

the provincial legislature. I think it is absolutely necessary that the Government here should take the initiative steps and ask for a conference with the authorities of the province in order to meet these difficulties. It can only be done in that way. It certainly cannot be done by merely appointing a judge in a district in which it may please the province of Quebec to ask to have one appointed.

As regards the remuneration of the judges in the city of Montreal and in the province of Quebec generally, that is a subject, of course, that has engaged the attention not only of this Government but of several preceding Governments. I think all barristers of Montreal who will have the courage to speak freely and openly on the subject will say that the judges of the city of Montreal are not sufficiently recompensed by the salaries they receive to-day. As my hon. friend from Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk) has so well pointed out, the increased cost of living in Montreal is such that it is impossible for a judge to maintain the dignity of his position on the salary paid him to-day. I do not think that in any part of the province of Quebec the judges are too highly paid, but I feel that the judges of the country districts are very much better paid than the judges in the city of Montreal. I do not reflect at all on the judges in the city of Quebec when I say, as I do without fear of contradiction, that the difference in the cost of living in Montreal and Quebec is so great that, while the judges in Quebec may be properly paid with the salaries they receive, it is impossible to say that the judges in Montreal are properly paid. I know that many hon. members, after looking through the Auditor General's Report, as I see some members on the other side of the House doing, will have some criticism to offer about the travelling expenses of judges. Now, I would like to hear these criticisms made by hon. gentlemen who come from the provinces in which the judges reside who are to be criticised. I think a member of Parliament who wishes to criticise any subject should have the courage to criticise it himself, instead of furnishing documents to somebody else to enable him to make a criticism. While in some cases the travelling expenses paid to some judges in the province of Quebec may appear large, yet I think anybody who will consider the work that is being done by these judges in going from one district to another as they have been obliged to do in numberless cases, will realize at once that these travelling expenses are not too large. We know that judges have been brought from the country districts, at any rate surrounding Montreal, into Montreal for the purpose of relieving the congestion which has existed there for years. This was not done in order to enable the judges to earn \$6 a day and travelling expenses.

It being Six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

## After Recess.

Mr. QUINN. When six o'clock was called I was referring to the travelling expenses of the judges who at different times had been called from their districts into the city of Montreal to relieve the congestion which existed there, and I said this had not been done to enable the judges to earn the daily allowance or the travelling expenses which are accorded to them by statute. They came because they were absolutely required to do so for the administration of justice. It is a well-known fact that there is an insufficiency of judges in Montreal, and has been for a number of years. Some criticism has been made of the judges because of the amount of expenses which they charged up as travelling expenses and daily allowance which they were entitled to under the statute. But if these expenses appear too large in certain cases, it is not due to the misconduct of the judges at all, as some might wish to infer, but to the liberal allowance which has been made by statute in cases of this kind. However, I do not think this is a matter that need be dwelt upon, I think it would be unfortunate if the conduct of the judges in this respect were made the subject of criticism in this House, and I do not propose to pursue the subject any further. I will now say a word or two of the proposition in the motion before the House to increase the salary of Mr. Justice Taschereau. I quite agree with everything that has been said by the Solicitor General concerning Mr. Justice Taschereau; I quite agree that he is probably one of the best judges that we have in Montreal. Where all are good it is very difficult to make a distinction, but I think I am not going too far when I say that there is no judge in Montreal better entitled to consideration than Mr. Justice Taschereau. I realize, too, the anomaly which existed in his case, and I am glad to see that a change is being made. But I would like to see this change made in such a way that it would not militate against the other judges who reside in some of the country districts outside of Montreal. I see a disposition to distinguish, for example, between the judges of the Court of Queen's Bench and the judges of the Superior Court. Now, why this should be, I cannot understand. Under the old system of allowing at least three days' expenses to a judge coming into the city, possibly the expense might have run up to a much larger sum than was anticipated, but I do not see that this is any reason why a change should be made and the judges compelled to count every day of service as an ordinary workman would count. Judges cannot work as ordinary workmen, I do not think it is intended that they should work as ordinary workmen. I think it would be a mistaken policy of economy for us to begin by curtailing in any way either the salaries of the judges or their travelling expenses; I think it would be a mistake for