

## THE SENATE

Tuesday, December 27, 1988

The Senate met at 2 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.  
Prayers.

[Translation]

### CLERK'S ACCOUNTS

STATEMENT TABLED

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, I have the honour of announcing that, in accordance with rule 112, the Clerk of the Senate has tabled a detailed statement of his revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 1988.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government)** moved:

That the Clerk's Accounts be referred to the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration.

Motion agreed to.

[English]

### CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION BILL

FIRST READING

**The Hon. the Speaker** informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-2, to implement the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States of America.

Bill read first time.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

On motion of Senator Doody, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 44(1)(f), bill placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading later this day.

### FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED TO ENGAGE SERVICES

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government)**, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(e), moved:

That the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs have power to engage the services of such counsel and technical, clerical and other personnel as may be necessary for the purpose of its examination and consideration of such

bills, subject-matters of bills and estimates as are referred to it.

Motion agreed to.

COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED TO MEET DURING SITTINGS OF THE SENATE

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government)**, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(a), moved:

That the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs have power to sit while the Senate is sitting tomorrow, Wednesday, 28th December and Thursday, 29th December, 1988, and that Rule 76(4) be suspended in relation thereto.

Motion agreed to.

## QUESTION PERIOD

### THE CONSTITUTION

MEECH LAKE ACCORD—FIRST MINISTERS' MEETINGS—  
PARTICIPATION BY TERRITORIES

**Hon. Paul Lucier:** Honourable senators, in the spring of this year, when it appeared that the Meech Lake Accord was in some difficulty, I asked the Leader of the Government if he would consider calling meetings with the premiers to have further discussions. At that time he assured me that it was this accord or nothing. I accepted that. I do not know if I agreed, but I know that that was what he was saying.

The Meech Lake Accord has been brought into the Bill 101 question by the Premier of Quebec and by Mr. Filmon. They have been tied together, and it appears that there will now have to be meetings with the government and the premiers to discuss Meech Lake.

My question to the Leader of the Government is this: If such discussions concerning Meech Lake take place at any time in the future, will he ensure that the elected representatives of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories are present for those discussions? At this time I am not asking him what will or will not be discussed. I am only asking for the assurance that, if there are discussions, the elected leaders of both territories will be present for the discussions, because they were not present the last time.

**Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government, Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations and Acting Minister**