

*Royal Assent***THE ROYAL ASSENT***[English]*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received as follows:

Rideau Hall

18 August, 1988

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Gérard V. J. La Forest, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 18th day of August, 1988, at 3:30 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain Bills.

Yours sincerely,  
Anthony P. Smyth,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Policy and Program

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS***[English]***CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT**

## MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of Bill C-130, an Act to implement the free trade agreement between Canada and the United States of America, as reported (with amendments) from a legislative committee; and the amendments of Mr. Axworthy (p. 18476), and of Mr. Langdon (p. 18476).

**Mr. Rob Nicholson (Niagara Falls):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to enter the debate on these amendments. As one of the number of representatives in this House of the grape growing and wine producing areas of Canada, I am very pleased to give my opinions with respect to this industry.

I heard the previous speaker's remarks. I must categorically disagree with his comments that this industry will not survive because of free trade. That is absolutely incorrect. That is nonsense. An examination of the facts would bear me out on that subject.

I do agree with him that there have been difficulties in this industry which extend back a number of years. For the record, there have been surpluses within the grape industry in 10 of the last 12 years. There are a number of reasons for that, chief among them the competition that we face, which I suggest is in many ways unfair, from the Europeans who, through the years of indirect subsidies, have flooded Canada in the past. That, along with a number of other things, has caused a surplus of grapes. Expanding production within the Niagara and British Columbia regions has contributed to the excess as well.

One of the first things I did as a Member of Parliament after being elected in 1984 was to approach the representatives of the Treasury Board with my request that the Government take up the surplus of grapes that was produced in the fall of

1984. To all those who say that the Government does not or has not supported this industry, I say that the Government has purchased every single grape that could not be sold privately. Every single grape was purchased with the assistance of the federal Government.

It has been recognized for a number of years that there is excess capacity in this important industry. That excess was recognized by the Province of Ontario. There has been tabled in the Ontario Legislature changes to be made in the Wine Content Act which, among other things, acknowledge the fact that with the removal of labrusca grapes from certain types of wines in Ontario there will be excess capacity and a vine removal program will be necessary. That is acknowledged by the Ontario Government.

What is not acknowledged by the critics of this free trade agreement which will be so helpful to the Niagara Peninsula—

**ROYAL ASSENT***[English]*

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

Mr. Speaker, it is the desire of the Honourable Deputy to the Governor General that this honourable House attend him immediately in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

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

● (1540)

*[Translation]*

And being returned:

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that when the House went up to the Senate Chamber, the Deputy Governor General was pleased to give Royal Assent in Her Majesty's name to the following Bills:

Bill C-129, An Act to provide for the continuance of Air Canada under the Canada Business Corporations Act and for the issuance and sale of shares thereof to the public.—Chapter 44, 1988.

Bill C-132, An Act to amend the Western Grain Stabilization Act.—Chapter 45, 1988.

Bill C-112, An Act to amend the Canada Grain Act and other Acts in consequence thereof.—Chapter 46, 1988.

Bill C-92, an Act to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act.—Chapter 47, 1988.

Bill C-30, An Act to amend the National Parks Act and to amend an Act to amend the National Parks Act.—Chapter 48, 1988.

Bill C-145, An Act to amend various Acts to give effect to the reconstitution of the Quebec Provincial Court, Court of the Sessions of the Peace and Youth Court as the Court of Quebec.—Chapter 49, 1988.

Bill C-103, An Act to increase opportunity for economic development in Atlantic Canada, to establish the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation and to make consequential and related amendments to other Acts.—Chapter 50, 1988.