

## The Legal News.

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The recent discussion in the House of Commons on the subject of the salaries of judges is not encouraging to those who would like to see a proper revision of the scale of judicial remuneration. The Minister of Justice concurred in the statement that the present salaries are inadequate, but he hinted that there was a financial difficulty. If so, it is unfortunate that the question was shelved when the finances of the country were in a more prosperous condition. Mr. Girouard, Q.C., pointed out that heads of large corporations are paid from \$20,000 to \$25,000 a year, although the duties they perform are not more important than the duties performed by the judges. In fact several of the subordinate officers of railways and banks receive much higher salaries than the judges. The weight of argument was decidedly in favor of a reasonable increase, and it is to be regretted that there should be a further postponement of the question.

A Bill introduced by the Hon. Mr. Abbott proposes to amend the Bills of Exchange Act of last session in the following particulars:

1. The paragraph lettered (a) of sub-section one of section eleven of "*The Bills of Exchange Act, 1890*," is hereby repealed and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

(a.) At sight, or at a fixed period after date or sight.

2. Section 12 is amended by inserting after the word "payable" in the third line thereof the words "at sight, or."

3. Section 17 is amended by striking out of the third line of sub-section 3 thereof the words "if he thinks fit."

4. Section 18 is amended by inserting after the word "payable" in the first line of sub-section two thereof the words "at sight, or."

5. Section 24 is amended by adding the following sub-section:

"2. If the drawee of a check bearing a

forged endorsement pays the amount thereof to a subsequent endorser, or to the bearer thereof, he shall have all the rights of a holder in due course for the recovery back of the amount so paid from any endorser who has endorsed the same subsequent to the forged endorsement, as well as his legal recourse against the bearer thereof as a transferee by delivery; the whole, however, subject to the provisions and limitations contained in the last preceding sub-section."

6. Section 40 is amended by inserting in the second line thereof, after the word "payable," the words "at sight, or."

7. The paragraph lettered (a) of sub-section 2 of section 41, is amended by striking out the words "or bankrupt" in the first line thereof.

8. Section 51 is amended by striking out the words "becomes bankrupt or" in the first line of sub-section 5 thereof.

9. The rules of the common law of England, including the law merchant, save in so far as they are inconsistent with the express provisions of the said Act, as hereby amended, shall apply, and shall be taken and held to have applied from the date on which the said Act came into force, to bills of exchange, promissory notes and cheques.

### NEW PUBLICATION.

THE DOMINION LAW INDEX. By Messrs. Harris H. Bligh, Q.C., and Walter Todd. Toronto, Carswell & Co., Publishers.

The statute law is a subject which especially calls for a full and carefully prepared index, and a really valuable work will merit the gratitude of the profession. The present work embraces all the legislation of the Dominion Parliament, and such unrepealed provincial enactments and imperial statutes, treaties and orders as bear a special relation to Canada. The authors remark that previously to 1875 all the Dominion Statutes of each year were included and bound in one volume, the pages of which were numbered consecutively from beginning to end. Subsequently to that date the Statutes of each year have been arranged and published in two parts or volumes, the former containing the Acts of a public or general, the latter