

*INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE.*

On the 28th ultimo, the Dominion House of Common went into Committee on the Bill to authorize the ratification and carrying into effect of the protocol of December 16th, accepting the statute for the Permanent Court of International Justice, of December 13th, 1920. On that occasion the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Doherty) explained at length the present position and enlarged upon the provisions of the Bill and the circumstances attending it.

The Bill has since been reported and received its third reading, and, as we write, is before the Senate, and will doubtless in due course receive the Royal assent.

As we have already, through the kindness of Mr. Rowell, K.C., fully discussed the subject, it is unnecessary to enlarge upon it except to give to our readers some of the concluding remarks of Mr. Doherty's speech. He says:—"The desire of the League of Nations in connection with this International Court is to build up a jurisprudence that will result in a more complete system of International Law. After all, the purpose of the establishment of the Court is to provide a method whereby justice may be done between the nations without resort to violence. What is hoped is that it may prove possible to repeat as between nations what history teaches us has happened as between individuals. Before you had Courts regularly administering justice to which individuals might have recourse, and at whose hands they could obtain justice and the vindication of their rights against other individuals, you had the resort to personal violence, each man taking the law into his own hands and endeavouring to vindicate his right by such force as was at his disposal. That is what we have to-day; that is what we have had as between the nations, I suppose, in all time past—a resort to the exercise of force to vindicate rights, real or believed in. The purpose of the Court is to endeavour to provide for the nations, just as the nations themselves have provided for the individual, a method of administering justice and securing to each nation its respective right without the necessity for resort to force."