

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

**Mr. Russell C. Honey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Elgin (Mr. Stafford) has as usual argued his case well. He is an eminent counsel from Ontario and has put the case before Your Honour very well. I am sorry the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) was not able to be here on this occasion, but I know tomorrow he will read in *Hansard* with interest the remarks of my learned friend. The minister has asked me to reply to the hon. member for Elgin's well-reasoned argument tonight. The minister advises that he is aware that certain provincially appointed judges are now receiving salaries higher than those paid to federally appointed judges.

This situation adds to the concern he has already expressed to members of this House on several previous occasions, and more recently before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, to the effect that if qualified men and women are to be persuaded to take appointments to the country's senior courts, salaries will have to be competitive with those currently earned by the best lawyers in Canada. It is the minister's intention to review the salaries of judges with the government before next fall in order that government policy can be decided prior to introduction of the annual amendments to the Judges Act next fall.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.25 p.m.

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