

objection I see to this Bill is, that the decision arrived at by the Supreme Courts of the provinces may vary very considerably, and one of the great objects in the establishment of a Supreme Court for the Dominion was that continuous decisions upon the same line should be arrived at with regard to these questions as between the people and the Crown. I cannot see that it is going to be of any material benefit to the litigants who have to bring actions against the Crown that this appeal should be allowed to the Supreme Courts of the provinces, and I certainly think that there will be a great deal of wide open law which will lead to a lot of trouble as between the decisions which may be given by the various Supreme Courts of the provinces. It would be very much better that this question should be left as it is, and leave the appeal from the Exchequer Court to the Supreme Court of the Dominion as it now stands.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE—I suggested yesterday that this Bill should stand over so that we might be informed as to the opinion of the Department of Justice on the question whether, under this Bill, an appeal will lie from the decision of the Court of Appeal of the provinces, and to what court. If we can get this opinion, it is the best we can expect from the Department of Justice.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—Very good. The request is very reasonable. At present I am not in a position to accept any amendment to the Bill; but I have no objection at all to obtaining the information which my hon. friend requires. I move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE—At the same time I think we should have the opinion of the Minister of Justice as to the question of the parties having the same right of appeal as the Crown. I think that should be added to the Bill.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—It will be almost unnecessary to discuss that at present, as I am going to consult the Minister of Justice before the next sitting of the House.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE—And the hon. gentleman will obtain his opinion on the two points?

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—Will the hon member send me his amendment, if he desires to suggest one?

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE—Just to give the parties the same right of appeal as the Crown.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT—I would ask the right hon. gentleman, since he intends to have a consultation with the Minister of Justice on that point, to inquire of him also what his opinion is with reference to this: If, as the hon. gentleman is of opinion, the judgment of the Court of Appeal is to be final, and there shall be no appeal from that to the Privy Council or to the Supreme Court, I should like to know, as one having a good deal of business to do with those courts, which jurisdiction is to be conclusive, the jurisprudence established by the Court of Appeal or the jurisprudence of the Supreme Court in like cases? There is sure to be a conflict. If my right hon. friend is correct in his opinion, that the judgment of the Court of Appeal is to be final, you have jurisprudence established by that court in Ontario, another by the Court of Appeal in the province of Quebec and another by the Supreme Court, all on similar cases. I should like to know which jurisprudence is to be deemed conclusive?

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—There may possibly be a conflict. The object of the Bill, as I understood from the Minister of Justice, was to avoid the heavy costs that are inflicted on litigants when they have to go before the Supreme Court. That was the object, as stated by him in the House of Commons. As far as the Crown is concerned, the Supreme Court would be the most convenient for them.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, from the committee, reported that they had made some progress with the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR BILL.

SECOND READING.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT moved the second reading of Bill (No. 165) An Act respecting the Department of La-