

donald's action as far as it went. It did not go far enough, but it was good as far as it went. The other point that I would call attention to—it bears more or less, no doubt, on the question—is this: Here we are a great federal community, having sway over a tremendous extent of country, very nearly half a continent, having to deal with a great number of provinces, many of which are now on the verge of becoming great states, particularly in the northwest. That state of things renders it necessary to have more officials, whether they be called heads of departments or whether they be called under secretaries, than would be required under another form of government. For that reason, there is not much comparison to be made between the number of officials we require and the number of officials required in England. There is another thing which I think everybody will recognize, that when you have a federal government and where you have a great many different provinces existing, some times under very varying conditions, it is eminently desirable that the ministers of the day (whether they be ministers or under secretaries) should devote a very considerable portion of their time to visiting those outlying parts of the Dominion and making themselves personally acquainted as nothing else will make them acquainted with the needs of these widely separated portions of our territory. That is one reason which goes far to excuse the possibly too great multiplication of cabinet ministers which we now possess. It is impossible at this stage of the session to go at length into many of these discussions; therefore I will content myself with these few remarks and move the second reading of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read a second time.

The Bill was then referred to a Committee of the Whole House, was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed on a division; names not recorded.

EXCHEQUER COURT ACT AMENDMENT
BILL.

AMENDMENT WITHDRAWN.

The order of the day being called:

Resuming the adjourned debate on the motion for the third reading (Bill 98) An Act

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

to amend the Exchequer Court Act, and on the motion in amendment of the Honourable Mr. Belcourt, that the said Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be amended by adding the following clause thereto:—

5. The Governor in Council may, with or without, the recommendation of the judge of the Exchequer Court, from time to time, and either permanently or temporarily, or for special cases, appoint as deputy judge any person having the requisite qualifications mentioned in this Act, and being proficient in the two official languages, and such deputy judge shall have and exercise all such jurisdiction, powers and authority, as are possessed by the judge of the Exchequer Court.

(a) The appointment of a deputy judge shall not be determined by the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of the judge.

(b) The judge of the Exchequer Court may, with the approval of the Governor in Council, at any time revoke the appointment of a deputy judge.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—In conformity with the statement I made at the last sitting of the House, I conferred with the Minister of Justice on this point, and the Minister of Justice authorizes me to say that an amendment at this stage will not give him the time that he requires to study the economy of the matter, and that he intends to deal with the question next session in order to meet the need mentioned by the hon. senator from Ottawa. I would, therefore, ask my hon. friend from Ottawa to withdraw his amendment and allow the Bill, which merely affects Mr. Audette, after that to pass the third reading.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE—In the absence of the hon. member from Ottawa, I may say that I conferred with him about the amendment, because I had some intimation that a statement of this kind would be made by the hon. leader of the House; but I do not think his statement goes quite far enough. It is a little late in the session, but that is not our fault. We were just confronted with the third reading of the Bill and we could not do otherwise than present this motion in amendment on the third reading of the Bill.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—If the hon. gentleman wants to let it stand, we will let it stand.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE—No; I just wish to make these few remarks. We have given the reason why this amendment ought to be inserted in the Bill, and even ought to