Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

we become more dependent on the the U.S. market, it will soon be so important to us that we will not be able to back off without disastrous effects to our own economy.

• (2040)

Most of the adjusting to this deal will be done by Canadian companies. It takes only a 10 per cent increase for a U.S. industry to take over the entire Canadian market, but it takes a 100 per cent increase for a Canadian industry to take over 10 per cent of the U.S. market. We will be doing the adjusting here in Canada.

In many cases, those U.S. companies can probably supply our market with their surpluses. We know right now, for instance, that the U.S. can supply us with all the dairy products we use in Canada with the surplus they pour down the drains in the United States every day.

As the deal becomes entrenched, there is no way we will be able to back off. The six-month cancellation clause is a laughing matter. Ask Hawaii. Hawaii signed a 10-year trade deal with the United States, and when the 10 years was up, the United States said: "Well, there is not much in this deal for us, we are going to back away from it". After 10 years, Hawaii could not back away. It begged to become part of the United States.

Perhaps there will be an increase in trade, but where will it come from? Jacques Parizeau says that it will come from the provinces. In fact, all the hurt will go to them. He says that that is why Quebec will be able to separate. It will no longer be dependent upon the domestic markets of Ontario and the Prairies to sell its products.

I spared only one facet of this deal, the impact on sovereignty. There are many other facets of it that need to be explored. Government Members tell us that all the adjustments will be good, that it will be a win-win situation, and that Canada will always remain strong and free. I hope they are right.

Like the Hon. Member for Western Arctic (Ms. Blondin), I have to say that if the deal has to go through, I hope I am wrong and that the 53 per cent of Canadians who voted against this deal are wrong as well. I would not object to being wrong in this instance, as the Hon. Member for Western Arctic said. If we are right, the disaster that will occur and the fact that we will no longer be Canadian are something we do not want to have to face in the next few years.

Mr. Ross Stevenson (Durham): Madam Speaker, I am deeply honoured to be here in the House of Commons of Canada, representing the great riding of Durham. I appreciate the opportunity and the trust the people of Durham have put in me. I will certainly do my utmost in the months and years ahead to justify the trust they have given me in sending me with such strong support to the House of Commons in Ottawa.

When compared to many other ridings in central Ontario, the riding of Durham is a relatively large one. It consists of the regional municipalities of Uxbridge, Scugog, Newcastle, the rural part of Whitby, and the north part of the City of Oshawa.

In this riding are some of the best agricultural lands in Ontario. There are parts of Lake Ontario and Lake Scugog and the beautiful hills and ridges that run north of Lake Ontario, all across the central part of the Province of Ontario.

We have a strong agricultural sector. We have a vibrant manufacturing and service industry. Of course, most everybody knows that in the Oshawa area, there is a very strong automobile manufacturing and auto parts industry.

Here this evening, as we debate the free trade Bill, we are discussing much more than just this Bill. We are really talking about opportunities for Canada, opportunities for our young people as they look for jobs in the future, opportunities for our business people and workers to excel in a strong Canada of the future, and indeed, opportunities for Canada itself as it plays an ever growing leadership role in the economic well-being of the western world.

We have seen, of course, that Canada has obtained entry into the G-7 nations. The economic leadership shown by our Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and by the Progressive Conservative Government of Canada is exemplary when compared to that of other nations of the world.

I want briefly to review some parts of the free trade Bill we are discussing at third reading stage and relate some of the significant parts of that Bill to the great riding of Durham. As I stated earlier, there is a very strong auto sector in that area. A great many residents of my riding earn their living directly or indirectly from the auto industry.

To some degree, the free trade Bill was born out of the Auto Pact or, as it is officially known, the Canada-U.S. Automobile Products Trade Agreement. This is