be an independent Bill. It is amending the Act with reference to taking bribes, and it seems to me that it is very incongruous to have it in this Bill.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It refers, of course, to the bribing of voters, and the only change in the clause is 'And in Manitoba to the Court of Appeal.' It read before 'And in Manitoba to the King's Bench.' It is germane here, because it gives jurisdiction to the Court of Appeals.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER, from the committee, reported the Bill without amendment.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SENATE.

DEBATE CONTINUED.

The order of the day being called :

Resuming the adjourned debate on the motion of the Hon. Mr. David : That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General ; praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before the Senate, copies of all petitions, resolutions or documents concerning the abolition or reorganization of the Senate.—Hon. Mr. Ellis.

Hon. Mr. ELLIS moved that the order of the day be discharged, and made the first order of the day after third reading for to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN—I wanted to say something on this motion and would like to follow my hon. friend to-morrow.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Are there not others who could occupy the time we have at our disposal, because this is the last order on the paper for to-day ?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON—If neither the hon. senator from Kingston nor the hon. senator from St. John is prepared to speak, I should like to make a few remarks on the subject.

Hon. Mr. ELLIS—Then I beg to withdraw my motion.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON—I have listened with a great deal of attention to the speeches made on this important subject, and I must say they were fraught with a good deal of consideration and information. It gave me great pleasure indeed to listen to them, particularly the speeches delivered in the first part of the discussion. I noticed that all

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON.

who spoke on the subject agreed on one particular point, namely, that an Upper House in this parliament is required, and no one has expressed the opinion that it is right or necessary to abolish the Senate. In my own opinion it would be a great mistake to abolish the Senate. It would deprive the parliament of Canada of one of its most important elements. Supporting this view we have the opinion of such men as Sir John Macdonald, Sir Oliver Mowat, Hon. Geo. Brown and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. I think we have done right in paying respect to the opinions of such noted men, men of experience, who knew what they were talking about when they said that a second Chamber was necessary in this country. Besides this we must remember that the fathers of confederation in framing the constitution of this Dominion considered that a second Chamber was necessary. The only point which has been under discussion to any great extent is, how can we change the constitution of the Senate so as to improve it with regard to the appointment of senators. A great many suggestions have been advanced by different speakers. Some are in favour of the elective system ; some are in favour of having half the senators elected and the other half appointed by the Crown. Others would desire that the universities should have a voice in the matter ; others that the leader of the opposition should share in the nomination of senators. My own opinion is, after careful consideration of the matter, that no improvement can be made on the present method of appointing senators. As to the local governments of the different provinces having these appointments in their hands, I do not approve of this proposition at all, because it would introduce into our local legislatures a bone of contention. I differ very much from my hon. friend from Shediac, who said he approved of having the local legislatures appoint our senators, and that this would have the effect of eliminating partyism from the Senate. I cannot see that ; my opinion is that it would have the contrary effect, and would introduce partyism here. We have not now very much partyism here. Senators are found dividing on quite other than party lines in regard to questions coming