

the last year of the Liberal regime, we find that judges' allowances totaled \$151,428, an increase of nearly a hundred thousand dollars in fifteen years.

I think, then, instead of crying scandal as regards Judge Doherty's allowance, the member for Laprairie while his friends were in power, should have devoted himself to the reduction or even the total abolition of these allowances. But I will not hesitate to say what I think: If we are granting any one useless appropriation, that appropriation is these judges' retiring allowances. In my opinion, a man earning a salary ranging from five to eight thousand a year, for many years, should not find it necessary to end his days as a state pensioner.

The Opposition instead of being scandalized to-day, should have repealed that law while they had the power, but they have done the very opposite, since they have increased these allowances by one hundred thousand dollars per annum. There is something much more of a real scandal than Judge Doherty's allowance, namely, the case of Judge Clement of British Columbia, which occurred during the Liberal Administration. This gentleman was a Liberal, not a Conservative. He cheated the public treasury out of \$4,000, but I have heard no protest from the member for Laprairie.

As to Judge Doherty, if the country considers it has need of his services, I fail to see what scandal there can be in acting as a minister of the Crown while drawing a retiring allowance. If he were not a cabinet minister, some one else would be minister in his stead, and would receive a salary, while Judge Doherty would still draw his allowance. The treasury would not save a cent by this, while it loses nothing by having Mr. Doherty in the Cabinet. Were we to recall all the doings of our adversaries while in power, we should reveal many scandals. Something would be said of the famous Arctic expedition, of the Transcontinental scandal where sand excavations were charged as loose rock, and paid for at the price of the latter, this being followed by an entire series of transactions so scandalous that the chief engineers on two different occasions had to send in their resignations, finding it impossible to condone such scandals in the construction of this railway. Again, if we wished to bring up the unfortunate incidents at Quebec, which led to the resignation of a certain member of Parliament, it would be edifying indeed.

Such things happen in both parties, and we must not rub it in too hard. Those who

[Mr. Boulay.]

live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Let us now glance at the condition of the Dominion revenue at different periods.

In 1897 the expenditure per head was \$7.46 and the revenue \$7.36. In 1911, when the Liberals went out of office, the revenue per head was \$16.20 and the expenditure \$12.18. The Opposition accused us of mismanagement during the last three years. If we follow up the comparison, we see that in 1913 the revenue was \$21.74 per head, and the expenses \$14.44, or an excess of revenue over expenditure of \$7.30, while in 1911 under the Liberal regime the difference was only \$4.02.

As it is getting late I shall condense the remarks I have yet to make. On the 16th of February last the hon. member for Regina (Mr. Martin) made a speech in this House in which he asked for seed grain for the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. I find in the supplementary budget, soon to be voted the sum of \$10,401,958.25.

We are told as a reason why we should come to the aid of the West that the land belongs to the Federal Government. Even if this is the case, it seems to me we would have everything to gain in giving up these lands rather than spend millions every year to aid Alberta and Saskatchewan. After all, the West has been built up by the old provinces. We have constructed their railways and canals, we have brought them immigrants by hundreds of thousands, and every year they keep on coming to ask of us millions for public works, for general development, and we vote them millions under the pretext that the Federal Government owns the lands. Besides the same need of aid exists elsewhere than in the western provinces. In my own constituency, I last year forwarded petitions from nearly all the parishes of Rimouski to the hon. the Minister of Agriculture, requesting him to come to the aid of the farmers by supplying them with seed wheat, or at the very least, to have the transport charges paid by the Federal Government. This was refused because, it was stated, it was contrary to law.

If there is a county anywhere in the Dominion requiring Government assistance, that county is surely Rimouski, for this reason: It is the northernmost county of the whole province of Quebec. Our farmers have seven months of winter and five of summer. They must battle against a rigorous climate and against a dearth of seed grain. Despite this, they display great courage and firmness. Notwithstanding the unfavourable climate and seasons, prosperous cheese and