

*Exchequer Court Act*

judge, magistrate or otherwise, shall be recompensed on the basis of moneys collected in that court. We know the abuses that this system gives rise to, especially in certain local courts and also under justices of the peace. Further, if it is anticipated that the volume of fees collected in these provincial jurisdictions will rise because of the nature and increasing incidence of litigation, the government of Canada, having bound itself by legislation, may find itself caught. I would have preferred in actual fact to see the government of Canada entering into an agreement on a fixed fee basis for services rendered. Fees could be adjusted as the situation warranted. That would be far removed from what I deem to be a spoils system. I am afraid that this legislation encompasses a very second-best type of arrangement.

**Mr. Cardin:** Perhaps I was not quite clear, and for that I apologize. My understanding of this matter is that the fees to be taxed are fixed by the registrar in Ottawa. The difference is that in the provinces those fees would be returned to the consolidated revenue fund of the province and therefore the province would give additional salary or remuneration to the deputy registrar. Also, part of those fees would go toward the expenses of offices. The actual fixing of the fees would be controlled by the registrar in Ottawa.

**Mr. Lambert:** I agree that the fees are on a fixed scale. What I am concerned about is this. Let us say that for the sum of \$1,000 per annum the clerk of the court in the city of Vancouver will act as the deputy registrar. That \$1,000 should be paid by the government of Canada to the province of British Columbia regardless of the volume of business.

Under this proposed system the remuneration of the deputy registrar may fluctuate according to the level of fees. This is conceivable, and that is why I call it the spoils system. I should have preferred to see the other system I mentioned. The minister might be prepared to tell us what is the attitude of the provinces in this regard.

**Mr. Cardin:** Mr. Chairman, that is the point I wish to raise. The provincial officials with whom we have spoken about this matter agreed to this present system. It is by arrangement that we have entered into it.

**Mr. Lambert:** I think it is a second-best system.

**Mr. Brewin:** Could the minister relieve my mind about one aspect of this legislation? It

[Mr. Lambert.]

appears to be designed to eliminate the use of law stamps. Has this anything to do with the alarming increase in the practice of glue sniffing we have been reading about?

**Mr. Cardin:** Very indirectly, Mr. Chairman.

Clause agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported.

● (3:30 p.m.)

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** When shall the said bill be read the third time? Now?

**Mr. Starr:** By leave.

**Mr. Cardin** moved the third reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

#### ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD ACT INCREASE IN FUNDS AVAILABLE, EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY, ETC.

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport)** moved the second reading of Bill No. C-213, to amend the Atlantic Development Board Act.

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Queens):** Mr. Speaker, there is little I intend to say on second reading. I believe most of the views of this party on this measure were expressed at the resolution stage.

There is, however, some concern expressed by those living in the maritime provinces that insufficient attention has been given by the Atlantic Development Board to the opportunities which exist in the maritimes for new developments with outward-looking possibilities for trade with foreign countries where our natural lanes of communication lie. The Atlantic provinces have historically been a seafaring region and their greatest prosperity was in the days of wooden ships. About 100 years ago they were leaders in world trade and I believe there is still a great opportunity for new industries, new developments and new trade in the maritimes based on their fortunate situation in respect of trade, especially within the Atlantic community. I should like to believe that the minister agrees with me in this respect and will at least look into the possibilities of this type of development in the Atlantic region in the future.

**Hon. Hugh John Flemming (Victoria-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday, on the resolution stage of this bill, we listened to what I thought were several illuminating speeches by various speakers in different