

## THE SENATE

Tuesday, January 27, 1981

The Senate met at 8 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.  
Prayers.

### ITALY

EARTHQUAKE DISASTER—CANADIAN AID—NATIONAL  
CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE—VISIT OF SPEAKER TO  
DEVASTATED AREA

[*Translation*]

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, I just returned from Rome at 6 o'clock this evening, and I am pleased to give you the best regards of the President of Italy, Signor Pertini.

[*English*]

I would also communicate greetings from Signor Fanfani who, as you know, was Prime Minister of Italy on three or four occasions. He was later promoted to President of the Italian Senate.

As far as the details of my trip are concerned, I hope to have an opportunity to discuss them with you later since I do not intend to take up your time this evening.

[*Later:*]

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault (Leader of the Government):** On behalf of all honourable senators, I welcome the return to the chamber of His Honour the Speaker from a visit to the earthquake ravaged zone of Italy. We commend him for the initiative he and his committee have shown in trying to bring some relief and succour to those people so badly affected by the earthquake.

• (2010)

**Hon. Duff Roblin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators, I would like to join with the Leader of the Government in welcoming His Honour the Speaker back to the Chair. It was a very quick visit indeed, and I expect that there is a certain amount of jet lag to be accounted for.

I look forward to hearing His Honour's report on the earthquake situation. I am sure it will be a matter of some real interest to all honourable senators.

### THE CONSTITUTION

SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE—CHANGES IN COMMONS  
MEMBERSHIP

**The Hon. the Speaker** informed the Senate that messages had been received from the House of Commons to acquaint the Senate with changes in the list of members appointed to serve on the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution of Canada.

(*For text of messages, see today's Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate.*)

### MISCELLANEOUS STATUTE LAW AMENDMENT BILL, 1981

FIRST READING

**The Hon. the Speaker** informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-56, to correct certain anomalies, inconsistencies, archaisms, errors and other matters of a non-controversial and uncomplicated nature in the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970, and other acts subsequent to 1970.

Bill read first time.

**Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government),** with leave of the Senate, moved that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting.

Motion agreed to.

### DOCUMENTS TABLED

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault (Leader of the Government)** tabled:

Notices of Ways and Means Motions to amend the *Excise Tax Act (1)* and the *Excise Tax Act (2)*, issued by the Department of Finance.

Report of the Law Reform Commission of Canada for the year ended May 31, 1980, pursuant to section 18 of the *Law Reform Commission Act*, Chapter 23 (1st Supplement), R.S.C., 1970.

### PRIVATE BILL

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION—REPORT OF COMMITTEE  
PRESENTED

**Hon. M. Lorne Bonnell,** Chairman of the Standing Senate Committee on Health, Welfare and Science, presented the following report:

Tuesday, January 27, 1981

The Standing Senate Committee on Health, Welfare and Science to which was referred Bill S-15, intitled "An Act respecting The Royal Canadian Legion", has, in obedience to the order of reference of Tuesday, December 16, 1980, examined the said Bill and reports the same with the following amendment:

*Page 4, Schedule II:* Strike out the description in Column II and substitute the following: