[English]

I hope honourable senators will pardon me for taking a minute, but, as a New Brunswicker, coming as I do from the Miramichi, I could not leave without placing on record my feelings, and joining with everyone who has preceded me in what they have said on behalf of my two colleagues from New Brunswick. I am sure, if one were to check the records, this is probably the only time a small province like New Brunswick has lost two senators on the same day.

I know that everything that has been said about Cy Sherwood is true, and that much more could be said. I served with him for 19 years in the legislature and I had the good fortune to observe his work both in government and in opposition. He has made New Brunswick proud, both in this place and in the other place.

To Senator Anderson I want to say that all that has been said about you I have known since my childhood; all the good things people have learned about you, I grew up knowing, through your family and through yourself.

Those on the Miramichi have been fortunate, if I may say so, because they have had two representatives from that very small area serving in the Senate at the same time. We probably have more senators per capita than any other region in the country. I will probably not be able to do as much as Senator Anderson has been able to do for our people on the Miramichi and for our province, but I can assure her that I shall do my best. I would not want the record to show that I had not spoken about my feelings on the day of her retirement, because, if we ever come to an elected Senate, I would never be able to get elected on the Miramichi if I had not said some good words about her.

Honourable senators, when I rose earlier this afternoon I wanted to say that today we are celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the election of Louis Robichaud as Premier of New Brunswick. It is a moment I will never forget.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Hon. Joyce Fairbairn: Honourable senators, I should like to add my brief remarks to the many words of praise that have echoed in this chamber this afternoon. I particularly want to say a very fond farewell to my colleague, Senator Margaret Anderson. Senator Anderson is leaving her career as a senator after a lifetime of success in business, politics, and volunteer service. Since arriving in this place in 1978 she has done the job well for the Senate, and particularly for the province of New Brunswick. No matter what issue Senator Anderson tackles, she always makes sense, commonsense. Her quiet wisdom in this place, in Senate committees and in our Senate Liberal caucus meetings, has been a tremendous contribution to better understanding.

I was looking at a clipping of the day Senator Anderson was appointed to the Senate. She said then that the most pressing issues facing our national leadership were the economy and national union, and that one was no more important than the other. Today her judgment has certainly been borne out, as both those issues are still of the highest priority within our

country. I know that when she returns to the beautiful Miramichi she will continue to contribute to the understanding that is so necessary in Canada.

I want to say to Senator Sherwood that it has been a delight serving with him on the Agriculture Committee. His distinguished career in politics is made even more important by his kindness and humanity. I wish him happiness in his retirement.

To Senator Flynn—my goodness, we have been friends for a very long time, going back to when I was a young reporter in the parliamentary press gallery. Over the years the friendship and kindness Senator Flynn has shown me in the various things I have done on Parliament Hill has been most appreciated. We will miss you, not only in the hurly-burly of political life here but, again, because of the personal qualities that have marked your career in politics.

• (1620)

I should like to say to Senator Asselin that he will do a tremendous service to his province and to the country in the position of Lieutenant Governor. He too is a colleague I have known for many years on Parliament Hill.

To all of you I wish the very best of health and happiness with your families in the years to come.

[Translation]

Hon. Gérald-A. Beaudoin: Honourable senators, I want to join in the tributes to the four senators who are leaving us today. Allow me to say a few words about Senator Jacques Flynn.

I knew him before being appointed to the Senate. We discussed political, legal and constitutional issues in 1980, 1981 and 1982. Senator Flynn belongs to a great family of lawyers who has made a name for itself in politics.

Upon my appointment to the Senate, he became my mentor, something I have always been proud of. I wish him and his charming wife healthy, happy and long lives.

I would also like to say a word about Senator Martial Asselin who will become Quebec's next Lieutenant Governor. I had the good fortune to know this eminent lawyer and to often discuss legal and political issues with him. I have always considered his ideas very constructive. I wish him and his charming wife good health and success in his important duties.

[English]

Hon. Cyril B. Sherwood: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Honourable senators, I have sat here for quite a while this afternoon. Earlier I was hoping that this fellowship and good cheer would never end.

Senator Argue: It almost did not.

Senator Sherwood: However, this last little while I have been wondering if it ever would end!

Honourable senators, I first wish to add my hearty congratulations and good wishes to all those that have been so well extended to Senator Asselin. He has made a tremendous contribution throughout his lifetime of service to his province and to his country. To have the opportunity to serve, as he will