

examination are, to a certain extent, curtailed. He is not to be called as a witness for the prosecution, and if called on his own behalf, the cross-examination may, at the order of the Judge, be limited in matters of reputation or character as the Judge thinks proper. I do not propose, just now, to say anything more. Of course, this brings up the oft-discussed question as to the propriety of admitting criminals to give evidence, but that general question can, perhaps, be more properly discussed on the second reading of the Bill.

Mr. ANGLIN. Why do you limit the right of cross-examination?

Mr. McCARTHY. Because in cross-examining the accused in the ordinary way, as to his credibility, it might be very unfair towards him to investigate his whole life, and it is left to the discretionary power of the Judge as to where the examination should stop.

Bill introduced and read the first time.

DIOCESE OF THE SASKATCHEWAN.

Mr. MILLS, in moving for leave to introduce a Bill (No. 51) for the incorporation of the Synod of the Diocese of the Saskatchewan, and for other purposes connected therewith, said: It is not necessary that I should make any remarks on the introduction of a private Bill of this kind. Remarks in explanation in support of its provisions, can be more fitly made at a later stage. The provisions of the Bill are similar to those for the incorporation of the Synods of the churches at present existing in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. This Bill will enable certain parties in the region mentioned, to form themselves into a local co-operation, to transact business, to appoint the members of the Synod, and hold real estate for certain purposes.

Bill introduced and read the first time.

SECOND READINGS.

The following Bills were read the second time:—

Bill (No. 39) to incorporate the Rainy River Improvement Company.—(Mr. Kilvert.)

Bill (No. 40) respecting the Dundee Land Investment Company (Limited).—(Mr. Gault.)

Bill (No. 41) to incorporate the Tecumseh Fire Insurance Company of Canada.—(Mr. Macmillan.)

Bill (No. 43) to incorporate the Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Company.—(Mr. Williams.)

Bill (No. 44) to amend the Act incorporating the Napier-ville Junction Railway and Quarry Company.—(Mr. Coursol.)

Bill (No. 45) to reduce the capital stock of the Ontario Bank and to change the nominal value thereof and for other purposes.—(Mr. Kirkpatrick.)

Bill (No. 46) to incorporate the Edison Electric Light Company of Canada.—(Mr. McCarthy.)

THE RICHELIEU BRIDGE COMPANY.

Mr. BAKER moved the second reading of Bill (No. 42) to incorporate "The Richelieu Bridge Company."

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Is this a Railway Bill?

Mr. BAKER. No.

Mr. MILLS. I have not seen the Bill, but if it does not relate to the bridging of navigable streams it is not a measure within the jurisdiction of this Parliament—it belongs to the Local Legislature—I mean if it interferes with navigation.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The Richelieu is a navigable river.

Bill read the second time.

Mr. McCARTHY.

MARITIME JURISDICTION ACT.

Mr. WILLIAMS enquired, Is it the intention of the Government to so amend the Maritime Jurisdiction Act that a more speedy and less expensive method may be provided for the recovery of seamen's wages in Ontario?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I would say that the matter is one which can be dealt with without any change in the Act constituting the Court. The Government has asked the Court, whether the Court will consider, in conjunction with the Surrogates in the counties where the chief business of the Court is being done, the existing rules of the Court, with a view to ascertain whether the expenses of proceedings in the Court may be reduced.

BOUNDARIES OF ONTARIO.

Mr. DAWSON enquired, Whether, in the document relating to the boundaries of Ontario, bearing date 18th February, and addressed, as appears by the newspapers, to the Secretary of State by the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, the lecture of Sir Francis Hincks therein referred to, accompanies the said document as a part of the case for Ontario?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The lecture of Sir Francis Hincks does not accompany the document as part of the case.

BRIDGE CROSSING RIVIÈRE DU LOUP.

Mr. GRANDBOIS enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to replace, during the coming season, the wooden bridge on the line of the Intercolonial Railway, crossing Rivière du Loup, by an iron bridge?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. It is not the intention of the Government, during the coming season, to replace the wooden bridge on the line of the Intercolonial Railway crossing Rivière du Loup.

POST OFFICE AT BRAMPTON.

Mr. ELLIOTT enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to place a sum in the Estimates for the purpose of building a post office and Custom house in the town of Brampton, county of Peel?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The intention is not to place a sum in the Estimates for this purpose, but the matter will be investigated during the recess.

RESIDENT JUDGE AT GASPÉ.

Mr. FORTIN, in moving for copies of all letters, reports, and documents respecting the appointment of a Judge in the county of Gaspé, and the system of judicial decentralization in Canada, said: In making this motion, I think it is my duty to address a few remarks to this House on a question of importance which interests one of the first elements of society, that is to say, justice. I represent a county which forms, by itself, a judicial district. That district should have a resident Judge, as the law declared more than thirty years ago, but for more than ten years we have had no resident Judge. The Judge acting in that district has been itinerant; we see him a couple of times a year; he stays with us two or three days, and in consequence of this state of things, justice suffers. I may say that we have no administration of justice there, and, when I state that, I state the sentiment of the whole county. But, perhaps, Mr. Speaker, the question will be better understood if I am allowed to read part of a letter which I addressed to the Minister of Justice on that question:

"OTTAWA, 3rd February, 1882.

"SIR,—I think I would fail in my duty as representative of the county of Gaspé, if I were not to address you this letter in reference to the appointment of a Judge to replace the Judge of the district of Gaspé, who died recently.