

the late Mr. W. B. McMurrich subsequently becoming the senior member of the firm, and was when appointed at the head of the firm of Hodgins, Heighington and Bastedo.

A recent statute authorizes the appointment of an extra judge to the Supreme Court of Ontario. The position thus made has been filled by the appointment of Mr. James Leitch, K.C., chairman of the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board. This appointment is also a good one. We can well imagine that he will not be sorry to enter the more congenial atmosphere of Osgoode Hall, and leave a position where his critics were not lawyers, but rather newspaper reporters anxious for "copy" to tickle the taste of voters who, in their interest in municipal politics and their ignorance of law, are the easy dupes of others. Mr. Leitch was born in the county of Stormont in June, 1850, was called to the Bar in 1876, and practised in Cornwall with Mr. Pringle. In June, 1906, he was appointed to the Board over which he presided until he became a judge. His experience on the Board will add to his usefulness on the Bench, where he will do equally good work under pleasanter auspices.

Mr. Leitch in performing his recent duties exhibited an independence which was not to the liking of the municipal authorities with whom he was constantly brought in contact. It is to be hoped that his successor, whoever he may be, will exhibit the same independence, and withstand, as did his predecessor, an evil and objectionable pressure coming from municipal bodies, public ownership fanatics, and socialist elements, assisted by a section of the press which seems to be only too willing to aid in the development and expression of such pressure. Above all this, in the Province of Ontario, is the additional pressure of the Hydro-Electric system, which, with the forces above mentioned, so sways the electorate as practically to control the provincial legislature. Unfortunately our provincial governments are all more or less under the same pressure of these various influences, and to gain votes have to pander to it. We shall look with some curiosity as to who will be Mr. Leitch's successor.

In the Province of Manitoba, Mr. Alexander Casimir Galt,