

Judges Act

Court of New Brunswick, one additional judge of the County Court of Ontario, and one additional judge of the District Court of Alberta.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Batten in the chair.

Mr. Cardin: Mr. Chairman, this resolution is preliminary to authorizing the provision of salaries for eight additional judges in the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Alberta pursuant to requests received from the authorities of the provinces concerned.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Chairman, may I ask the minister whether the appropriate legislation has been passed by each of the provinces concerned?

Mr. Cardin: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the judicature legislation has been passed by all of the provinces except Quebec and I understand that Quebec will pass the legislation during the course of this week.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): All except Quebec have in fact enacted the legislation?

Mr. Cardin: That is correct.

Mr. Fairweather: Mr. Chairman, I happen to know about the situation in New Brunswick where another judge is urgently required. I have been a member of this house now for just four years and each year we seem to make amendments to the Judges Act in a rather piecemeal fashion in order to add judges to various jurisdictions. Never in my memory have we considered the fundamental problem raised by the provision of extra judges.

I have a question on the order paper which deals with the number of judges who have been involved in various boards and commissions. I am thinking now mainly of provincial boards, but such boards are also appointed in the federal domain.

I am also wondering what steps are being taken by the government to do something about the salaries of judges. I realize that the Minister of Justice and the President of the Privy Council have had what has been said to be a very worthwhile meeting—I do not know whether you would call it a meeting with a trade union on the grand scale but let me refer to it as an association of judges—as a result of which certain changes were recommended in salaries, retirement benefits, income tax and so on.

I think it is also time that we as a parliament faced the problem of judges who retire

[English]

CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the concern being felt and expressed by old age pensioners following last night's budget, can the Prime Minister be any more precise as to when government legislation respecting pensions will be on the order paper?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I expect that the resolution with regard to the Canada Assistance Plan will be on the order paper early next week.

AGRICULTURE

NOVA SCOTIA—JET PLANES ENDANGERING RAISING OF MINK

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. O. Bower (Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. I would ask the minister whether he has received any protests from western Nova Scotia re jet planes, reputedly from bases in Maine, breaking the sound barrier over Digby and Yarmouth counties where mink raising is an important industry, and where the ranch developing the world famous jet black mink is situated? If so, has he or have any of his colleagues in the cabinet been able to make arrangements so that during the early days of April, when the mink kittens are being born, the sonic booms will be avoided? The mink, a very nervous animal at any time, is particularly so at the birthing period and disturbances such as sonic booms can cause the mothers to eat their young.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member has made his representations, which I trust will be taken into account by the minister responsible.

JUDGES ACT

AMENDMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL JUDGES

Hon. Lucien Cardin (Minister of Justice) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Judges Act to provide salaries for two additional judges of the Supreme Court of Ontario, three additional judges of the Superior Court of Quebec, one additional judge of the Supreme