

stances may be different; but I advocate, in each Province, such a salary as may be necessary for that purpose. I am sorry to hear of the state of things in Nova Scotia. I know that six out of seven Judges who adorn the Bench of that Province have been appointed within the space of seven years, and three of them within about two years. I believe these appointments were all of them from amongst the leading men of that Province, and that they were the best men who could have been chosen. I am sorry that the terrible sacrifice which the hon. gentleman has described was forced upon them. I am sorry that they were obliged to make such an immolation of themselves upon the altar of their country, that he has described in his affecting account of their condition, and I hope that between now and next Session no such calamity may occur as a vacancy in the Bench of Nova Scotia, because I am sure my hon. friend will be utterly unable to fill it:

Mr. WOODWORTH. If rumour be true—and I do not always believe it—the hon. member who has just spoken and who was Minister of Justice in the late Government, had no such complaint from Nova Scotia, and was not under the necessity of forcing a Judgeship upon anybody. Indeed, I think it was he who was approached, and that many telegrams and letters and so on were written, to which he yielded, and he got some of the very best material that could possibly be got for the Bench. But he must not take these instances as proof of the general conduct of the Bar to get on the Bench. In the case of the last three Judges, I know that these appointments were offered to the gentlemen who now fill them without solicitation, and were almost forced upon them from the very circumstances of the case. This is true, as members of the profession know, at Halifax and other parts of the Province.

On Resolution 4,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is an increase of one under this item in accordance with the Act of last Session. If the hon. gentleman looks at the last paragraph of this resolution he will find that there are two Puisné Judges with salaries of \$3,500 each. At present there are three, and it is proposed to have these two do the work now done by three, so it will be a saving of \$3,500, leaving on the whole an increase of \$1,500 for one additional Judge at Montreal.

On Resolution 5,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is a great want of another County Judge in the eastern district of Manitoba, who is provided for by the local law, and there is a great pressure that he should be appointed at once. The salary is the same as the present County Judge. There is a printer's mistake in the third line of the fifth Resolution. Instead of \$2,500, it should be \$2,400.

On Resolution 7,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. This resolution is that from and after the 1st of July, 1883, no travelling or circuit allowances shall be paid to the Judges of the Court of Appeal for Ontario. That, by some error, does not carry out the intention of the hon. Minister of Justice; therefore, I move that it be made from the 1st of July, 1884. We provide the salary, and if the allowance is part of the salary, we should have something to say about it. I know the hon. gentleman opposite held that opinion very strongly when he held that we should supervise the action of the Local Legislatures in appointing new Judges, that as the salaries come out of the Dominion Treasury, the Local Legislatures have no motive in limiting the number of Judges. Being myself strongly of the opinion that the Judges of the Court of Appeal should not go on Circuit, and learning from leading members of the Bar that the business of the Court of Appeal has been allowed to get into arrears, because the Judges of that court went on Circuit, I think it is well that

Mr. BLAKE.

the opinion of the Federal Parliament, which votes the money, should be known on the point. But in order to prevent any immediate discomfort or surprise to the Judges of the Court of Appeal, the hon. Minister of Justice intended that the resolution should not come into effect until the 1st of July, 1884. If there be, as I am satisfied there will be, if no accident arises, comprehensive legislation on this subject next Session, this clause may never come into operation.

Mr. BLAKE. I feel bound to observe that this resolution makes positive provision—delayed in its operation certainly; but if the contingency which the hon. gentleman refers to does not take place, will be put into operation—for a reduction in the salaries of the Judges in the Court of Appeal. It is well known that the Circuit allowances are not consumed on circuits, and considering that very inadequate salaries are at present received by the Judges, it can hardly be wondered at that the Circuit allowances are to a certain extent economised, and this resolution provides practically for cutting off \$400 or \$500 of the existing salaries of the Judges of the Court of Appeal.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That is so; but I think the hon. gentleman will agree in the opinion that if the salaries of the Judges of the Court of Appeal are insufficient, the proper course would be to increase them and keep the Judges in their court; that even if we did not add to the salaries of the other Judges, the Judges of Appeal should get an additional salary in lieu of the Circuit allowances they give up.

Resolutions reported.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD introduced Bill (No. 134) to provide for the salaries, superannuation, and travelling expenses of certain Judges of certain Provincial Courts.

Bill read the first time.

#### MONTREAL HARBOR COMMISSIONERS.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY moved that on Monday next the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the following Resolution:

That it is expedient to authorise the Governor in Council to raise by debentures in the manner prescribed by the Act 36th Vict., chap. 60, (except as to the rate of interest which shall not exceed 4 per cent. per annum), a further sum not exceeding \$900,000, to be advanced to and applied by the Montreal Harbor Commissioners from time to time, in meeting the expenses to be incurred by them in completing the dredging and deepening of the ship channel of the River St. Lawrence, between Montreal and Quebec, to the depth of 27½ feet at low water; subject to the payment by the said Commissioners to the Receiver-General of interest on the sums so raised and advanced, at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum: Provided that the said Commissioners shall not commence the said work unless nor until the Governor in Council shall be satisfied by such examination and report as shall be deemed sufficient, that the said work can be completed for a sum not exceeding that above mentioned.

Motion agreed to.

#### FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills (from the Senate) were severally introduced and read the first time:—

Bill (No. 135) relating to Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes in the Province of Prince Edward Island.—(Sir John A. Macdonald.)

Bill (No. 136) to amend the Law respecting Lotteries.—(Sir John A. Macdonald.)

#### SUPPLY—CONCURRENCE.

On Resolution 342,

For purchase of building and property situated on the east side of the Rideau Canal Basin, required for Military Store purposes at Ottawa ..... \$8,000.00

Mr. BLAKE. This vote is inaccurate. The purchase price is \$11,000, not \$8,000, the difference, \$3,000, being