federal caucus, the New Democratic Party opposes this measure.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps the most useful way of understanding Canadian history is to see it as a continuing tension between those of whatever generation in the history of our land who have thought it desirable to ensure that all the instruments of power, political, social and economic, remained within Canada so that Canadians themselves would be in a position to determine their own future, and those who, on the other hand, hold a competing view, which has lasted throughout the history of our country, that of the powerful continental lure of the United States.