SECOND DISTINCT SITTING

The Honourable Guy Charbonneau, Speaker.

The Members convened were:

The Honourable Senators

Adams, Cochrane, Hastings, McElman, Simard,
Anderson, Cogger, Hébert, Molgart, Sinclair,
Argue, Cools, Hicks, Muir, Spivak,
Asselin, Corbin, Kirby, Murray, Stanbury,
Atkins, Croll, Lawson, Neiman, Steuart
Barootes, CWW, Leblanc (Saurel), Nurgitz, (Prince Albert-
Bazin, David, Lefebvre, Olson, Duck Lake),
Beaudoin, Denis, Lewis, Perrault, Stollery,
BClisle, Doody, Lucier, Petten, Thériault,
Bielish, Doyle, Macdonald (Cape Breton), Phillips,
Bolduc, Fairbairn, MacEachen, Poitras,
Bonnell, Flynn, Marchand, Robertson,
Buckwold, Frith, Marsden, Robichaud,
Chaput-Rolland, Guay, Rossiter,
Charbonneau, Haidasz.

L'honorable Guy Charbonneau, Président.

Les membres présents sont:

Les honorables sénateurs

McElman, Molgart, Simard,
Muir, Murray, Sinclair,
Maurice, Neiman, Spivak,
Stanbury, Steuart

Resolved in the affirmative.

After awhile, Her Excellency the Governor General having come and being seated upon the Throne—

The Honourable the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that:

"It is the pleasure of Her Excellency the Governor General that they attend her immediately in the Senate Chamber."

The House of Commons being come,

Their Speaker, the Honourable John A. Fraser, said:—

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The House of Commons have elected me their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Commons, whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and Country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Excellency's person at
all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favourable construction."

The Honourable the Speaker of the Senate answered:—

"Mr. Speaker,—I am commanded by Her Excellency the Governor General to declare to you that she freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to Her Majesty's person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, she grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges. I am commanded also to assure you that the Commons shall have ready access to Her Excellency upon all seasonable occasions and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from her the most favourable construction."

Her Excellency the Governor General was then pleased to open the Session by a Gracious Speech to both Houses, as follows:—

"Ladies and gentlemen, Honourable Members of the Senate,

Ladies and gentlemen, Members of the House of Commons:

It is my great pleasure to greet you on this, the first day of the Thirty-fourth Parliament since Confederation. This ceremony is rich in history, custom, tradition and symbolism. It is also a renewal of the vital relationship among Crown, people, parliament and government that, today as in the past, is the essence of Canadian democracy.

The people have spoken in a general election three weeks ago. Their members in the House of Commons have today claimed from the Crown the ancient rights and privileges that enable them to carry out their responsibilities.

In the election, my government sought and received a mandate for its policies, including the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States that is to take effect on January 1, 1989. The purpose of this early session of the Thirty-fourth Parliament is to seek your approval for legislation to implement this Agreement as scheduled. Similar legislation was passed by the House of Commons in August. It had also received approval in principle in the Senate and had reached the stage of Senate committee study, prior to dissolution of the Thirty-third Parliament.

My government is determined to secure the benefits of economic opportunity for this and future generations of Canadians. This Agreement reflects my ministers' confidence in Canada's ability to compete with the best in the world.

et que leurs délibérations soient interprétées par Votre Excellence de la manière la plus favorable."

L'honorable Président du Sénat répond:

«Monsieur le Président, j'ai ordre de Son Excellence le Gouverneur général de déclarer qu'elle a pleine confiance dans la loyauté et l'attachement de la Chambre des communes envers la personne et le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, et ne doutant nullement que ses délibérations seront marquées au coin de la sagesse, de la modération et de la prudence, elle lui accorde, et en toute occasion saura reconnaître ses privilèges constitutionnels. J'ai également ordre de vous assurer que les Communes auront, en toute occasion convenable, libre accès auprès de Son Excellence et que leurs délibérations, ainsi que vos paroles et vos actes, seront toujours interprétés par elle de la manière la plus favorable.»

Il plaît alors à Son Excellence le Gouverneur général d'ouvrir la session par le gracieux discours suivant aux deux Chambres:

«Mesdames et Messieurs les sénateurs,

Mesdames et Messieurs les députés,

C'est avec grand plaisir que je vous accueille à l'ouverture de la trente-quatrième Législature du Canada. Cette cérémonie, riche en traditions et en symbolisme, est empreinte d'un caractère historique. C'est aussi un renouvellement de la relation vitale entre la Couronne, le peuple, le parlement et le gouvernement qui, aujourd'hui comme dans le passé, constitue l'essence de la démocratie canadienne.

Le peuple canadien s'est prononcé il y a trois semaines, à l'occasion d'une élection générale. Ses représentants à la Chambre des communes ont aujourd'hui réclamé à la Couronne les droits et privilèges anciens qui leur permettent de s'acquitter de leurs responsabilités.

À l'issue de l'élection, mon gouvernement a reçu le mandat qu'il avait sollicité pour poursuivre l'application de ses politiques, y compris la mise en œuvre de l'Accord de libre-échange entre le Canada et les États-Unis, qui doit entrer en vigueur le 1er janvier 1989. L'objet de cette session du trente-quatrième Parlement est de vous demander d'approuver la loi nécessaire pour mettre cet accord à exécution à la date prévue. Un projet de loi semblable, déjà adopté par la Chambre des communes en août dernier, avait reçu l'approbation de principe du Sénat et y avait atteint l'étape de l'étude en comité au moment de la dissolution du trente-troisième Parlement.

Mon gouvernement est déterminé à faire profiter les générations actuelles et futures de Canadiens des possibilités économiques qu'offre cet accord. Sa conclusion témoigne de la confiance qu'ont mes ministres en notre capacité de faire concurrence sur les marchés du monde entier.
In due course, we will hold a second session of this Parliament, at which time my ministers will place before you a statement of policy for this, their second mandate in office. Meanwhile, you may be asked at the present session to consider other matters as deemed advisable by my government.

Ladies and gentlemen, Honourable Members of the Senate,

Ladies and gentlemen, Members of the House of Commons:

As you carry out the will of the people and serve the national interest, may Divine Providence be your guide and inspiration.

The Commons withdrew.

Her Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

The Honourable Senator Doody presented to the Senate a Bill S-1, An Act relating to Railways.

The Bill was read the first time.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate that a copy of the Speech of Her Excellency the Governor General had been left in his hands.

The Speech was read by the Honourable the Speaker.

The Honourable Senator Doody moved, seconded by the Honourable Senator Tremblay:

That the Speech of Her Excellency the Governor General, delivered this day from the Throne to the two Houses of Parliament, be taken into consideration at the next sitting of the Senate.

The question being put on the motion, it was—Resolved in the affirmative.

The Honourable Senator Doody moved, seconded by the Honourable Senator Bélisle:

That all the Senators present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as they please.

The question being put on the motion, it was—Resolved in the affirmative.