

fully made, and I have myself an idea that a very high court of justice, the Supreme Court of the United States, has lately laid down a doctrine which I hope will spread, that a little reasonable common sense is to be imported into the interpretation of the law. Whether any reasonable common sense has been imported into the interpretation of a law which would penalize a gentleman for taking a seat in this House, as Lord Elgin would say, I doubt it. As soon as I can interview the Minister of Justice, I intend to occupy a portion of his leisure time to endeavour to rectify the mischief and reimburse my hon. friends for the burdens they have incurred by accepting positions in the Senate. It is not always desirable to appoint senators at a moment's notice. They should be appointed between sessions, and these disturbing questions would not arise. In regard to the three senators who have recently joined us, I think I can venture to promise them that their interests will be duly protected in the proper time.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—And the apparent deficit will not be exacted from them?

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—No execution will be levied upon their goods and chattels for the amount for which they appear to be indebted to the consolidated revenue.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—They might be like some of our friends on the Bay of Qunité; they might beat the government on the execution.

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—In that case their seats might be vacated. I think they are all impervious to any danger of that kind. I am much obliged to the hon. gentleman for calling attention to it. I had not intended to forget it, only with the business on hand I was not able to get a new Bill prepared, and it was obvious it would require some little attention and supervision to prevent mistakes in future.

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

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT

After Recess.

SUPPLY BILL.

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill (No. 225) An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial years ending respectively the 31st March, 1911, and the 31st March, 1912.

The Bill was read the first time.

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT moved the second reading of the Bill.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Could the right hon. leader of the House state the amount asked for, and probably what is the amount that will be required for the year ending the 31st of March, next?

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—The amount required in the present Bill is for the service of the past year ending the 31st of March, \$353,000 which had not been provided for. From the consolidated revenue for the service of the succeeding year, 1912, the sum of \$26,642,222 is asked. A further sum which had not been provided for of \$2,934,000 is also required for the service of the year which expired on the 31st of March last. The Bill contains a provision likewise that the amount granted to the Northwest Territories shall not be deemed to have lapsed. With respect to the sum total, the amount required for the whole service, capital and consolidated fund will range to about \$157,000,000 all told, of which about one hundred and six or one hundred and seven millions will be chargeable to consolidated fund, ordinary income account. The remainder is for the purposes mainly of carrying on the work on the National Transcontinental railway and certain other works chargeable to capital which are in progress, including one or two appropriations for the Hudson Bay railway, and certain pretty heavy expenditures in the maritime provinces with respect to the Intercolonial railway. Those are the main facts connected with the measure.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—That is about the sum that I anticipated would