

HON. MR. ABBOTT—The drawee, if he pays a cheque under this Bill as it stands without being amended, would have a remedy against the person who held the cheque, but he would have no remedy against the previous *bonâ fide* endorsers, whose signatures were prior to that of the forged signatures; whereas, a person who held a bill as a holder in due course would have a remedy against all those endorsers; and it is simply giving the bank the same remedy as the holder in due course. The subsequent clause in the Bill simply makes the common law of England a universal referee in case of our failure to comprehend any of the clauses of the statutes.

HON. MR. SCOTT—There is a little confusion in the words "or to the bearer thereof." I quite agree with giving to the payee the rights of any of the endorsers subsequent to the forgery, but the words "or to the bearer thereof" in the second line makes the proposition somewhat confusing. If he pays it to "the bearer thereof" it does not follow that he has the right to charge the maker of the cheque.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—If the cheque is endorsed in blank it may be presented by anybody, but the liability of the endorser still remains; but if a cheque is presented in blank by a person who is not an endorser, and he gets the money, the bank, as the law stands, would have a right of remedy against that man to get back the money. What we intend to do is to give to the bank, in addition to its remedy against the bearer, its remedy against the endorsers, who are legally liable under the Act to the *bonâ fide* holder.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

#### SETTLEMENT OF PROVINCIAL ACCOUNTS BILL.

HON. MR. ABBOTT moved the second reading of Bill (E) "An Act respecting the settlement of Accounts between the Dominion of Canada and the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec." He said: This Bill, like the first one which I spoke of to-day, is for the purpose of carrying out an arrangement which has been made with the respective Governments—the Government of the Dominion, the Government of Ontario and the Government of Quebec—for

the purpose of settling the long-standing differences about the accounts between the three Governments. The representatives of the three have met, and have agreed upon a plan for a decision of these disputed accounts, which seems to me will commend itself to everyone's judgment as a judicious one. They are to be left to arbitration. The arbitrators are to be three judges, one appointed by His Excellency the Governor General in Council and one by each of the Governments of Ontario and Quebec. They are all to be subject to the approval of the respective Governments. This arrangement is embodied in Bills which have been passed by the Legislatures of Ontario and Quebec. The one I present to you to-day is identical with the two Bills that have been passed.

HON. MR. MILLER—I do not object to the Bill, but I am rather inclined to think that under this arrangement the Dominion will have the worst of it. There are to be three arbitrators; the Local Governments are to have the appointment of two. Is there no danger of a combination between the two local arbitrators?

HON. MR. ABBOTT—That difficulty occurred to those who made the arrangement, but it is a difficulty not easy to meet. The answer to it is this: that there is no community of interest between the provinces in question.

HON. MR. MILLER—There may be for the common plunder.

HON. MR. SCOTT—It is not likely. The two provinces have been endeavouring for many years to come to an arrangement about those accounts, and have failed to do so, which shows their interests will be entirely divergent.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

#### TRADE MARKS AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS BILL.

##### SECOND READING.

HON. MR. ABBOTT moved the second reading of Bill (F) "An Act further to amend the Act respecting Trade Marks and Industrial Designs." He said: This Bill is for the purpose of systematizing and giving effect to the intention of Par-