

point for the collection and maintenance of a data base on all aspects of trade between the two countries. Politicians and government officials could turn to the commission for the facts before embarking on policies that might affect the North American trading system.

Winners, losers debate

The United Automobile Workers of Canada (Robert White, Director) said the crux of the free trade debate is that no one has made a convincing argument that Canadians will benefit, while it is clear that certain sectors will certainly be "losers".

In addition, the UAW maintained, free trade will make Canada more vulnerable and insecure since corporations will have more flexibility in shifting locations and jobs. They will exploit this power to further worsen the distribution of income taxes, restrain wages and limit progress in community standards such as pollution controls, plant closure legislation, unemployment insurance and equal pay laws.

This erosion in Canada's de facto economic sovereignty would be formalized by any treaty that insisted on an end to Canadian non-tariff barriers in such areas as regional development, subsidies, support of public ownership in key sectors.

The union said the issue to be discussed should not be increasing economic integration with the United States but how Canada could reduce an already incredible degree of dependency. "We should not be talking about 'enhanced trade', but of 'enhanced Canadian content' to reduce our import dependency which, in the manufacturing sector, ranks among the highest in the world in terms of deficit per capita...."