Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council) moved:

That, when the House adjourns following the disposal of the third reading stage of Bill C-14, an act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, it shall stand adjourned until a time to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the government, when the House may meet for the purpose of dealing with any subsequent proceeding on the said bill or the giving of Royal Assent to the said bill and any other bills then ready for royal assent:

That after the disposal of such proceedings or in the event the House does not meet for those purposes, the House shall be adjourned or stand adjourned, as the case may be, until January 23, 1979, provided that at any time prior to that date if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice, and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time; and

That in the event of Mr. Speaker's being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, the Deputy Speaker or Deputy Chairman of committees shall act in his stead for the purpose of reconvening the House.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: May I indicate therefore that the House will stand adjourned, the ordinary course under the provisions of this order, and presumably will await the consideration of the bill by the other place, following which it will be recalled by the Chair later this day or at some other time, depending on Their Honours in the other place, if the House moves to adjourn today, pending the call of the Chair for the purposes outlined in this adjournment order.

The first thing I wish to say to the House now is that it would give me great honour and pleasure to be able to receive members and their usual guests in Room 16.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: That is the situation at the moment, subject only to a very important intervention by the hon. member for Northwest Territories (Mr. Firth).

Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of one of my favourite constituents who happens to live at the North Pole and goes by the name of Santa Claus, I wish everyone in the House here today, and all people in the land, a very happy Christmas, good health, and happiness in the new year.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Ho, ho!

Mr. Speaker: The House stands recessed until the call of the Chair.

At 4.22 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

• (2212)

[Translation]

SITTING RESUMED

Royal Assent

The House resumed at 10.05 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed Bill C-14, an act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, without amendment.

ROYAL ASSENT

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following communication:

Government House Ottawa

December 22, 1978

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Louis-Philippe Pigeon, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber today, the 22nd day of December, at 10.05 p.m. for the purpose of giving royal assent to certain bills.

> I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant, Edmond Joly de Lotbinière Administrative Secretary to the Governor General

A message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable House in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the House went up to the Senate chamber.

And being returned:

[English]

Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Honourable Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

Bill C-14, an act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971.—Chapter No. 7.

Bill C-33, an act to authorize the granting of an immediate annuity to the Honourable Mr. Justice Donald Raymond Morand.—Chapter No. 8.