

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Senator Carney: Honourable senators, I think we should mark this occasion, because it is the first time that the Leader of either the Government or the Opposition has been a woman. This is, therefore, a red-letter day — if I may be excused the pun — in the history of this institution. I hope that it will not be the last occasion on which a woman will hold this position.

I am particularly happy to acknowledge this historic event today because my relationship with Senator Fairbairn goes back about 25 years, to the time when we both first became members of the Press Galley in the 1960s. I am fully aware of the distinguished role that she has played in her many positions in government: as legislative assistant to the former Prime Minister Trudeau, and as a long-time member of the Senate. I hope that she will have the support of all of us in the Senate to enable her to carry out her new and distinguished role.

In my case, she certainly will have not only my support but my affection.

Hon. Joyce Fairbairn (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I cannot tell you how delighted I am to hear those words from my friend of many years — and I do believe, Senator Carney, it might even be more than 25.

Senator Gigantès: Not possible — chronologically impossible.

Senator Fairbairn: I will do my very best to be worthy of the confidence and the kindness that you have expressed today. I am also very conscious of the privilege and the honour that has been conferred on me, as indeed anyone would be in this position. It is the biggest challenge of my life. I will work with every bit of dedication, experience and will at my disposal to do a good and credible job for the Parliament of Canada but, most particularly, for all the Canadians we represent in this chamber.

• (1410)

I look around the chamber today and see how very different it is from the day that I came here in 1984. There are now many more women. I even see an old friend who is sitting in what was my original seat. I refer to Senator LeBreton.

I know that all of us will work together — regardless of whether we are men or women — to make this a place of significance and an institution to be proud of, not just for ourselves but for all Canadians.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY—TERMINATION OF DEBATE
ON EIGHTH SITTING DAY—NOTICE OF MOTION

Hon. Gildas L. Molgat (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I give notice that tomorrow, Thursday, January 20, I will move:

That the proceedings on the Order of the Day for resuming the debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to His Excellency the Governor General's Speech from the Throne addressed to both Houses of Parliament be concluded on the eighth sitting day on which the order is debated.

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

NINETIETH INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE,
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA—REPORT TABLED

Hon. Peter Bosa: Honourable senators, I am pleased to table in both official languages the report of the Ninetieth Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference, held in Canberra, Australia between September 13 and 18, 1993.

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON
NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE FOR GLOBAL PROSPERITY,
OTTAWA, CANADA—REPORT TABLED

Hon. Peter Bosa: Honourable senators, I am pleased to table in both official languages the report of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference on the North-South Dialogue for Global Prosperity, held in Ottawa from October 18 to 22, 1993.

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

NOTICE OF MOTION TO AUTHORIZE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE
REGULATIONS PROPOSED TO THE EXPORT DEVELOPMENT ACT

Hon. Michael Kirby: Honourable senators, I give notice that on Thursday next, January 20, 1994, I will move:

That when the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce is established, it be authorized to examine the regulations proposed to the Export Development Act (S.C. 1993, c. 26), together with the regulatory impact statement, originally printed in the *Canada Gazette* Part I, November 6, 1993; and

That the committee report to the Senate no later than February 28, 1994.

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

NOTICE OF MOTION TO AUTHORIZE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE
AND REPORT UPON THE TREATMENT OF ABORIGINAL
VETERANS FOLLOWING WORLD WAR I, WORLD WAR II
AND THE KOREAN WAR

Hon. Len Marchand: Honourable senators, I give notice that tomorrow, Thursday, January 20, I will move: