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### HON. MARTHA P. BIELISH

#### FELICITATIONS ON INDUCTION INTO ALBERTA AGRICULTURAL HALL OF FAME

**Hon. Earl A. Hastings:** Honourable senators, before the Orders of the Day are called, I should like to associate myself with the remarks of Senator Hays yesterday when he drew the attention of the Senate to the honour that has been accorded to one of our colleagues, the Honourable Senator Martha Bielish, by being inducted into the Alberta Agricultural Hall of Fame.

The Agricultural Hall of Fame was created to recognize men and women of Alberta who have made outstanding contributions to rural life and to the development of agriculture in the province. The 45 individual members of the Hall of Fame are impressive examples of leadership and accomplishment.

It is indeed appropriate that in this year, the seventy-fifth anniversary of Alberta's entry into Confederation, Martha Bielish should be honoured as one who has devoted her life to strengthening the rural community, and supporting the family and the rural way of life—the hallmarks of Alberta throughout the past 75 years.

The citation which accompanied Senator Bielish's nomination states:

Martha Palamarek Bielish, a dedicated humanitarian, has continuously worked to improve the quality of life, especially for those in rural areas. Active on a variety of committees and councils, she has made a special contribution to women's institutes. She served four years as provincial president, and has represented the organization at several international gatherings. In 1975 she was presented with the Woman of the Year award by the Alberta Women's Institute. Two years later she received the Queen's Jubilee Medal as recognition for her work at the community, provincial and national level.

I am sure all honourable senators will join me in extending congratulations and best wishes to our colleague on being so honoured by being inducted into the Alberta Agricultural Hall of Fame.

**Hon. Senators:** Hear, hear.

[Senator Argue.]

### BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

**Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, further to our discussions earlier of the anticipated message concerning televising the proceedings of the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution, we now face the risk so eloquently described by Senator Roblin—that of adjourning before the arrival of the message, with the possible loss of two or three days of television broadcasts of the committee's proceedings. Therefore, it seems to me that the solution is for us to adjourn during pleasure to reassemble at the call of the bell upon receipt of that message.

● (1450)

I will undertake, honourable senators, to find out what the situation is, and, if it turns out that we will be wasting our time by waiting, I will have the bells rung and we can then adjourn until Tuesday.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Is there a motion to adjourn?

**Hon. Jacques Flynn (Leader of the Opposition):** Presumably there is, seconded by Senator Lamontagne, but that is not the point. The point is that the deputy leader, when he says we should adjourn during pleasure, is suggesting that the Senate should submit to a rather inferior position. Why should we wait for the Commons to send us a message, when we can just as well decide the matter ourselves right now? As I proposed previously, the Senate could authorize the committee to have its proceedings televised, if that is what it wants.

Having been refused leave to move that motion, I might suggest that I could retaliate by refusing to give leave respecting another motion later on. Nevertheless, in view of the situation, I will give the deputy leader the opportunity of moving the motion immediately so that we can adopt it and allow the Senate to adjourn without being made to look stupid, waiting for a message concerning a decision that the Senate could make by itself without having to wait for any message from the other place.

**Senator Frith:** Honourable senators, I can only repeat that we disagree on interpretation. I tried to explain why I do not feel there is anything wrong with our waiting for that message, but some of us seem to feel that there is something humiliating in doing so.

**Senator Flynn:** Yes.

**Senator Frith:** Let me explain why I do not think so.

**Senator Flynn:** Your explanation may take as long as is necessary to receive the message.

**Senator Frith:** Thank you. Leave is granted for a long explanation with that condition attached. Perhaps I will not persuade the honourable senator with my argument, but I do wish to deal with this matter of whether or not we are humiliating ourselves by waiting, because that point was also raised by Senator Macquarrie.

In the isolated context of the particular stage we have reached with this particular item that might seem to some honourable senators to be the case, but I can assure the house