

those who have occupied these seats in the days since confederation I am filled with a spirit of deep humility; when I look at our parliament as it is constituted to-day, and see its impotence and incompetence to recover its rights, privileges and prerogatives, from various irresponsible bodies, I wonder if it will ever become a free parliament again, which it is not to-day. As I have said on previous occasions, the time is long past when we should do in the way of parliamentary, constitutional cabinet, and law reform what was done in Britain twenty years ago. We are that many years behind the old country in all these reforms.

For a moment I should like to refer to the cost of the administration of justice. This is a very important item in the estimates, and I should like to call attention to one or two other matters. One is the pay of the judges. Are we getting value for the money expended? Judges should be paid more liberal salaries, if we are to get the right class of men to take office. As hon. members know, on many occasions judges who travel the circuits are heavily burdened. We have twelve high court judges on circuit in Ontario, but some are sick, and the others are heavily loaded with work. There should be a proper increase in the pay of judges, so that the minister may have the satisfaction of securing the best possible men for this work. I have been arguing that for many years.

I should like to present another matter on behalf of the chief constables association. I refer to the damage done by air rifles. In that connection I would refer to one lady who was travelling on a Bathurst street car in Toronto. A reckless boy, who had one of these air rifles—I have seen hundreds of them on the streets in the past—fired the rifle, broke the window of the street car, and put out one of the lady's eyes. Yet nothing is done about it—although this happened in 1941. Surely the Department of Justice should bring in an amendment to the criminal code preventing the manufacture of these air rifles. I hope something will be done along that line.

I believe the time has now come when the government of Canada should reimburse the municipalities for a great portion of the cost of the administration of justice. The policing of Toronto at the present time costs several millions of dollars, and one reason for the expense is that they are loaded up with work which arises from legislation of the federal parliament to enforce federal law. The taxpayers must pay the bill, from taxation on real estate. During the war, and until the present time, the police force of that city has

had to enforce hundreds of federal orders in council. Hon. members are aware that since confederation the enforcement of federal law has been under the jurisdiction of the attorneys general of the provinces. That authority is redistributed among the various police forces in the provinces. The result is that heavy work is placed on those municipalities, and I believe the parliament of Canada should pay for it. If the federal authority wants this work done, it should pay; and the law should be enforced accordingly. The enforcement of these federal orders in council takes up a great portion of the time of municipal police forces.

To-day sixty per cent of the men on police forces are engaged in traffic work, with the result that there is not sufficient time to travel beats throughout the various wards of our cities. We do not have the protection we should have, and the protection of property and civil rights within the provinces suffers.

I would call the attention of the minister also to the fact that a high court judge recently told a poor woman to go out and buy a hat if she wished to give evidence in court. The hats I have seen women wearing have been so small that I have been reminded of the paper cartons in which marmalade is served in our restaurant. I called the attention of the hon. member for Temiscouata to that fact—he is not in his seat to-day—and he said that the paper cartons were too large for the ladies to wear in court rooms.

We have heard a complaint about the air force officer who did not come to a salute with his hat on. I think the time has come when the judges in our supreme court might take direction from the high court of parliament, where the very estimable lady member, who is now sitting in the chamber, suggested that the ladies in the gallery need not wear their hats—and they look the better for it. I thank her for what she did. If she can only remain here long enough to convince some of the judges on the benches to consider their cases—

Mr. COLDWELL: She will be.

Mr. CHURCH:—rather than a lot of minor troubles, it will be much better for the administration of justice.

Then, we know that grand juries should have the power to visit the various institutions. The late Chief Justice Meredith, in one of his charges to a grand jury, referred to the fact that, rightly or wrongly, these federal institutions were managed by crown officers, and that it was the duty of the juries to visit and to inspect them. Under the act members of parliament are listed as visitors. I wonder how many ministers or private