

*National Flag***JUDGES ACT****AMENDMENTS PROVIDING ADDITIONAL JUDGES IN NOVA SCOTIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Justice)** moved that the house go into committee to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Judges Act to provide for salaries for two additional judges of the supreme court of Nova Scotia, including one chief justice, and for one additional judge of the court of appeal for British Columbia.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Paul in the chair.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Shall the resolution carry?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I am sure the minister has some explanation to give.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** The amendments to the Judges Act proposed in the bill have two purposes, namely to provide salaries for two additional judges of the supreme court of Nova Scotia required by reason of recent changes in the organization of that court, and to provide a salary for an additional judge of the court of appeal for British Columbia, thus bringing the Judges Act into conformity with existing British Columbia legislation.

In April of this year royal assent was given to a measure enacted by the legislature of Nova Scotia to amend the Judicature Act. Until now the supreme court of Nova Scotia has been a single court with trial and appellate jurisdiction; the trial jurisdiction has been exercised by single judges, and the appellate jurisdiction by the judges sitting *en banc*. Under the new legislation, which is to come into force on proclamation, the supreme court of Nova Scotia will be divided into two divisions, namely, the trial division and the appeal division, as in the case of Ontario. The total number of judges under the new legislation will be increased by two, and it is therefore necessary to provide salaries for two additional judges.

In 1957 the court of appeal act of British Columbia was amended to provide for a chief justice and eight other judges. The Judges Act at present, however, provides salaries for a chief justice and only seven appeal judges. The purpose of this amendment is to authorize the provision of a salary for one additional judge of the British Columbia court of appeal, so as to bring the Judges Act into conformity with provincial legislation.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Shall the resolution carry?

**Mr. Berger:** Mr. Chairman—

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Five o'clock.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order. So that the house may proceed to the consideration of private members' business, pursuant to section 3 of standing order 15, it is my duty to rise, report progress and request leave to sit again later this day or at the next sitting of the house, as the case may be.

Progress reported.

**Mr. Speaker:** It now being five o'clock the house will proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely notices of motions.

**FLAGS OF CANADA****MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR A NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA**

**Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat)** moved:

That this house is of the opinion that the government should agree within one year to a design for a suitable distinctive national flag and introduce legislation in this house for the adoption of this emblem.

He said: Mr. Speaker, first of all I wish to thank the house for allowing this motion to stand by unanimous consent until I returned to the capital. You will note, Mr. Speaker, that this motion is very short. I think it is very simply stated. Further, I think it is completely self-explanatory. For example, you will note that it does not ask for any specific design in a national flag. As a matter of fact, I have not any pet design that I should like to promote. However, I am concerned about drifting along from year to year with no action being taken by our government to designate some particular emblem as the flag of Canada.

We have had committees investigating and attempting to come up with a suitable and acceptable design. We know now that there were several hundred designs submitted, in fact someone has told me there were over a thousand designs submitted. Certainly, therefore, there is any number of choices. Even now, Mr. Speaker, there are Canadians flying flags of several different designs, even over some public buildings. We do not have one design for a Canadian flag.

The passage of this motion would simply do one thing. It would put a one-year time limit on the introduction of legislation to adopt a specific design which would, from then on, be the Canadian flag. The government has indicated it is interested in introducing legislation in this field when, in the speech from the throne, the following appeared:

My government will ask you, as a significant step in rounding out the concept of confederation, to consider a resolution to provide for the "reparation" of the constitution of Canada—