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At 4.45 p.m. the sitting of the Senate was resumed.

### ROYAL ASSENT

The Honourable Antonio Lamer, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, having come and being seated at the foot of the Throne, and the House of Commons having been summoned, and being come with their Acting Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General was pleased to give the Royal Assent to the following bill:

An Act to implement the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States of America (*Bill C-2, Chapter 65, 1988*)

The House of Commons withdrew.

The Honourable the Deputy Governor General was pleased to retire.

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The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

[Translation]

### NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

**Hon. Azellus Denis:** Honourable senators, I would like to wish every one of you a happy new year, or as we say in our beautiful French language, "Bonne et heureuse année."

I would add "and paradise at the end of your days" even for those who do not believe in it, as well as for those who supported Bill C-2.

● (1650)

[English]

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, I wish to thank Senator Denis for his expression of kindness. I envy him his facility in that beautiful, graceful and rhythmically musical language which, unfortunately, I have no proficiency in. I am still struggling with English!

I also want to take this opportunity to wish my colleagues on both sides of the house the best for the coming year. We have had an eventful year, and I look forward to another good and cooperative year. All of us have not been pleased with all of the results as they came through, but we did our duty, and I thank all of you for your cooperation.

I should also like to thank all the staff members who have been so accommodating, so generous and so helpful during the year, and apologize to them for the inconvenience that we have put them to during this Christmas season. We have been more demanding than we usually are. Once again, my best wishes to all of you, and many thanks.

The Senate adjourned until Monday, March 6, 1989, at 2 p.m.

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*The Thirty-fourth Parliament was prorogued by Proclamation on Tuesday, February 28, 1989.*

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